CHAPTER –VI

UPGRADATION OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES
IN CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

6.1 Introduction:

The last quarter of the 20th century and first decade of the 21st have witnessed a transformation of the information environment in which libraries live, move and have their being which for eclipses earlier changes even those brought by the advent of printing so many centuries ago. And much like a sea animal suddenly forced to live on and; libraries must change in radical and fundamental ways. This presents both a wrenching challenge and a remarkable opportunity-both of which will be exploring together in the coming days as we seek to understand the way forward for college libraries in the 21st century.

6.2. Changing scenario of Library services:-

The traditional library system cannot satisfy the users of 21st century. The users of to-day are very hungry about the different multifaceted subject or information. Traditional college library system has been changed due to proliferation of information and communication technology. ICT in libraries helps in performing their routine operations and services most effectively and efficiently.

An honest attempt has been made on the assumption that the future of college libraries is in our own hand. It further emphasizes the need for change in college libraries in the context of the emerging rate of proliferation of knowledge of information context. It highlights the impact of ICT in college libraries. Libraries became multimedia centre of information resources. The combination of computer and communication technologies introduced a sea change in the functioning and services of college libraries.

The college library are now up-graded due to the positive guide lines of the reports of the Education Commission, Radhakrishnan Commission, Kothari Commission, Reports of the Library committees, University Grant Commission etc. It gives an account of the contribution towards up gradation of the college library services, and conduct of seminars, workshops, financial assistance for constructing library building etc. The various library development schemes of the UGC during the last fifty years; a ranging from grants for infrastructural facilities along with those for

replenishing library collections launching and implementing various activities and programmes through INFLIBNET (Information and Library Network) to the sanction of special grants for upgrading library facilities, have kept the academic libraries in the country in shapes and services. The Planning Commission, Professional Associations like ILA (Indian Library Association) and IASLIC (Indian Association of Special Library and Information Centre) and state and Central Governments have also share their in this development. City and national level Library Networks too have accelerated the pace of the development in their own ways. College library development is always tied with the development of the institution it serves. There has been many qualitative changes in the areas of higher education and research during the last over five decades. Changes in the pattern of under graduate education, examination reforms, impetus to vocational and professional education, innovative teaching methods, multi-disciplinary activities, institutional technology, faculty improvement programmes distance mode of education etc. IT based education, autonomy granted to educational institutions, collaboration with universities, all these also are changing the context and purposes of college libraries.

Fifty years ago the issues concerning the college libraries were ; status and salary scales of the staff, professor in charge of library ,staffing pattern ,and sanction and timely disbursement of UGC and Govt. grants, professional bodies at local and national levels were engaged in setting them in favour of libraries and librarians.

This Modernization facilitated their transformation in to the 21st century college libraries. The 21st century college libraries has deal with library software and hardware, to take initiative for retrospective conversion, digital library initiative, and other rare documents have make library more effective.

While planning for up gradation of college libraries the first important step would be starting our future course is to appreciate just how radical our task must be. We must change our world view in fundamental ways. Today for libraries and information science professional need to learn how to make it visible and how to see the implications of a round world, by adopting a new vision of the library. First we need to see the digital revolution as to see the opportunities and effectively deal with the challenges opportunities and effectively deal with the challenges of the new and still emerging digital environment. The need for radical and fundamental change in our way of thinking it is very hard to move away from the traditional world view.

21st century college library is one which could assimilate these changes to the benefit of all the concerned organizers of the library, users and staff. We have already

entered in to the 21st century, and our concern is how to move towards the 21st century college library in a real sense. This implied "challenge of change" however, can be meet only when special efforts are made to incorporate them into practice.

The study discussed the changing environment and modernization of college libraries covering different aspects. It gives an account of the contribution of University Grant Commission in terms of modernization. The special feature of 21st century college libraries like libraries automation, and digital library initiative are also discussed. The changing librarianship is explained emphasizing the new competencies for library and information professionals. It is seen that though the core work of libraries remain the same the old ways to carry them out are changed due to ICT applications and thereby relieved the available staff to take initiative to create new and effective services for its users.

There is a vast change in education system and information environment over last few decades .The ICT has played a very significant role in library and information science and changed the concept and nature of libraries, from traditional library system to automated

Libraries from automated libraries to digital libraries, from digital libraries to virtual libraries and now the same will ultimately in the future.

The modernization facilitated their transformation in to 21st century Academic Libraries from 1930. The year of publication of Dr.Ranganathan's revolutionary book "Five Laws of Library Science".(1931) This book could be aptly called "The Book of the Millennium" in our field due to its immense impact and influence on Libraries and Librarianship. Quite a few changes were effected since then. The concept of the book centered librarianship was changed to the reader centered librarianship. New ideas like open access, reference service, library co-operation, documentation and information services were emerged and settle, paving the way of future developments. The old concept of library service limited to a single library has undergone a phenomenal change existing it beyond the four walls of a library. Dr. Ranganathan's fourth law "Save the time of the Reader's" has assumed new meaning, introducing an idea of library service, seen brought into practice with the help of various manifestations of ICT.

6.3. Adaption of Contemporary Technologies:

The first serious application of digital technologies in libraries was to enhance library procedures for dealing with print collections, specifically circulation systems

and catalogues. The next development was a better way to provide intellectual access to the print collection. In the 1980s the development of online searching i.e. digital databases which began to increasingly replace the libraries print Indexes and abstracting reference tools.

By the early 1990s a more fundamental transformation was beginning to creep into the library world as digital content began to seriously enter the collection, Joining such pioneers as ICPSR (Inter University Consortium for Political and Social Research) longitudinal databases maintained on rows of computer tapes-were CD formatted databases was increasingly distributing its in massive information avalanche in a digital CD format.

In the late 1990 's the foundations began to truly shake as the first of two even more radical digital earthquakes hit .The developments such as the Big Deal and J STOR (retrospective digitizing of core journals) created a world- wide

Explosion of access to the digital journal literature, from print access to this same literature began to plummet. Both libraries and their users began a slow but steady withdrawal from print journal publications while simultaneously journal publisher s not only provided digital versions of their journals going forward, but also began comprehensive digital retrospective version.

The Contemporary technologies like micrograph and reprography were adopted by college libraries for giving value added services. New services like referral besides reference, ILL (Inter library loan), CAS (current awareness service) and SDI (selective dissemination of information) could be taken up due to these and such other technologies. Before advent of computer and communication technologies and their development into information and communication technology (ICT) in India, the college library services become both comprehensive and intensive. Though the library collections were print dominant, the non-print material started sneaking into them. Due to inflationary trend, the concept of library cooperation was further extended to resource sharing and library networks.

By the middle of the first decade of the new millennium the second radical digital earthquake struck. Google Microsoft, the EU and Open Content Alliance had all began massive book digitization projects.

The first part of the message is that digital information is no longer simply an additional format for 21st Century libraries; it is increasingly the only format. Not just the central elements of traditional library collections, journals, books etc., but music, the visual arts everything can be and is now represented digitally. The second part of

the Massage is that information is not only is all information increasingly digital but also digital information is increasingly independent of physical storage devices such as CDs computer tapes.

6.4. 21st Century College Library:-

The 21st century college library processes of generation, organization and dissemination of information and knowledge were subject to constant change since 1980s. Medias were changed for recording, preserving and disseminating information and knowledge. Libraries should become multi media centre of information resources, leaving behind their dull and drab image of repositories of old dusty books material ,like microforms audio and video cassettes and now various electronic products for use both off line and on line, representing born digital and converted digital documents are changing the faces of stocks rooms and reading areas. The combination of computer and communication technologies introduced a series of changes in the functioning and services of college libraries. This ICT based phase of library development not only extending the access of library users to the document extensively but also quick retrieval of bibliographical and textual information. 21st century library is one which could assimilate these changes to the benefit of all the concerned the organizers of the library, the users of different kinds and the library staff.

The new environment obtained by the introduction of information and communication technologies is well described by a phase. Twenty first century, all the three important processes of the scholarly world, viz., generation, organization and dissemination of information and knowledge were subject to constant change since 1980s.

6.5. Role of Librarian for Up-Gradation of College Libraries:-

In the context of rapidly changing scenario of higher education in the 21st century, a librarian has to be awake, conscious and techno-craggy to get maximum result. The govt. policy on higher education in the 21st century demands versions of up gradation automation and digitalization. There is lot of pre preparatory work to be carried out by the librarian. The librarians should be student centric. The modernization of this aspect shall be turned to enter the 21st century and our concern is to move towards the 21st century college library in the real sense.

The Library in the 21st century new service for the information age Library Association publishing, London, 2001. The onus of transforming traditional libraries into the 21st century ones mainly falls on their Librarians. There is a lot of preparatory work to be carried out by the library behind the counter so as to serve readers well. There are quite a few professional websites useful to library professionals. Such web-sites, are "Researching Librarian;" web resources, helpful for librarian doing research.

Michael Gorman in his book, "**Our enduring Values, Librarianship in the 21st century**" published in 2000 by ALA has analyzed well the changing Libraries and the changing library profession. The core functions of Libraries, according to him, have remained the same, viz. collection, organization, dissemination of information and knowledge. The way, to carry out them change due to application of ICT.

Traditionally the Librarian has acted as the mediator between the reader and the book as per Ranganathan's "**Every Book its Reader.**" The main duties were associated with acquiring and making the resources available in the library. All most, the librarian was a messenger between the learner and the knowledge sought. No system can work alone, if the librarian fail to make the necessary changes nobody else will and the librarian's sustainability is further threatened.

It is interesting to note that Ranganathan's five laws of library science, Michael Gorman's New Five laws of Library science and Walt Crawford in 1995 has given new meaning to Ranganathan's Five Laws in the changing situations.

6.6. Ranganathan's Five Laws in Changing Situations are:-

1. Libraries serve humanity.
2. Respect all forms by which knowledge is communicated.
3. Use technology intelligently to enhance service.
4. Protect free access to knowledge and
5. Honor the past and create the future

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The march of academic libraries and librarianship towards 21st century is well reflected in these .The implied "**challenge of Change** " can be met only when special efforts are made to incorporate them in to practice . It is essential to understand the benefit of the changes in entirely. Blind imitation, false competition or status symbolism is dangerous. Now and coming decades librarians role has become much more diverse. The college librarian is concern with administration and management, beside the other technical services with the assistance of his staff in the use of

information by the student and the teaching faculty .In this way Librarian played a significant role for up gradation of college libraries.

The present era is the information era and we have our 'Right to Information' by law. The people of India should have the wider scope of gathering information on different aspects of life and faculties offered and maintained by the Central and State Government .This information support is essential for rural and urban people for four basics :-

1. Socio Economic,   2. Industrial

3. Political Development   4.Technological

The mission of library services is to support the purposes of the group to be served with their needed information. The role of library services to provide access ,to documents which include a range of informative objects that can be stored and retrieved not only writings but also published. Library services are concerned with text and images that are representations of knowledge. Hence any significant change in the technology of text bearing objects or of handling them could have very profound consequences not on the purpose and mission of Library services, but on the means for achieving them.The working librarians should have proper knowledge of ICT because library environment has dramatically changed with the influence of ICT, Which has recently accepted and accommodated in their field of Library and Information science.

The library professional should have ICT training in the field of library and Information science .Here the term training means, an attempt to improve the skill level of worker or professionals. Training is required for up gradation of college libraries and following prospects:-

6.7. Prospects of Training:-

1. Developing competitive approach.
2. Increasing individual skills.
3. Understanding the area of new working environment.
4. Realizing the goal and objectives of the organization and expectation of organization.
5. Identifying the alternative work procedure in environmental change.
6. Providing current information regarding development and job satisfaction

7. Building a new environment team.

8 Gaining knowledge and skills to managing the organization in

9.Creating further opportunity for training.

6.8. Basic Information for Higher Educational Institution of College:-In the light of "Right to Information Act" the student of college or any higher educational institution have the wider scope of gathering information on different aspects of life and their study materials. Depending on the soundness of information system ,the country moves ahead for the total development .the need for education and research part any higher educational institution is always dependent on latest information .In a higher educational institution ,college requires well established library of its own with sound collection of subjects materials .The meaning of access now reveals not access to one's collection ,but access to the entire world of materials i.e. entire detail information / knowledge world.

6.8.1. Need for Developing Environment in Library - It is necessitates to develop the new environment in any library where users need and demand for new knowledge could be provided ,which are generated anywhere and everywhere in the world. If the library goes to this new system another development would be automatically established. The librarian will always be ready to serve the clientele of the organization plus other person's throughout the world.

6.8.2 .To faces the demands of users, Librarians have to introduce automation a new environment to his / her library. Librarian has to take initiative to serve her / his clientele in two ways:-

1. from Internal Resources.

2. from External Resources.

By providing this service Librarian should take initiative to build this new environment to his / her library with necessary fund provision for library automation and introduction of ICT. Thus electronic library established which help to remove many of the constraints of the traditional library.

Presently ICT is deeply influencing the librarian in respect of data/information/knowledge is to be acquired, organized, stored, retrieval and disseminated. How library services and facilities are to be designed, organized and offered and how the library use seeks, receive and use their required data / information/ knowledge

6.9. Features of 21st Century College Libraries:-

21st Century, for up gradation of college libraries there should be varied in nature, subject areas and size too. One model or road map for moving towards their 21st century version may not work. However some issues may be specified as special feature for up gradation of the 21st century.

6.9.1 Library Software's:-Organization of library on modern lines, it is up gradation and /or automation starts with selection of a suitable library software. It is experienced that proper professional guidance in this behalf is not available to libraries and their authorities. Library softwares should be improved or up graded as per growing needs and responsible to work.

There are four patterns in this regard:

6.9.1.1 The library software of the colleges come open source or concessional rates. Though the networks initially works, at times cannot meet adequately along with the growth of library. They also lack the service base and troubleshooting assistance, when needed.

6.9.1.2 Commercial library software's are promoted with marketing skills. Though the quality is good they are expensive for smaller libraries. Due to lack of budget the college libraries are unable to purchase that valuable software. The cause is the annual maintenance is quite hefty and their non-payments lead to lack of up gradation.

6.9.1.3. Open source library software's have entered on the scene of late offering a new alternative. The tag of free library software attracts many small and large libraries to it. For its smooth and uninterrupted use a lot of planning including finance is necessary. In addition to, the essential competence of the library staff to operate it by them.

6.9.1.4 Library Software's should prepared by the computer department / section of the institution itself. Library Software is better than the ones downloaded and used from those freely available on INTERNET. They are not improved.

6.9.1.5. For its smooth and uninterrupted use a lot of planning and finance is necessary. Library software, in fact, should facilitate both library operations and library services and enhance their scope, periodically. If the software limits it hinders the development of the library. Library software is one time purchase and it is basic for automation and up gradation. All the concerned should be aware of this. The library professionals should get themselves acquainted with these varied potentialities of library software's and makes maximum use of them for the benefit of their clientele.

6.9.2. Retrospective Conversion: -With a view to achieve the visible impact of technological applications the entire collections of the library are required to be brought in their range .Many college libraries have to struggle for this necessary exercise .The staff of this institution is not in a position to carry out this work of backlog. "Out sourcing" is a way out. But it is unfortunate that due importance is not given to this work and it is got done hurriedly not following the professional norms. This leaves the library weak in retrieval of the material it has in its stock.

6.9.3. Electronic Resources: - The books, Journals, and other records are converted to digitally born. They do have an edge over the print material in saving space and in easy and quick transfer, both on line and off line. Use of growing number of books and e journals moves a library towards its 21st century character Joining a consortia for increasing the ability of the library to offer its readers an opportunity to browse a wide range of journals is a new version of resource sharing.

A digital section would be starting in the college libraries first; it can slowly be developed by providing with the necessary infrastructural development in the library itself.

6.9.4. Readers Friendly Organizational Pattern:-

Dr. Schwartz pointed out the organizational pattern of college libraries needs change. The library should run as a service organization and not as an administrative official. The present management should be readers friendly, library things, library

rules and regulations, library timings; library facilities all need a fresh look in changing environment. If the student wants to be the integral part of the institution they have to adjust with other activities as well as to maintain their identity and their exclusive services. Their role is that of a facilitator of achieving the changing in the library environment high goals of these institutions of higher education**.**

6.9.5. Transforming Traditional Libraries in to the 21st Century ones: - The onus of transforming traditional libraries into the 21st Century ones mainly falls on their libraries. There is a preparatory work to be carried out by the library behind the counter so as to serve readers well. This work is of technical and professional nature all the work involved like procurement technical processing, preparing a document for circulation, lending transactions has undergone changes.

6.9.6. Changing in the Library Environment and Library Services:-

Extensive use of Digital Library depends on a change in the work habits and working environment of library users. This fact is that this enhancement of service through the automation of the catalog is of benefit only to those who had the technology to use it. People who have moved to a personal computing environment for their work they need the provision of a digital library because the effective conduct of their work is based on access to electronic records.

In contrast, the new information technology is transforming the use of library materials, with computer- based technique for identifying, locating, accessing, transferring, analyzing, manipulating, comparing and revising texts, image, sound and data.

It is expected on starting point of library services the principal would be that those who use the new information technology should make the kinds of service provided in the Traditional library, available for use. Hence from a computer anywhere a library user should be able.

The resources (catalogue, bibliographic, directories, numerical data, images and text) should be available for library users at their place of work using the tools with which, they normally work, which implies copying in electronic form into personal storage, printing or ordering a copy of printed materials. These resources should suit the user's convenience being available when needed, requiring minimal effort or formality, blind smoothly with personal computing practices.

6.9. 6.1. Self-service:- Difficulties arise both because library user needs are so extensive and so varied and because the sources of information are too complex to perfect, too incomplete for self-service to be adequate.

6.7 6.2. **Assistance service:** - Assistance needed of three over lapping kind ;reference service ,library instruction service and referral .The advent of computerized service for searching machine –readable data bases has also added a new dimension to reference and information services .

6.7.6.3. Instruction service:-There are various ways in which instruction in using libraries can be given. At the simplest level it is "orientation' a technique or guided for and the main purpose to familiarize students of the library building and location and services.

6.7. 6.4. Referral Service: - The other form of assistance is referral to other sources. This might be a difficult question being referred to another, library, librarian or other library experts or referring a library user to another more appropriate source.

6.10. Drives for Success of the Programmes:-

For creation of a Digital or Electronic library environment and its smooth operation, library planners, Librarians, Professional bodies, Government bodies and Non-government organizations should come forward. In the new environment, there is increasing complexity problems arise when the user's expertise is in adequate for the task .In order to meet the changing needs and demands of present and the future, it become essential to lay down a sound collection development policy. To provide reasonable level of services and also to keep a college library open for at least 12 hours. For strengthened the library services, the reference   and information service should be given more attention .inter library loan should be provided not only for the teacher but also for the student.

In order to build up adequate libraries, it is essential to provide adequate funds to recruit suitable staff and set up alive collections ,able to meet the extent and nature of curriculum as well as adequate take care of demand for extra curriculum and recreational reading materials. The UGC should take necessary step to lay down academic standard.

Application of IT in college libraries is inevitable in the present state of users, increasing demand for information. The libraries are making an earnest effort to concentrate more on using new electric gadgets to provide better access to information sources both inside and outside.

Library and information work can be effective and innovative because library is a part of bigger environment. In response to the changing environment, there is a need to develop attitude and competencies in such a manner that they correspond to the changing requirements of the organization, changing technology and user expectations. So, librarian should possess qualitative like, self-awareness, embracing change, customer focus, collaborative spirit, courage and truthfulness, vision dreams, creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship, planning, trust, values, passion for work, caring for colleagues, communication, transformation and inspirational motivation. Though there can be only one effective leader, yet it is desirable that all LIPs (Library and information professionals) imbibe these leadership qualities so that they have an extra ordinary power better understanding make possible to overcome any problems.

An effective way of achieving the required is by developing their capabilities in terms of competencies and attitudes. There are two attitudes are recommended to be developed by LIPs.

1. Competencies: - Library and Information professionals require two types of competencies in this changing environment. They are Professional and personal.

2. Attitude: - The attitude like continuous learning and service orientation are strongly recommended as required for LIPs.

6.11.` The New Learning Environment and its Impact on Libraries:-

The Information and Communication Revolution in the last decade have created many new scenarios for colleges to ponder. These are:-

6.11.1. The Changing Roles of College Libraries: -

1. Knowledge resource for clientele.

2. Promoters of open strategies.

3. Researchers and developers of open capabilities.

4.   Enables of open digital education.

5.   Interact more with users and have better understanding of their information seeking and problem solving behavior.

6.12. Changing the User Expectations:--

1.   Perfect collection
2.   Excellent service
3.   Beautiful and lively place
4.   Physical and virtual accessibility
5.   Friendly and helpful library staff
6.   Modern technology etc.

To fulfill the maximum user needs the library professionals have to periodically review the selection and collection policies of library. In an Academic institution, library will remain central to the management of scholarly communication. Library and Information science professionals working in these establishments holding higher positions play an active role in the scholarly communication that take place between a library and the user community. Recent development in the field of IT has had an impact on libraries and library will become an information centre providing access to information not only within college or locally but also worldwide.

6.13. The Advantages of Digital information in college library services:-

The main advantages of Digital library are as follows:-

1. Accessibility
2. Availability
3. Search ability
4.   Dynamism
5.   Research ability
6.   Inter disciplinary
7.   Multimedia aspect
8.   Link ability
9.   Reducing environmental impact
10.   Affordable education

11. Access to quality education

12. Convenience and flexibility

13. Reduction of paper usage

6.14. Digital Library what is needed:-

1. Building the Infrastructure.

2. Open Web Content

3. Institutional content

4. Multimedia content.

5. Integrated services

6. Software Tools.

7. Creating Metadata.

College Libraries provide services that help students and faculties, or at least deal with such complexities more effectively .Library and information centre, higher educational college libraries have extend quality services to create "Delight" among its Customers. Library in the modern digital era are treated as **"Gate way to the Information".** The main role of library, librarian and library professionals is to acquire the required and qualitative information resources, which suits the needs of the users. There is a need to provide users based on, user centric service to the users to satisfy their requirements .The face of the college library services is changing due to the application of information technology in the library. Today library and librarian are extremely important for development of multi-faceted role in higher education. **So, it may be concluded that human development is basically an indispensable part of the library as "Librarian"**

6.16. Conclusion:-

"Everyone think of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself."

-Leo Tolstoy.

Finally, instead of searching for solutions in the environment and expecting support in terms of extrinsic factors, application of "**Changing self to change others and in turn the system as a whole**" approach is desirable. This will lead to positive change in the attitude of the professionals, which in turn will lead him to contribute in achieving organizational excellence.

There may be some barriers to systems approach in terms of time constraints, resources etc. These can be managed by –**"Think globally ; act locally"** approach .It means to say that understanding and accepting the principles, theories, practices etc. that are applied globally be adopted and adopted at micro level by interpolating required suitable variations. Every individual and organization mirrors a system in their own way. Realization of existence of these systems to harness their potential to their optimum is needed.

In this context, wish to quote a quotation of the **Leo Talstoy**. He said- "**Everyone should take care for development of their work and working environment. Then actual development can be possible to the institution**."

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