

ICoASL 2015

22~24 April, 2015

National Assembly Library, Seoul, Korea

28 April, 2015

Raj Kumar
St. Stephen's College
Delhi, India

Dear Raj Kumar,

RE: Paper 6-1 in Session 6

Comparative Analysis of Online Legal Information Sources in Indian Environment: A Proposed Model for the Legal Community in India

By Raj Kumar*, M. Madhusudhan** (St. Stephen's College, Delhi, India*
Department of Library and Information Science, University of Delhi, India**)

We would like to thank you very much for taking part as a paper presenter at the ICoASL 2015. We appreciate your time and efforts for preparing the presentation as well as the full paper. Your full paper was published in the conference proceedings (ISBN: 978-89-965885-2-8 95020).

We are attaching the final MS word file of your paper which is the same one in the proceedings. We will post all the presented papers on the ICoASL 2015 website so that the world's librarians and LIS researchers can access them freely.

If you have a plan to republish your paper in journal, please designate in the journal that the paper was initially presented in ICoASL 2015.

And We hope you enjoyed your visit to Seoul and found any new values for the library future. Thank you again for your contribution to the success of the ICoASL 2015. We look forward to seeing you at a future conference.

Sincerely yours,



Kay Sook Park
Local Chair
ICoASL 2015

Korea Special Library Association



Comparative Analysis of Online Legal Information Sources in Indian Environment: A Proposed Model for the Legal Community in India

Raj Kumar, M. Madhusudhan

Department of Library and Information Science, University of Delhi, India
raajchd@gmail.com, madhumargam@gmail.com

Abstract

Legal information production by lawyers, judges and research scholars is forcing the judiciary to switch its operations from traditional to online mode. The present study proposed a model online legal information system for Indian environment. The study compared the existing legal e-resources available in Indian environment with proposed online legal information system. It is found in the study that open access resources are far inferior compared to commercial one. The latest Web 2.0 tools are not integrated in these resources. Besides this, mobile based view is not available in majority of resources. Majority of user interface in open access resources are not user-friendly. Therefore, funding agencies of these resources must take an initiative to make these resources more user-friendly and robust. Besides this, databases of these resources do not adhere to standards such as, Machine Readable Catalogue code (MARC), Open Access Initiative-Protocol Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH) and Z39.50. The proposed online legal information system have integrated better help features and embedded the Web 2.0 tools. All these legal e-resources need to be improved to provide effective access of information to legal community in India.

Keywords: *India, Legal e-resource, Legal information system, Open access resource*

1. Introduction

In India, the boom in legal information production by lawyers, judges and research scholars is forcing the judiciary to switch its operations from traditional to online mode. The organizations of legal information resources are important for the legal community as well as the masses. A lawyer's success depends largely on the latest information on a case, and the relevant case laws related to the problem. Therefore, a lawyer has to keep in touch with the latest happenings in the relevant field, and information explosion in the field of law attracts legal information system towards computerization so that legal fraternity could get specific information expeditiously. The rapidly increasing numbers of statutes and exponential growth of case laws call for rapid growth of a computerized legal information system. Overall, the main aim of legal information retrieval systems is to locate the relevant documents related to the search query as defined by the user. In all types of cases, information and communication technology (ICT) can be crucial in providing speedy mechanism to decide upon disputes, subsequently speeding up the justice delivery system. Electronic tracking of cases can be useful for easy search and retrieval, grouping of cases, information processing and judicial record processing. It also helps in the disposal of cases in a transparent manner. A database of court cases is required so that a case registered initially in the trial court could be traced till the final judgment in the higher judiciary. Judges would also be able to track the cases, which will result in delivery of justice to citizens of India (Kalam, 2012).