

Panel Discussion

Role of Information Technology in Transforming Public Libraries



3RD INDIA PUBLIC LIBRARIES CONFERENCE

Transforming Indian Public Libraries: Strategies to 'Reach the Unreached'

Organized By: Indian Public Library Movement

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Characteristics of Public Libraries

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1. [**Funding**] supported by taxes (usually local, though any level of government can and may contribute);
2. [**Control**] governed by a board to serve the public interest;
3. [**Open & Inclusive**] open to all, and every community member can access the collection;
4. [**Choice**] entirely voluntary in that no one is ever forced to use the services provided; and
5. [**Free**] provide basic services without charge

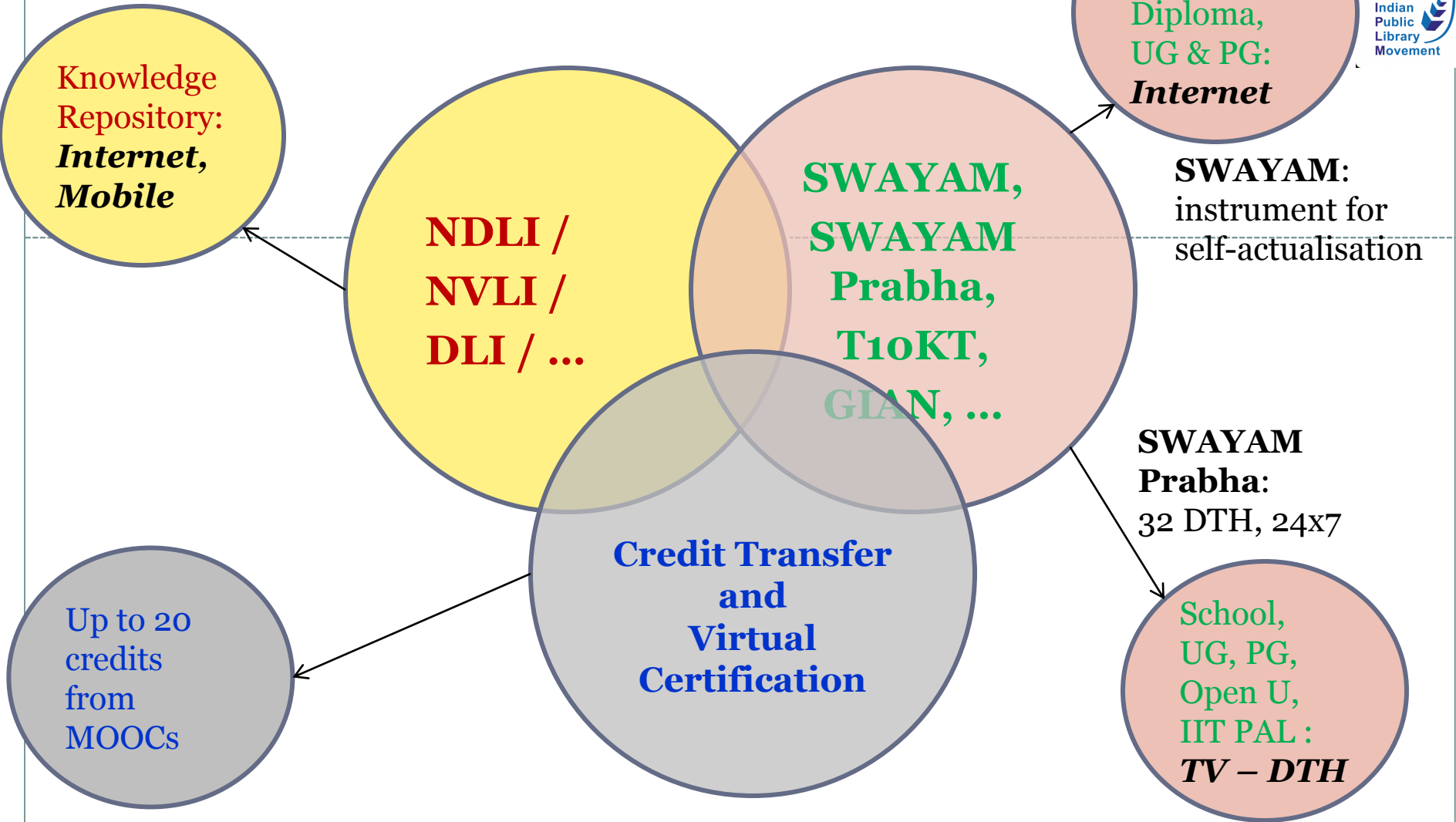
Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_library

Technology Interventions

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- **Funding**
 - Affordable Acquisition, Archival & Access
- **Control**
 - Digitized policies – Flexible, Fair & Friendly
- **Open and Inclusive**
 - Consumption & Contribution (folksonomy)
- **Choice**
 - User-centric & Usage-driven
- **Free**
 - Open Access & Crowd-funded
- **Knowledge Ecosystem**

Transforming India



National Digital Initiative in Education

Key Interventions: Wish List

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- **Reach the Unreached**
 - Right to Access: Mobile, Internet, TV
- **Empower Education**
 - Right to Education: Library as a Tutor
- **Talk the Tongue**
 - Right to Mother-tongue: 22 languages + English
- **Enable the Differently-Abled**
 - Right to Equality: Visual, Auditory, Motor-control, ...
- **Enrich the Reached**
 - Right to X-d eXperience: Auditory, Visual, Haptic, Olfactory, ..., Mind – Augmented & Virtual Reality