Preface

Academic institutions are the incubators of the academic intellectuals and the libraries are the hatch point, which stipulate the intellectual activities since the long back. The modern libraries are acting more to help the academic intellectuals and the students. Due to the advent use of IT, the libraries and information centres have taken the benefits. A lot of developments have been occurred in IT sectors and it has been being applied in various fields of libraries. Due to the impact of information and communication technology, library practices and procedures are, therefore, changing at a much faster pace, but the nature of information itself is being transformed through the shift from linear text-based information environments to the networked hyperlinked non-linear environment of the internet. All have begun to recognize the crucial role played by information technology in the 21st century. New technologies and tools are changing the services that libraries provide, e.g. online references, instructions, document delivery, user-initiated library loan, direct borrowing and self-checkout, etc. Perhaps, information technology was first used in libraries in 1936 on a limited scale. In 1936, Ralph Parker installed Hollerith Punched Card for Circulation Control in the University of Texas Library, but information technology was first introduced in library practices in the 1950s' in library automation activities. After that, a lot of developments in information technology have taken place and IT is being used in almost all the fields of library activities.

There are total 82 universities in Bangladesh at present, among them 29 public, 51 private and 2 international. The mushroom growth of the university has been started since 1992 after the passing of Private University Act. Due to the enforcement of the university acts, the growths of university libraries are the parallel with the establishment of the universities. A large number of university and university library started their journey in between 2001-2008, it is about 63% of the total library. In this regard, most the university libraries of Bangladesh are till young. As nature the young are capable enough to accept the new thinking and the new dimension. Undoubtedly, an excellent future is waiting.
This thesis has been carried out to check out the competencies of Bangladeshi university libraries to face the IT using diffusion. This study aims to explore the present status of IT using in the university libraries of Bangladesh, it tries to find out the problems and prospect of IT using and psychology of the work force of the university libraries of Bangladesh.

The questionnaires were sent to 80 universities and 67 responded. Thus a large number of universities were taken as samples. To fulfil the aims of the study the research project carried out under preliminary and final survey.

The doctoral thesis has been split into 5 broader chapters as per the research plan. Each of the chapter contains individual contexts to illustrate this survey project. In this study, chapter-1 is an introductory one that gives a detailed outline of research design including a brief introduction on the subject; Aims and Objectives; Scope and Limitations; Methodology of Selection and Size of the Sample; State of Art; Literature Reviewed; Hypotheses formulated; Methodology followed; Chapter-2 contains a detailed description of university libraries that includes the beginning, Growth, and Development along with the current scenario of university libraries covering global, regional, and local perspectives; Chapter-3 bears an overall description of IT that includes the History, Development, and the present status of trends and its application in the university libraries with special reference to Bangladesh; Chapter-4 reflects a detailed analysis of data and makes necessary interpretations including findings and provides the results of the present investigation conducted at two different stages – (i) preliminary and (ii) final survey, so as to achieve the predetermined objectives of this investigation; Chapter-5 is the last chapter, which clearly presents a precise summary of findings, conclusion, and suggestions/recommendations of the investigator along with the areas for the further study, followed with a bibliography, an index, a list of libraries studied, and the questionnaire administered for the purpose at the end.

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Page # xxvii