

Beyond the Fire and Flood: Mitigating Digital Disasters to Secure Library Collections for the Future

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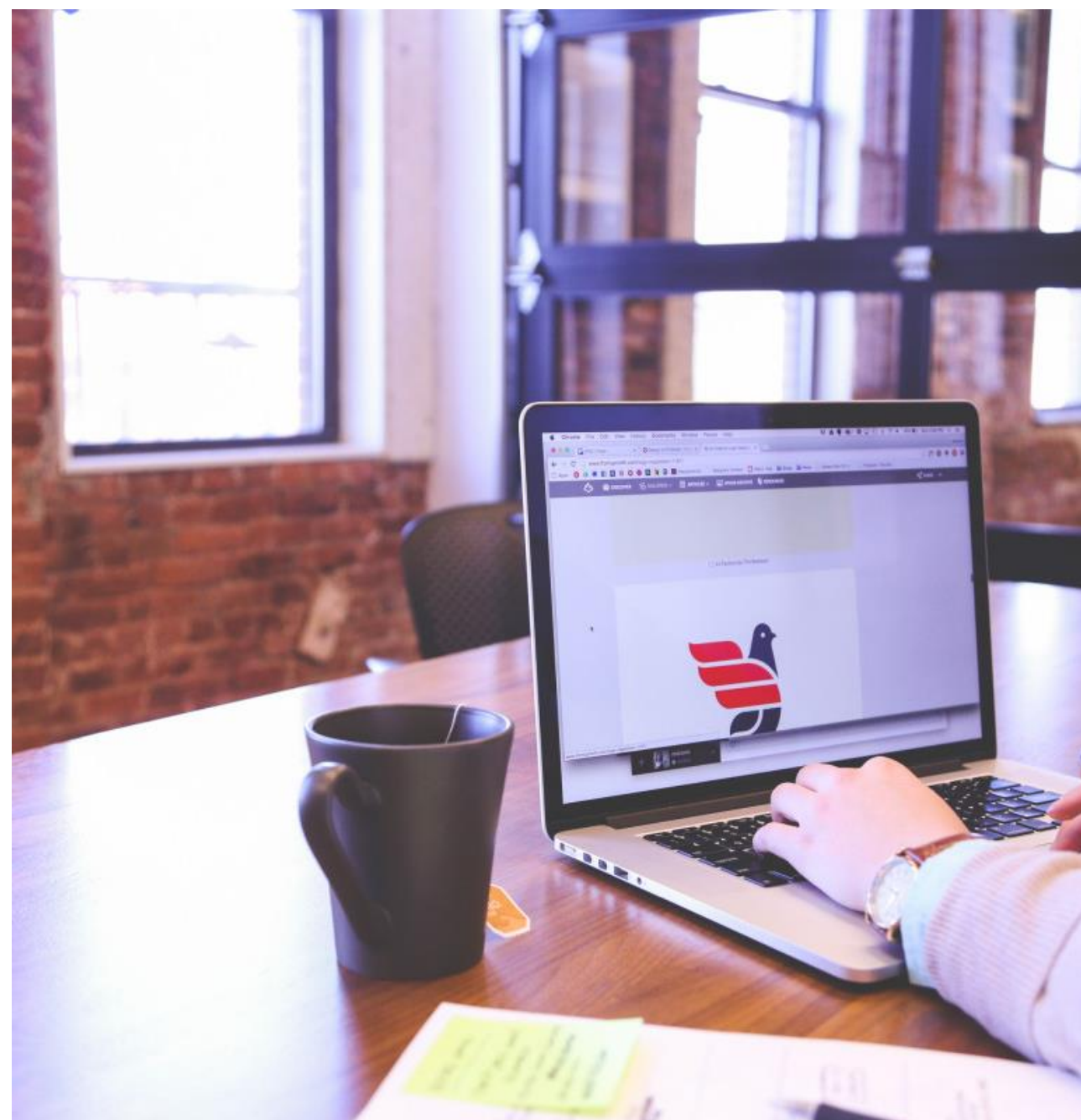
NACLIN 2025

**28th National Convention on Knowledge,
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Forging New Frontiers for Libraries:
Fostering Exploration, Innovation, Evolution and
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The Evolving Role of Libraries

- ❑ From physical repositories to critical nodes for digital assets.
- ❑ Responsible for safeguarding our irreplaceable digital heritage.



Risks are no longer just fire or water

New threats include:

 The Expanding
Threat Landscape

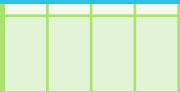
- Cyberattacks
- Technological Obsolescence
- Human Error
- System Failures

Objectives of the study

- ✓ Identify the main digital threats that put library collections at risk, and rank them based on how serious they are.
- ✓ Review how libraries currently handle digital disasters, including their policies and preparedness measures.
- ✓ Find out what major challenges (organizational, financial, and technical) stop libraries from fully managing digital risks.
- ✓ Evaluate how effective the present digital preservation and recovery methods are in protecting library data.
- ✓ Provide practical, evidence-based suggestions to help libraries strengthen their digital disaster management systems.

Scope and Limitations

The study is limited to the state of Goa especially focusing on the library professionals in the state of Goa and research explores digital disaster management strategies, only 56% librarians, this gap shows more research is needed. A new study should be designed to specifically find and include the many libraries that aren't doing digital preservation,





Research Methodology & Design

The population for study includes Academic Library, Public Library, Special library (Corporate/Government/Museum) and State Archive.

The study employs a quantitative and qualitative research methodology to evaluate the digital preservation activities by library professionals

A Purposive Sampling technique was used to select participants, ensuring a diverse and relevant range of insights across the academic, public, and special library sectors

A total of 53 questionnaires were distributed electronically, with 30 completed responses received, yielding a response rate of 56.6%.

A Framework for Digital Disaster Management

Essential components
are:

- ❖ Prevention
- ❖ Preservation
- ❖ Recovery

Key Challenges Identified

1. Financial Constraints
2. Lack of Formal Policies
3. Shortage of Trained Staff

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Digital Library Software List

The Pillars of a Secure Digital Future:

- Technology
- ➤ Funding
- Training
- Support



Conduct mandatory staff training to ensure awareness and operational readiness.

Appoint a dedicated system administrator to manage the process.

Periodically test backup systems and recovery procedures.

Create multiple copies of all critical digital collections.

Verify that data can be successfully restored to ensure rapid recovery and minimize disruption.

Use a 3-2-1 strategy: 3 copies, on 2 different media, with 1 copy offsite.

Assign Dedicated Staff and Provide Training

SUGGESTIONS

conclusion

- Policies are lacking
- Funding is the biggest challenge
- Preservation efforts are too narrow
- Regular training and testing are essential to make sure the plans will work when needed.
- Action is needed now to prevent future loss. While major digital disasters aren't common, they do happen.
- Libraries must act now with better policies, more funding, and collaboration to ensure our digital collections are safe for the long term.

Thank you

For this platform →

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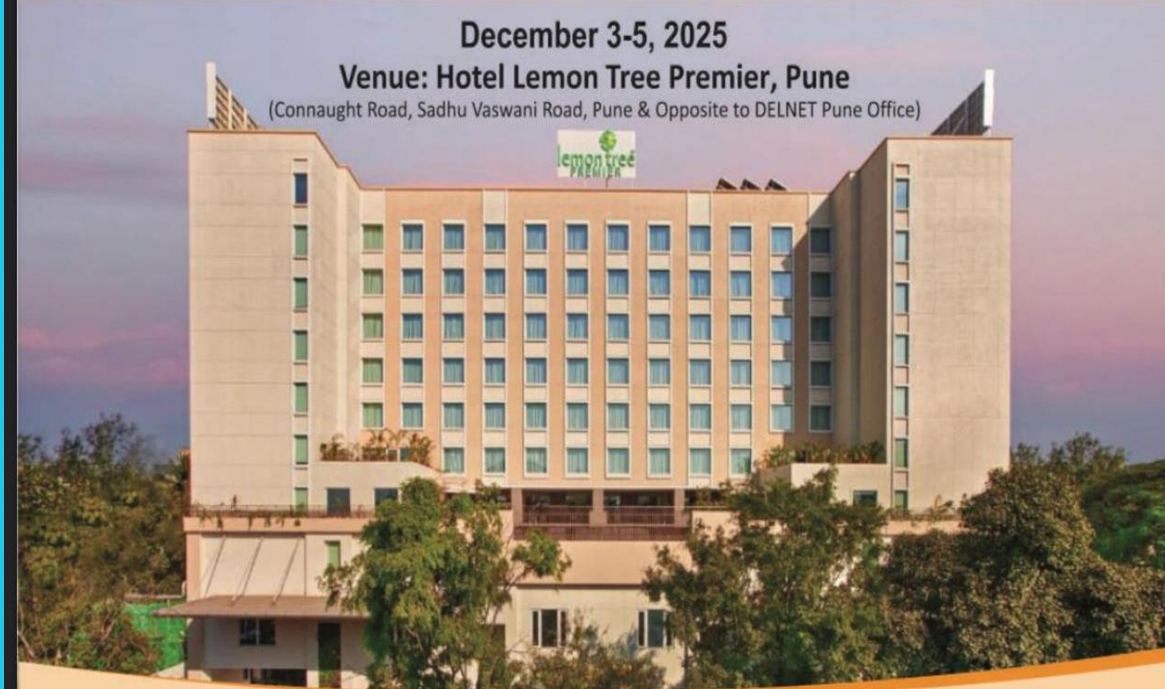
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Venue: Hotel Lemon Tree Premier, Pune

(Connaught Road, Sadhu Vaswani Road, Pune & Opposite to DELNET Pune Office)



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