

ABSTRACT

CDS/ISIS a software program distributed by Unesco for use in libraries and information centres was first introduced to Sri Lankan libraries in mid 1980s. Majority of the libraries having computerized library operations are using CDS/ISIS software, which is a database management system meant for general applications in information storage and retrieval systems. Studies have revealed that many of the libraries that have received the software from the national distributor are not using the software successfully to computerize library operations. Some of the reasons given are lack of skilled manpower, training and lack of funds. This study revealed that the above reasons which are external to the software program but inherent in the library system and its relationship with the total organization are contributory to this situation. Problems directly related to the program should be dealt with in a manner suitable to the nature and extent of the problem. The role of the national distributor should be strengthened so that it is capable of providing the necessary technical support to the users and potential users while policy makers and decision makers should be made aware of the need for computerizing libraries and information systems so that they provide the necessary resources to maintain the programs. Technology transfer can take place only if the required environment for its adoption is present.