Chapter 5

APPLICATION SUMMARY

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CONCLUSION
5.1 Application:

Information revolution has become a global phenomenon thus making the information structure a subsystem of a larger organization. Since the information is the only truly shared resource for planning, executing and monitoring various affairs of an organization, it can be exploited as a strategy to outdo the competition. In fact information system becomes a sustainable advantage and by banking on them one can stay ahead of competitors.

Information acquisition has been considered as a primary asset for an organization/institute. In fact, of late it has entertained status of an international currency upon which fortunes of an organization will rise and fall. As more and more information knocks the door, faster than one can cope with, it is desirable to learn the ways of processing to make proper use of it. Actually, organizations are ought to be well versed in information processing to make proper use of data resources. A fundamental problem for all decision makers is the availability of complete and relevant information about the decision environment. If all possible actions, events and conditions could be predicted with complete confidence, then decision making would be simple and straight forward affair of calculating the optimal action according to some predetermined criteria. In contrast, the indecision environment is characterized by uncertainty or the absence of perfect and complete information. Decision must be made on the basis of estimates and expectations, the former of which may be in accurate, while the later are often unfulfilled. Many executives believe that their decisions should be based primarily on solid facts and careful analysis, however, some of them rely on intuition and experience and obviously they remain indifferent to information needs.

The subject of Management Information System (MIS) evokes emotions on a wide spectrum ranging from disdain to rapture. It would be not mare exaggeration of words to show concern about certain areas of management that have stirred more acrimonious debate. A large part of controversy, however, is a matter of semantics. It still remains a debatable matter to define the scope of management information system. According to one school of thought it covers the system in which a manager has instantaneous access to information about entire organization. On the contrary, others consider it as an appendage of the accounting system. Moreover, the analysis of data is usually done with the help of computer. However, the most acceptable description
emphasizes the use that is made of the information provided by an MIS rather than the technology or methodology in collecting and disseminating the information.

Finally more comprehensive definition, that is accepted widely, considers management information system as an integrated man machine system that provides information to support the planning and control functions of manager in an organization. In fact, an elaboration of this definition considers MIS as information that sub serves managerial functions. This also limits functionaries of MIS; for example, it will not cover dissemination of information to the persons who are not managers.

The present work although considered as an aggrandizement of MIS to an educational institute, however, it differs from classical MIS at gross root. For example, in the present system, the functioning of the manager has to be performed by chairperson of department/faculty. In larger perspective, the head of the institute has to perform role of manager. Secondly and more importantly, the accessibility to the key functioning as well as information about the institute has to be disseminated at large. This will lead to easy and efficient functioning of various activities. Moreover, part of the system is meant for the students/ aspirant of various educational programs that are offered by Department of Business Administration, A.M.U. The system covers where about as well as general information about the department.

It also tells about various programs/courses offered by the department. Beside, it helps in development/maintenance of various activities that are important for efficient functioning of department/institute.

Different groups of people associated directly or indirectly with a management institute require varying types of information in various contexts. Such information can be made available in a variety of forms. The complexities of the information requirement of user communities, coupled with multiplicity of the available information, both in bulk and contents, could be made more comprehensive in a simple manner. Since customization of the information can make the whole process more user friendly. This in turn may warrant basic training of staff in computer usage during initial phase. However, more frequent access to the computerized information can make the user accustomed with such activities. The other problem that seems to hamper the generalized usage of such database is non-availability of all possible kind of functions. This type of problem can be solved by keeping provision for package and repackage of information of the original source. It is likely that information source as well as software package, which is

Chapter 5: Summary and conclusion:
in practice these days has to be replaced with more advanced version of the software that are likely to be introduced in future course of time.

Looking at the existing structure of resources, there is always a scope for generalizations of various categories. The documentary, human and institutional sources can be used for obtaining the information. Each of such sources has its own characteristic and peculiarities with regard to the nature of information, context, form and mode of availability.

In the present study, we envisaged development of user-friendly software package covering various routine activities of a management institute. The Department of Business Administration, Aligarh Muslim University was taken as model to develop information system. Computer based system that can offer accessibility to various programs, which could be useful for students as well as teaching and non-teaching staff of the department. The system is complete in itself with the following features:

- Completely menu driven and user friendly that can be operated by non-skilled persons without much difficulty
- Designing of input format in such a way that data editing as well as modifications can be executed without much difficulty
- Reduction of manpower and proper utilization of human brain
- Guaranteed accuracy, timeliness and comprehensiveness of the system
- Provision for attractive and easy to use menus
- Updating can be done in any of the following ways
- Provision for new entries of any employee, student, activity, etc.
- Provision for password that helps in maintaining confidentiality for database
- Low maintenance operation cost
- Improved user interaction through visual tools such as drop down menus, list boxes, radio buttons and push buttons

5.2 Limitations:

Every coin has two faces; the proverb is valid for the system developed in the present study as well. The present system has been developed for Department of Business Administration, AMU, implementation of the system for any other department or organization requires appropriate changes.

- The system is not available on the Internet.
- The reports are not generated like web pages.
- There is no procedure available to recover deleted data.
5.3 Future enhancements:

There is always room for improvement in any system, no matter how good and efficient it may be. However, the important point is that the system should be flexible enough for future modification/alteration if desired.

The present system has been developed to provide a better mechanism for real time operations. It has been designed in such a way so that modification / alteration can always be made without affecting the functionalities of the system. Besides, modules are efficient enough to introduce any change in the software to get more information.

Following future enhancement can be recommended to make system more useful:

- The system is so much flexible that it can be enhanced for any institution/organization across the world with appropriate amendments.
- Once MIS has been put in place, next objective involves customization of the relevant information of a particular institute and development of its web site so that user may obtain the desired information from anywhere across the world.