

STATUS OF GOVERNMENT DISTRICT LIBRARIES OF UTTAR PRADESH: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS

ABSTRACT of Thesis

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Supervisor
Dr. S. K. Sonkar
Assistant Professor

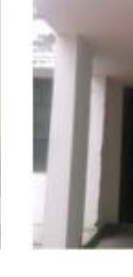


Submitted by
Anubhav Shah

Department of Library and Information Science
(School for Information Science and Technology)
Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University
(A Central University)
Vidya Vihar, Raibareli Road, Lucknow-226025, (U.P.), India

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Abstract of Thesis

Without Libraries What Have We? We Have No Past And No Future.

Ray Bradbury

INTRODUCTION:

As we know that government district libraries 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 is 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” (Pratap, 2013). That’s involves 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.(Pratap, 20013).

Government district library is an apex body of the district generally located in the district center. 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. 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. The present state Uttar Pradesh was formed in the year 1956 and it has 75 districts with area approx. 243,286 km². In the entire state 70 district libraries are functioning presently. Uttar Pradesh public library association was formed in the year 1949. Dr. S.R.Rangnathan drafted the Uttar Pradesh public library bills in 1949 and published in the shape of a book. The former Education minister Dr. Sampurnanad wrote the introduction for this book entitled “Library Development Plan with draft library Bill” for Uttar Pradesh. The bill was submitted to the government, finally the government issued an ordinance in 2006 for Library Legislation (RRRLF, 2015). The separate district library committee is constituted under the public library acts of Uttar Pradesh. The committee has one Chairperson, one Vice Chairperson and 14 member’s details about the district library committee are given in chapter 5. The following function of Gov. District libraries are mention in Uttar Pradesh Public library acts (RRLF, 2015).

- a) To gather useful and standard literature and other reading materials, audio-video equipment for their users.
- b) To collect reading materials of regional/ local interest.
- c) To provide reference services, information and leading services to the users and participate in promotion and extension of reading habits.

- d) Supplement the collection of branch/ tehsil / block/ village libraries and others libraries that are running by others agencies.
- e) To encourage and supervise inter library co-operation in district.
- f) To provide mobile library services and established book delivery centers of necessary.
- g) To coordinate and supervise the activities of other Gov. Branch/ Tehsil/ Block/ Village libraries of the district and mobile library services.
- h) Provide assistance to the district library committee in the task of preparation of development plans for the district library system.
- i) District library authority shall inspect periodically the other government libraries and other aided libraries in the district.
- j) Carry out such other functions as may be entrusted to it by the district library committee.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:

A carefully study of available literature, it has been revealed that a numbers of study on public libraries have been conducted but none of any study has been previously conducted so far regarding to the status of government district libraries in Uttar Pradesh. Therefore the present study was proposed to survey all available districts libraries of Uttar Pradesh.

Status of Government District Libraries of Uttar Pradesh: A Critical Analysis is a topic of great importance, interest and great significance, not only for the scholars and professionals associated with government district libraries of Uttar Pradesh, 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.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The Objectives of the present study are:

- To examine the current pattern of governance.
- 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 of Uttar Pradesh for smooth functioning.
- To examine the use of ICT application in government district library of Uttar Pradesh for promotion and modernization of library activities and services.
- To find out the libraries budget, infrastructure and other library facilities for general persons.
- To investigate the problems faced by government district libraries in implementation of information technology and creation of modern library and information services.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY:

Hypothesis is a tentative answer to a research problem, expressed in the form of a clearly stated relation between the independent and the dependent variables.

Hypotheses are tentative answers because they can be verified only after they have been tested empirically. The following hypothesis of this study is given bellow.

1. The Overall conditions of government district libraries of Uttar Pradesh are not excellent.

2. Resources and Infrastructures are not adequate for the betterment of library services.
3. Budgets of district libraries are not sufficient according to the services of district libraries.
4. Government district libraries of Uttar Pradesh are struggling for the use of ICT application in libraries.
5. Adequate library professionals are not available in the govt. district library for the smooth functioning.
6. Not any government district library has its own library web site/ library portal.

SCOPE AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY:

The scope of the study is limited to the Librarians/ Library In-charge working in Government District Libraries of Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh is one of the states of India which contain 18 divisions and 75 districts where every district contains one district library for local audiences. The scope of the study covers 18 divisions which included 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh state of Northern India. In this study researcher selected all 75 district libraries of Uttar Pradesh which are given bellow.

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 defined that research as a scientific and systematic search for relevant information on a specific topic”(Khotari,2010).

For the purpose to collect primary data the survey research method has been adopted.

SURVEY RESEARCH:

Survey research is a very common type of research to collect quantitative data in social science research. In it, research selects a sample of the respondents from the universe of the population. A “survey can be anything from a short paper and pencil feedback form to an intensive one in depth interview (Research, 2006)”. Researcher found to most suitable research to collect primary data from respondents. In this study questionnaire method has used as tool of data collection. It is a research instrument consisting series of question and other prompts for the purpose of gathering information from respondents. A structured questionnaire will be design to collect data from the professionals of government district libraries of Uttar Pradesh. Interview method will also use if applicable in the present study.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

The major outlines of the findings are given under the diverse headings.

General Information:

➤ **Status of Availability of Government District Libraries in Uttar Pradesh.**

The study illustrates that out of 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh, 70 districts are providing a facility of government district libraries and rest of 5 districts, namely Hapur, Kashganj, Sambhal, Shamly, and Sultanpur Districts have not the facility of Government District Libraries. it was also discovered that the golden age for the establishment of Government Districts Libraries in Uttar Pradesh were examined between 1981 to 1990 in this period 29 (46.03%) Government District Libraries were found in Uttar Pradesh.

➤ **Findings about the Respondents Responses for the Questionnaires.**

Result confirms that out of all 70 (100%) available government district libraries in Uttar Pradesh, 68 (97.14%) responses received by the researcher. Only Sant Ravidas Nagar, and Khusambi, districts of Uttar Pradesh States of India did not response for given questionnaire

Details of Library Staff:

➤ **Status of Permanent Staffs.**

It was discovered that out of 68 (97.14%) responses received by the researcher 41 (60.29%) libraries have permanent Librarians and rest of 27 (39.70%) post are vacant in this current situation. Obtained data also shows that only 15 (22.05%) libraries are holding the permanent position of Assistant Librarian / Cataloguer. In the context of the permanent position of professional staffs are 56 out of 68 district libraries of Uttar Pradesh.

➤ **Library Staffs, Satisfaction towards Smooth- Functioning and Adequate Staff.**

The result illustrates that only 16 (23.52%) sampled libraries were satisfied with their staffs, rest of 52 (76.47%) government district libraries were unsatisfied with the working style of their library staffs. In order to identify the status of library staffs are adequate, the study concluded that only 4 (5.88%) respondents were satisfied with their staffs available in libraries and majority of the respondents 64 (94.11%) were unsatisfied with their staffs.

➤ **Finding about Status of Library Classification and Cataloging.**

The result depicts that out of 68 (100%) libraries, 22 (32.35%) district libraries were providing the facility of classification to the users and 16 (23.52%) libraries have facility of catalogue for the users.

Collection and Services:

➤ **Status of Library Collection of Government District Libraries.**

The result shows that out of 70 (100%) government district libraries, 68 (97.14%) response received for this question. The highest collection of government district libraries have been received between 40,000 to 60, 000 approx.

➤ **Status of Major Library Services Provided by the Government District Libraries of Uttar Pradesh.**

Circulation Facility: The result shows that majority of district libraries 66 (97.05%) were providing circulation facility to the users.

Reference Service Facility: In the context of Reference services, study depicts that out of 68 (100%) district libraries 57 (83.82%) were offering the facility of Reference services for their users.

Reprographic Assistance: The consequence depicts that majority of government district libraries were providing the facility of Reprographic services to the users which mainly concern to Photo copy facility.

ICT Infrastructure and Application:

➤ **Status of Computers available in Government District Libraries.**

On the basis of collected data the result shows that, out of 68 (100%) served libraries, majority of district libraries (51.47%) possess 4 to 6 numbers of Computers.

➤ **Availability of ICT Equipment in Government District Libraries.**

Photocopier Facility: The data concluded that majority of libraries 56 (82.35%) have facility of Photocopier machine

Scanner Facility: Majority of district libraries 77.94% of Uttar Pradesh possess Scanning facility.

Printer Facility: Out of 100% District libraries, 83.82% libraries encompass printer facility and they were using this facility for official works but some time on the demand of users they provide this service to the users.

Telephone Facility: In the context of telephone which is one of the basic requirement of communication the result shows that 50 (73.52%) district libraries have telephone facility.

➤ **Status of Internet Accessibility.**

In order to know the status of internet accessibility in government district libraries result shows that 75.00% libraries have their own internet connection; whereas 63.23% libraries were providing internet accessibility facility to the local users, free of cost.

➤ **Status of Website.**

Only 2 (2.94%) libraries have its own district library website these libraries are Unnao and Kanpur Nagar Government District libraries.

➤ **Use of ICT Application/Technologies in Government District Libraries.**

Not any government district libraries of Uttar Pradesh were using any of the following ICT Application/Technology like RFID Technology, Claude Computing, Mobile Technology, Bar Code Circulation Services, OPAC, Union Catalogue Facility, Online Resources Sharing, DDS Services, E-journal / Books / Database, CC TV or any other ICT Application/ Technology.

➤ **Status of Satisfaction towards ICT facility of Libraries.**

In the context to know the status of Satisfaction towards the ICT facility only Unnao district library of Uttar Pradesh was satisfied with their ICT facility.

➤ **Status of Libraries Automation**

On the basis of responses result shows that only 9(13.23%) government district libraries of Uttar Pradesh were under the stage of library automation and rest of all libraries were updating for library automation under the state Government project of E-Library

Library Infrastructure:

➤ **Status of Library Building of Government District Libraries:**

Researcher concluded that 59 (83.76%) district libraries have their own separate permanent library buildings and rests of 9 (13.23%) district libraries do not have own permanent library buildings. All of these libraries were giving their facility in on-lone buildings, most of these libraries are situated in G.I.C buildings or any other Inter collages buildings

➤ **Status of Satisfaction towards the Physical Facility.**

In the context to know the satisfaction rate of the respondents towards physical facility only 24 (35.29%) library were satisfied with physical facility but majority of respondents 64.70% were not satisfied with their physical facility.

Library Budget:

➤ **Status of Overall Satisfaction of Library Budget**

The overall satisfaction rate about the library budgets received by the Librarian/ Library in-charge was shown that 91.17% respondents of government district libraries were not satisfied with their library budgets.

➤ **Weak area of District Libraries.**

The result concluded that 83.82% of district Libraries were demanding more fund for construction of library building; 85.29% of district libraries were demanding to increase contingency amount of libraries budgets; Only 2 (2.94%) district libraries were requested to more funds for other library facilities.

CONCLUSION

The main objective of the study was to investigate the present status of the government district libraries in Uttar Pradesh. The present century is known as information society because we are surrounded by the information in every aspect of life; we need information to explore the knowledge about the particular problem. We all know that public libraries are people universities and it works as a door of learning for the peoples. Public libraries are open for everyone and exploring their facility to the peoples. Government district library comes under the category of the public library and they are performing all such function to the local audiences. Government district library is an apex body of the district generally located in the district center. 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. The administration, inspection and monitoring of various public libraries located in a district are carried out by the district library authority.

To know the status of district libraries researcher categorizes their result in different categories Part A- General Information about District Library, Part B - Details of Library Staffs, Part C- Collection and Services of District Libraries, Part D-

ICT Infrastructure and Application in Libraries, Part E- Library Infrastructure and last Part F- Status of Library Budgets.

General Information: In order to know the general Information about the government district libraries the study concluded that 70 districts have a facility of Government district libraries out of 75 districts. The study discovered that the golden age for the establishment of Government Districts Libraries in Uttar Pradesh was examined between 1981 to 1990 in this period 28 (46.03%) government districts libraries was founded in Uttar Pradesh.

Details of Library Staff: The study concluded that 41 (69.29%) libraries have permanent Librarian and rests of 27 (39.70%) post are vacant in this current situation. Total 101 permanent staffs are working in 68 Districts libraries.

Collection and Services: The study concluded that 32.35% district libraries are providing Classification facility and just 23.52% libraries have a facility of Catalogue. With regard to the Circulation facility the result depict 97.05% libraries are providing Circulation services. In the context of Reference services study depict 83.82% libraries are offering the facility of Reference service for their users. 69.11% Government District libraries provides the facility of Reprography services to the users. With regard to the Collection Development result shows that the highest collection of Government District Libraries have been received between 40,000 to 60,000.

Use of ICT Application/Technology: No Government District Libraries of Uttar Pradesh are using any of the following ICT application/technology these applications are RFID Technology, Claude Computing, Mobile Technology, Bar Code Circulation Services, OPAC, Union Catalogue Facility, Online Resources

Sharing, DDS Services, E-journal / Books / Database, CC TV or any other ICT Application/ Technology.

Library Infrastructure: The study concluded that 83.76% district libraries have it own separate permanent library buildings rest of 9 (13.23%) district libraries have not permanent library buildings. 76.47% government district libraries have proper space in their libraries building; 76.47% Libraries have back- up electricity facility through invertors. With the regard to Children section facility 50% of libraries have children section facility. Majority of district libraries of Uttar Pradesh 64.70% are not satisfy with their physical facility out of 68(100%) libraries.

Library Budget: The study indicates that 86.76% libraries are using full library budget every year and 91.17% of respondents of Government District Libraries are not satisfy with library budgets. The study has concluded that the status of Government District Libraries of Uttar Pradesh is not satisfactory according to analysis and interpretation of data received by the respondents (Librarian/Library In-Charge). That's why the study suggests to the policy maker and administrator of government district libraries to take a massive decision for the development and modernization of the district libraries because public libraries are a way of success to everyone.