

**COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF
INFORMATION RESOURCES IN THE GOVERNMENT
DISTRICT LIBRARIES OF BIHAR WITH SPECIAL
REFERENCE TO PATNA DIVISION: A STUDY**

**ABSTRACT OF
A DISSERTATION
FOR THE DEGREE OF**

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ABSTRACT

1. Introduction

As we know that government district library is a part of public libraries. A public library is a library that is accessible by the general public and is generally funded from public sources such as taxes. The public library operated by the Librarian and Library professionals, those are also civil servants. According to UNESCO manifesto, it should be maintained wholly out of public funds in the society, so that they can render free service to one and all in the society". That's involving the stipulation of sufficient resources for inclusive public library service comprising in entire state and the Nation. This can be achieved by establishing the library networks across the entire states and country or developing public library system that can organize exclusive of various elements and co-operation among all the sectors of public libraries.

According to S.R Ranganathan, the public library as any library established as (or) maintained by a local library authority, open to the public free of charge and maintained and manage by the Government and local library authority; any library notified by the Government as a public library. Government district library is an apex body of the district generally located in the district Centre. It is functioning as a leading and reference library for the district, books and other reading materials are purchased, technically processed and distributed to all public libraries in a district by the district library authority.

In every library, Collection development is one of the most demanding and resourceful processes of the profession, everywhere library staff acquires a method for selection of material to meet the demand of its users. By librarian and library,

professional's collection is developed by purchasing or acquiring material over a period of time based on an assessment of the information needs of the library users.

The term "Collection Development" has been evolved to emphasis personalized services to satisfy user's demand. Collection Development encompasses all plans formulated for the systematic and rational building of a collection. The term includes a group of activities i.e. assessing for the user needs, evaluating the present collection, determining selection policy, coordinating the choice of items, re-evaluating and storing parts of the collection and planning for resource sharing. A collection development policy involves selection and acquisition (procurement) of library materials to meet both presents as well as future requirements of users which is considered by limited financial resources, diversity of user information needs and availability of vast sources of information.

2. Statement of the Problem

The government district library is expected to provide for recreation, information, inspiration and education. It serves the local people and is open for the public. Different kinds of people have access like – students, teachers, research scholars, businessman, professionals, housewives, retired person etc. All the government district libraries are categorized as public libraries. The Public library is run in the interest "of public for the people, by the people of the people"

The study entitled "**Collection development and management of information resources in the government district libraries of Bihar with special reference to Patna division: a study**" gives the update of the district libraries in Bihar and evaluate the performance of the district libraries. Even after many measures taken to improve the condition of the public libraries in India his actual status remains

unsatisfactory due to multiple reasons. Bihar is one of those states where the condition of the public libraries remains inadequate despite the need.

In present time, the use of latest technologies, skilled professionals, interactive learning, digital library, virtual library etc. have become common. The actual status of the libraries continues to suffer. The development and maintenance of the libraries depend upon the constitution and the concerned state government. Bihar is one of the states of India which consists of 9 divisions and 38 districts. Every district has its own district library. It is important to gauge the present status of the government district libraries as per the need of the present generation. It is important to know the condition of the permanent staff in the libraries, the status of library collections, library services provided by the staff, infrastructure, the use of the ICT application and equipment in libraries, pattern of governance of district libraries in Bihar, the status of libraries budgets provided by the state government and coordinating agencies of the libraries.

3. Significance of the Study

Collection development and management of information resources in the government district libraries of Bihar with special reference to Patna division: a study is a topic of great importance, interest and great significance, not only for the scholars and professionals associated with government district libraries of Bihar, but also to the policy makers, planners, states library authorities and the State Government. On the behalf of this study the State Government can take a positive decision for the betterment of the government district libraries services.

4. Objectives of the Study

- The Objectives of the present study are:
- To examine the condition of selected government district libraries of Bihar;

- To identify the collection and services of government district libraries;
- Find out the status of government district libraries staffs;
- To identify the various problems faced by the government district libraries;
- To examine the use of ICT application in government district library for promotion and modernization of library activities and services;
- To find out the libraries budget, infrastructure and other library facilities for general persons.

5. Hypotheses of the Study

1. The Overall conditions of selected government district libraries of Bihar are not in excellent condition;
2. Government district libraries have a rich collection and they provide good service to their users;
3. Adequate library professionals are not available in the government district libraries;
4. Biggest problem faced by the district libraries is insufficient Budget;
5. Government district libraries of Bihar are struggling to use ICT application for promotion and modernization of various services and activities.

6. Scope and Limitation of the Study

Present study is concerned with the government district libraries of Patna division of Bihar. This Study will cover the following district Libraries:

1. Patna District library
2. Bhojpur District library
3. Bhabhua District library
4. Rohtas District library
5. Buxar District library

6. Nalanda District library

However, the present study has some of the following limitations:

- The population of the study is limited to the Librarians/ Library In-charge working in Government District Libraries of Bihar.
- Bihar is one of the states of India which contain 9 divisions and 38 districts where every district contains one district library for local audiences. The scope of the study covers only Patna divisions which included 6 districts.

7. Research Methodology

Research methodology is a way to systematically solve the research problem. “Research is common parlance refers to a search for knowledge. Another one can also define that research as a scientific and systematic search for relevant information on a specific topic” In fact, research is an art of scientific investigation. “A careful investigation or inquiry especially through search for new facts in any branch of knowledge” For collecting the primary data, the survey research method has been adopted.

8. Survey Research

The survey research is a very common method to collect quantitative data in social science research. In this, research selects a sample of the respondents from a pool of the population. A “survey can be anything from a short paper and pencil feedback form to an intensive one in depth interview”. Researcher finds most suitable research to collect the primary data from respondents. In this study, questionnaire has been used as a tool of data collection. The research instrument consists of series of questions for collecting information from the respondents. A questionnaire will be designed to gather data from the respondents. Interview method will also be used, if applicable.

9. Tools for Data Collection

9.1 Questionnaire

A questionnaire is a series of structured questions used by the researcher to get the raw data from the respondents. It is one of the most popular and widely used methods for collecting data. When the information is scattered and inaccessible, questionnaire is one of the methods for data collection. The raw data collected through the questionnaire from the professionals of the district libraries of Bihar along with questionnaire will be simplified with the help of mathematical and statistical tool. Presentation has shown through graphs and tables.

9.2 Interview

An interview is a conversation between the interviewer and respondents for discovering data and information related to the problem of investigation. Apart from the questionnaire tool for data collation, sometimes researchers use interview method as a tool for data collection. The researcher will make one to one conversation with the staff of the government district library of Bihar. The researcher focused on some critical questions like total collection, status of library staff, and the ICT application used by libraries, financial status of the libraries. The infrastructure of the libraries is a personal concern of the respondents as they face it every day.

9.3 Observation

It is a dynamic acquisition of information from a primary source and it is also a common method used for gathering information about the various things around us, is to observe those things which are generally hidden or absent, information of any other tools of data collection.

Apart from the questionnaire and the interview tools for data collection, the researcher used his/her senses for observing the condition of the district libraries. And also, to investigate the problems faced by the libraries of Bihar.

10. Style of references

The bibliography reference cited by the researcher for every chapter is given at the end and is arranged according to the American Psychological Association (APA) style of 6th edition.

11. Findings

- In terms of budget, it is found that all libraries were received a fixed amount in every financial year. BHJKP and JKP libraries were receiving highest budget among all district libraries of Bihar.
- Regarding infrastructure of the libraries, it is found that (80%) of the district libraries has separate building with proper space. It is also found that in all district libraries separate reading room, separate stack room and proper electricity is available.
- It is found that (80%) of the district public libraries were using other methods than a recommendation to acquire library collections. 40% libraries were selecting materials for acquisition through recommendation.
- Out of 5 public libraries in 80% libraries, reading materials were recommended by librarian and in remaining 20% libraries, faculty members were recommended books.
- It is found that only 20% libraries have been doing stock verification with the help of a computer. Rests are doing manually.
- After analysis of data, it is found that all 5 public libraries selected for study were using subject indexing.

- It is found that BHJKP library has the largest library collection in all district public libraries followed by JKP and NPJKP library. AP library has the lowest library collection.
- Computer is available in most of the public libraries (60%) but not all were connected through the internet. Only 20% of public library is providing internet facility and audio/video facility to the users. It is also found that BHJKP library has maximum collection of equipments in their library. AP and NPJKP libraries have only 1 computer and 1 printer.
- After analyzing the data, it is found that all the staff members of district public libraries are satisfied with their job profile and working condition. And it is also found that all public libraries have adequate staff to perform library services fluently and effectively.
- All the libraries were adopting Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme to classify their library collection. It is also found that only 1 (20%) library that is BHJKP library is using AACR II for cataloguing.
- In terms of membership fee of public library, it is found that BHJKP library users will have to pay Rs 400 for lifetime membership which is highest among all libraries.
- It is found that most of the public libraries (80%) are using list checking method to evaluate their library collection.
- Most of the district public libraries (60%) were develop their collection through other methods than multiple copies and popularity of books. It is also found that most of the public libraries (100%) were acquire materials form own sources.

- After analysing the data, it is found that most of the libraries (60%) were weed out their collection every year. In all the libraries (100%) for book selection users recommendation is required. Only 20% were seeking suggestion from staff and expert.
- In terms of library services, it is found that in all public libraries circulation service is provided to the users, reference service and reprography service is provided in only 1 public library.
- It is found that most of the users (46%) were visited library for reading magazine or newspaper followed by 24% users who visit library for study. Only 7% were visiting library for assignment purpose.
- It is revealed in the study that maximum number (95%) of respondents were visiting library on daily basis. Only 0.34% users respond that they never visit library. All the respondents were agreeing that library staff assists them in finding their reading materials.
- It is found that most of the respondents (47%) need more study books in the library followed by 34% respondents who need more Newspaper and magazines to study.
- Most of the respondents (56%) were identify their information through their past knowledge and the majority of users (37%) respond in favour of more discussion rooms in the district libraries of Bihar.
- It is revealed from the study that most of the respondents (54%) were moderately satisfied with the services provided by the district libraries of Bihar.

12. Conclusion

The public library is no longer considered as a repository or store house of books but is expected to perform the functions of an information centre for all kinds of readers. A public library is expected to perform the functions of providing for recreation, information, inspiration and education. The focus of the modern public library is to collect, store and disseminate the information to the readers.

The administration, inspection and monitoring of various public libraries located in district are carried out by the district library authority. It works as coordinating agency for all libraries located in particular district. In some state where public library acts have come in force where local library authorities are constituted to administer the public library system in the whole district.

Government district libraries are part of public libraries. For the regulation and development of the public library in Bihar, the state government has passed an act known as “The Bihar state Public library and information Centre Act, 2008”. The director of the library can utilize the fund for the development of the library also for make advice for necessity based grant to the libraries of different level, prepare and updated register of libraries and librarian in the State, to make supervision, direction and execution of all works relating to the central press registration of Book Act 1867 also maintenance of organization, management and publication after preparing Bibliography of books obtained. Library fund will be given by the state as a Grant or Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation for the Development of library at the different level apart from this fund through the district development fund and donation received from MP, MLA and MLC for purchase of reading material, construction of Building, repair, furniture and modernization of Libraries all kind of money which will be received through the donation, grant and another kind of source

will be utilized judicially and the director and the account section maintain in a proper manner.

Objectives formulated for this study have been achieved through tables and graphs prepared by the analysis of data received from users and librarians of district libraries of Bihar. The condition of district libraries of Bihar has been examined and found that not all libraries were providing internet facility and audio/video facility to the users. All district libraries were received a fixed amount of fund every financial year. Most of the libraries have separate library building with separate reading room and proper electricity. Computers are available for staff and users but not in sufficient numbers. Not all computers were connected with internet. Despite all odds, all staff members were satisfied with their working condition.

Most of the users were visit the library on daily basis and purpose of visiting library is reading newspaper and magazines. Users need more study materials in the library and staff assists them in finding their reading materials.

The present study is greatly verified by the findings of this study in which collection development and management of information resources in the government district libraries of Bihar were found out

13. Tentative Chaptalization

The study has been organized in the following chapters

Chapter-1: Introduction is a brief description about the origin of the public libraries in the world and the philosophy behind the growth of public libraries in India. It also mentions the concept and structure of public libraries in India followed by the objectives, hypothesis, significance of the study and research methodology used.

Chapter-2: ‘Review of Related literature’ provides the information regarding the previous studies that were undertaken by the public libraries in India and abroad. It

also examines the different aspects about the public libraries such as the use of the resources, collection and development, corporate social responsibility towards public libraries, the overall status of public libraries act in India etc. The primary and secondary data have been used for the creation of this chapter.

Chapter-3: ‘Profile of the government district libraries’ deals with the brief introduction about the district libraries of Bihar. This chapter mentions various facts and statistics about the district libraries like the year of establishment, total numbers of permanent staffs, total collection, library timing and full address of government district library available in particular district.

Chapter-4: “Collection development and management of information resources in the government district libraries of Bihar with special reference to Patna division: a study” deals with the pattern of governance of the district libraries of Bihar and also provides the brief introduction to the committees and constitution of public library act of Bihar.

Chapter-5: ‘Data analysis and interpretation’ deals with the analysis of research data collected from the respondents. Mathematical analysis is used for interpreting the data and is presented in the graphical chart and tables.

Chapter-6: ‘Finding, Conclusion and Suggestions’ are the six chapter of the study which covers findings of the study and conclusion, based on the collected data through various means. This chapter also gives valuable suggestions for the development and modernization of district libraries in Bihar.

Bibliography

Appendix