e-Warehouse: Boon or Bane - A Review

Dr K Balamurugan, Professor, Science & Humanities, Bharathiyar College of Engineering & Technology, Karaikal, U T of Puducherry, India
Dr N Rajesh, Librarian, Bharathiyar College of Engineering & Technology, Karaikal, U T of Puducherry, India

Abstract
This paper tries to draw the attention of reading community toward the rapid growth-system of storing the information using modern technology and information sharing as well as storing it and all being digitalized. It also pays a heed to the internet policy and its present day use and threat of the same. It questions the system of electronic storing of information on to World Wide Web is retrievable forever.

Introduction
We have no past and future if Libraries are not available. At one time, a library was regarded as a store house and books were meant for preservation. According to the Oxford English dictionary as early as 1374, the term library was employed in English to refer to a place book were kept for reading, study or reference. The civilization indicates that libraries have been essential part of civilized society. These came into being to serve the needs of the society. Past decades, any king captured any country, they are first destroyed the main library. So library forms a component of the history of human civilization. Libraries are closely related to intellectual history as well as an organizational structure of society.

Preservation of Documents
Preservation of documents is considered an important function of libraries and archival organizations. This kind of care has been bestowed. On persevoration of books, manuscripts and such other rewords forming past of cultural heritage. Thus, for the posterity, leaving them with knowledge of their own and other history, heritage, culture etc or all these be made available to them being documented so that they can come in handy to their life living. To serve this need, library whether it is an electronic source or print source must be retrievable anytime to use.

Impact of e-Source and e-Warehouse
Due to the influence of global village as well as the impact of western style, information storing and retrieval system also get impacted with these. The present day library started encouraging, in the name of e-library, print on paper based society to an electronic society. A library, its catalogue and librarian will be de-institutionalized. The library rapidly has started consisting of video terminals and a small collection of electronic archives such as compact discs, online journals, and so on. Therefore it has been made possible for a librarian to search these from a terminal in his home or at its office. He need not interact with a user face to face. They can communicate through computer terminals.

History of Internet
The internet is an outgrowth of a network established in the 1960 to meet the needs of the researchers working in the defense industry in the USA then called the APRANET. Form the handfuls of computers in 1971, the APRANET or internet grew to 10000 computers by 1987 and to more than 100000 by 1989. In 1990 APRANET cased to exist but the internet continued to grow to an estimated 1 million computers in 1992, 2 million in 1993. The internet now offers both information access and fast and inexpensive means of communication to the public.

It is obvious that we live in the information age where knowledge is power. The internet helps in many ways particularly,

a) To get information
b) To provide information
c) To compile information

Briefly, to download, upload and share information to anywhere and anybody throughout the world.

World Wide Web
In October 1994, Tim Berners–Lee founded the World Wide Web consortium—an organization devoted to developing nonproprietary, interoperable technologies for the web. Web 1.0 was focused on a relatively small number of companies and advertisers producing content for users to access. Web 2.0 companies use the web as platform to create collaborative, community based sites. The World Wide Web allows computers users to locate and view multimedia based documents on almost any subject. In 1989 Tim Berners–Lee of CERN began to develop WWW and several communication protocols that form the back bone of the web.

Web use exploded with availability in 1993 of the Mosaic browser which featured a user friendly graphical inter-
face. Marc Anderson, whose team at NCSA developed Mosaic went on to found Netscape, the company that many people credit with initiating the explosive internet economy of the late 1990s.

Web Browsers
Web browsers are software programs that allow users to access the web’s rich multimedia content. The two most popular web browsers are Microsoft Internet Explorer and Mozilla’s Firefox. Opera and Safari are also web browsers.

Searching Internet
Search engines explore the internet and maintain searchable records containing information about websites. Search engines are the primary tools people use to find information on the web. In the U.S., there are two major search and online advertising companies that companies are Google and Yahoo.

Web Source is User (un)friendly!
Needless to say that the facility of internet or ICT has facilitated much in bridging the scholars and their scholarly works put together to the easy access of a grass-root user or a scholar. But at the same time, the facility has also not failed to give a frantic fear over the retrieval of information with respect to the will and pleasure of an individual i.e. nothing but the user. Because, though the information sharing or uploading is not limited or controlled, it can’t be said that the retrieving possibility is not limited or controlled as the main-server is maintained or owned by a concern or an individual who sees this service in a business motto.

Subi Chaturvedi—member of the multi-stakeholder advisory group of the UNIGF and co-chair of the Brazil meeting on the future of the internet—says “while the United Nations does excellent work in peacekeeping and developing friendly relations among nations, it has severe limitations of expertise, speed and, above all, transparency, when it comes to decisions related to internet policy”.

A few days before, a standard daily reads a ‘fragment’ as follows:- ‘……….though the jury to arrest a website owner or to ban a website, it is not possible to do so without the prior and proper permission of the American agency for Website Service…….’ After a few days the same daily reported this ‘Microsoft Corporation is going to stop its services towards its operating system “Windows XP” April 2014 onward. To cope with this idea, Microsoft Corporation, India has to spend Rs. 1,190 crore per year.’ As we above discussed this policy change in operating system is out of business stint, isn’t it?

For this change, Microsoft Corporation adds, the present Windows XP falls behind three generations to the operating system Windows 8. It is obvious and unavoidable that this Windows 8 will also go off and has to be replaced with another new operating system produced by the company. That time too the purchaser would have spent money and update it.

Conclusion
In India the changing environment the print on paper would decline significantly. Users and information providers started moving from print paper to electronic books and fancy about storage & retrieval internet. Most of these internet service providers are foreign to India or can be said that the companies run by a private agencies of United Nations. Internet is not a closed concrete room with firewall but it is like a room walled with glasses. There is no security and secrecy. It also puts like mandatory to ever dependant on the whims and fancies of the service provider. It does seem that the service provider is the boss to the every information stored or uploaded on to the net. Is any guarantee or surety that the internet provider would not go by his whims and fancies? Hence the national libraries, at least, may look into it and e sources preservation may be given a new methodology and safety.

References