

ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN EDUCATION SYSTEM IN INDIA IN 21ST CENTURY

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Abstract

The present paper reflects this depiction of state initiatives within the field of upper education and therefore the role of libraries in promoting the use of those initiatives for teaching research and extension activities in higher educational institutions. Various movements of libraries for promoting education within the era of data communication technology like library networks, library consortium, library portals, digital collection development, online reference services, digital repositories, online catalogues, and knowledge literacy programs are described within the paper. A couple of major mode roles played by a library as an educator, as space, as a private, as a knowledge manager etc. is additionally explained through this text.

Keywords: Education, Library, Information literacy, Open Educational Resources.

INTRODUCTION

Over the last 20 years, India has remarkably transformed its education landscape. It's created widespread access to low-cost top quality university education for college kids of all levels. The Indian education system is one of the most important education systems within the world just after the US and China (Hasan and Pande). When India got Independence there have been only 20 Universities and 500 colleges but at the present, there are 920 Universities and 41,455 colleges (UGC website 31, March 2020). Education is usually considered the synonymous of university education but it also includes various colleges, research centers, training centers and professional institutes of law, medicine, theology, business, music, and art etc. Thus providing a higher level of teaching is one among the facets of upper education. A couple of government agencies of India are formulated for the development of upper education in India namely University Grants Commission (UGC); Association of Indian Universities (AIU); All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE); Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR); Indian Council of Science Research (ICSSR); and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), etc. On September 26, 1985, Government of India established 'Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD)' with the prime objective to supply basic education and assure overall development to people of the country in order that everyone can live a far better quality of life. It works through two departments viz. "Department of faculty Education & Literacy" and "Department of upper Education". The second department works for education, which is providing world-class opportunities for upper education and research to the Indian academic community in order that they might be strengthened for competitions on the international platform. Within the present era of ICT, education in most of the schools and colleges is being driven by technology and innovations. The tutorial Institutions have skilled those changes and embraced the digital mode of education involving both teaching and learning. As technology takes a leap ahead with smart phones, tablets and internet influencing the younger generation, education has started redefining itself. The interactive features and non-linear system of content are very interesting to scholars than the traditional classrooms. Thus, professional and online education is on the increase and therefore the digital spaces have opened the whole new scope for the education system. Digital media is transforming the system of education to an excellent extent.

OPEN KNOWLEDGE MOVEMENT

The high cost of scholarly contents in sort of textbooks, journals and other documents has been a serious issue for the scholar community therefore Open Educational Resources (OERs) came into the scene. Knowledge is open if anyone is liberal to access, use, modify and share it. Open Educational Resources (OERs) are educational contents available publicly domain with an open license. Thanks to open license policy of those OERs a person is legally eligible to repeat, use, modify and share among the academic community. These Resources include textbooks to curricula, course notes, lecture material, assignments, online course videos, audios and animations. Some very useful scholarly contents are available in Open Access mode by different academic agencies and institutions and publishers which provides free access to see reviewed journals, books, and other research-oriented material. Online repositories are another medium benefitting scholar community by providing rich pedagogical material.

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OER) INITIATIVES IN INDIA

- NPTEL (National Program on Technology Enhanced Learning)
- Ekalavya
- E-Grid
- E-GyanKosh
- Sakshat
- E-PGPathshala
- VLE (Virtual Learning Environment of Delhi University)
- CEC (Consortium of Educational Communication)
- National Science Digital Library
- National Repository of Open Educational Resources
- E-BIDYA
- FlexiLearn Open Course Portal
- A-VIEW
- SWAYAM
- SWAYAM PRABHA
- UGC- MOOC:
- NDLE (National Digital Library)
- NMEICT (National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology)
- Shodhganga

OERs IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION SYSTEM

- Krishikosh
- CeRA
- E- Krishi Shiksha
- E-Agropeadia
- Krishi – Knowledge based Resources Information Systems Hub for Innovations in Agriculture
- agMOOCs
- E-Sagu
- A -AQUA
- Agriculture Information Portal

ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN EDUCATION

Libraries are considered the profound sea of data emerging from the scholarly output over the years. These aren't merely preserving this scholarly content but transmit it to generations. This scholarly output could also be in sort of textbooks, research articles, research reports, edited books, research theses or dissertations, etc. The library is such an area where a scholar finds rich information on his specific area of interest. The knowledge resources are not limited to its

boundaries but it's now been extended out of it. The academic community of an establishment isn't eligible to the documents kept within the libraries but he's eligible to urge access of other documents available in other libraries over the world. The medium of data is additionally not restricted to medium but information is often accessed via clouds now. Libraries are always been the mediators of data and knowledge seekers. There are service providers to the scholar community of its parent organization. So there's little question in saying that a tutorial institution cannot survive without a library. And also if any academic institution doesn't give top priority to its library or neglect it, it'll not take much time for its damage or destruction. "The Kothari Education Commission (1964- 65) was found considerably serious about the importance of library in higher institution stating that, "nothing might be more damaging to a pawing department than to neglect its library, give thereto a coffee priority." So the role of a library is taken into account far more important for higher educational institutions. All educational programmes are successfully implemented with the assistance and coordination of the library. University Education Commission during 1948-49 under the headship of Dr S. Radhakrishnan described clearly that "teachers must have the required tools for teaching purpose within the shape of libraries and laboratories as also the proper sort of students." consistent with him "The library is that the heart of the University's work; directly so as regards its research work and indirectly as regards its educational work, which derives its life from research work. Research project needs a library also as its laboratories, while for humanistic research. The library is both library and laboratory in one. The training in higher branches of learning and research is especially an issue of learning the way to use the tools, and if the libraries tools aren't there how can the scholars learn to use them."

In 1957 when SR Ranganathan participated in UGC agenda regarding 'Role of the library in academic development' following observations were made:

- "The library is that the heart of education;
- Methods & fashion in education change from generation to generation, but each generation uses the library as a way of realizing its items; hence the library remains the good conservator of learning;
- A top-quality education is impossible without a top-quality library;
- A library is the significant organ for correct exploitation of our intellectual resources;
- A library is important for the maintenance of free access to ideas, and to the functioning of the untrammelled mind."

Considerable developments were made in education during the 1980s and in the present scenario, these become faster with more advancements of ICT in the education sector and constant support from MHRD. Keeping in sight the importance of libraries ongoing of upper educational academic institutes, Government agencies like UGC and ICAR are providing consistent support to the libraries of those institutes in order that informational resources available in any mode might be optimized properly by the scholar community. Dr S. R Ranganathan who is taken into account father of humanistic discipline framed "five laws of library science" regarding best utilization of libraries could also be differently utilized in the present scenario as:

1. Information is to be used.
2. Equally of data has its consumer.
3. Every consumer has its information.
4. Save the time of the user.
5. Information is increasing vastly.

In Ranganathan framed first four Laws were contacting the word 'books' in situ of 'Information' and therefore the fifth law was 'library may be a growing organism'.

CONCURRENT MOVES OF LIBRARIES IN PARENT ORGANISATIONS

Quality in higher educational institutes has always been the search for excellence and this excellence obviously depends on the standard teacher, quality students and quality informational resources. For bringing excellence one statement must be kept in consideration

that “As we read so we produce”. Here comes the particular role of Libraries. Libraries are the collector and provider of quality content to the tutorial community of its parent organization, thus promoting directly. Libraries are playing a “significant role in providing good education and knowledge of top quality. Individuals round the world, regardless of how poor they’ll be, can access whatever knowledge and knowledge they have by visiting libraries via the web, like the library of congress”(Pareek, and Gangrade). The prevailing activities of libraries for Indian higher educational institutions are:

- **Library Websites and Research Help:**

In India, most institutional libraries are hosting their own separate websites, through which they’re giving access to online catalogues, subscribed resources, free and open access resources, other e- contents and also create the virtual environment by providing real tie chat service also.

- **Research Assistance:**

Almost all the libraries are working as 'Research guides' by providing research help facility through their webpage or portals for research scholars. Under this facility, real assistance is provided to all or any research scholars throughout his/her research period or process. This service is given a provision of subject-specific documents, directories, research quick start guides, the subject-wise arrangement of varied sorts of resources, manuals regarding creating references/bibliographies, managing citations, use of reference tools etc.

- **Digital Collection Development:**

With print content, digital and online content is additionally being developed. This digital collection includes- e-books, e-journals, e-proceedings, e-databases, citation databases, plagiarism software’s, statistical sites, reference tools etc.

- **Online Reference Service:**

Many libraries are providing internet-based reference services via e-mail, real chat, instant messages, online submission forms, teleconferencing, etc. ‘Ask a librarian’ is extremely popular reference service. Under this service, replies are submitted via e-mails. Nowadays various social media tools and apps are getting used to supply digital reference services. Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp are a couple of popular examples. This service undoubtedly saves the time of scholar by providing quick assistance, guidance and interaction.

- **Online Catalogue:**

Maximum utilization of informational resources could also be accelerated through these catalogues users can know the supply and therefore the Biblio details of documents regardless of time and place. Most the libraries have made their online catalogue available on the online. Some libraries have also provided an inventory of open access resources on their catalogue.

- **Digital Repositories:**

Digital repositories of some institutions or organizations are managed and maintained by its libraries. Creation of various communities or folders containing some kind of specific sort of material are created by libraries in these repositories then the gathering of related documents are uploaded on repositories to form them accessible to all or any. These repositories not only preserves the important scholarly material of all types but the tutorial material or research output produced by the school or the research scholars of the university.

- **Information Literacy Programmes:**

There are thousands of OERs, Open Access documents, user portals, sites, consortia and various sorts of other documents and services are available for tutorial purposes but if a user of the library is unaware of the knowledge there’ll be wastage of all resources of an establishment. Therefore Information literacy programmers within the sort of the course curriculum, workshops seminars, and lectures are the continued activities in every library. Library pieces of coaching are organized for all level of scholars and school to make sure the optimum utilization of e-resources and web resources for his or her academic rationale.

- **Display of Latest collection:**

If a library subscribes some latest informational resources in any sort of format, awareness of an equivalent must be spread among their users by displaying it in display racks, boards or via electronic devices. Latest collection is often displayed on the front page of OPAC also. Proper

display of the gathering of a library creates curiosity among users to use them for his or her academic purposes.

- Implementation of Software:

To provide access to multiple subscribed e-resources and digital contents, libraries are implementing or opting such software through which users of parent institution can access to its resources sitting at any corner of the planet using remote access ID and password. EZproxy, Refread, Fedgate, etc are samples of such software.

- Library Networks:

To fulfill and satisfy the informational need of educational community libraries started connecting with one another and established some library networks' Library networks are such platforms through which the member libraries can share their information resources and services under some mutual agreements. After establishing the formation of such networks many of the challenges of the tutorial institution were solved like costly documents, budget constraints, the duplicity of documents in libraries etc. Under library networks, libraries are performing the sharing of resources on-demand basis. "The concept of library network came into light after 1985 when the working party of the design Commission reported a modernize plan on National Policy on Library and knowledge System to the Ministry of HRD, Government of India on the seventh five-year plan".

Following are some Library Networks established in India during 1988-1998 to market utilization of informational resources at an optimal level:

- Ahmadabad Library Network (ADNET). 1994
- Bangalore Academic Library Network (BALNET). 1995
- Bombay Library Network (BONET). 1992
- Calcutta Library Network (CALIBNET). 1993
- Developing Library Network (DELNET). 1988
- Indore Library Network (INDOLIBNET). 1995
- Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET). 1991
- Madras Library Network (MALIBNET). 1993
- Mysore Library Network (MYLIBNET). 1995
- Management Libraries Network (MANLIBNET).1998

LIBRARY CONSORTIUM IN INDIA

The concept of resources sharing has provided the common platform for the libraries by forming a consortium among them. Agreements were done to share one another resource among the member libraries. Library cooperation was supported interlibrary loan services. The users can borrow books, periodicals and other documents which weren't available locally. The requests were sent and delivery of materials only through the postal, fax and courier services.

Major Indian consortia are:

- CSIR E-Journal Consortium
- Consortium for E-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA)
- Department of Bio-Technology e-Library Consortium (DeLCON)
- Forum for Resource Sharing in Astronomy (FORSA)
- Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Consortium
- Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) Knowledge Park
- Indian National Digital Library in Engineering Sciences and Technology-INDESTAICTE Consortium
- Health Science Library and knowledge Network (HELINET)
- MCIT Library Consortium
- UGC-DAE- Consortium for research project
- UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium

KEY ROLES OF LIBRARIES IN EDUCATION

In brief, there are the subsequent key roles of a library in promoting higher education:

- Leads in bringing Institutional Effectiveness: to realize the prime mission of any Institution, libraries identify and develop such outcomes which lead towards bringing institutional effectiveness which make sure the continuous improvement in every requisite facet of Institution. They develop outcomes which are related to accreditation guidelines required for any institution.

- Enhance Professional Values in Users: Libraries bestow professional values among users by defying works for censoring resources, protecting rights of users of keeping their privacy also as confidentiality, supporting institution's integrity applying cheek on plagiarism through policy and education. Encouraging collaborations within the campus and out of doors the boundaries of Institution.

- As Educator: Libraries educates users through various ways like training them with different techniques for retrieving required data and efficient searching of scientific information, effective use of the web, providing self-instructional materials, and declining distances. Library provides all quite required tools and supplements for best teaching in classrooms, help in designing online tutorials, and such sort of several activities. Users are supported in discovering required information available in several formats, using technology in checking out information and knowledge organization. Users are provided one-on-one assistance through multiple platforms to assist them finds information.

- As Space: Libraries provides a platform to intellectuals for interacting with one another, sharing their ideas within the physical boundary and virtual surroundings, safely and securely to increase learning & facilitating new innovation and concepts. Under physical space facilities like network connectivity; adequate and well-maintained sorts of equipment and furnishings; a clean, hygienic and adequate environment conducive to study; convenient hours; personnel, resources, and collections.

- As Knowledge manager: Libraries makes available different quite adequate, quality, scoopful and latest resources in several formats- print, digital and electronic to strengthen teaching, research and other prerequisites of an establishment. Libraries ensure long-term availability or access to the intellectual records in order that they'll be utilized by users at maximum. The library partners with multiple institutions (e.g., via collections consortia) to extend cost-effectiveness and to expand access to collections.

- As Personnel: an honest number and skilled staff are available to make sure excellence among academic fraternity by providing continuous help and support to satisfy their diverse teaching and research needs. Libraries are committed for overall pedagogical development in parent institution by developing maintaining and enhancing skills and knowledge of each professional. For providing better opportunities to the targeted user, library personnel always keep themselves updated with new and existing technologies, skilled in performing on multiple applications and participate in ongoing training programmes.

- Strengthen External Relations: Libraries engage the campus and broader community through multiple strategies so as to advocate, educate, and promote their value. They continuously make efforts in developing "external relations through communications, publications, events, and donor cultivation and stewardship, communicate with the campus community during a timely way employing a sort of methods and evaluates the communication for effectiveness and convey a uniform message about the library to expand user awareness of resources, services, and expertise' (Shumaker, John, W).

➤ Delivery Satisfaction /Satisfaction Relationship: Libraries must assess what the user willing to try to and what are their expectations from the libraries. In libraries, services got to be user-oriented and for this library must setup the priorities, manage expectations of users, and clearly add smarter ways applying new mechanisms to supply quick and consistent services. User expectations aren't static and alter with time so libraries are required to supply new services in changing environment as per the users' expectations.

CONCLUSION

Education and libraries are called the two facets of one coin. They are very much interdependent on each other as education without libraries and libraries without education are paralyzed. Libraries cannot be separated from education. The provision of libraries is crucial and essential to education around the globe. In ICT era, when informational sources have emerged in online publishing and digital mode and available on the web, role and responsibilities of libraries have increased in terms of managing information, assessing quality, ensure access, storage and preservations, and such other activities. Digital resource has a direct impact on productivity and efficiency of the libraries where the library can able to give twenty-four-hour service irrespective of its opening hours. A library with good quality resources attract and retain ambitious faculty and hence can bring honor and prestige to the institution. Libraries have not been longer just the storehouse of books but now libraries have expanded its walls beyond the boundaries. For users, resources are now not limited to in-house collection only but libraries through different library networks, consortia, e-reference services, social media, and repositories, national and international collaborations have expanded collection for them. Documents at your doors services like document delivery and inter library loan has been initiated by libraries. For higher education, libraries encourage research and extension activities, helping academic fraternity in achieving their pedagogical missions. Libraries should not be neglected in any institutions otherwise it will bring its destruction only rather they are supported well they will bring a bright future of higher education in India. On the other hand, Libraries must also be users centric. Services need to be user oriented and for this library must setup the priorities, manage expectations of users, and obviously work in smarter ways applying new mechanisms to provide quick and consistent services. It is not necessary that if a library provides quality service its user will become satisfied. For this library should not only follow the transaction relationship with its user but also the satisfaction relationship. It is very important for the library if it's having a least satisfied user because only a least satisfied user can give the feedback to the library for its further improvement in quality service. But one more thing is to identify the two types of dissatisfied users. One user may be dissatisfied and another is chronically dissatisfied. The first type of users could be satisfied after making some changes in service delivery as per his expectations and another category can never be satisfied as their expectations are beyond reach. In the present scenario the quote "Think like a User, Act like an Administrator" is very important of any library.

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