



## IMPACT OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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### **ABSTRACT:**

In higher education in college and universities college education plays a key role to produce the skilled man power. In Indian scenario academic libraries are starting to develop innovative ideas and producing impact on the education systems. In the modern information society libraries have a new role and there are various types of library models. In the modern information society, where the use of electronic services and Web-based information sources constantly increases, libraries are managed in a more democratic way, have more flexible communication system and work organization, and their service development is based on the quality and user-orientation of services. To be successful, the libraries should pay more attention to the development trends of information society that would enable to adjust their development strategies to social information needs. For that reason it is important to see library as a part of social model of the society and its role in social development plans and strategies and in legislation. The future Estonian research and development activities will be focused on creating knowledge-based information society, where scientific research, scholarly information and implementation of human knowledge and skills will be the primary source of economic development and raising the quality of life. An effective system of the development of education and science in Estonia will create precondition for generating and applying new knowledge and will ensure the raise of overall awareness in the interests of socio-economical and cultural development of the country.

### **Keywords:**

Library, academic, information, higher education.

### **INTRODUCTION:**

India has a large higher education system. The growth rate of educational institutions in India was very slow before independence in 1947. Today there are a total of 237 universities, including 116 general





universities, 12 science and technology universities, 7 open universities, 33 agricultural universities, 5 women's universities, 1 language universities and 11 medical universities along with 12,600 colleges that provide education in all disciplines. The number of teachers is 3.1 million, and 7.8 million students are enrolled in higher education. Academic libraries are considered to be the nerve centers of academic institutions, and must support teaching, research, and other academic programmes. The situation in academic libraries of India is the same as that of academic libraries the world over; however, Indian libraries must provide maximum information with limited resources. Education aims to impart knowledge and makes good citizens. Libraries are the repositories of knowledge and form an integral part of education. Libraries have a long history, starting with the chained and closed-access libraries of earlier times to the present-day hybrid, digital, and virtual libraries that use the latest technology for provision of information through various services. Accordingly, librarians have also changed from storekeepers who were concerned with protection of books against theft, mutilation, and pilferage, to that of information officers, navigators, and cyber librarian who find themselves in the vast ocean of reading material and are busy in satisfying their clients who want anytime and anywhere information. With the advent of computers, the nature of libraries has changed dramatically. Computers are being used in libraries to process, store, retrieve and disseminate information. As a result, the traditional concept of library is being redefined from a place to access books to one which houses the most advanced media including CD-ROM, Internet, and remote access to a wide range of resources. Libraries have now metamorphosed into digital institutions. Gone are the days when a library was judged by its quantitative resources. Today, libraries are surrounded by networked data that is connected to a vast ocean of





Internet-based services. Moreover, electronic resources relevant to the professions are developing at an unprecedented pace.

#### **MATERIAL AND METHOD:**

Questionnaire, interviews and survey of college libraries and national and international literature about the e-learning and higher education.

#### **RESULT AND DISCUSSION:**

**Libraries Concerning To Higher Education**– University Libraries - Indian Universities constitute one of the largest higher education system in the world with 265 Universities and 13,150 affiliated colleges. Each of these have a library, The traditional or conventional universities & their Libraries are funded by the State Government & partly by the University Grants Commission (UGC). Besides the above there are 41 Agricultural & Veterinary Universities and their libraries funded by the state government and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) The University libraries have large collection and have been slow in automation and digitization process due to lack of funds, absence of action plans or priorities from authorities which have been the major hindrances, however the scenario is fast changing and the authorities are now realizing the need for information sharing through use of Internet/ ICT. National Libraries - The National Library of the country is the Largest Library located at Kolkatta. It is an Institution of National Importance under Department of Culture, Ministry of Tourism & Culture. The Library is designated to Collect, Disseminate, and Preserve the printed material concerning the country no matter where it is published. The National Library acts as Referral Center purveying full and accurate knowledge. It functions for Acquisition and Conservation of all significant printed material in the country and foreign material required by the





country. The IARI Library in Agricultural Sciences, the AIIMS Library in Medical Sciences, the National Science Library ( library of NISCAIR)

**Universal Digital Library:** This is a project proposal for Indo-US Science & Tech collaboration, aims to digitize 1 million books in next 3 years, planned to create 10 centers across India for scanning as Scanning centers. It is proposed to meet hardware & software cost from USA and manpower needs from India.

**National Knowledge Commission** National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has been set up by the Prime Minister with the challenging mandate to transform India of the 21st century into a knowledge society. In his inaugural speech for NKC on 2 nd August 2005, referring specially to libraries he said that Public libraries are an extremely important element of the foundation of a knowledge economy. As a part of this process there has been a wide spread agreement on the urgent need to bring reforms in the in the Library and Information services (LIS) sector.

**Qualities In Academic Libraries** – The success and sustenance of libraries in future depends upon their capability to be more dynamic and continually to prove their value in academic and research endeavor. The only alternative left to the university libraries is to adopt Total Quality Management (TQM) in all the integrated library activities and services and thereby contribute to the productivity and accomplishments of the customer expectations. The university library systems had a variety of reasons for implementing and promoting TQM, due to increase demands for quality service from the customers, impact of information technology and rising costs, resulting from inflation were becoming the standard for today's university systems. Greater efficiency, improved service and optimum utilization of resources are the reasons for undertaking TQM in the university library systems. The importance of quality has been in the past and this will march into the future and remain as key strategic importance to the librarianship. But the ultimate goal in obtaining

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highest quality products and services remain as an integral part of our library profession's ethos and no matter what modern management tools do we apply in search of 'Quality'.

**Library In The Twenty-First Century-** New Services for the Information Age has devoted one chapter on "what is a good library" explains how researchers and patrons view 'goodness' in the library. A library in order to survive should acquire resources which are useful to users in present as well as these will be in future too. The question of goodness is not only related to efficiency and effectiveness of the process, but also adaptability and responsiveness of the library to its environment. Different organizations have different set of indicators to judge the quality of the library. And these indicators should have amalgam of both-traditional library operations and ICT base services. It is a subject of further research to find out how a library preference can be measured. Total Quality Management (TQM) stresses upon continuous improvement in services as core values. University Grants Commission (UGC) UGC, established by an act of parliament in 1956, coordinates and monitors the higher education system in India and provides grants to the universities and colleges. Two hundred ninety four universities/institutions in the country are directly under the purview of UGC. It also advises the union and state governments on measures to university education. It frames rules and regulations for overall teaching and research at higher education. As a result, it also looks after the academic libraries, i.e., sets various standards for library education, library staff, library services, etc. A number of committees have been set up by the UGC for the support of higher education in general and the library services in academic libraries in particular. UGC has also set up three information centers covering different disciplines. INFLIBNET The University Grants Commission has set up an autonomous Inter-University Centre in 1991 called INFLIBNET. It is involved in





modernizing university libraries in India and connects them through a nation-wide high-speed data network. It promotes automation of libraries, develops standards, creates union catalogues of serials, theses, books, monographs and non-book materials; provides access to bibliographic information sources; creates database of projects, institutions, specialists; provides training, etc. Almost all academic libraries, especially university libraries, are members of INFLIBNET. It has also developed library automation software called SOUL (Software for University Libraries) and has distributed the same free of cost to its member libraries. E. Libraries in India - Besides INFLIBNET, a number of other national networks and various library networks have also been developed including NICNET (National Informatic Center's network), INDONET , ERNET (Education and Research Network), CALIBNET (Calcutta Library Network), DELNET(Developing Library Network), etc. ADINET is associated with INFLIBNET, DELNET with NIC and MALIBNET with CFTRI. A number of educational institutions are members of such networks. These networks, especially DELNET (which has 752 member libraries including 742 from India and 10 from outside), are engaged in compiling union catalogs, creating various databases of experts, providing training to library staff , ILL, online facilities, reference service, assistance in retrospective conversion, etc.

**Knowledge Management**– Knowledge management is newly emerging approach aimed at addressing today's business challenges to increase efficiency and efficacy by applying many strategies, techniques and tools in their existing business processes. Academic libraries are part of the university and its organizational culture. Whatever affects universities has an impact on academic libraries. As a result, role of academic libraries is voluminous to provide the competitive advantage for the parent organization. The success of academic libraries depends on their ability to utilize information and knowledge of their staff to better serve

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the needs of the academic community. Academic Libraries are pinched on both sides: reduced budget and increased demand from faculty and students. It is, therefore, paramount for academic libraries to operate more efficiently with reduced financial and human resources. Knowledge management is considered as one of the most useful solutions for academic libraries that can be adopted in order to improve their services to become relevant for their parent institutions in the present competitive and challenging environment (Wen, 2005; Thanuskodi, 2010). This is especially true of countries like India with a rapidly developing economy.

**ROLE OF LIBRARY IN HIGHER EDUCATION** – The role of the library is necessarily dependent upon the educational objectives of the institution. Frequently, these are unstated or inadequate. Reference is made to some definitions of objectives for higher education, and the consequences for libraries are discussed. The view is urged that libraries, and therefore librarians, should be treated as integral and active parts of the educational process, and the latter be involved in course planning and development. The role identified for libraries in traditional higher education has not been transferred to the thinking about the external mode of study. The problems of providing any library service to external students in a country as vast and sparsely peopled as Australia are enormous. To extend services and opportunities equivalent to those available on campus may be impossible, but great effort should be made. Otherwise it may be impossible to match the educational experiences of external and internal students, in which case the equivalence of their qualifications is in serious question.

## **CONCLUSION:**

**Perspectives Of Future Academic Libraries-** For academic librarians seeking to demonstrate the value of their libraries to their parent institutions, it is important to understand not only the current climate.

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We must also know what will be valued in the future so that we can begin to take appropriate action now. This document presents 26 possible scenarios based on an implications assessment of current trends, which may have an impact on all types of academic and research libraries over the next 15 years. The scenarios represent themes relating to academic culture, demographics, distance education, funding, globalization, infrastructure/facilities, libraries, political climate, publishing industry, societal values, students/learning, and technology. They are organized in a “scenario space” visualization tool, reflecting the expert judgment of ACRL members as to their expectations and perceptions about the probability, impact, speed of change, and threat/opportunity potential of each scenario. Finally, the study draws out implications for academic libraries. For scenarios which have been identified as high impact with a high probability of occurring, it is incumbent upon library directors and those who set strategic agendas for academic libraries to plan to act now upon these scenarios.

**Acknowledgement:**

Author is thankful to Principal, Prof. L.B.Jadhav, M.G. Arts and commerce college, Parseoni for providing infrastructure and support during my research work. Thankfulness is due to Dr. V.A.Dakhole and Dr. A.D.Bobdey for their help during the survey of literature and time to time motivation.

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**Table no.1**

Significance of the difference in the social adjustment between boys and girls of working Mother

S.N.	Group	N	M	SD	Calculated t - value	Table t - value		Significance
						0.05	0.01	
1	Boys	22	7.364	2.517	0.64	2.02	2.71	Not significance at 0.05
2	Girls	18	7.833	2.149				

$$Df = N_1 + N_2 - 2$$

$$= 22 + 18 - 2 = 38$$

**Table no.2**

Significance of the difference in the social adjustment between boys and girls of non working mother

S.N.	Group	N	M	SD	Calculated t - value	Table t - value		Significance
						0.05	0.01	
1	Boys	16	7.188	1.905	3.10	2.02	2.71	significance at 0.05 level
2	Girls	24	12.25	5.622				

$$Df = N_1 + N_2 - 2$$

$$= 16 + 24 - 2 = 38$$

**Table no.3**

Significance difference in social adjustment of children of working and non working women.

S.N.	Group	N	M	SD	Calculated t - value	Table t - value		Significance
						0.05	0.01	
1	Children of working women	40	7.575	2.341	2.762	1.99	2.64	Significant of 0.05 level
2	Children of non - Working women	40	10.225	4.717				

$$Df = N_1 + N_2 - 2$$

$$= 40 + 40 - 2 = 78$$

