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Directorate of Distance Education

Bachelor of Library & Information Science

I - Semester

109 11

LIBRARY AND SOCIETY

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Units (1-14)

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SYLLABI-BOOK MAPPING TABLE

Library and Society

Syllabi	Mapping in Book
BLOCK I: INTRODUCTION AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT	
UNIT - I Libraries and Information Centres - Definition, Need and Importance, Emerging Trends - The Impact of Social, Cultural, Educational, Economic and Technological Changes in Library & Information Services.	Unit 1: Libraries and Information Centres (Pages 1-14)
UNIT - II Five Laws of Library Science - Their Relevance - Library Extension Activities - Outreach Programmers.	Unit 2: Overview of Five Laws of Library Science (Pages 15-32)
UNIT - III History of Libraries in USA, UK and India - Growth and Development of Library and Information Science	Unit 3: History of Libraries in USA, UK and India (Pages 33-44)
BLOCK II: TYPES OF LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY LEGISLATION	
UNIT - IV Functions and Importance - National, Public, Academic, and Special - Libraries	Unit 4: Importance of Libraries (Pages 45-60)
UNIT - V National Libraries - India, USA, UK and Russia- Functions.	Unit 5: National Libraries (Pages 61-73)
UNIT - VI Library Legislation - Model State and Central Library Act in India - Delivery of Books and Newspapers Act - Copyright Act - IPR	Unit 6: Library Legislation (Pages 74-87)
UNIT - VII Public Libraries Act in India - Current Status - Tamilnadu - Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh	Unit 7: Public Libraries Act in India (Pages 88-98)
BLOCK III: RESOURCE SHARING	
UNIT - VIII Library Cooperation - Resource Sharing and Library Consortia - Definition, Need and Purpose	Unit 8: Library Cooperation (Pages 99-116)
UNIT - IX Networking of Libraries India - Types of Networks - DELNET, INFLIBNET, UGC - INFONET, DAE Consortium, CSIR - E-Journals Consortium	Unit 9: Networking of Libraries in India (Pages 117-127)
UNIT - X Networking of Libraries - International Level - International Librarians Network - International Nuclear Library Network (INLN) - International School Libraries Network (ISLN)	Unit 10: Networking of Libraries - International Level (Pages 128-137)
BLOCK IV: LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION	
UNIT - XI Library and Librarianship - Qualities of Good Librarian - Professional Ethics	Unit 11: Library and Librarianship (Pages 138-148)
	Unit 12: Professional

UNIT - XII

Professional Associations - International Role of ALA, ASLIB, IFLA, CILIP, UNESCO

UNIT - XIII

Professional Associations - National ILA, IASLIC, IATLIS, MALA-RRLF

UNIT - XIV

Ethical Dilemmas (eg. censorship, privacy); Professional Standards, Personal Responsibility and Codes of Conduct; Liability and Information Quality

Associations—International
(Pages 149-163)

Unit 13: Professional
Associations—National
(Pages 164-175)

Unit 14: Ethical Dilemmas
(Pages 176-190)

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

BLOCK I: INTRODUCTION AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

UNIT 1 LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTRES 1-14

- 1.0 Introduction
- 1.1 Objectives
- 1.2 Definition of Library
 - 1.2.1 Need and Importance of Library
 - 1.2.2 Definition of Information Centres
 - 1.2.3 Difference between a Library and an Information Centre
- 1.3 Emerging Trends
- 1.4 Changes in Library and Information Services and its Impact
 - 1.4.1 Library as a Social and Cultural Organization
 - 1.4.2 Library as an Educational Organization
 - 1.4.3 Impact of Social and Technological Changes on the Library Services
- 1.5 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 1.6 Summary
- 1.7 Key Words
- 1.8 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 1.9 Further Readings

UNIT 2 OVERVIEW OF FIVE LAWS OF LIBRARY SCIENCE 15-32

- 2.0 Introduction
- 2.1 Objectives
- 2.2 Five Laws of Library Science
 - 2.2.1 Inferences of Five Laws of Library Science
- 2.3 Relevance of the Five Laws in Present Scenario
- 2.4 Library Extension Activities
 - 2.4.1 Need for Library Extension Activities
 - 2.4.2 Ideology behind Library Extension Activities
- 2.5 Outreach Programmes
- 2.6 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 2.7 Summary
- 2.8 Key Words
- 2.9 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 2.10 Further Readings

UNIT 3 HISTORY OF LIBRARIES IN USA, UK AND INDIA 33-44

- 3.0 Introduction
- 3.1 Objectives
- 3.2 History of Library
 - 3.2.1 History of Libraries in USA
 - 3.2.2 History of Libraries in UK
- 3.3 History of Libraries in India

- 3.4 Growth and Development of Library and Information Science
 - 3.4.1 Main Objective of Library and Information Centre
- 3.5 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 3.6 Summary
- 3.7 Key Words
- 3.8 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 3.9 Further Readings

BLOCK II: TYPES OF LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY LEGISLATION

UNIT 4 IMPORTANCE OF LIBRARIES 45-60

- 4.0 Introduction
- 4.1 Objectives
- 4.2 Functions and Importance of Libraries
- 4.3 Types of Libraries
 - 4.3.1 Public Library
 - 4.3.2 Academic Library
 - 4.3.3 Special Library
- 4.4 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 4.5 Summary
- 4.6 Key Words
- 4.7 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 4.8 Further Readings

UNIT 5 NATIONAL LIBRARIES 61-73

- 5.0 Introduction
- 5.1 Objectives
- 5.2 National Library-India
 - 5.2.1 Origin of the National Library
 - 5.2.2 Functions and Duties of the National Library
- 5.3 National Library-USA
 - 5.3.1 Origin of the National Library
 - 5.3.2 Functions and the Duties of the National Library
- 5.4 National Library-United Kingdom
 - 5.4.1 Origin of the National Library of United Kingdom
 - 5.4.2 Functions and Duties of National Library
- 5.5 National Library-Russia
 - 5.5.1 Origin of the National Library of Russia
 - 5.5.2 Functions and Duties of the National Library
- 5.6 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 5.7 Summary
- 5.8 Key Words
- 5.9 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 5.10 Further Readings

UNIT 6 LIBRARY LEGISLATION 74-87

- 6.0 Introduction
- 6.1 Objectives
- 6.2 Library Legislation
 - 6.2.1 Financial Provision in Library Legislation

- 6.2.2 Constituents of Library Legislation
- 6.2.3 Features of Library Legislation
- 6.3 Library Legislation in India
- 6.4 Model State and Central Library Act in India
- 6.5 Delivery of Books and Newspaper Act
- 6.6 Copyright Act
- 6.7 IPR-Intellectual Property Rights
- 6.8 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 6.9 Summary
- 6.10 Key Words
- 6.11 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 6.12 Further Readings

UNIT 7 PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACT IN INDIA

88-98

- 7.0 Introduction
- 7.1 Objectives
- 7.2 Public Libraries Act in India
 - 7.2.1 Developments in Public Library Act
- 7.3 Current Status of Public Library Act in India
- 7.4 Current Status of Public Library Act in Tamil Nadu
- 7.5 Current Status of Public Library Act in Andhra Pradesh
- 7.6 Current Status of the Public Library Act in Karnataka
- 7.7 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 7.8 Summary
- 7.9 Key Words
- 7.10 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 7.11 Further Readings

BLOCK III: RESOURCE SHARING

UNIT 8 LIBRARY COOPERATION

99-116

- 8.0 Introduction
- 8.1 Objectives
- 8.2 Library Cooperation
- 8.3 Resource Sharing: Definition, Need and Purpose
- 8.4 Library Consortia: Definition, Need and Purpose
- 8.5 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 8.6 Summary
- 8.7 Key Words
- 8.8 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 8.9 Further Readings

UNIT 9 NETWORKING OF LIBRARIES IN INDIA

117-127

- 9.0 Introduction
- 9.1 Objectives
- 9.2 Library Networking in India
- 9.3 Types of Networks
- 9.4 Types of Library Networks in India
 - 9.4.1 INFLIBNET

9.4.2 DELNET	
9.4.3 CSIRE-Journal Consortium	
9.4.4 UGC-INFONET	
9.4.5 DAE Consortium	
9.5 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions	
9.6 Summary	
9.7 Key Words	
9.8 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises	
9.9 Further Readings	
UNIT 10 NETWORKING OF LIBRARIES - INTERNATIONAL LEVEL	128-137
10.0 Introduction	
10.1 Objectives	
10.2 Networking of Libraries: International Setting	
10.3 International Librarians Network	
10.4 International Nuclear Library Network (INLN)	
10.5 International School Libraries Network (ISLN)	
10.6 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions	
10.7 Summary	
10.8 Key Words	
10.9 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises	
10.10 Further Readings	
BLOCK IV: LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION	
UNIT 11 LIBRARY AND LIBRARIANSHIP	138-148
11.0 Introduction	
11.1 Objectives	
11.2 Librarianship: Need and Purpose	
11.3 Qualities of Good Librarian	
11.4 Professional Ethics of Librarians	
11.5 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions	
11.6 Summary	
11.7 Key Words	
11.8 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises	
11.9 Further Readings	
UNIT 12 PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS—INTERNATIONAL	149-163
12.0 Introduction	
12.1 Objectives	
12.2 Professional Associations	
12.2.1 Need for Professional Library Association	
12.2.2 Objectives of Professional Library Associations	
12.2.3 Functions of Professional Library Associations	
12.2.4 Types of Library Associations	
12.3 International Role of American Library Association	
12.4 International Role of ASLIB	
12.5 International Role of IFLA	
12.6 International Role of CILIP	
12.7 International Role of UNESCO	

- 12.8 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 12.9 Summary
- 12.10 Key Words
- 12.11 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 12.12 Further Readings

UNIT 13 PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS—NATIONAL

164-175

- 13.0 Introduction
- 13.1 Objectives
- 13.2 Indian Library Association (ILA)
- 13.3 Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres
- 13.4 Indian Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science
- 13.5 Madras Library Association
- 13.6 Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation
- 13.7 SALIS (Society for the Advancement of Library and Information Science)
- 13.8 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 13.9 Summary
- 13.10 Key Words
- 13.11 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 13.12 Further Readings

UNIT 14 ETHICAL DILEMMAS

176-190

- 14.0 Introduction
- 14.1 Objectives
- 14.2 Ethical Dilemmas: Censorship and Privacy
- 14.3 Professional Standards for Librarians
- 14.4 Personal Behaviour and Code of Conduct
- 14.5 Liability and Information Quality
 - 14.5.1 Information Quality
- 14.6 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 14.7 Summary
- 14.8 Key Words
- 14.9 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 14.10 Further Readings

INTRODUCTION

NOTES

Libraries are a crucial infrastructural pillar for the development of a country and society. It houses treasures of information from the past and present which can be utilized by the readers and members to not only receive the information they seek but also discover newer sources of information. It will not be wrong to call libraries the informational data banks of human culture. Libraries are stocked with both literatures of the past and of the present.

The society that Aristotle and Plato were living in and the society which Salman Rushdie lives in are very different. It is not surprising that the institution of library has also evolved over time with the governing dynamic forces of culture, society, education, and technology. To become a solid master of the subject of library and society, it is important to learn the nuances of the principles on which libraries function, its history and development in varied countries, the importance of different types of libraries, the varied acts which regulate the functioning of libraries, the different technologies that are being integrated in libraries, the associations of libraries and their functions, along with learning the responsibilities and qualities related to librarianship.

This book, *Library and Society*, is written with the distance learning student in mind. It is presented in a user-friendly format using a clear, lucid language. Each unit contains an Introduction and a list of Objectives to prepare the student for what to expect in the text. At the end of each unit are a Summary and a list of Key Words, to aid in recollection of concepts learnt. All units contain Self-Assessment Questions and Exercises, and strategically placed Check Your Progress questions so the student can keep track of what has been discussed.

BLOCK - I
INTRODUCTION AND HISTORICAL
DEVELOPMENT

*Libraries and
Information Centres*

NOTES

UNIT 1 LIBRARIES AND
INFORMATION CENTRES

Structure

- 1.0 Introduction
- 1.1 Objectives
- 1.2 Definition of Library
 - 1.2.1 Need and Importance of Library
 - 1.2.2 Definition of Information Centres
 - 1.2.3 Difference between a Library and an Information Centre
- 1.3 Emerging Trends
- 1.4 Changes in Library and Information Services and its Impact
 - 1.4.1 Library as a Social and Cultural Organization
 - 1.4.2 Library as an Educational Organization
 - 1.4.3 Impact of Social and Technological Changes on the Library Services
- 1.5 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 1.6 Summary
- 1.7 Key Words
- 1.8 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 1.9 Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Libraries and information centres need to play a renewed role in today's time. The change has to come because of the excessive use of information which is based on the web and the enhancement in the electronic facilities. The flexibility in the systems of communication and increased organizational efficiency has led to a democratised functioning of the libraries today. The libraries in recent past thrive towards becoming user friendly.

The role of the libraries and information centres has under gone considerable change in the modern society. The library is no longer just a centre for books; it has become a social, cultural, educational and recreational hub.

In this unit you will study about the need, importance and emerging trends in libraries and information centres. The impact of social, cultural, educational, economic and technological changes in library & information services are also discussed in this unit.

NOTES

1.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Define library
- Discuss the need and importance of libraries and information centres
- Analyse the emerging trends in library and information services
- Assess the impact of social, cultural, educational, economic and technological changes in library & information services

1.2 DEFINITION OF LIBRARY

‘Library’ has originated from the word “libraria” which denotes a place for books in Latin. The word has evolved from ‘liber’ which is Latin word for book. As per the definition of the Oxford Companion to the English Language – “*Library is a collection of books, periodicals and/or other materials, primarily written and printed.*” Harrod’s Librarian’s Glossary and Reference Book, a directory of more than ten thousand words has provided multiple definitions for the term

- (a) An assemblage of books and various literary materials which can be used for reference, reading, studying or discussing.
- (b) An assigned space, building or set of rooms allotted for housing books for usage.
- (c) Placement of books provided by single publisher on varied subjects.
- (d) A space with collection of movie flicks, pictures and other items like CDs and tapes for games and programming.

With the help of above description, a library may be defined as a place which houses material which can be literary or non-literary for the purpose of borrowing, reference or studying. The material can range from educational to non-educational books, newspapers, journals, prints, pictures, magazines, objects of art etc. The orderly arrangement of all the above-mentioned material in a designated space may also be defined as a library. A library could be an independent space, or it could be part of an organization or institution. Therefore, library is an essential part of the society as it is a social body which is established for the purpose of imparting knowledge and information to the individuals living in the society. The material housed in the library is for public use.

Mathematician and librarian Dr. S. R. Ranganathan is regarded as the father of library science of India; according to him the library is a public establishment or institution which is entrusted to be the care taker of the collected books and it has to make sure that the books are available for public use. From his description it will not be wrong to define library as a place where records of human thoughts are stored in an organised manner. The physicality of these thoughts is maintained in

form of the documents, volumes, journals, movie records, charts, graphic representation, etc. In order to maintain these thoughts for present as well as future users a number of steps are taken to arrange and store these records.

1.2.1 Need and Importance of Library

It has already been established in the previous section that library is a place where records of human thoughts through the generations are stored hence the library becomes the means through which these thoughts are available to the people. Every society needs to have a library so that the experiences and thoughts of our ancestors can be easily available.

The library has many important functions to play:

- The task of collecting and providing material both books and non-books to the public.
- The library plays an important role of spreading awareness in the society as the material stored in the library is used by people.
- It is a source for nurturing and promoting information, education and values.
- Helps in self-educating people in the society as they have access to varied type of material.
- Library not only acts as a preserver of cultural and literary legacy for future generations but also becomes a provider of information to conduct research on the past.
- Make available trustworthy material for its users. The information is available to all without any disparity based on age, status or caste.
- The collected resources help in progressive social conscience and enrich the life of the people of the society.

Library plays an important role in cultural development of the society as it connects the past and present ethos. On the basis of the multidimensional functions of the library it is an integral part of the society and its need is highlighted in the following aspects of the society, namely

- **Educating the citizens:** Library is accessible to all age users hence it acts as a medium for self-education. The library is a gap filler between the recorded information and the citizens. Library acts as a supplementary centre for education and with an added advantage as it provides material on formal as well as non-formal information which can be used by anyone at any time. All this is possible because of the limitless stock of books and study material housed in the library.
- **Spreading of relevant information:** Library is a source through which relevant and current information can be spread amongst people. It is a one stop venue which offers information on varied topics and hence can cater to people with different interest and walks of life. The scope of

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information available in libraries is vast, encompasses topics of economics as well as other relevant social issues. It is essential for the library to be able to provide specialised information as well. The library not only provides recorded info of the past but at the same time it makes available to its user information about the employment, public utility services, awareness programmes conducted by departments on social topics. Information pertaining to such aspects is gathered and kept at the libraries for communicating to the common man.

- **Platform for Cultural Promotion:** Libraries are needed as they become a platform through which cultural promotion can be undertaken. The footfall at the library may be helpful in increasing appreciation for art and literature. The library is able to promote culture in two ways; firstly, the material available in the library is a rich source of cultural heritage and in addition to that most libraries organise culturally enriching events in form of talks, seminars, conventions, exhibitions of books and artfices. Such events are culturally motivating.
- **Judicious use of Spare time:** In the history of libraries of United Kingdom, it has been argued that libraries help in reducing the crime rate in the society and help the police department as they help in people to spend their leisure time positively. The libraries provide the avenue for cultivating reading and other intellectual activities among its citizens. The availability of books along with non-bookish material provides relaxation to people. People are encouraged to do reading for recreation. They sometimes even provide venue for performing art events like plays to be conducted.

1.2.2 Definition of Information Centres

With the development of people and progression in science and technology there was a remarkable increase in the literature which has to be recorded. The books were not sufficient to cater to the expansion of knowledge which was taking place in subjects of various disciplines, books were used to record the information but it was not enough there was a need to find another option hence the information was recorded in new options like research journals, technical reports, official document, principles and specifications, trade contacts, memos, new edition, etc. The experts and professionals needed the specialised information in the journals, reports etc. along with the information in the books. In order to meet the requirement of the experts and provide them with accurate specialised inputs the Information centres were established.

Need and Importance of Information Centres

An Information centre is referred to an organization which performs the following tasks:

- Chooses, obtains, stocks and recovers information as requested

- Makes summaries, citations, catalogues of information
- Broadcasts information in expectation and as per the requests.

Information centres are a part of extremely specific R&D department of an organization. A number of services are provided to the user by an Information Centre for example it offers reference services, searching of literature, interpretations, indexes, cataloguing, abstracting, etc.

There are different types of information centres such as Information centres for Analysis, Clearing Houses, Data Centres and Data Banks.

- **Information Analysis Centres:** These centres are involved in collection of literature pertaining to a specific discipline, assess its usefulness and keep it ready to relay the assessed info to the experts of the specific discipline in a form which is required in the research. Before circulating the information, the centre confirms the soundness, dependability and correctness of the collected information. The reports of information analysis centres play a crucial role in consolidation of the research and helps in highlighting the missing aspects along with the negatives.
- **Clearing Houses:** These centres act as a support system. They may be set up a domestic or international agency. They help in providing a common spot for accessing info which may be originating from various sources, location (domestic or international) or language. They assemble bibliographies of actual disciplines and provide them to the interested organizations. On request they provide a hard-copy of the document as well.
- **Data Centres:** Data centres assemble, arrange and stock statistical data concerning a particular field of the discipline so that all queries can be addressed. The data is not just collected on demand of the user but otherwise as well as that any future needs of the user can be catered.
- **Data Banks:** These are centres which gather and store input of various disciplines. The information can be used for future researches. The collected data is systematically stored so that prompt input is provided to the users. Experts of various fields work in these centres as they process raw data of many disciplines. The management of these banks are run by experts of various fields along with professionals from library and information centres. The staff at these centres can consist of bibliographers, research in charge, librarians, or expert information officers. The data banks are in some way similar to special library as it performs the functions similar to a special library, it may be responsible for taking technical notes, theorizing, Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) and undertake research for the users.

NOTES

NOTES

1.2.3 Difference between a Library and an Information Centre

A library is very different from an information centre. Libraries offer macro-documents to their consumers while the users of information centres are provided with micro-documents. The difference among the two is visible from the kind of documents stored, kinds and levels of consumers, delivery of documents instead of information, providing services to internal as well as external consumers. Information centres like a library collect, process, record and circulate information but at the same time they are also responsible for analysing and presenting the information. The information centre can function as a library, but a library cannot function as an information centre as a library only provides the document whereas the information centres provides the document along with the specifics of the insides of the document. For instance, a book from the library will have the required information along with other inputs but at the centre the user will get the precise information without the other inputs.

Check Your Progress

1. Define Library.
2. Who is regarded as the father of library science of India?

1.3 EMERGING TRENDS

In modern societies, the role of libraries has changed and in order to keep its relevance alive it needs to change with changing times. The libraries are not essential for educational development only, they have a significant role to play in the economic as well as social and technological development of the society.

- The libraries have to adapt themselves as per the evolving needs of the consumers.
- At one-point library was the sole point where consumer was able to access information as it was the only place where information was collected and documented. The libraries were able to sufficiently fulfil the needs of the society; it had enough information for the limited consumers. Today the times have changed, and the number of consumers has increased considerably.
- People have access to free information at the press of a finger; with the help of the web they are able to get information on varied topics at any- time and anywhere. The libraries have to be able to keep up with this changing trend. They need to be able to provide the similar kind and medium of accessing information.

- The libraries have to be equipped with computers, tablets and other devices which enable consumers to receive information. They not only need the machines but also good internet facilities in the premises. Some consumers may need assistance while using this technology hence the staff at the library needs to be trained not just for storing and issuing books but also should have skills of computers.
- The advancement in technology does not undermine the relevance and importance of the books and manuscripts in the library but the need of the hour is to strike a balance between books and technology for the libraries to be able to keep up with changing trends. The libraries are funded by public money, so it is important to use the funds efficiently.
- The book collection of the library has to be adapted according to the needs of the consumer. The library has to be equipped with services like on-line library and e-book issuing service besides the usual reading material.
- Furthermore, libraries need to cultivate extra space for consumers to be able to work collaboratively. They need to be equipped with self-learning spaces so that digital and ICT literacy skills can be acquired by the consumers.

The libraries are always going to be a space which is housed with books but at the same time in order to maintain their status quo they need to be equipped with the above factors so that they continue to attract consumers and retain their old users. The libraries have to develop catalogues which are easily visible on the web. Academic libraries have to regularly update their periodicals in spite of the growing prices. The publishers often charge a handsome amount for scientific journals and as a prerequisite of an academic library they have to constantly struggle to maintain the stock. The option of increasing subscription is not available even though the prices of the periodicals and books continue to escalate. The libraries have to be able to adopt alternatives like digital subscription, there are few libraries which have developed a system of collaboration and they share the periodical with each other. Another option to this problem invented by few libraries is that they have turned into publishers themselves by doing this they are able to provide the scientific journals and pay the author as well. The change in the long going editorial chain has helped the libraries to be able to survive in the constantly increasing sphere of knowledge.

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1.4 CHANGES IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES AND ITS IMPACT

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Let us discuss the library as a social and cultural organization.

1.4.1 Library as a Social and Cultural Organization

In order to have balanced development of individuals in the society, it is essential to have services of a library. There are many social functions performed by the library which are as follows:

- Provides a venue for self-teaching for an unlimited time period.
- People are able to update their facts on varied topics and enhance their knowledge.
- Enables circulation of human thoughts of various personalities throughout the history in a uniform and non-partial manner.
- Helps in judicious use of free time of the people
- Library helps in preserving the cultural and literary heritage of human beings for future generations and researches.
- Acts as a custodian of human thoughts which has been recorded over centuries.

Library for nurturing culture: It is already established that libraries help in preserving the human thoughts of people who lived many centuries ago hence their valuable thoughts have helped in laying foundations of traditions of the present society. The knowledge helps in increasing the intellect and prestige of the people in the society to a large extent. It helps in increasing the levels of common sense in most people. A library helps in inculcating habit of reading among individuals of all ages and encourages them to read about varied topics thus helping them to behave in a more cultured and sophisticated manner. The abundance of reading material stocked in libraries make it possible to achieve this cultural awareness among people of the society. The reading material is at the disposal of all without any discrimination, besides in present times the libraries not only act as information centres but also provide avenues for recreational events such as dramatics, lectures, seminars, art exhibitions etc. They are used for undertaking research work by many individuals. Libraries are instrumental in developing cultured citizens of the society. Library can become a driving force as it is capable of creating a healthier society because of its features, diversity, worth and scope of service. It helps in supporting the individual's educational development. It enhances the outlook of people as it provides a variety of material covering numerous topics and issues. The democracy will be able to survive only in the presence of enlightened citizens irrespective of the social standing of the citizens.

Library helps in creating need for books: The sense of right and wrong comes only with knowledge, reading books enhance the reasoning powers of individuals. The increasing demand for books is met by the library staff and they ensure that the readers get information on the topics they are seeking. Libraries are essential for the social and cultural enhancement of the society.

Forum for Social Unity: People from different walks of life interact with each other while spending time at a library. The users get an opportunity to attend lectures, film viewing, concerts and discussions on current affairs. People are able to interact and share thoughts and information irrespective of their profession, religion, status or caste.

Custodian of Knowledge: Achieves of unique and old manuscripts, journals and text is maintained at the library this helps in preserving the literature of olden times for future generations. The information stored at the library is useful for undertaking several researches. The researchers are able to analyse the aspects of their research from a historical point of view.

1.4.2 Library as an Educational Organization

- **Libraries act as a Self-education Centre:** A country can prosper only if its population is educated. A strong education system is not established by merely building good school, colleges and universities. The system needs the support of various other institutions to be able effectively function. Libraries provide the much-needed support to a countries educational system. It provides avenues for informal education. The services of the library are offered to individuals for life and hence it continues the learning process. An effective library service is essential part of every society.
- **University of Self Development:** Library may also be referred to as open-university of people where they do not study in a class-room with the help of a teacher. The books are their teachers who impart knowledge essential for their self-development as well as inculcate moral and social duties. They help them to generate a positive attitude towards their country.
- **Act as a Medium for Mass Education:** Most libraries particularly public libraries play a very crucial role. They are helpful in spreading social, political and cultural awareness also help towards economic development of the country. The facilities of the library may be availed by everyone in the society. The facilities can be educational, informational, recreational or even research oriented. They are open to all without any discrimination. Therefore, it will not be wrong to say that Library services the masses.
- **Centres for Education for a Life-time:** The membership of a library can be taken for life. Individuals can continue with their education even after their formal education has been acquired. Library is acts as an educational centre for thousands of people; they have the liberty to gain knowledge in

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any field. Library helps in developing skills which may not be connected to an individual's formal training. Individuals are able to keep themselves updated with the problems of their community.

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1.4.3 Impact of Social and Technological Changes on the Library Services

Library is a social institution which is bound to get effected by the changes in the society. In recent times the role of the library has also undergone changes. The changes in the society can be attributed to a number of factors such as

- Social and political instability in the society
- Progress of educational services and increased level of literacy
- Changing traditions e in the National, regional and local socio-cultural traditions
- Increase in urban population
- Impact of globalisation on the society
- Economic growth has led to industrialisation
- Active participation of government agencies not only at national level but also at the state and the local levels
- Better standards of living
- Role of political leaders
- Expansion and growth in publishing trade
- Development of computer technology has led to mass communication systems

The above-mentioned conditions have a direct impact on the expansion and services of the libraries. In order to sustain themselves in the changing society their role has to change to a large extent. Today libraries cannot just perform the function of storing and circulating books they have to be able to gather information through multimedia for their users. The contemporary library has endured changes in all its primary functions, the older methods of collecting, releasing, storing, recovery, distribution and gathering of information have been replaced by new methods. The present-day libraries have been equipped with new technologies of gathering information, communicating and networking with other libraries. Sophisticated technical methods are used to collect information, process, and store and then distribute. Consumers are able to get information on their office desk or in the comfort of their homes with the help of network systems such as Local Area Networks (LAN) and Wide Area Networks (WAN). The users do not have to visit a library to get information. This advancement in technology of library services not only helps in accessing accurate information but at the same time saves a lot of time. The libraries of modern days are referred to as service institutions.

The advancement in the means of communication and computer technologies has posed a huge challenge for the library staff. The librarians have to be well trained and need to be completely aware about the networking system used in the library. Besides being able to perform their changed duties efficiently the staff at the libraries have to accept and welcome these changes.

Impact of changing society on Library and Information centres

The functions of the library have to be adapted as per the changes in the society. Marc Prensky has divided the society into two sets of groups. According to him the first group comprises of the immigrants of digital world and the second group comprises of natives of the digital world. People belonging to the first group are those who were born before advent of digital world and got exposed to it at a later stage of life through their education or work whereas the members of the second group are those who became a part of technology from the time of their birth. Unlike the first group they are very comfortable using the newer ways and accept it as a crucial part of their lives. They not only accept but actually enjoy the features offered by technology. The libraries have to be able to fulfil the needs of both these groups and it has to efficiently function as a social institution in a continuously changing environment.

U.S. scientist Jesse H. Shera has justified the library to be a social organization created by people living in the society. Because of its social status it has a crucial role to play. He feels that since it is such an integral part of the social arrangement, alterations in the environment as bound to have a large impact on the functioning of a library. This impact is purely because of its deep roots in the social environment. Therefore, according to J.H. Shera, *“library is an inseparable part of the society, and the force that unites and supports the society – is culture”*, the scientist has provided a vision to his analysis about the system of the libraries being a part of social system. In his vision he has based culture on three components, these are linked in a triangular pattern with each other so that they are able to function.

Check Your Progress

3. State one social function of a library.
4. Mention one factor that leads to changes in the society.

1.5 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. A library may be defined as a place which houses material which can be literary or non-literary for the purpose of borrowing, reference or studying.
2. Mathematician and librarian Dr. S. R. Ranganathan is regarded as the father of library science of India.

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3. One social function of a library is that it provides a venue for self-teaching for an unlimited time period.
4. Social and political instability in the society leads to changes in the society.

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1.6 SUMMARY

- ‘Library’ has originated from the word “libraria” which denotes a place for books in Latin. The word has evolved from ‘liber’ which is Latin word for book.
- As per the definition of the Oxford Companion to the English Language – “*Library is a collection of books, periodicals and/or other materials, primarily written and printed.*”
- A library may be defined as a place which houses material which can be literary or non-literary for the purpose of borrowing, reference or studying.
- The orderly arrangement of all the above-mentioned material in a designated space may also be defined as a library.
- A library could be an independent space, or it could be part of an organization or institution.
- Mathematician and librarian Dr. S. R. Ranganathan is regarded as the father of library science of India, according to him the library is a public establishment or institution which is entrusted to be the care taker of the collected books and it has to make sure that the books are available for public use.
- Library plays an important role in cultural development of the society as it connects the past and present ethos.
- Information centres are a part of extremely specific R&D department of an organization.
- There are different types of information centres such as Information centres for Analysis, Clearing Houses, Data Centres and Data Banks.
- Data centres assemble, arrange and stock statistical data concerning a particular field of the discipline so that all queries can be addressed.
- A library is very different from an information centre. Libraries offer macro-documents to their consumers while the users of information centres are provided with micro-documents.
- The libraries have to adapt themselves as per the evolving needs of the consumers.
- The advancement in technology does not undermine the relevance and importance of the books and manuscripts in the library but the need of the

hour is to strike a balance between books and technology for the libraries to be able to keep up with changing trends.

- The libraries have to develop catalogues which are easily visible on the web. Academic libraries have to regularly update their periodicals in spite of the growing prices.
- The sense of right and wrong comes only with knowledge, reading books enhances the reasoning powers of individuals.
- Libraries provide the much-needed support to a countries educational system. It provides avenues for informal education.

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1.7 KEY WORDS

- **Culture:** It refers to the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.
- **Technology:** It refers to the application of scientific knowledge for practical purposes, especially in industry.
- **Academic:** It means relating to education and scholarship.

1.8 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. State all the important functions of a library.
2. Why are information centres needed?
3. Differentiate between a library and an information centre.
4. Briefly discuss library as a social and cultural organization.

Long-Answer Questions

1. 'Library plays an important role in cultural development of the society as it connects the past and present ethos.' Comment.
2. What are information centres? Describe the different types of information centres.
3. Assess library as an educational organization.
4. Explain the impact of social changes on the library services.
5. What are the emerging trends in library and information services? Discuss in detail.

1.9 FURTHER READINGS

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UNIT 2 OVERVIEW OF FIVE LAWS OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

*Overview of Five Laws of
Library Science*

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Structure

- 2.0 Introduction
- 2.1 Objectives
- 2.2 Five Laws of Library Science
 - 2.2.1 Inferences of Five Laws of Library Science
- 2.3 Relevance of the Five Laws in Present Scenario
- 2.4 Library Extension Activities
 - 2.4.1 Need for Library Extension Activities
 - 2.4.2 Ideology behind Library Extension Activities
- 2.5 Outreach Programmes
- 2.6 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 2.7 Summary
- 2.8 Key Words
- 2.9 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 2.10 Further Readings

2.0 INTRODUCTION

Dr. Shiyali Ramamrita Ranganathan is considered to be the father of library science of India. He was born in 1892 and devoted his life to the profession of library. Through his journey of eighty worthwhile years he worked as an educator of mathematics and is often regarded as a universal librarian. His work in the field helped him to make many meaningful contributions in the field; the most significant one is the Five Laws of Library Science. In 1928, he framed the Five Laws of Library Science. The laws were published in 1931 in the book by the same title. The onus for the first law of the list goes to his maths teacher Prof. Edward N. Ross, although the rest he formulated on his own. The laws have not only helped the students pursuing the profession of librarian but to a large extent they are guidelines on which libraries and their authorities should function. The users of libraries must also go through the laws so that they are able to avail the facilities of the library to the fullest.

2.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Explain the five laws of library science
- Discuss the relevance and inference of the laws

- Describe library extension activities
- Explain the outreach programmes

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2.2 FIVE LAWS OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

In the field of library science, the laws formulated by Ranganathan are considered to be its back-bone. They are the most essential concept in the study of library science. They provide the fundamental principles on which the discipline is based and also explain the primary philosophy behind the concept. In a nutshell the laws represent the epitome of services and administrative of various categories of libraries. The relevance of the laws has been maintained since the time they were formulated. The laws are the guidelines which have been followed by library staff since their advent. They help the staff in systematic organization and management of library services and also instruct them the methods of handling information.

At a quick glance the five laws of library as formulated by Ranganathan are as listed below:

- First law- Books are for use
- Second law- Every reader his/her book
- Third law- Every book its reader
- Fourth law- Save the time of the reader
- Fifth Law- Library is a growing organism

The basic philosophy of library science is conveyed in these five laws given by father of library science. The laws help in understanding the framework of the libraries. The rudimentary ideology of these laws is to join the consumers with the information they are seeking.

2.2.1 Inferences of Five Laws of Library Science

Given below is the detailed implication of each law and their presentation in the field.

First Law states that “Books are for use”: the first law is self-explanatory and confers to a basic reality. During olden days there was a scarcity of books and instead of being freely used they were kept stored so that they could be preserved properly. The libraries were considered to be their custodians and storage space. The societies which came into being after the industrialisation brought with them the modern identity of libraries. The library was not just meant for storage of books but also transformed into an institution with the purpose of servicing its consumer’s need for information on varied topics. Ranganathan did not deprive the libraries from performing their traditional function but he also stressed that preserving will be useful only if they consumers can use the books. He felt that libraries should work towards promoting books. He completely realised that in

order to promote the use of books other aspects like vicinity, structure, working hours, selection of books, and appointment of staff will have to be taken into account. In the first law he has stressed on these aspects as he felt that promoting the use of books will not be possible if these aspects were not dealt with care.

Inference of the First Law

- **Vicinity of the Library:** The location of the library is very important if people have to be encouraged to use the services. In case the library is not located near the users they will not be making full use of it. According to Ranganathan a public library needs to be centrally located. In case of academic library, the location should be such that the students are able to avail its services easily. The vicinity of the library should be such that people can peacefully read their book and relax.
- **Working Hours of the Library:** The promotion of books will be possible only when maximum people are able to utilise the services of the library hence the working hours should be according to the convenience of its users. The second law infers that the library should remain open for long hours. When the library will remain open for long duration it will give opportunity to people of all ages and various professions to be able to use the services.
- **Structural Aspects:** The ambience of the library should provide comfort to the users. In order to be able to read or write the furniture selection should be adequate. The chairs should be with cushions for comfort and the reading rooms of the library should be well ventilated, properly lighted and most important they should have flooring which is sound proof so that the readers are not disturbed by frequent movement of the furniture. The storing space should also be well laid out. In this law Raganathan has stressed upon the structural aspects of the library so that books can be well used. The law infers that besides having all the essentials required for comfort of the users the library should be well secured to safe guard the books from theft, pest and moisture. The height of the book rack should be comfortable for the users and provision for ladder should be there so that books placed on the top most shelves can be reached. The libraries which are mostly used by children should have adequate safe norms meant for the children.
- **Selection of Books:** The books selected for the library should be in accordance to its present and future consumers. The books which are selected should be appealing and easy to handle. Adequate precautions should be taken to maintain the appearance of the books. The worn-out books should be replaced by newer ones on regular basis. The books of the library should be regularly updated so that new and fresh collection is offered to the readers.

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- **Appointment of Staff:** The first law aims at promotion of books and spreading knowledge to large number of users. This will be possible by appointing library staff who is well qualified professional. The staff members need to be trained in such a way that they are able to efficiently help the users for maximum utilisation of the services. The staff should not only be aware about the resources present in the library but should have training for them to be able to use it with ease and help the users as well. The Law infers the need for appointing well trained staff so that they are able to promote the use of books. The First Law lays an important stress on the staff of the libraries. They need to assist the users so that they are able to make full use of the facilities and resources of the library. It is important that the staff at the library is helpful in a friendly and polite manner with the users. They should be able to understand the needs of the users for optimum utilisation of services of the library. The law infers that the promotion of books will be possible by equipping the libraries with qualified and adequate staff.

Second Law states that “Every Reader his/her Book”. As Ranganathan had altered the meaning in the First Law that library is not just meant for storage of books, his second law widened the conception that books are meant to be used by selective people, he felt that library should be open to all readers. It is important to note that in his first law he stressed on ‘books’ and in the second law his focus was completely on the ‘users’. The law accentuates that books should be available for all without any disparity on the basis of educational qualification, status, sex or age. Anyone who has the ability to read is free to use the facilities of a library.

Inferences of the Second Law

In order to maintain emphasis on the users the second law imposed many obligations for the State, the authorities of the library, its staff and lastly the users of the library (readers)

- (a) **Role of State Administration:** The state was supposed to look after the maintenance and advancement of the libraries. In order to be able to perform this task, it was assigned duties. The most essential obligation of the state was to put in place the library legislation as this would enable the State to develop a system of public libraries at various locations. The State would have a say in formulation of their policies and other important decisions. It will be able to decide the percentage of the library cess which the public libraries would pay to State and a provision for making grants by the Government for upkeep of the libraries can be made. The Legislation would help in increasing the cooperation amongst libraries of various States and bring them closer to the national library. The functioning of libraries on the whole would improve with the sharing of resources. The State has the duty to formulate the acts and their provisions of, Union Library Act, National Central Library Law, and the Finance law. The Law wants the public library network system to be integrated at all levels.

(b) **Role of Library Authorities:** The second law inferred the libraries to perform the following duties:

- Books that are procured in the library should be as per the preference of the readers. The library authorities are responsible for the collection of books in the library hence the law clearly implied that they must have a collection which is chosen by the users. The collection should be built after conducting a survey amongst the various users of the library. The books in the library must be according to the taste and choice of the users.
- The library authorities are just not obligated to make a careful choice about the books, but same attitude has to be maintained while selecting its staff, the library should be equipped with competent staff that is completely aware about the functioning and the resources of the library. The users will be benefit only in the presence of staff which is competent. The proper implementation of this law will take place only when the authorities make the correct choice about the staff. Staff of the library is another important aspect which help the readers to make full use of the library.

(c) **Role of the Library Staff:** The staff of the library is one of the most important aspects for achieving the objective of the second law. All efforts of the State and the authorities will be futile if the functioning of the staff is not efficient. The staff has to completely realise the importance of word “His” so that they are able to change their attitude and way of functioning. The staff has to ensure that the users are completely satisfied during their visit at the library; their task is not just to provide books and other reference material. It will be helpful for the readers if the staff is familiar their requirements hence the staff at the library should try and observe the frequent users so that they are aware about their taste and preference. Having complete knowledge about the location of books and material at the library is most essential duty. The second essential duty which has to be performed by the staff at the library is providing the readers with the list of books, and services like indexing and abstracting whenever required by them. Additionally, they have to look into the Cataloguing of material and books as well. This function helps the readers to easily locate the information they are seeking. The process should be performed in a systematic and detailed manner so that the entries are attached with all the necessary references and related links for figuring out the exact location. The system of open access will also enable the readers to easily locate the book they wish to read or refer.

(d) **Role of the readers or the users:** In order maintain importance of the readers in a library the second law has listed certain duties for the readers. In order to use the facilities of the library the readers have to adhere to a set of regulations. The library staff and authorities may be doing an excellent

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job of providing the readers with all their requirements but then all of it will be waste if the readers do not follow their duties while using the library, The Law has imposed few important obligations for the readers as well. It is mandatory for them to adhere them so that they can continue to use the facilities of the library.

The second law will be effective when all four stakeholders perform their duties. Every reader will surely be provided with 'his' book. As per the recommendations of the Second Law all the libraries should maintain cooperation with each other, books of all the libraries are a part of a common pool so that more people are able to use it.

Third Law states that, "Every Book its Reader". In the second law the formulator has emphasised that all the books in the library should be put to use. It should be read and just not lie on the shelves. Furthering the importance of readers but at the same time the focus is maintained on the books. The law states that each book in the library should have at least one reader if not many. The importance of a book in the library is because of its reader(s).

Inferences of the Third Law

- The library should be equipped with system of open access system. In this system the readers are able to select material from the shelves as per their preference. This system ensures good utilisation of book to a large extent.
- The arrangement of the shelves should be as per the classification of the books. The law infers this point so that the readers are able to browse through the books easily. The books of similar and related topics are placed together so the readers can easily get all the relevant information. The books on the shelves should be properly labelled and sequenced in uniform order. The entries of topics should be properly analysed. The height of the shelves should also be as per average height standards and provision should be made to reach for the books on higher shelves.
- The library should be equipped with facilities of providing references. The third law also infers that full attention should be given to libraries catalogue. This will help the readers to be familiar with the collection of the books and also easily find the book they need. The entries of the catalogue can be done as per the subjects of the books, or the use of series entries or as per reference entries. In series entries the reader is provided with information regarding all the books of a particular series. The catalogue will have all the books of that series arranged in an alphabetical order.
- The library should be publicised well so that people are aware of its existence and services. According to the third law books will be well utilised once they are publicised well. The publicity can take place with the help of the yearly reports, bulletins and magazines can hold information, circulation of

catalogue, display of new additions, listing the books available for reference, etc. The publicising of books will surely find readers for the books.

- The library should be equipped with wide range of books so that it can attract readers, besides books it should provide extended services for research.
- The policies about procurement of books should be user friendly

Fourth Law states that, “Save the Time of the Reader”. The applicability of the above three laws completely depends on the adhering of the fourth law. As per the fourth law the demands of the readers should be fulfilled instantly. There should be no unnecessary delays. The books and material should be promptly supplied to the reader. The law completely focuses on the users of the library. It feels that the time of the user in the library should not be wasted and their experience should be fruitful. The chief aim of the law is to prevent wastage of time of the user. The library should be equipped with all latest technical facilities so that it is able to provide prompt service to people. The staff should be well versed with these facilities so that they are able to guide the users about their existence and working.

Inferences of the Fourth Law

- The books on the racks should be arranged as per their classification. Books arranged in this manner helps in saving the time since they are able to locate their book easily and do not waste time while browsing through books. The use of classified arrangement in the catalogue cabinet helps them to locate their book from their respective racks without wasting time. Hence as per the fourth law books in the library should be organised using a classified arrangement.
- The law infers that the entries of catalogue should also be made using the classified arrangement since it is bound to save the time of the user. The multifaceted composition of the books can be highlighted for the users by the use of cross references and entries based on subject analytical. For this reason, the Fourth Law firstly demands that cards in the catalogue cupboard should follow the classified arrangement and secondly compound books must be assembled by analytical entries. For the purpose of saving the precious time of the readers the law proposes a two-part classified catalogue for the same since the readers have various means of looking for books, sometimes they search it with the name of the author or title and there are times when they look for them as per the series. The classified part the entries are organised using a filiation order, every subject is denoted with the help of class number. The alphabetic part the entries are organised as per the author, title or topics.
- In this law the formulator has completely supported the system of open access and strongly opposed system of closed access. The law emphasised on using the former as it helped in saving the time of the readers.

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- Besides serving the readers with books the law supported the provision of reference services. As per the law it was important for the staff to be able to provide the required help. The staff is able to provide reference help to their users only when they are professionally qualified to do so, therefore at the time of the appointment of the staff only personnel with adequate experience were appointed. The objective of the fourth law is to save time of the readers by providing them with all the necessary support and service. The librarian of a reference library has to be able to attend to all the queries of the readers and the library needs to be equipped with all the information providing tools. Besides professional qualification the librarian should be polite and friendly with the users.
- The method of issuing books and material in the library needs to be very quick and hassle free. Merely making the searching process smooth is not enough for saving the time of the reader. The process of receiving and issuing of books should be efficient in the library. The system of the library should be able to instantly provide information about the books which are in the library and which have been issued to readers. The information regarding the due date and issue date should also be provided. The Fourth Law endorses the provision of two card systems which is able to answer every query and helps in saving valuable time of the users.
- The formulator of the fourth law promoted a centralised cataloguing and classification process as it would help in achieving the objective of the fourth law. Ranganathan urged the libraries to develop a constant code for cataloguing; this would encourage universal cooperative cataloguing to be established. Further it supported the documentation of work centrally so that it helped in saving time, funds and human resources at international level as well.
- Provision of well guided stack rooms in the library was another way to save the time of the readers. Finding books would be much easier if they were the shelves in the stack room were adequately tagged.
- The fourth law in order to achieve its objectives left no stone unturned. The formulator of the Library laws even contemplated the location of the library. He felt that the readers would save time if the location of the library was central. Therefore, as per the demand of the law the library should be located at a place which is easily accessible to most readers. Because of geographical limits if this could not be managed then the law provided the option of mobile libraries which could be used for far away locations. The mobile libraries would be linked with district central library and would operate as per their activities. The systems proposed in the fourth law were most effective for saving the time of the readers. Even today these systems are practiced in the libraries.

Fifth Law states that “The Library is a Growing Organism”. It is a well realised notion that like all institutions libraries are also expanding. The law attributes the library with an organism which is constantly evolving. There are new features being introduced, these are replacing the old ones. The size of the organism is constantly growing. The library constitutes of books, the staff and the users, it is obvious that all the three constituents are expanding. For that reason, the authorities of the libraries should develop plans which are able to cope with this three-dimensional expansion. The readers are constantly growing and so the demand for books will increase and as a result more staff will be required to manage the increased number of books and readers. Increase in their size of these three constituents would require the library size to also increase. For Ranganathan, the organism growth was in two stages, in the first stage growth took place in the child’s body and in second stage the growth took place in an adult’s body. He associated the development of a storage or repository library and service library with the growth of child and adult correspondingly. The growth of a child is measured in terms of general growth in size and weight. Correspondingly the structure of a repository library needs to be sufficient enough to sustain the incorporation of extra material. But this is not same for the structure of the service library as it may not increase after attaining a specific size just like adult body.

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Inferences of the Fifth Law

- The growth of the library is similar to the growing size of a child. Both experience a gradual increase in shape size and weight. The library’s growth is visible through the increasing size of its books numbers. The increased number of books will directly have an impact on the size of the building.
- The library will need a bigger building. More space will be required to stack the books. There will need for a bigger area for circulation. The room for reading will also become bigger.
- The number of readers will increase. The library’s growth is directly related with the increasing number of readers. Their growing number will have a direct impact on the reading room size, methods of issuing the books and need for development of stronger system of security.
- Growing number of readers will require more books and in order to manage increased number of books and readers more staff will be required. The process of selecting books, cataloguing, binding, periodicals will also need to be expanded. The growth in the size of the library will require a larger section for providing reference services in the library. The last Law instructs the authorities of the libraries to work towards providing the entire infrastructure required for expansion of staff in the library to manage the working. The fifth law instructs the authorities for appointing staff that is professionally qualified to serve the readers and manage the services of the

library. The law also encourages healthy work environment and pleasant dealing of the readers by the staff so that they are able to use all the available resources of the library.

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Check Your Progress

1. What is the most essential concept in the study of library science?
2. State the Fifth Law of library science.

2.3 RELEVANCE OF THE FIVE LAWS IN PRESENT SCENARIO

In the modern day computerized libraries, even with Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) the working of libraries is still based on the five laws of Ranganathan. The laws have not only provided the guidelines for the operation, but the systems recommended in the laws for achieving the objectives have also been maintained with further enhancement. Just by having access to a computer the readers are able check the complete list of the contents of the library. They have the option of reserving a title which is in great demand; they can even make recommendations for procurement of new books. The users do not have to visit the library in order to reissue their books. With the help of WEBOPAC, the readers are able to use the library round the clock from wherever they are. Today the library is able to go to the users rather than users going to the library. The networking system of libraries has helped in readers to have access to books of several libraries. They have access to not only the individual catalogue of a library they also have the catalogue of libraries which are joint together. Hence this helps in having access to vast material and books. For instance, with the help of networks like DELNET the users have access to material and resources of more than 4,000 libraries at their disposal. They can access them from the website of the network. We will be studying in detail about the existing networks in the following units.

Significance of the laws

- The Laws act as the document of SOPs of the libraries. The laws are the principles on which the institution of library functions. The application of the laws not only provides the standard guidelines but at the same time they can be referred in order to find solution to a problem regarding any aspect of the science. Libraries around the world follow these laws as their standard operating procedure.
- The laws helped in growth of the basic principles and canons of library science. Ranganathan's Laws act as guiding and inspirational phrases which enable the institution of library to function for the betterment of the society.

- The Laws act as a preventive measure. The implications of the laws clearly assign work and duties of the stakeholders of libraries hence in case of a conflict of any kind they help in resolving it for smooth functioning to continue.
- The Laws acted as directions not only at the time of setting the institution of library and at the same time provided guiding instructions for future operations.
- The Five Laws have managed to be universally accepted as the philosophy of library science.

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2.4 LIBRARY EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

The ‘Library Extension Activities’ is a phrase which has different meanings all over the world. The most commonly understood meaning of the phrase denotes a situation where the library is performing additional functions than its regular work. The usual work of the library entails providing of books and services of reference, in case the library services extend beyond these two functions then they may be referred to as extended activities of the Library. These activities may include organising lectures, exhibitions, movies, musical events or staging of plays, etc. for its users. There is much more to the extended services than understood by the above general definition. A whole new aspect is covered in the extended activities of the library. The purpose of these activities is to make sure that the services of the library are available to maximum number of people. This very essential task has to be deliberated in two parts. In the first part deliberations have to be made about how to develop and advance schemes which spread the services of the library throughout the country and the second part will involve deliberating about the issues which will arise while trying to spread the services to remote parts and communities which have a small population. The first part mostly works towards building a rapport amongst government agencies of various levels and then formulating and regulating policies for success of the schemes. The second part involves appointment of dedicated library officials who are completely devoted towards putting things into motion as per the framework of schemes. The final aim of the extension services is to make sure that maximum people are able to use the services of the libraries. If all the countries offer extended library activities there is bound to be an increase in the number of users all over the world.

Kinds of Extension Services

Some of the main forms of extension services are as follows:

- **Reading and study circle:** Persons with common interest may be brought together by the library to a reading circle. Each reading circle should be given necessary facilities regarding the materials and a suitable place to hold the meeting.

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- **Library orientation and tour:** Many potential library patrons do not know how to use a library effectively. This can be due to the lack of early exposure, shyness, or anxiety and fear of displaying ignorance. These problems led to the emergence of the library instruction movement, which advocated library user education. Libraries inform the public of what materials are available in their collections and how to access that information. The reference staff may orient the user either in formal way or informally into the library system.
- **Meeting, public lectures and talks:** A library should organize public lectures and talks by eminent persons and also by library staff.
- **Celebration of festival and events and arranging cultural programmes:** It is a good idea to arrange popular festivals and events in the library which may also arrange a drama, a puppet show, a music concert, a film show, a magic show etc. Such cultural programmes can prove great attraction for the community. On such occasions a book exhibition related to the programme should be arranged.
- **Mobile service:** Introduction of mobile library services to provide service to citizens without access to central or branch libraries has devised an interesting variety of delivering methods. For offering this service, the time for each locality is to be fixed and notified earlier.
- **Publicity/propaganda:** Propaganda through the newspaper, radio, television can be introduced.
- **Mail and telephone request:** The public library should also provide library lending service through mail and Dial a book and Dial a fact method. A public library can also think of delivering books to any home bound person on a request. Introduction of library website is also a good form of extension service.
- **Publication:** Publications like annual report, reading guide, library magazine/bulletin and other similar publications are also helpful.

2.4.1 Need for Library Extension Activities

In modern time libraries act as an instrument of social and educational advancement. They help in developing the cultural and economic status of people of the society. In order to continue as source of progress of the society there is a strong need for the library to extend its activities so that there is an increase in the number of people using the services of the library. However, a uniform scheme for the purpose cannot be developed. The schemes required for library extension activities will be different in every country hence individual efforts will have to be made as per the conditions prevailing. The services will also depend on the requirements of the

users. The process will not take place unless formally initiated and regularly monitored. The facilities will be established when they are more takers for it. The people of backward areas may not be aware about the amount of effort which will be required for developing a library in their area. Sometimes it may not be feasible for developing the library services in such areas.

2.4.2 Ideology behind Library Extension Activities

A large amount of futile work, disenchantment and redundant expenses may be side-stepped by making achievable plans for the extension of library activities. There are many tools available with the government agencies to make full prove plans for the success of the process.

Library extension activities may be defined as course which enhances the utility of library services. A library service of a country will not come up in a jiffy. The process takes long and needs to be well planned initiative. The institution of library evolves gradually and becomes effective in stages. There are four important factors which determine the success of library extension, namely

- Accepting the need for extending the services
- Availability of dedicated officials
- Demand from the users
- Availability of monetary resources

Therefore, in the absence of the above factors the entire activity would be a futile effort. The people who are responsible for stabilising the service should be convinced themselves about its need. The facility will be useless in the absence of staff members who would be competent to act as providers of the service. The users should demand for its set up, a facility which has no demand will not be used and there will be a need for financial resources for establishing the service.

2.5 OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

The Laws of the Library were formulated with the readers at its focal point. The purpose of the library is to serve the users. The library with the best of services will be of no use if it is not promoted properly. The library is ‘for the people’, ‘by the people’. The authorities must make adequate efforts to make the community aware about the resources offered by the library. They can do this with the help of the media options which are available locally. The chief objective of every outreach programme is to promote the services and the resources which are available for people’s use and also for creating a foot-fall for the library. The library authorities should try and gather as much support from the local agencies as possible.

Besides the media as a source for promoting the library, there are many other ways of doing the promotion. There is no hard and fast rule that what works as an effective outreach programme for library A will be effective for library B as

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well. Moreover, the best suited programme may be developed with trial and error method. The methods will have to be changed as per the changing culture of the society. Thus, the programme which was effective few years ago may not be suitable in present time. Few options of outreach programmes are listed below:

- Visibility of the library on the Facebook and Twitter. The activities and events planned should be regularly advertised through these accounts.
- Official website of the library should be well designed and needs to be updated regularly.
- The library and its services could be promoted at the monthly local civic association meetings and at other social events.
- The library staff members should try to be part of the local social groups so that they can personally represent the library at a social event.
- The services and different online resources should be showcased at public clubs and organizations to exhibit the usability of the library by various groups.
- The services of the library should be promoted at various schools. The schools should be regularly informed about upcoming events.
- The outreach of the library can be effectively done at business houses of the locality. This may encourage the employees to avail the services.
- The staff members should maintain contact with members of literary council, so they are able to promote the library.
- The library website should have a presentation featuring the working and services of the library. The concluding part of the presentation can carry small details like the working hours and offers regarding membership. This presentation should be available on a compact disc as well so that it can be circulated at new business houses.
- Creating a virtual exploration of the library on its website would also help in promoting the library services.
- A staff member could regularly pen-down a write-up in the daily newspaper. The write-up could be complemented with a list of new arrivals at the library or even mention an upcoming lecture or art show.

The library could be promoted by adding the link in websites of research oriented private or government organizations

Designing an electronic newsletter for the library would be another way of outreaching the users. The members as well as the non-members could be sent this letter through email.

Though libraries are self-promoted by people who are passionate about reading. The book lovers do not need to be prompted but today in spite of being

a gold mine of information the libraries need the help of various outreach programmes so that they have enough subscription to meet the operational cost.

The libraries will have to develop an outreach programme which suits them the best. There is no fixed programme. In case a new library has to be set up then the outreach programme will be different from the one needed for an already established library. Supposing that a new public library has to be set up then the outreach programme would have to start from the beginning.

Therefore, after the above description it will not be wrong to say that marketing and outreach go hand in hand. Both the activities are closely linked with each other. Effective marketing is bound to get positive results for the organization. Outreach programmes are also based on same perception. Well defined goals for marketing can conveniently be used for outreach programmes of library. All outreach programmes are developed with specific goals, they all work towards attracting a target audience and they are then provided with the necessary information about the programme.

The modern-day libraries no longer rely on books for promotion, in fact they have begun to be inclined towards activities which back library services which are completely different from the traditional services offered by the libraries. The outreach programmes of the libraries have evolved from student-centred programmes. The programmes often support services which are very different from the regular services. The target audience of library is no longer the learning community.

Check Your Progress

3. State one significance of the five laws of library science.
4. What do you understand by library extension activities?

2.6 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. The five laws of library science are the most essential concept in the study of library science.
2. The Fifth Law states that “Library is a Growing Organism”.
3. The Five Laws have managed to be universally accepted as the philosophy of library science.
4. Library extension activities may be defined as course which enhances the utility of library services.

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2.7 SUMMARY

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- Dr. Shiyali Ramamritra Ranganathan is considered to be the father of library science of India. His work in the field helped him to make many meaningful contributions in the field; the most significant one is the Five Laws of Library Science.
- In 1928 Dr. Ranganathan framed the Five Laws of Library Science. They provide the fundamental principles on which the discipline is based and also explain the primary philosophy behind the concept.
- **First Law** states that “Books are for use”: the first law is self-explanatory and confers to a basic reality.
- **Second Law** states that “Every Reader his/her Book”. As Ranganathan had altered the meaning in the First Law that library is not just meant for storage of books, his second law widened the conception that books are meant to be used by selective people, he felt that library should be open to all readers.
- **Third Law** states that, “Every Book its Reader”. In the second law the formulator has emphasised that all the books in the library should be put to use. It should be read and just not lie on the shelves.
- **Fourth Law** states that, “Save the Time of the Reader”. The applicability of the above three laws completely depends on the adhering of the fourth law.
- **Fifth Law** states that “Library is a Growing Organism”. It is a well realised notion that like all institutions libraries are also expanding.
- The Five Laws formulated by Ranganathan have been at the core of the study of Library Science in India have been deliberated, reprocessed, or freshly articulated and have been represented with new interpretations by other nations as well.
- The American version of Five Laws of Ranganathan was presented with the addition of the sixth law.
- In the Sixth Law it is stated that “Every reader his freedom”. This implies that the readers have full freedom to choose their reading material, as per their choice or relevance.
- In the modern day computerized libraries, with Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) the working of libraries is still based on the five laws of Ranganathan.
- The networking system of Libraries has helped in readers to have access to books of several libraries. They have access to not only the individual catalogue of a library they also have the catalogue of libraries which are joint together.

- The ‘Library Extension Activities’ is a phrase which has different meanings all over the world. The most commonly understood meaning of the phrase denotes of a situation where the library is performing additional functions than its regular work.
- In modern times, libraries act as an instrument of social and educational advancement. They help in developing the cultural and economic status of people of the society.
- In order to continue as source of progress of the society there is a strong need for the library to extend its activities so that there is an increase in the number of people using the services of the library.
- Library extension activities may be defined as course which enhances the utility of library services.
- The chief objective of every outreach programme is to promote the services and the resources which are available for people’s use and also for creating a foot-fall for the library.
- The modern-day libraries no longer rely on books for promotion, in fact they have begun to be inclined towards activities which back library services which are completely different from the traditional services offered by the libraries.

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2.8 KEY WORDS

- **Outreach Programme:** It is defined as reaching out to others or becoming involved in a community or effort.
- **Law:** It is the system of rules which a particular country or community recognizes as regulating the actions of its members and which it may enforce by the imposition of penalties.
- **Framework:** It refers to a basic structure underlying a system, concept, or text.

2.9 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. Explain the revised version of the Laws of Library Science as given by Jim Thompson.
2. Discuss the laws that were added by various authors to the existing five laws of Library Science.

3. What is the relevance and significance of the five laws of Library Science in present scenario?

Long-Answer Questions

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1. State and explain the Five Laws of Library Science. Discuss what you infer from each law in detail.
2. What do you understand by library extension activities? Why are they needed?
3. Give a detailed description of outreach programmes.

2.10 FURTHER READINGS

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UNIT 3 HISTORY OF LIBRARIES IN USA, UK AND INDIA

*History of Libraries in
USA, UK and India*

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Structure

- 3.0 Introduction
- 3.1 Objectives
- 3.2 History of Library
 - 3.2.1 History of Libraries in USA
 - 3.2.2 History of Libraries in UK
- 3.3 History of Libraries in India
- 3.4 Growth and Development of Library and Information Science
 - 3.4.1 Main Objective of Library and Information Centre
- 3.5 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 3.6 Summary
- 3.7 Key Words
- 3.8 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 3.9 Further Readings

3.0 INTRODUCTION

The history of libraries can be traced along with the history of writing. In modern times it may seem that the printed content in the books is losing its charm because of the wide spread use of digital content. The younger generation relies more on the later and for that reason some feel that the libraries would soon become obsolete. The libraries will have to grow and develop if they want to survive the competition with digital content. The manner in which they have developed and evolved there is no question about them ever becoming out-dated. Libraries are not only the stock room of resources and books, but they have been instrumental in saving the human thoughts of centuries and contributed immensely towards enhancing knowledge of people. Libraries and their staff will carry on facilitating the knowledge of their users even in an era of digital content. In order to be able to understand the fact that they have the strength to exist in present times, understanding the history of libraries and their contribution to the society would be helpful in this context.

3.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Discuss the history of libraries in USA, UK and India
- Assess the growth of and development of library and information science
- List the objectives of library and information centre

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3.2 HISTORY OF LIBRARY

Some of the historians assumed that advent of library helped in recording the history of humans. The earliest forms of writing developed during the Mesopotamian civilization, they used clay tablets to write and this helped in creating the archives of the inventories made in the Mesopotamian script. Although the earliest documents may not seem profound material, but they formed the foundation of knowledge about ancient human civilizations. They carried essential information about the way of life, means of livelihood, methods of farming and other relevant socio-political aspects. These ancient inscribes counterfeited the part of librarians, joining societies with information by providing the documented information.

With the development of paper, the collected thoughts of individuals began to be stocked in the majestic libraries which were built for the purpose. The list of these libraries consisted of the Library of Alexandria and the library developed in the period of Han Dynasty, it was the first centralised Imperial Library, here they started recovery of ancient works. Even though the general public had access to these libraries, but they were not able to use it for browsing of material. Researchers intending to work with particular texts or writers needed the help of the librarians who would provide them with the particular scrolls required to interpret these texts. The role of librarians has been essential since the ancient times. They have always been the link between the information and the seeker of the information. The libraries set up during the reign of the Han Dynasty are considered the most prominent in the history of libraries; Chinese librarian Liu Xin was the first one to create a system of classification which was a pioneer official attempt at cataloguing. Furthermore, earliest Chinese transcribers developed vital book printing expertise which was known as wood-block printing. This development facilitated the earliest mass printing.

After the collapse of Roman Empire, the religious establishments started to control the operations of early government and private libraries. The Catholic Monks in Western Europe began to actively collect and create texts. The monasteries began to be converted into libraries.

In the Islamic nations the printing of written text using the Chinese techniques began to be undertaken by scholars and Imams. The initial libraries were set up in order to provide space for religious text to be housed. The collection of these libraries also consisted of the relevant text developed by various Arabic researchers in the field of mathematics and astronomy.

The age of modern enlightenment as a result of the Renaissance and other movements led to the development of libraries which were not religious spread in all parts of Europe. The non-religious libraries began to act as a meeting place for scholars. Some of the libraries which came up during this time were library of Bartolomeo Platina in the Vatican and the Austrian National Library. The scholars were able to save their written text on subjects like philosophy, mathematics, science and even religion. With the advent of the Gutenberg Printing

Press, the libraries became a place for housing modern books along with the precious ancient texts.

The libraries during this period had very limited access; they only permitted the card-holding members who were mostly the scholarly and the aristocratic population.

During the nineteenth century, libraries were set up all over Europe and United States. These were not meant just for the aristocratic population, even the general public could use these libraries. They were different from modern day public libraries. Although people were allowed to use the various libraries of respective universities and some private libraries, but they had to pay a subscription to avail the facilities. First truly public libraries came into existence during the latter part of nineteenth century and beginning of twentieth century. These libraries were open to all as they were funded by taxes paid by the public. This prevails even in present times. All libraries which are funded by the government are open to the general public at free of cost.

The circumstance that public had open access to libraries had made a mark in its history. Libraries played an important role in enabling people to get information about various topics and subjects. In addition, all the libraries were linked with each other; this gave people access to vast field of knowledge. The material and resources of all university and municipal libraries were available with the help of the system of being linked with each other. The librarians of public libraries had a significant role to play as they provided the information which was needed by the users. The librarians were trained to help people seeking information in any stream, whether medicine or economics. They help in saving the time of the readers as they know the exact location of the book or material which is required.

In spite of the advent of digital techniques to provide content the role of libraries and its staff has not been undermined. They have managed to survive by modifying the manner in which they function. Even with the development of the online data the librarians have an important role as they help in guiding people towards their information. In today's digital world the need to store several books and printed archives has definitely reduced but the libraries are still needed for providing the space where people are able to come and find the information they are seeking. People need the libraries and their staff for helping them seek the exact information even if it is available online.

3.2.1 History of Libraries in USA

The history of libraries of America can be traced back to 1698 with the setting up Parish Library at the Parsonage of St. Philip Church in Charleston. In 1720s Benjamin Franklin initiated setting up of social libraries for the purpose of meeting people socially and holding debates. The library was supposed to be pooled in with people's personal collection of books; obviously this did not work out. Then he proposed establishing one with a subscription as a result in 1731 the Library Company of Philadelphia was created.

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The earliest public library of United States was established in 1833 at Peterborough, New Hampshire. The library was initially sustained by funds of the tax payers but in 1849 an Act was initiated which provided the funds for developing Public Libraries. Reverend Abiel Abbot had suggested that the town library should be a place where all the books are collected and stored. In 1852 the Boston Public Library was established.

Andrew Carnegie holds a significant place in the history of American libraries; he was responsible for funding several public libraries all over the country. The American Library Association came into existence in 1876. The year is remembered as an important year in the American library history, besides the formulation of the association the year also marks the founding of American Library Journal. The system of classification based on decimals was published by Melvil Dewey the same year. The year also got the published report about the development of Public libraries in USA, their condition and management. The report was published by the education bureau of America.

By the later part of nineteenth century the library association was able to sell the idea of developing public libraries which should be funded by public money. They were also able to formulate the policies and guidelines for the functioning of these libraries.

Years after the Civil War witnessed a rise in number of public libraries. There increasing number was an outcome of movements headed mostly by freshly formulated clubs by women groups. The members contributed their personal books to become a part of the library's collection and organised elaborate campaigns for collecting funds. With the passing of legislations such as Library Service Act and Library Services and Construction Act the clubs were able to extent the services of the libraries to large group of people. The founding of Carnegie Library Endowment during the twentieth century also helped their cause.

During the nineteenth century humanitarians and entrepreneurs such as John Passmore Edwards, Henry Tate and Andrew Carnegie played an important role in the increasing numbers of libraries not only in the United States of America but also other parts of the world. Carnegie was responsible for building more than two thousand libraries in America, over six hundred in UK and several in nations of the Commonwealth. In the present scenario many of these libraries are facing financial crisis they are constantly seeking donors for their survival.

3.2.2 History of Libraries in UK

United Kingdom is considered to be forerunner of libraries. Reverend Thomas Bray established Parish libraries for people of all classes. The Scottish Reverend James Kirkwood developed a plan for establishing and running bibliotheks all over UK. The plan was to develop a specific space for housing books at all the parishes. Another landmark in the history of libraries of UK was created by Reverend of East Lothins, Samuel Brown, who formulated the scheme for travel-libraries so that books were available for each village for a period of two years and then the library would travel to its next destination. The plan was such a

success that by 1836 there were forty-seven of such libraries with a collection over two thousand books. The travel-libraries stopped functioning after the death of Reverend.

The year 1845 brought the dream of establishing libraries for public a step closer to reality after the Museum Act was passed. The Act not only promoted the setting up of Museums but in some towns, it promoted the establishment of a library as well. Canterbury, Warrington and Salford were towns which benefitted from the Act and established a library along with the museum. William Ewart was inspired by a letter from Edwards (he was a Supernumerary Assistant at the British Museum) which made him vigorously pursue the task of establishing public libraries. He wanted these libraries to be established in all major towns and they would be open to all. The parliamentary committee after looking at their success in USA authorised the town's council to develop and establish public libraries by levying a token amount.

The case of public libraries after several debates finally reached the House of Lords and was agreed upon on 14 August 1850. Towns over a population of 10,000 would have a public library and the people would have to pay a token amount of half a dollar. The Act was put to practice in both England and Wales and only in 1853 it was applicable in Ireland's Municipal of Boroughs and in Scotland's Royal and Parliamentary Boroughs.

The Museum Act passed without a hitch whereas the Public Library Act was met with lot of disagreement. Most members did not approve it being extended to the poor, but during arguments it was highlighted that the lower class was going to be benefitted the most by using the libraries as the supporters felt that the crime rate would reduce if people had a reading as a pass time. They argued that it will help in reforming the wrong doers and thus would act as cheapest source of managing crime, rather a help to the police department. The Act was finally passed in 1850 and even though Ewert wanted it to be extended to all the Boroughs but the Act was applicable only for those areas where the population was exceeding 10,000 people. In 1853 the Act was extended for Scotland and only by 1855 it was applicable for Ireland. The councils of the Borough were made responsible for procurement of books and other necessary material. The first public library was established in Manchester and the initiator and supporter of public libraries Edward Edwards was appointed as the chief librarian. Soon they began to be opened in several parts of UK. From the time of the passing of the Act till 1868 almost 125 libraries had been established. The Act was revised in June 1892.

Andrew Carnegie is regarded as a prominent figure in the history of libraries of UK as well. He made monetary contributions which helped to fund several libraries. He even formulated a trust for this purpose in 1931; it was called the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust. The trust also had a book bank from which books were dispatched to various schools.

In 1919 the Act began to promote establishment of libraries in urban areas, these libraries were open to all and free services were to be provided to the users.

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Growth of Libraries post-independence

At the time of Independence there were many problems and challenges before India. The major problem was Large Scale illiteracy. Means of transport and communication were poor. Therefore the governments at the central and state level took many steps to improve educational standards and considered library as an integral part of education. Therefore, education budget included public library. To reduce the level of illiteracy programs such as continuing education, adult education, and non-formal education was introduced. The libraries became an important part of community improvement project, which was originated during 1st five year plan period (1951-56) In April, 1950 the Connemara public library in Madras evolved as the State Central library as per provisions of Madras Public Libraries Act of 1948. In 1955 this library became the depository libraries in India. Under the UNESCO public library demonstration pilot project the Delhi public library was founded in 1951. The Delivery of Books Act was passed in 1954 that made it mandatory for every publisher in India should deposit one copy each of their publications to four important depository libraries of Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Delhi. To establish proper public library system in the country the government of India constituted advisory committee for libraries. Advisory Committee for Libraries: - The Government of India created an advisory committee in 1957 under the chairmanship of K. P. Sinha, and its report was submitted in 1959 which provided the draft of Model Public Libraries Bill. A working group on public libraries was organized by the planning commission in 1964. On the basis of recommendations of working group the commission prepared Model Public Libraries Act 1965. This bill was forwarded to all the union territories and states which were without the act of public libraries. A working group on development of public libraries was constituted by planning commission of India in 1972. In the same year Raja Rammohun Roy library foundation was established as an independent body under the ministry of education with the objective of promoting and developing public library system in India. The Cultural Department under the Educational Ministry a library section was established in 1979. The planning commission appointed a working group on upgradation of library and information system in 1983 and its report was submitted in 1984 which resulted in the creation of national policy on library services and informatics (NAPLIS). In 1982 Delhi Public Library (DPL) got the status of copyright library. In order to increase the level of literacy and education among women and to established libraries in rural area, national literacy mission was started in 1986. It remarked that a Nationwide initiatives for improvement and up gradation of surviving libraries and the establishing novel ones should be carried out on priority basis, and prerequisite should be provided to all educational organizations for library status and facilities of librarianship will be updated.

Check Your Progress

1. When and where was the earliest public library of United States established?
2. Why is the year 1845 important in the histories of libraries in UK?

3.3 HISTORY OF LIBRARIES IN INDIA

The Libraries have been a part of the Indian society from ancient period. Most of these libraries existed with the support of the royal families and intellectual people of the time. The history provides proof for the existence of flourishing library culture even during the sixth century A.D. The Nalanda University is known for its well-stocked library, there was a large collection of manuscripts on varied topics, providing knowledge about ancient times. The libraries during those times were not open to common man as they were meant for scholars. Libraries also flourished in the campuses of Takila which is also regarded as one of the earliest universities of ancient times and Vikramshila which flourished during the Pala Empire. The thirteenth century A.D was the period when India came under the influence of Mughals and they further gave impetus to the establishment of libraries as the period was known for its scholarly population. Courts of Mughal rulers appointed several scholars to be the care-takers of the libraries. The period has a heritage of literature and art works. The emperors constructed magnificent structures to house their valuable collection of manuscripts and learning material. The contributions made by the King of Jaipur, Maharaja Sawai Man Singh along with Punjab's Maharaja Ranjit Singh are remembered throughout the history for their services towards establishment of libraries in India. The renowned Saraswati Mahal Library was initiated by the King of Tanjuar during the seventeenth century A.D. It continues to be an exceptional institution for the kind of services and collection which it provided to its patrons.

The British helped in making the libraries open to common people of India. Before that they serviced as private institutions which were only for royals and scholars. Unluckily, their appearance had only one advantage as later they became the cause of severe political upheaval in the country which lasted for several years. The libraries which had been flourishing as cultural hubs in India since the time of the Indus valley civilization began to move downward. The libraries which developed during the beginning of nineteenth century were nothing like before; they had become a product of western influence.

According to the Sinha Committee the first phase of developing public libraries in India started in 1808, with the Government of Bombay proposing to catalogue libraries, those were provided with books copies that were published using the money meant for encouraging literary works. The presidency towns of Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras had public libraries in the initial years of 1900s which were funded by foreigners living in these three towns. Among them the public library of Calcutta was the most important and it was established in 1835. The public library of Calcutta subsequently developed into the country's National Library. Soon after the public libraries were established several cities developed subscription libraries. These were not truly public libraries as books were provided only after paying a subscription. They were more on lines of private libraries as they catered to small section of society and had collection based on their requirements.

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The golden era in the history of Indian libraries was during the first thirty years of twentieth century. The Imperial Library Act was implemented on 31 January 1902 and in 1906 as a result of this Act, the Calcutta Public Library was transformed into the Imperial Library by Lord Curzon. Some of the noticeable developments took place in Baroda as well. The years that followed had several noteworthy events in the history of library of India. These events were as follows:

- In 1914 the foremost conference of library workers and persons involved in the library movement was organised at Bezwada in Andhra Pradesh.
- In 1918 the, “All India Library Conference of Librarians” took place for the first time in Lahore.
- In 1933, “All India Library Conference” was organised for the first time in Calcutta in 1933.
- In 1934 the “All India Public Library Conference” took place in Madras.

The second phase of library movement is said to begin in 1937, by now most provinces had democratic governments. This period saw the establishment of several libraries in villages of Assam, Bihar, and Punjab; the period also saw setting up of travel libraries for villages with very small population. By the year 1942 libraries had been set up in nearly 13,000 villages. One more noteworthy taken by Government of Bombay was the setting up of the development committee for libraries and A.A.A. Fyzee was appointed as the chairman of this committee. The Committee optimistically suggested a broad library system which was going to be executed in three consecutive stages. Due to lack of funds the government was able to execute the system partially and only few of the recommendations were adapted.

The growth of libraries continued in the post-independence years though India had lots to catch to be able to come at par with the other nation’s public libraries. India witnessed several challenges during the years after independence. Most of the country’s population lived in villages and they were not educated. The means of communication and system of transportation were severely underdeveloped. In spite of all these issues the period saw a growth in the numbers of public libraries. There were nearly 950 public libraries which consisted of a reading room and couple of hundred books collection along with this there were over 1500 subscription libraries.

At this point it is essential to mention the Delhi public library which was established in 1951 as a joint venture of UNESCO’s pilot project of public library along with the efforts of Indian Government. The main aim of the joint venture library was to incorporate latest techniques into the Indian set up. The library was also meant to be Asia’s model public library. The main factors which contributed towards improving the state of public libraries post-independence could be pointed towards the union government taking a keen interest in the development of the Delhi Public Library, and moreover the initiation of several legislations of public library further helped the cause and enabled the setting up of libraries in few of the

states. Even though the Indian government allocated resources for development of public library development in the five-year plans, these developments were not dependent on the five-year plan to become effective.

3.4 GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

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Library and Information Science (LIS) the joint terminology is related with institutes of library and information science it is abbreviated as “SLIS”. By the later part of twentieth century schools of librarianship, had mostly advanced from specialized training programs into university institutions with the addition of the word “information science” in the same context. In 1964 the University of Pittsburgh took this initiative. In the coming years several other in America followed suit and by 1990s most schools had incorporated the word “information science” along with Library. This was not just limited to the academic scene of America and was happening in other parts of the world as well. In 1997 the Royal School of Librarianship in Denmark had altered its name to the “Royal School of Library and Information Science”. Though there were countries like Norway, France and Sweden who did not incorporate information science along with library, the two are interrelated disciplines in their curriculum. In recent times there is a tendency to combine the two terms together and refer them as department of information or I-schools. There have been efforts to resuscitate the conception of documentation and to refer it as Library, information and documentation science.

Progresses in digital world have led to publishing information with the help of electronic resources. This is also the preferred mode of communication of the intellectuals in present times. The fast success of such technologies has resulted in developing various means of resources such as databases, e-journals, e-books, reports of project, material for lecture, study materials, Web pages, etc., are obtainable in digital format. These are handled and controlled by the libraries and information centres so that users are able to get information that they require. Along with these various libraries are providing several other resources in order to meet the informational request of the users. The professionals in the field of LIS are constantly faced with challenges to handle the swiftly expanding variety of the resources in electronic media. As a result, there is a pressing need to develop fresh tools all the time.

3.4.1 Main Objective of Library and Information Centre

The LIS is thriving so that it is able to provide the users with the necessary information. The library information centres are committed to provide the following objectives:

- To construct a resilient assemblage of facts in relevant fields
- Guarantee a copy of valid publication to every library and information centre to be used by the experts and policy planners.

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- Create a catalogue for official use in the discipline.
- To recognize the users of information and provide valid info
- Founding of lending library service at national level
- Providing better computer facilities so that information is gathered and retrieved at a fast pace.
- To deliver computer created SDI services all over the country.
- Offer services for translations
- Establish co-operation with various countries and global organisations
- Ensure that the publishers provide minimum two copies of a publication.

Check Your Progress

3. When was the Imperial Library Act implemented?
4. Who started the Delhi public library?

3.5 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. The earliest public library of United States was established in 1833 at Peterborough, New Hampshire.
2. The year 1845 is important in the histories of libraries in UK because the year brought the dream of establishing libraries for public a step closer to reality after the Museum Act was passed.
3. The Imperial Library Act was implemented on 31 January 1902 and in 1906 as a result of this Act, the Calcutta Public Library was transformed into the Imperial Library by Lord Curzon.
4. The Delhi public library was a joint venture of UNESCO's pilot project of public library along with the efforts of Indian Government.

3.6 SUMMARY

- The history of libraries can be traced along with the history of writing. Some of the historians assumed that advent of library helped in recording the history of humans.
- The age of modern enlightenment as a result of the Renaissance and other movements led to the development of libraries which were not religious spread in all parts of Europe.
- The circumstance that public had open access to libraries had made a mark in its history. They played an important role in enabling people to get information about various topics and subjects.

- In spite of the advent of digital techniques to provide content the role of libraries and its staff has not been undermined. They have managed to survive by modifying the manner in which they function.
- The history of libraries of America can be traced back to 1698 with the setting up Parish Library at the Parsonage of St. Philip Church in Charleston.
- In 1720s Benjamin Franklin initiated setting up of social libraries for the purpose of meeting people socially and holding debates.
- The earliest public library of United States was established in 1833 at Peterborough, New Hampshire.
- Andrew Carnegie holds a significant place in the history of American libraries; he was responsible for funding several public libraries all over the country.
- The American Library Association came into existence in 1876. The year is remembered as an important year in the American library history, besides the formulation of the association the year also marks the founding of American Library Journal.
- United Kingdom is considered to be forerunner of libraries. Reverend Thomas Bray established Parish libraries for people of all classes.
- A landmark in the history of libraries of UK was created by Reverend of East Lothians, Samuel Brown, he formulated the scheme for travel-libraries so that books were available for each village for a period of two years and then the library would travel to its next destination.
- The year 1845 brought the dream of establishing libraries for public a step closer to reality after the Museum Act was passed.
- Andrew Carnegie is regarded as a prominent figure in the history of libraries of UK as well. He made monetary contributions which helped to fund several libraries.
- The libraries have been a part of the Indian society from ancient period. Most of these libraries existed with the support of the royal families and intellectual people of the time.
- The Nalanda University is known for its well-stocked library, there was a large collection of manuscripts on varied topics, providing knowledge about ancient times. The libraries during those times were not open to common man as they were meant for scholars.
- According to the Sinha Committee the first phase of developing public libraries in India started in 1808, with the Government of Bombay proposing to catalogue libraries, those were provided with books copies that were published using the money meant for encouraging literary works.
- The second phase of library movement is said to begin in 1937, by now most provinces had democratic governments.

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- The growth of libraries continued in the post-independence years though India had lots to catch to be able to come at par with the other nation's public libraries.
- Library and information science (LIS), the joint terminology, is related with institutes of library and information science.
- The LIS is thriving so that it is able to provide the users with the necessary information.

3.7 KEY WORDS

- **Document:** It means to record (something) in written, photographic, or other form.
- **Scholars:** It means a person who is highly educated or has an aptitude for study.

3.8 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. Briefly discuss the general history of library, its inception and development.
2. Explain the functioning of libraries and their history in UK.
3. Write a short note on growth and development of library and information science.
4. What is the main objective of library and information centre?

Long-Answer Questions

1. Discuss the history of libraries in USA in detail.
2. Give a detailed explanation about the history of libraries in India.

3.9 FURTHER READINGS

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BLOCK - II
TYPES OF LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY
LEGISLATION

Importance of Libraries

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UNIT 4 IMPORTANCE OF
LIBRARIES

Structure

- 4.0 Introduction
- 4.1 Objectives
- 4.2 Functions and Importance of Libraries
- 4.3 Types of Libraries
 - 4.3.1 Public Library
 - 4.3.2 Academic Library
 - 4.3.3 Special Library
- 4.4 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 4.5 Summary
- 4.6 Key Words
- 4.7 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 4.8 Further Readings

4.0 INTRODUCTION

Libraries are often referred to as a knowledge stock-house which is at service of the users. The information about the human knowledge is documented and conserved using various means. The American Library Association has defined the character of libraries as “access to information” and “equity of access”. Till recent past all written and printed paper documents were regarded as prime means of information, this notion has changed due to the advancement in the field of electronic hypermedia. This has become the medium of storing and relaying information in the modern libraries. The method of preserving and circulating information is common among all types of libraries whether public, national or academic. The purpose of libraries since ancient times continues to be same it just that their way of functioning is no longer same. With the evolution in human civilizations the libraries have also evolved. In its quest to survive in the technically advanced atmosphere it is imperative for the libraries to also adapt. In order to adapt to modern needs different types of libraries have also developed to suit the needs of specific users.

4.1 OBJECTIVES

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After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Discuss the functions and importance of library
- Describe the types of libraries
- Explain the functions of public library, academic library and special library

4.2 FUNCTIONS AND IMPORTANCE OF LIBRARIES

Libraries as a source of knowledge and information are considered to be indispensable. They are essential for the overall development of individuals. In today's competitive society libraries are expected to keep up with the increasing demand of individuals seeking information so that they are able to keep up with the completion. It is essential to be knowledgeable about various topics apart from the educational qualifications. Giving out correct information to the seeker at the time of need is the basic task of all libraries and centres of information. In other words in a society the library is an organization for disseminating information. The elementary task of library is to educate people. They are needed in the today's social system for educating the people in a broader sense. They act as a support system for the educational system as Libraries promote both formal as well as in-formal learning. They assist people to undertake research programs, opportunity for cultural activities, cultivating hobbies and recreational activities, provide spiritual solace to people. There has been enormous advancement in means information and technology and this has led to an increase in the number and variety of users.

Even in the present scenario of increasing informational demands, the libraries have been able to perform their basic functions to the fullest of their efficiency. In spite of the technological advancements the users rely on libraries to provide them with information and libraries have always thrived to meet their demand and supplied the required input.

The primary job of the libraries since its advent has been to collect all the recorded information and store so that the users can use it as and when they require. The librarians have been instrumental in gathering the information from various sources available all around the world. It is through their hard work the library can manage to have a rich collection of information. The rich collection is stored in hard bound books at the various national libraries all around the world. They provide the cultural heritage of various countries. The paper printed resources are joined with the digital content to suit the needs of all kinds of users.

The library staff helps in preserving centuries old information for people to use in present time but they are ensuring that the future generation will also be able to use it. Librarians have evolved effective methods for not only restoring but also assembling, consolidating, stocking, and preserving the various means of digital services.

The enormous information available in the library will be of no use to people if it is not properly classified and catalogued. The library resources will be useful only if the users can use it without wasting time. Quick delivery of information has been another essential function of the library. The librarians are constantly helping the users to seek their information. They use different methods of classification so that detailed catalogues can be prepared. The librarians are committed towards serving their users. They are constantly trying to develop new ways of searching data with the help of the internet.

The libraries will be useful only if they perform all their functions effectively. In order to perform their functions well they need have an efficient force of workers. The library will be of no use if their staff is unable to fulfil the request of the users. They have to be able to provide the reference material and the tools for bibliography so that the users are guided towards the information they require. Librarians are on the whole dedicated towards guiding the users and enabling them to gain knowledge with the information they require.

The functions of the library have undergone a change due to the advancement in the system of digital communication. One of the prime functions of libraries in present circumstances is to incorporate these advancements into the functioning so that they can continue to satisfy the needs of their users. The modern users are keener to use the digital form of information therefore the libraries must make provisions for effective internet connections and computer facilities. The libraries have to invest so that the e-books and e-journals can be made available to the users. The staff of the libraries also has to be trained so that they are able to guide the users. The influence of technological advancement is visible in the way the libraries have adopted the Online Public Access Catalogue and done away with the old card catalogue. The libraries are gradually replacing the paper printed collection with digital content like the e-books. This change over is comparatively more visible in the category of special libraries, a good example of a completely digital library is Corbis.com of Microsoft. The entire collection is digital.

According to a write up of Michael Levy in Newsweek's January 2000 issue, by 2020 ninety percent of the books would be e-books. It is obvious that such remarks make the existence of library doubtful in the years to come. Richard Lanham has well summed up such insecurities in his book titled as, "The Electronic Word" he has stated "*the library world feels dépaysé today... Both of its*

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physical entities, the buildings and the books they contain, can no longer form the basis for planning”.

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The cost of building and operating a library is very high. Most of the developed libraries are overflowing with books and in fact running short of space; at such times the e-books and e-journals seem to be an answer to all problems. It seems that soon the libraries will begin to feature only on the internet and would not have a physical structure. These apprehensions and advances are compelling librarians to sensibly evaluate the importance of library in present scenario. The new space for libraries is not in form of a solid concrete structure but on a computer with its vast collection of electronic books and journals. The new space for library will result in changing the role of the librarians as well. Most of their old task will no longer be relevant. The new library will not be required to function as a link between people and knowledge as they will have access to all kind of information on the internet. The modern users are highly urbane and very demanding who are looking for prompt delivery of information. The librarians who are able to keep up with this kind of clientele will be able to survive in the new library space.

Although it is obvious that the future libraries will be very different from the current ones, the exact picture is still not clear. The changeover might not be the same at all places. The Indian system is still struggling to match the recent developments, but what is certain that the ones who are not able to keep up will be out of the race. Either the libraries will create a new space for themselves or they will become redundant. Majority of the people hold the opinion that libraries are an essential part of the society as they have been for past so many centuries. The way the librarians had managed to preserve knowledge for so many years they will continue to do so even if it is no longer paper printed.

4.3 TYPES OF LIBRARIES

People in today's time are constantly seeking information about various topics in order to learn and experience new things, the libraries have to function efficiently so that they are able to meet the demands of such varied users. The advancement in the categories of users has resulted in development of libraries which try to satisfy users of different categories.

Conferring to the approach of facilities provided; libraries are generally of three types:

- Public Library
- Academic Library
- Special Library

4.3.1 Public Library

A public library may also be referred to as a circulating library. As the name suggest it is a library which is meant for public use. The library is funded with the help of money paid by people as tax. The library is open to every individual who wishes to use its services. The civil servants sometimes manage the library. The local, state or central government looks after its functioning.

According to Dr S.R Ranganathan the goals and functions of public library are as follows:

- Assist in self-education of every individual which may continue for a long period.
- Provide updated information and knowledge on varied subjects for all to use.
- Dissimilate neutral and sane information to all maintaining the political sentiments of national as well as international standards.
- Providing relevant information to researchers so that they can develop new concepts.
- Safeguard the human thoughts of ancient people so that they can be used as foundation of future researches.
- Provide a venue for recreation
- Cultivate the habit of reading among individuals for social good.

Dr Ranganathan's list was all-encompassing as he regarded public libraries to function as a social institution.

In 1971 the functions of public library were listed by the London's Public Library Research Group as well as the Library Association of United Kingdom in the following areas:

Functions as Source of Education: Nurture and provide avenues for individual's personal development at every stage of life.

Providing individuals with all the stored knowledge about their past.

Function as Source of Information: To provide individuals with correct and profound information promptly on various topics of past and present.

Function as a Source of Cultural development: To cultivate cultural activities and allow activities to be organised which help in developing culture.

Functions as a Source of Leisure: Public Libraries encourage people to spend their leisure time in a positive manner as they can relax by reading a book.

These objectives became the fundamental functions of most Public Libraries since they had been formulated. On the same lines the American Library Association

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had also listed the services which should be undertaken by the public libraries, these are:

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- Help in providing people education apart from their formal education.
- Help them to develop their knowledge in fields which are not a part of the formal education.
- Help everyone to attain the information they are seeking
- Encourage not just educational knowledge but inculcate social knowledge as well. To promote positive recreational activities.

The public libraries have to perform the following three crucial functions according to The Public Library Enquiry Committee of United Kingdom:

- To collect resources to stimulate a progressive public spirit and improve individual's personal life.
- To offer trustworthy information to people of the society
- Enable individual to educate themselves on various topics.

After going through the functions of Public Library as listed by various personalities and organisations it will not be wrong to regard them as an institute which performs as an intellectual dynamo determined to provide the rational, scholastic, diverting, and cultural necessities of individuals. The list of functions provided above can be summarised as:

- **The Public Libraries act as centres for Self-Education:** The basic function of a public library is to provide information to its users who wish to enhance their knowledge about topics which may not be a part of their formal education. This helps in personal development of people at various stages of life. The library is stocked up with information on various topics which are at the disposal of all individuals at free of cost. This type of learning can take place at any age of the individual and continue for as long as desired. The individual is able to use the services of library without restriction of their status, educational background, religion or caste. Public libraries are often referred to as university of the people as their services are open to all. They help in supporting formal education imparted at various educational institutes as well. People can use the library to enhance their professional or vocational knowledge as well.
- **Avenue for Learning for Life:** There is no age to acquire knowledge; public libraries continue to provide knowledge to people even after their formal education is over. People who wish to enhance their general or vocational knowledge can easily do so at the public libraries. In some ways they also act as centres for adult education. People are able to

learn new things without paying any fees hence all sections of society can benefit from these lifelong centres of education. The libraries are stocked with information on varied topics concerning various fields. The libraries have reading material for individuals who have lost their vision in form of braille books and also books with an audio.

- **Public Library is Community Centre of Information:** The libraries provide information for all members of a community. They help in giving updated information in various fields. The library helps in acting as social centres also as people from different walks of life interact with each other. Some of the rural public libraries provide specific information like enlightening people about the various job opportunities, how farmers can procure good quality seeds or acquire farming loans.
- **Centres for Recreation:** Libraries encourage people to spend their leisure time constructively. The collection at the library caters to needs of various types of interest. The libraries also organise talks and lectures on various social issues, performances for art and culture are also organised at the library. Few libraries have special space of children where they are able to watch story CDs or hear the audio of their favourite story or rhyme. Learning is made into a fun activity for children as well as adults. As a vigorous institution, its extents are till homes of its users. The libraries have branches, mobile book vans and deposit stations at public places, jail, hospitals, and old homes, etc. The public library of Delhi (DPL) consists of one central library, one zonal library, three branch libraries, twenty-four sub-branch libraries, three community libraries, twelve libraries at resettlement colonies, one library with braille facility, seventy points of mobile service and twenty-two depositing stations. Therefore, its services are spread all over the city and serves as an effective recreational centre.
- **Acts as the Society's Cultural Centre:** The library houses material and resources which have great cultural value. There are not only books which exhibit the culture of the past but also paintings, art work, sculptures, musical instruments in the library. The libraries have also become a venue for organising various cultural events like state festivals, art shows or conducting of speeches and lectures. During earlier times in UK the libraries and museums were housed in the same buildings as both were regarded as custodians of cultural heritage.
- **Act as Centres for Supporting Economic Development:** Libraries have always been promoters of self-education, this helps in people to develop various vocational skills which complement their formal

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education and provide them with better job opportunities. They also help in providing specific information for various businesses and manufacturing, for instance information regarding all business houses is available at the library in the directory of businesses, city guide, job and vocation information guide, handbooks about setting up of small businesses, etc. Such inputs come handy for people seeking specific information.

- **Helps in Overall Development of Skills:** Public libraries may be regarded as centres which help in developing skills. The information helps in enhancing the knowledge and awareness of people. In today's competitive society it helps to have extra knowledge about various topics as it gives the required edge and provides better job opportunities. Educated population helps in socio-economic development of the country. The public libraries need to provide assistance and training with the help of its Information Literacy Program in information search and eminence ranking of available sources of information. In view of this most public libraries are provided with an internal team for conducting this program. They are able to provide training to people as per their needs. Many Online lessons and tests have been established and are available on the library's website.
- **Centre for Reinforcement of Spirit of Democracy:** Well-read population will fully be able to understand the relevance of concepts like democracy. The libraries are for the public's free usage irrespective of their background, caste or religion. They are established on the principle of equality hence work towards promoting it as well. The information is available on various topics of varied disciplines. People of different cultures use the library and interact with others hence the library acts as a centre which encourages people to behave in a democratic manner. It offers an extensive range of material for reading which helps in broadening the view point of the individuals. People not only become aware about their rights but also realise the importance of rights of others. The libraries enrich the lives of its users by letting them have free and equal right to use information. They bring people of different sections on common ground and make them learn about each other's cultural values and also to respect them.

4.3.2 Academic Library

Libraries which are established along with an educational institution such a school, college or a university are referred to as academic libraries. They are mostly used by students, teachers, researches, academics, instructors and employees of the

educational institution. The chief objective behind their establishment is to provide ample amount of relevant information, material and resources to its users so that they are able to perform well throughout their semesters. Academic libraries are mostly divided into three categories namely, school libraries, college libraries and university libraries.

School Library: The library in schools, functions as an extended classroom for students. It caters to all the subjects which are a part of the curriculum. As a result, provides full support to the educational efforts of the teachers. The school library provides reference material for topics of the curriculum as well as works of other famous personalities in the literary world. The students can benefit from the libraries vast collection. The primary function of the school library is to accomplish the educational goals but along with that it helps in overall development of students as it offers them reading material which triggers their thinking process and makes them discover new interests. The students are able to utilize the library to do research work for their assignments or even for self-study.

College Library: Colleges have an essential task in the process of education. The college library provides support for accomplishment of this task. Unlike school, college curriculum is not supported with prescribed textbooks. The students are provided with a list of reference books which the professors suggest after each lecture. The reference books suggested to the students are available in the college library. Hence the library acts as a book-bank for students in order to prepare their notes. It acts as an extension to the lecture as the students are able to refer to books and prepare their notes. The lectures in class do not provide detailed information; the library also performs as an instrument for teaching a topic in detail. In order to fully support the student's efforts, the library needs to be well equipped with material and resources. The professors should make sure that the reference material they suggest in class is available in the library for students to refer. The library of a college is sometimes the source of its recognition as well. A college library is the life-line of the students which not only helps them to achieve their objectives but abreast them about the objectives of the college as well. A college library should be able to support all the programmes which are offered by the college. It needs to provide material to students of various disciples.

Technology will continue to change, and the academic libraries and librarians have to use the changing technology to provide the best access and service to their users. IT enhances access to information and provides new opportunities for the academic libraries. The academic libraries themselves are not only equipped with the various IT based resources but also provide their users with IT based services. The academic library's role could include: create, manage and make available a broad range of instructional materials to support teaching activities. Keeping up

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with the new trends in ICT is also a paramount importance. LIS professional need vision for the modern professional skills and technological competencies in order to have bright future in the 21st century. So, the essential future vision of the academic library professional is to achieve the necessary information transformation and to face the digital information needs of the user.

University Library: The most prominent element of the university is a well-equipped library. There can be no university without a library as it acts as a pillar of support. The library is a fundamental part of a university. It is not only used by the students, but it acts as an important resource for the lectures, teachers and employees of the university. The collection of the university library is much larger than a college library as it provides support to numerous colleges. The university library's functions may be compared with that of a national library of a country, it is not only an image enhancing structure but performs the task of providing all types of reading material, archives of researches undertaken, etc. The students rely on getting reference material which they are not able to attain at their college libraries. The university libraries are often compared with public libraries, the main difference between the two is that the collection of the public libraries is based on general topics of every field whereas a university library though provides a vast collection, but it is focused on academic material of various fields. They cater to the needs of students and faculty members who are pursuing PhDs or undertaking research work.

The primary functions of all three categories of academic library may be summed up as follows:

- To offer an ambience that enables the students to undertake self-study. The library also functions as a space for faculty members to prepare for their lecture.
- To encourage research work and make available all essential material required for the research such as the catalogues, memoirs dictionaries, summaries and links of the web which help the students to undertake detailed research.
- To support the classroom learning by providing adequate reference material at the library.
- The purpose of education is not just to learn facts given by scholars and in the books; it is more about training the mind to think. The libraries help to stimulate the thinking process of the students.
- Library helps the students to become aware about the new developments in various fields especially science and technology.

- The academic libraries act as training centres for students to use libraries in future during their adult life. They not only teach them the library etiquette but also help them to be orientated with the functioning of a library.

Every learning surrounding is hallmarked by its library. The academic libraries act as a warehouse of knowledge which supports all learning endeavours of students as well as the teachers.

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4.3.3 Special Library

Special library has become popular in recent past. They began to be formed in the starting of twentieth century for the purpose of serving specific groups. Several individual organisations such as employees of a governmental department, big business house, or people from the medical or law fraternity and other professionals felt the need to establish libraries which provided information focusing on their field. These libraries came up not only to support the learning process of the members but also promote research work and provide essential information for the same. Special libraries began to feature during this period as a result of the industrial development and progress and improvement in the information technology. The need for gathering specialised 20th century with the development of industrial, technological and scientific knowledge added a much-needed stimulus for their expansion.

These libraries collect the latest and detailed information about the required subject and store it for their users. The associated people are able to get required input about their field from their library. They not only provide information about developments which have taken place but also have a collection on the future developments which could be promoted in the field. Consequently, providing scope for research work which may lead to further advancements.

The American Library Association (ALA) glossary of library and Information Science has defined a special library as - “a library established, supported and administered by a business firm, private corporation, association, government agency, or other special interest group of agency to meet the information needs of its members or staff in pursuing the goals of the organization. Scope of collections and services is limited to the subject interest of the host or parent organization.”

The Harrods Librarian Glossary has defined special library as- “A library or information center, maintained by an individual, corporation, association, government agency or any other groups; or, a specialized or departmental collection within a library.”

The chief objectives of establishing a special library are listed below:

- It attends to the informational requirements of the organising group.

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- It distributes latest and relevant information in the field of concern for the members
- It promptly provides the required information
- It collects and stores information which is relevant for the members anticipating their demands.
- The updated info highlights scope for future developments which promote research work.

Functions of Special Library

The primary functions of a special library consist of the following:

- The library is responsible for selecting and gathering all the essential information for its members.
- The information is systematically catalogued and classified so that it can be conveniently used by the members.
- The library staff is responsible for subscribing to various magazines and journals associated with the field.
- It offers the users with the services of indexing and abstracting so that their time is not wasted.
- The users can use the referral facilities by calling the library or get material delivered through email or postal service. They need not physically come to the library on all occasions.
- The library makes the members aware about all the latest additions and updated services.
- It offers the services of supplying selective information as per the requirements of the users. The library's Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) allows the users access info as per their choice and requirement.
- It provides delivery services for the documents requested by the users.
- It library circulate printed reports on weekly or monthly basis so that the latest information can catch the attention of the users plus they become aware about latest additions.
- The library offers services of translation so that the members are able to receive information in their preferred language.
- The libraries offer all latest means of receiving information. The libraries are equipped with internet facilities at the library and members can access the catalogue through the internet from their offices or homes.

- The library staff helps the member by researching for information they are seeking.
- It assembles bibliographies, combines catalogues, prepares the documentation list, save newspaper-cuttings so that members are able to promptly receive information they are seeking.
- The library allows borrowing of material between libraries if the information required by the member cannot be provided from in-house material.

Special Library functions as a library as well as an information centre for its members. It may be established and maintained by an organisation, governmental department, an individual or a business house. The library could be an independent institution or part of a department within a library. The collection of books and material of a special library is well thought out content by its members as well as its creators.

Nature of Content of a Special Library will be based on following aspects:

- The content should be as per the nature of the parent organisation and pertaining to its field.
- The content should be procured as per the objectives of the library.
- The collection of the library must include all relevant material of the past and present along with future possibilities. The information has to be precise and detailed about the concerning topics.
- The collection should be decided by a committee which takes input from the members and developers.

Check Your Progress

1. What is the primary job of libraries?
2. Name the three types of libraries.
3. State one crucial function of public libraries.
4. Define special library.

4.4 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. The primary job of the libraries since its advent has been to collect all the recorded information and store so that the users can use it as and when they require.
2. The three types of libraries are public library, academic library and special library.

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3. One crucial function of public libraries is to collect resources to stimulate a progressive public spirit and improve individual's personal life.
4. A special library is a library or information centre, maintained by an individual, corporation, association, government agency or any other groups; or, a specialized or departmental collection within a library.

4.5 SUMMARY

- In today's competitive society, libraries are expected to keep up with the increasing demand of individuals seeking information so that they are able to keep up with the completion.
- The primary job of the libraries since its advent has been to collect all the recorded information and store so that the users can use it as and when they require.
- The functions of the library have undergone a change due to the advancement in the system of digital communication.
- One of the prime functions of libraries in present circumstances is to incorporate these advancements into the functioning so that they can continue to satisfy the needs of their users.
- According to a write up of Michael Levy in Newsweek's January 2000 issue, by 2020 ninety percent of the books would be e-books.
- Richard Lanham has well summed up such insecurities in his book titled as, "The Electronic Word" he has stated "*the library world feels dépaycé today. ... Both of its physical entities, the buildings and the books they contain, can no longer form the basis for planning*".
- Conferring to the approach of facilities provided; libraries are generally of three types: Public, Academic and Special.
- The establishment of a national library in any country is undertaken by its government. It is meant to work as a source of information provider for the country.
- A public library may also be referred to as a circulating library. As the name suggest it is a library which is meant for public use.
- Libraries which are established along with an educational institution such a school, college or a university are referred to as academic libraries. They are mostly used by students, teachers, researches, academics, instructors and employees of the educational institution.

- Special library has become popular in recent past. They began to be formed in the starting of twentieth century for the purpose of serving specific groups. These libraries collect the latest and detailed information about the required subject and store it for their users. The associated people are able to get required input about their field from their library.
- The Harrods Librarian Glossary has defined special library as- “A library or information center, maintained by an individual, corporation, association, government agency or any other groups; or, a specialized or departmental collection within a library.”
- Special Library functions as a library as well as an information centre for its members. It may be established and maintained by an organisation, governmental department, an individual or a business house.

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4.6 KEY WORDS

- **Glossary:** It refers to an alphabetical list of words relating to a specific subject, text, or dialect, with explanations; a brief dictionary.
- **Disseminate:** It means to spread (something, especially information) widely.
- **Education:** It is the process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, especially at a school or university.

4.7 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. What are the objectives of establishing Public Libraries?
2. How have the functions of library undergone a change with the advancement of technology?

Long-Answer Questions

1. Explain the functions of various types of libraries in detail. Also describe the objectives of each in detail.
2. What do you understand by academic library? Discuss its various categories.

4.8 FURTHER READINGS

Pandey, D. K. 2004. *Library And Information Science*. New Delhi: Atlantic Publishers & Distributors (P) Ltd.

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UNIT 5 NATIONAL LIBRARIES

Structure

- 5.0 Introduction
- 5.1 Objectives
- 5.2 National Library-India
 - 5.2.1 Origin of the National Library
 - 5.2.2 Functions and Duties of the National Library
- 5.3 National Library-USA
 - 5.3.1 Origin of the National Library
 - 5.3.2 Functions and the Duties of the National Library
- 5.4 National Library-United Kingdom
 - 5.4.1 Origin of the National Library of United Kingdom
 - 5.4.2 Functions and Duties of National Library
- 5.5 National Library-Russia
 - 5.5.1 Origin of the National Library of Russia
 - 5.5.2 Functions and Duties of the National Library
- 5.6 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 5.7 Summary
- 5.8 Key Words
- 5.9 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 5.10 Further Readings

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5.0 INTRODUCTION

National libraries of any country are established with the aim of collecting, preserving and promoting the literature and treasure of writings and knowledge with the public and the nation's history and culture in mind. The readers of the library are from different walks of life with various interest and requirements. The library is equipped with staff which is suitably qualified to assist the variety of readers and safely maintain the collection of the national library of the country. These collections may be in varied forms including audio/music, electronic documents, maps, archives, manuscripts, etc. They become the official repositories of providing culture, literary and educational information about the nation and beyond.

5.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Discuss origin and functions of National Library in India
- Explain role of National Library in USA
- Describe National Library in UK and Russia and explain their functions

5.2 NATIONAL LIBRARY-INDIA

This section will discuss the inception and functions of National Library in India.

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5.2.1 Origin of the National Library

The Calcutta Public Library was established in 1836 in a building which housed the residence of Dr Francis Pemble Strong, he was the civil Surgeon of 24 Parganas in Bengal. The then public library held a significant place in the history of Indian library movement. The Sub Librarian during that time Mr. Peary Chand Mitra was appointed as the Librarian in 1848, he was instrumental in printing the Calcutta Public Library's Catalogue. He was also responsible for the Classified Catalogue's supplementary volume. It was initiated by him for the first time in 1855.

In the quest to develop a superior library, in 1902 Lord Curzon implemented the Imperial Library Act under which the Calcutta's Public Library with its rich resources was amalgamated with the Imperial Library. In 1903 the library was open to general public and at the opening Lord Curzon made a statement which highlighted the nature of the library as, 'It is intended that it should be a library of reference, a working place for students, and a repository of material for the future historians of India, in which, so far as possible, every work written about India at any time can be seen and read.'

In 1948 after India became independent, the Imperial Library Act was conceded, and the Calcutta Public Library was bestowed with a new identity, under the Article 62 of the Act in the Seventh Schedule of the Union List of the Constitution of India it was recognised as the National Library of India. The library was accorded a special status and BS Kesavan was chosen as the first librarian of the National Library. He was influential in changing the venue of the library to Belvedere House which was the residence of the viceroy and later the governor's residence, located in Alipore. This became the new home of the national library and continues to house the library today. In February 1953 the Union Minister of that time Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, made the library open to general public.

The functions of the library were initially not well defined as a result for more than two decades it followed the functions of the Imperial Library. Although efforts were made to build the collection of the library so that it could be the national reservoir of books. As per the orders of the Indian Government all books in the princely states that had been collected under the Press and Registration of Books Act of 1867 were shifted to the National Library. In 1954 the Public Libraries Delivery of Books Act was initiated which empowered the four main public libraries of the country to procure books without paying from various publisher in India. In 1956 the Act was revised so that it could include all the bulletin publication as well as the newspaper. In order to procure material for the library the government of India signed cultural agreements with other countries so as to

encourage exchange of books and material. By doing this the library's collection not only included significant works of the nation but also international works became a part of the collection. The Library acted as source of publications of all countries of the Commonwealth, UN and several other organisations.

The Government of India selected a National Library Reviewing Committee in 1968. The committee was appointed in order to review the working of the library and formally outline the primary functions of the library. Justice V.S. Jha was appointed as the chairman of the committee. The Committee listed the primary functions of the National Library in its report which was submitted for governmental review on 14 July 1969. The functions outlined in the report were agreed by the Government of India. Since then the library operates on the basis of those listed in the report.

5.2.2 Functions and Duties of the National Library

The National Library functions as a perpetual repository of every single reading and information materials created in the country. It also is the source of every work which is printed by an Indian author and also works which are about India but created by non-Indian authors which may not be published in India. The work could be in any language. The Library houses a vast collection of books in various languages besides English. The library also encompasses multilingual ancient manuscripts and exceptional books, some of them are in Sanskrit and Persian.

The following functions were listed in the committee report of 1969:

- Attainment and preservation of all important published resources created in India. The library retains all the original works not the translations of the same.
- The library houses all the published work which is based on India. It does not matter which language and where it has been published. The library acquires graphic record of these materials which are unavailable in the country
- Attainment and preservation of manuscripts which have information relevant to the country
- Deliberate attainment of essential international material which is of any relevance to India
- Providing services of bibliography and classification for all types of material
- Acts as centre for reference to the citizens of the country. It has a duty to provide and circulate correct information about the sources of the material.
- Provides the facility of copying and reprographic
- Functions as a source of exchanging and loaning of international books

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Since 1969 the above mentioned have formed the general framework of the functions and duties of the National Library of India.

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5.3 NATIONAL LIBRARY-USA

The Library of Congress (LOC) is regarded as the de facto National Library of United States of America. The LOC is the research library of United States Congress and provides all the essential information during its functioning. There is an ongoing debate about the status of LOC as the National Library; this is because there is no legal document which confers it as the National Library. Besides the legal document all its other features affirm it as the national library, it is America's oldest federal cultural institute. The Library occupies three buildings at Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. The National Audio-Visual Conservation Centre situated in Culpeper is also maintained by the LOC.

5.3.1 Origin of the National Library

The Library of Congress is regarded as one of the world's largest library. The collection of the library is very vast and covers universal subjects. It is not restricted to specific fields, pattern or national topics. The library provides material for research pertaining to different parts of the world and in different languages; the reading material is available in over four hundred languages. The Library of Congress relocated to Washington in 1800. It was initially based in New York City and Philadelphia the provisional national capitals of that time. The Library was situated in the United States Capitol almost throughout the nineteenth century till the initial 1890s. Major part of the actual collection of the library was lost in 1814 because of the war with British and it was only after 1815 the library began to rebuild its collection. Full private collection of 6,487 books of Thomas Jefferson was procured by the library.

The gradual development of the library faced another blow in 1851 when fire broke out in the Capitol chambers. Several books were destroyed as a result of the fire. These also included the newly acquired collection from Jefferson. The years after the Civil War, the LOC developed at a fast pace not only in collection size but also its relevance within America and internationally. The books were procured to rebuild the collection. The Library acquired the right of transfer of all works which could be copyrighted; the library had to be provided with two copies of printed books, maps, graphics, and in-house printed drawings. It also started to shape its collections, and its growth spanned over a period of six years. By 1894 a newly constructed building was ready to house the extensive library.

5.3.2 Functions and the Duties of the National Library

The basic task of the library is to meet the informational demand of the Congress. The research work is undertaken by a duly assigned body, the Congressional Research Service.

The Library allows general public to visit the library, but the books and material can be used by senior officials of the government and library staff.

The library has three primary functions besides the service to the Congress.

- The primary task of the library is to build a collection which includes all significant works about America.
- The second task of the library is to have control over the country's bibliography.
- The library's third important function is to have control over international bibliography. This empowers them to locate and acquire info from overseas users. It is essential that the national library and the overseas user have the same system of cataloguing for using the information.

The Library functions as a repository of legal matters such as the protection of copyright and registration of copyright, the library is used as a source for the United States Copyright Office. Notwithstanding if an author registers for their copyright, the publishers have to supply the library with two entire copies of the author's published work. This is compulsory under the law and is called a mandatory deposit. The library receives approximately 15,000 original works every single working day. The library only includes about eighty percent of what it receives into its collection. The items which are not included in library's collection is sent as exchange works to other international libraries or put to other use like giving to agencies where it will be more relevant, the school library or community libraries are happy to receive them. Though the library does retain the English language works which are considered important. The collection at the Library of Congress is so vast that it is believed to fill up bookshelves which may cover a distance of 1,349 km in comparison to British Library which is about 624 km long. The Library of Congress embraces over 167 million items in over 39 million books and printed materials; the British Library is not far behind as it has about 150 million items covered in 25 million books. According to a study conducted by two information scientists Peter Lyman and Hal Varian in 2000 revealed that the volume of textual data which is not compressed represented in the 26 million books amounted to 10 terabytes.

The Library is managing the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, the library services to over 766,000 citizens with its audio books and braille library program.

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Check Your Progress

1. When and where was the Calcutta Public Library established?
2. What is the Library of Congress?

5.4 NATIONAL LIBRARY-UNITED KINGDOM

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The national library of United Kingdom is the British Library; it is at par with the Library of Congress in many ways. The library is ranked as one of the largest because of high number of items which are catalogued. The collection at the library holds over 150 million national and international items. Due its national library status it receives copies of published works from all the publishers based in UK and Ireland, it also receives a big chunk of the international titles which are circulated in United Kingdom. The library has legal rights for the deposits to be made. The Library is funded and controlled by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport as a non-departmental public body.

The British Library majorly functions as a research library, as it contains a large variety of multilingual items. The library collection is available in both printed as well as digital formats. The library includes vast collection of books, scripts, periodicals, newspapers, magazines, audio-visual recordings, CDs, scripted plays, official document, databases, charts, impressions, prints, illustrations. The Library has more than 14 million books in its collections and it also includes an extensive possession of manuscripts and antique items which is centuries old and dates to the period 2000 BC. As a result of its legal status it receives copies from all the publishers; the library almost receives 8000 published works on a daily basis. This regularly adds to the collection of the library and along with this the library also has a content acquisition programme designed so that the collection is constantly increasing. This has helped the library to increase its collection each year and it averages to about three million items per year. The library can accommodate more than 1200 readers at one time.

5.4.1 Origin of the National Library of United Kingdom

The Library used to be a part of the British Museum till 1973. In 1972, with the passing of The British Library Act the library was separated from the museum department. Till 1997 the British Library was situated in the museum building and Reading Room continued to be same. Today the library is situated in a specially constructed building in London's Euston Road in St Pancras; the library has a reading room and storage centre for documents in Boston Spa, near Wetherby in West Yorkshire. The main library building at the Euston Road is ranked as a Grade I building because of its superior architecture and historical value.

5.4.2 Functions and Duties of National Library

The functions and the duties of the Library towards the citizens of UK are listed in the necessary section of the British Library Act which was implemented in 1972. The British Library Board has been clearly assigned their duties and functions by the Act. The library board has to perform following duties and functions:

- The board has the function of running and handling the library efficiently as it is the national Library of the country. It should be equipped with a vast

collection of books, scripts, journals, movies and essential documented matter, both in print as well as from non-printed means.

- The library needs to function as a reference centre for the entire nation. The library should be able to provide informational services, self-studying and bibliography in all fields.
- The library should be able to render its services to various educational institutions such as schools or vocational colleges, support all educational and learning needs of various industrial houses and other libraries.
- Undertake research work and support all ongoing researches.
- Provide funds to the authorities of the library as and when needed.
- Loaning specific items and allowing library premises to be used for organising literary or cultural events.
- The library was instructed under the act to perform all the above functions and also it was guided to take necessary steps for improving the functioning of the library so that all its duties could be fulfilled.

The library has to function as a deposit library authorized to receive printed and non-printed digital publications from people who print work in UK. The British Library has to also undertake the functions which were earlier given to the Registrar of Public Lending Right, in the Public Lending Right Act of 1979,

- Instituting and keeping a register displaying books in detail of which public lending right deposited and the people authorized to the right concerning any registered book.
- Defining and remunerating the due payments (if any) with the help of public lending right

The mission and vision of the library towards the people of United Kingdom:

- The mission of the British Library is to provide the intellectual and heritage collection to everybody who wants to undertake research work, recreation or inspiration.
- The vision for the British Library was to be the extremely open, innovative and state-of-the-art institution of the world.

The following six public functions cover the scope and responsibility and also offer an outline as to why and how the public money is spent to accomplish the functions

- The library functions as a custodian of the nation's printed as well as digital content. The library helps in building, caring and preserving of the content.
- The library helps in research. The library supports and stimulates all kinds of research work.
- The library has an economic function of helping the businesses to invent and expand by learning new things.

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- The cultural function of the library entails for it to provide the knowledge of the past and help in promoting events which brings people together.
- The library acts as a centre for lifelong learning
- At international level the library works in close partnership with libraries all over the world to encourage development of knowledge and common indulgent.

The above listed functions are associated to the library's legal duties and are listed the British Library Act of 1972, the Public Lending Right Act of 1979, and the Legal Deposit Libraries Act of 2003 which was revised in 2013 under The Legal Deposit Libraries (Non-Print Works) Regulations. The duties and functions of the library are revised once every five years and the next revision will take place in 2020.

5.5 NATIONAL LIBRARY-RUSSIA

The National Library of Russia is situated in Saint Petersburg. The antiquity of the National Library of Russia starts with the foundation of the library was laid on 27 May 1795 and spans over a period of almost two centuries. The country's history during these two hundred years passed through several rulers and revolutions. The period of Catherine the Great, Alexander I, Nicholas I, many significant reforms took place during the 1850s, the Russian Revolution of 1917 February and revolution of October, the Second World War. The list of events is endless and so are the changes which took place in the history of library in Russia.

5.5.1 Origin of the National Library of Russia

The library which holds the status of national library was initially referred to as the Imperial Public Library and was set up in 1795, it remained one till 1917. The name was changed to Russian Public Library in 1917 and till 1925 it functioned with the same name. In 1925 it began to be called as the State Public Library. The library with its historical background is not only the oldest library in Russia but also considered to be one of the oldest in the entire world. The library is also viewed as one of the most significant libraries. Its Russian language collection encompasses the world's entire collection. There are books not only in Russian but also in Ukrainian and Belorussian languages. The Library owns an extraordinarily valued collection of more than 6000 items of incunabula and more than eight lakh exceptionally rare books, these include the old printed books in Russian, the ultimate collection of Peter the Great period books, the incredible collections of books created by Elseviers, Aldus Manutius, and their successors. The main library holds a collection of hand press books a section is dedicated as the library of Voltaire to hold all the books.

The library is considered as the treasurer of Russia's heritage, and it functions as a centre where information about every aspect of Russia is available. It acts as

a research and cultural centre of Russia. Throughout its history the library has thrived to acquire a collection of all printed material of the country, and this collection has been made available to the people of Russia. They have had free access to the collection of the library. The national library is often mistaken to be the Russian State Library which is situated in Moscow.

5.5.2 Functions and Duties of the National Library

Since the history of the Libraries in the Soviet Union, the libraries were regarded as institutions meant for promoting information and moral sense. The books were meant for the people to use be educated about the communist ideologies. The libraries were meant to be means of social and professional development. This development helped in mobilising the population in order to achieve political, economic, technical, and cultural operations.

The central objectives of activities of libraries in Soviet were to support the communist education of the working class. This also helped in promoting the growth of science and technology. The public libraries in earlier days were referred to as “mass libraries”. An important resolution taken in 1974 by the central committee of the CPSU was to improve the functioning of libraries so that there could be enhancement in the workers’ communist education and progress in science and technology.

For the purpose of achieving these objectives an all-encompassing and workable system of libraries was to be established in every part of the country. Under this system various types of libraries were incorporated even though they all were not necessarily linked with each other. There were two systems of libraries functioning side by side, in one system were all the mass libraries and libraries run by CPSU, these were financed by the government directly. In the second system were libraries of an organisation they functioned as a separate department within the organisation. The libraries of the second system sustained education, they were part of a school, college, and university; the libraries also contained within in this system were libraries that were established and functioned in an industrial house, these were mostly on the lines of special libraries and catered to the needs of the organisation and at the same time promoted the ideology of communism. This system also included libraries which functioned within the government departments. They were financed by the parent organisation and thus their primary task was to promote the objectives of the organisation. The libraries of the first system included all the public (mass) libraries and network of libraries of CPSU. The CPSU library network included libraries which were in political centres along with the local libraries and libraries for the committees of CPSU.

The structure of public libraries in the USSR was in form of a pyramid. The top position was held by libraries like V. I. Lenin State Library situated in Moscow. The LSL was the at one time the national library of USSR and functioned as the centre for instructions for all the libraries in the country, it was in charge for giving operational support. At the second level were all the para-national libraries. They

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were responsible for collecting specialised material from all parts of the country, in this category featured the National Library for Science and Technology, All-Union Library for Foreign Literature, State Historical Public Library, State Central Scientific Medical Library, State Central Children's Library, State Juvenile Library; etc. At the third level came the State Libraries of Soviet Union, the M. E. Saltykov-Shchedrin State Public Library. The library functioned as the State Republican Library and the centre for instructions libraries of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR). Under this level came the general regional scientific libraries. The next level consisted of libraries which functioned at district and rural level. The public libraries at this level were amalgamated into centralized library systems (CLSs), with single central library and its various branches.

This structure of the public library network is present even today. In order to fulfil the aims and aspirations the CPSU and the state machinery developed a library system along with a community which consisted of large number of people. The community had full support of the government and the party, they closely monitored their activities. The libraries were used as an army in Soviet Union whose moto was to uphold the ideologies of the state. The Russian Federation was formed on the 1 January 1992 and the new president Boris Yeltsin retained the cultural values of the past and the National Library of Russia was established in St. Petersburg. The presidential verdict "On the National Library of Russia" was given out on March 27, 1992. This fresh status and part was formally apportioned to the State Public Library in St. Petersburg. The State Public Library lost its status and was confirmed to the status of Russian State Library on August 2, 1993. The two libraries with initial financial hitches have continued to develop and cooperate with each other. The international cooperation amongst the libraries has also developed.

Today both the libraries function at par and as a result RSL was allotted the status of National Library of the Russian Federation. For that reason, Russia since then claims to have two national libraries one is the NLR in St. Petersburg, and second is the RSL in Moscow.

Check Your Progress

3. State the mission of the British Library.
4. Where is the National Library of Russia situated?

5.6 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. The Calcutta Public Library was established in 1836 in a building which housed the residence of Dr Francis Pemble Strong, he was the civil Surgeon of 24 Parganas in Bengal.

2. The Library of Congress is regarded as the de facto National Library of United States of America. It is the research library of United States Congress and provides all the essential information during its functioning.
3. The mission of the British Library is to provide the intellectual and heritage collection to everybody who wants to undertake research work, recreation or inspiration.
4. The National Library of Russia is situated in Saint Petersburg.

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5.7 SUMMARY

- The largest library in India is the National Library. The collection of the library consists of reading material covering varied topics.
- The Library was established in 1836 as the Calcutta Public Library in a building which housed the residence of Dr Francis Pemble Strong, he was the civil Surgeon of 24 Parganas in Bengal.
- In the quest to develop a superior library, in 1902 Lord Curzon implemented the Imperial Library Act under which the Calcutta's Public Library with its rich resources was amalgamated with the Imperial Library.
- In 1948 after India became independent, the Imperial Library Act was conceded, and the Calcutta Public Library was bestowed with a new identity, under the Article 62 of the Act in the Seventh Schedule of the Union List of the Constitution of India it was recognised as the National Library of India.
- The Government of India selected a National Library Reviewing Committee in 1968. The committee was appointed in order to review the working of the library and formally outline the primary functions of the library.
- The National Library functions as a perpetual repository of every single reading and information materials created in the country.
- The Library of Congress (LOC) is regarded as the de facto National Library of United States of America.
- The LOC is the research library of United States Congress and provides all the essential information during its functioning.
- The Library of Congress is regarded as one of the world's largest library. The collection of the library is very vast and covers universal subjects.
- The basic task of the Library of Congress is to meet the informational demand of the Congress. The research work is undertaken by a duly assigned body, the Congressional Research Service.
- The Library of Congress functions as a repository of legal matters such as the protection of copyright and registration of copyright, the library is used as a source for the United States Copyright Office.

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- The national library of United Kingdom is the British Library; it is at par with the Library of Congress in many ways. The library is ranked as one of the largest because of high number of items which are catalogued.
- It majorly functions as a research library, as it contains a large variety of multilingual items. The library collection is available in both printed as well as digital formats.
- The Library used to be a part of the British Museum till 1973. In 1972, with the passing of The British Library Act the library was separated from the museum department.
- The functions and the duties of the British Library towards the citizens of UK are listed in the necessary section of the British Library Act which was implemented in 1972.
- The British Library has to function as a deposit library authorized to receive printed and non-printed digital publications from people who print work in UK.
- The National Library of Russia is situated in Saint Petersburg.
- The antiquity of the National Library of Russia starts with the foundation of the library was laid on 27 May 1795 and spans over a period of almost two centuries.
- The library which holds the status of national library was initially referred to as the Imperial Public Library and was set up in 1795, it remained one till 1917. The name was changed to Russian Public Library in 1917 and till 1925 it functioned with the same name.
- The central objectives of activities of libraries in Soviet were to support the communist education of the working class.
- The structure of public libraries in the USSR was in form of a pyramid. The top position was held by libraries like V. I. Lenin State Library situated in Moscow. The second level had all the Para-national Libraries and the next level consisted of libraries which functioned at district and rural level.

5.8 KEY WORDS

- **Federation:** It is the action of forming states or organizations into a single group with centralized control.
- **Legal:** It refers to anything relating to the law.

5.9 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. Discuss the origin of the National Library of India.
2. Describe the inception and functions of National Library of UK.
3. What is the origin of the National Library of Russia?

Long-Answer Questions

1. Give a detailed explanation of the functions and duties of the National Library of India.
2. Give a detailed timeline of the National Library of the USA. Discuss its functions and duties in detail.
3. What are the functions and duties of the National Library of Russia? How is it different or similar to the other National Libraries discussed in this Unit?

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UNIT 6 LIBRARY LEGISLATION

NOTES

Structure

- 6.0 Introduction
- 6.1 Objectives
- 6.2 Library Legislation
 - 6.2.1 Financial Provision in Library Legislation
 - 6.2.2 Constituents of Library Legislation
 - 6.2.3 Features of Library Legislation
- 6.3 Library Legislation in India
- 6.4 Model State and Central Library Act in India
- 6.5 Delivery of Books and Newspaper Act
- 6.6 Copyright Act
- 6.7 IPR-Intellectual Property Rights
- 6.8 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 6.9 Summary
- 6.10 Key Words
- 6.11 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 6.12 Further Readings

6.0 INTRODUCTION

An Act provides rules which are approved by the legal system of a country. In the framework of libraries, the Library Act refers to providing legal endowment for creating a library system, its conservation, facilities, purposes, right and administration, controlled by the state or a central government. Library legislation helps in controlling different parts of services of the public library. It is a tool which is used by the authorities to develop public libraries systematically so that they are established, developed and maintained uniformly. The legislations provide support for promoting a common sense and self-awareness in individuals; they will use the offered services and appreciate them as well.

The very first library act was implemented in 1850 in Great Britain. In modern times, all nations are able to benefit from the public libraries as a result of the legislation passed in that year.

6.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Describe library legislation
- Discuss library legislation in India
- Explain Model State and Central Library Act in India

- Analyse the Delivery of Books and Newspaper Act and the Copyright Act
- Assess Intellectual Property Rights

6.2 LIBRARY LEGISLATION

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Facility of public library service is an accepted consequence of democratic ideology. To be able to communicate freely is a pre-requisite for preserving an independent society and cultural creativity. A public library only wants time from the users and not their funds for well utilisation of the services offered at the library. The funds for running and maintaining the library have to be managed from an alternate source if the users are not going to pay for the services. It has been realised by scholars of education that legislation helps in arranging for funds which are required for establishing public libraries. Besides this the library legislation is required for following aspects:

- Having a law aids in generating the required state of affairs which help in establishment of public libraries all over the country.
- The legislations provide the public libraries with a stable and guaranteed monetary source in form of library tax.
- It keeps the library free from political pressures as it does not rely on fees, contributions or personal donations.
- The administration of the library continues to be stable, consistent, balanced and well-coordinated and also provides the scope for expansion.
- To resolve the issues those, arise because of property, construction, inheritances, etc.
- In order to maintain uniform and common services such as procurement, dispensation, etc.

6.2.1 Financial Provision in Library Legislation

The legislation of libraries provides monetary backing to the public libraries, but the provisions made in the legislation are largely affected by the prevailing social, political as well as economic situations of the country. The library legislation provides monetary help to the public libraries in the following manner

- Allocation of funds in the annual budget of the state, from its total resource including monetary grants made by the government at the centre
- Imposing of library cess with a corresponding grant from the state government

6.2.2 Constituents of Library Legislation

Dr. S. R. Ranganathan acknowledged the following constituents for the legislation of public libraries.

- Prefaces: The first essential constituent is having explanation of each of the terms employed in the legislation and providing a small heading of the act.

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- **Senior Management:** The second constituent deliberates about the concerns of involving the library management that would come under the dominion of the Act, for example issues about who has the managerial powers of the.
- **Library Committee:** The third constituent will deliberate about who will give suggestions to the senior members of management and staff members of the library. For this purpose, a committee has to be set up. The library Act has to carry a list of the members who will part of the committees, what will be their tasks, rights, credentials, duties, etc.
- **Finance:** The fourth and the most essential constituent of the Act, it must clearly state-
 - o Amount of library cess / extra local tax or additional charge;
 - o Things on which tax would be imposed like means of transportation, property, house, etc.
 - o The process by which the public will pay the cess
 - o Accounting of money which is got via the cess
- Supplementary financial sources should be mentioned as well.
- Another essential constituent of the library Act is to have an in-built provision to keep all the financial records and for timely review. The selection of staff, classifications of the staff, remunerations, working conditions and tenure also needs to be clearly specified in the Act.
- The Act should clearly mention the laws, directions and by laws if any.

6.2.3 Features of Library Legislation

The essential features of library legislation are-

- The library legislation needs to be uncomplicated and all-purpose. There should be scope for alterations and improvement.
- It should not be influenced by political changes and must remain independent of politics.
- Needs to clearly outline the duties of the respective governments and their individual levels
- The Act has to make services of the library mandatory and free for all
- The Act must have qualities which makes it conducive for flourishing
- It needs to manage and regulate the activities of the library in such a way that it allows free access to information and knowledge for every individual.
- The Act needs to be sensitive towards the needs of the users
- The individual tasks and responsibilities given to respective libraries should be according to their capacity so as to ensure complete satisfaction for the readers.
- The Act should focus on all types of libraries besides the public libraries.

Character of Different Bodies in the Process of Endorsing Library Legislation

- In the course of enacting the library legislation, the cess of the library cannot be imposed in a pre-conditioned manner. Or else, it may fail to get the backing of the people of the society. The process of endorsing will become easy when the bodies closely associated with the library take responsibility of the important aspects in their corresponding areas.
- Role of Library Association: Library associations are functioning at all levels thus it will be easy for them to strategize well in order to get the legislation imposed. They have the option of using several platforms for propagating the notion of the legislation. The association members must approach the ministers of the state assembly and build a case which helps in passing of the legislation of the library. In fact library legislation should be in place for the formulation of the associations as well. This will help the members of such associations to effectively contribute towards endorsing library legislations.
- Role of Library Professionals: The people working or associated with the library in a professional capacity must perform their duties efficiently so that libraries flourish. They should spread awareness about the services of the library. The awareness can be spread by using different means such as the newspapers or cable TV, etc. They must allow the venue of the library to be used for cultural events such as lectures, art exhibition or workshops so that more people visit the library.
- Role of the Bureaucrats: The bureaucrats play an important role in framework of policies, processes etc. As the elite group in the social system they are able to have considerable amount of influence during policy formations. They are completely aware about the relevance of libraries in the society hence they can help the leaders of the country to pass adequate and effective library legislations.
- Role of Political Leader: They have an important role in endorsement of the legislation and because of that they need to use sound judgement while passing them. They should realise the importance of library for the society and make all provisions for its upkeep.
- Role of Common Man: The library is developed so that people are able to benefit from their services. The people living in the society are the users of the library. They need to pressurise the government to pass the necessary legislations so that they can continuously use the services of their library.

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6.3 LIBRARY LEGISLATION IN INDIA

Ancient period libraries have played an important role as a social institute of the society. In those days legislations were not required for smooth functioning of the

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library but their need began to be felt during the nineteenth century. Some of the library legislations were passed during the British rule, they had helped in making libraries open to general public, prior to their rule they were only meant for the royals and scholars.

In 1867, the Press and Registration of Books Act was passed by the British. This Act was meant to regulate the printing-presses and newspapers; it was passed in order to preserve the copies of books and newspapers published in India and all the published books had to be registered. The Act enabled the libraries to acquire books free of cost thus helping them to increase their collection. The second important Act during the British rule was passed in 1898, this Act helped in obtaining funds for enhancement of literary work. In 1902 the Imperial Library Act was passed. Another important legislation was passed in 1930; it was formulated by Dr. S.R Ranganathan. The Model Library Act was announced at the All Asia Educational Conference in Banaras. In 1942 at the request of Indian Library Association, Ranganathan formulated 'The Model Public Library Bill'.

Several important library legislations were formulated after India became independent. In 1948 the Imperial Library Act was formulated, under the provisions of this Act the National Library of India came into existence, the Imperial Library of Calcutta was assigned the new status of the National Library. Another important legislation was passed by the parliament of India in 1954, it the Delivery of Books (Public Libraries Act) the Act was amended in 1956 and came to be known as the Delivery of Books and Newspaper (Public Libraries) Amendment Act. In 1963 Model Library Act was formulated by a committee which was headed by Dr. D.M Sen. In 1966 a revised model public libraries bill was framed by the Planning Commission subcommittee for legislation subcommittee.

In the years after independence the library legislation began to be enacted for providing better services. The first library Act was formulated in Maharashtra, princely state of Kolhapur in 1945 since then nineteen states have enacted legislations for the continuous services of library. Though the remaining states are offering the services in the absence of any formal legislation.

Advantages of Library Legislation

The formulation of Library Act delivers the following benefits:

- Aids in establishing a systematic structure of public libraries
- Provides a stable set-up for administering the activities
- Provides regular funds
- Directs the management and administration of public libraries
- Organizes united services such as purchasing, processing, bibliography services etc. provision of these services becomes simple and convenient.
- Provides opportunities for provision of free effective services of the library with the help of professional staff service

Functions of Library Legislation

In 1958 at the orders of Government an advisory committee for Libraries was instituted. The committee suggested five essential functions of the library legislation:

- The legislations need to underline the role of government in matters concerning the public libraries.
- They need to specify functions of library authority at all the levels, i.e. centre, state and regional.
- The Legislation must have a sound system of funding the library. This can be done by providing for a special library cess along with making provision for reserving fixed percentage in the budget of education.
- The legislation must outline the hierarchy structure of the library system.
- The people of the country should have a say in the functioning of the libraries as it is a service for their use. The legislation must make provision for people's participation at every level.

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Check Your Progress

1. State one feature of library legislation.
2. Mention one advantage of library legislation.

6.4 MODEL STATE AND CENTRAL LIBRARY ACT IN INDIA

In 1957 the Government of India, instructed the Ministry of Education to appoint a committee for advising about the services of the Libraries. As a result of this instruction an advisory committee was set up in the same year and former Director of Public Instruction of Bihar Shri K.P Sinha was appointed as the chairman of this committee. The committee suggested that library legislation was required for all individual states. In 1963 after the recommendations of the committee the Ministry of Education formulated another committee whose chairman was Dr. M.D Sen, the committee was appointed to take forward the recommendations of 1957 committee. The Committee formulated the Model Public Libraries Bill in the same year.

The significant features of the Bill were as mentioned below:

- Establishment of State Library Authority as a chief body to give advice to the Government in all matters which concerned the developments of the libraries.
- Establishment of State Library Directorate in order to give directions and control all the services of the library

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- Establishment of District Library Committee in every district
- The library staff were to be regarded as government employees.
- Collecting the library cess on a fixed rate of 6 paise/ rupee this will be levied on house tax and property tax.

6.5 DELIVERY OF BOOKS AND NEWSPAPER ACT

In 1954 The Delivery of Books (Public Libraries) Act, was formulated and it was applicable in all the states of India excluding state of Jammu and Kashmir. Conferring to the Act, each publisher of a book, newspaper or serial needs to deliver a copy of the item at the National Library of India which is situated in Kolkata, and one copy each to the three public libraries which are specified by the government at the centre, the publisher has to deliver the item within a period of thirty days of the published date and also bear the cost of delivery. In 1956 The Delivery of Books (Public Libraries) Act: No 27, which was passed in 1954, was revised and now was the Delivery of Books (Public Libraries) Amendment Act, No. 99 of 1956 and consequently it came to be "The Delivery of Books 'and Newspapers' (Public Libraries) Act, 1954". The addition "and Newspapers" provided through the amendment included serials also.

Features of the Act

- Means of Delivery: Under the Act all books and newspapers printed in the territories which were included in the Act had to be delivered to the librarians of the three listed public libraries. The publishers had to bear the cost of delivery and the delivery had to be made as soon as the book or newspaper was published. The delivery needs to be done with the help of registered post or by hand through a reliable courier. As per the directions under the Act the delivery can be made by anyone to the National Library need not be sent by registered post. The three public libraries which have to receive the copy are Chennai Public Library which is better known as Connemara Public Library, Delhi Public Library and The Central Library, Town Hall, situated at Mumbai. The copy which is meant for the National Library, Kolkata should be in perfect condition.
- Acknowledgment for Delivered Books: The librarian receives the copy of the books sent to the libraries after receiving the receiver has to send a duly signed hand-written receipt by registered post. The receipt acts like a proof and needs to be maintained in the records. In case the librarian is unavailable to receive the then a person authorised by the librarian receives the copy.
- Value for the Publisher: All leading libraries and learning institutions situated in different parts of the world procure the Indian National Bibliography. The books which are submitted by publishers under the Act to respective libraries are incorporated into the INB. The publishers get international

recognition and opportunity to publicise his work in different parts of the world. The cost of sending the books to libraries is negligible as compared to the enhancement of commercial value for the publisher after being incorporated into the INB. On their own the publishers will not be able to give such vast exposure to their work.

- **Punishment:** In case a publisher disregards any provisions or rule of the Act as a consequence the publisher will be punished with fifty rupees fine and if the offence is in relation to the book then will be fined as per the total value of the book. The fine will have to be paid to the library to which the publisher has defaulted.
- **Authority of the Act:** The Act can be changed or revised only by the Central Government or by a committee which is authorised by the centre.

Even with library legislation in place the countries are constantly struggling to be able to provide completely adequate and efficient services. In spite of amendments the countries are facing issues. At the same time some nations have not provided any library legislation but still are able to provide library services. In view of such contradictions it is difficult to really evaluate the success of library legislations.

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6.6 COPYRIGHT ACT

The Copyright Act was valid from January 21, 1958. The subject of copyright laws in India is governed by the Copyright Act of 1957. The Act was revised in 2012 and came to be known as Copyright Amendment Act 2012. The Copyright Act 1957 was the pioneer copyright legislation which was passed after independence. There have been six amendments to the Act since its formulation, the last was in 2012. India is affiliated of many significant conventions of the world which govern the aspects of copyright law; some of these include the Berne Convention of 1886 which was amended in 1971, the Universal Copyright Convention of 1951, the Rome Convention of 1961 and the TRIPS Agreement. Although India is not affiliated member of WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT).

Before the implementation of 1957 copyright law, the Indian Copyright Act of 1914 was valid and continues to be valid for all the work which has been done before 21 January 1958. This Act was adopted from the Copyright Act of 1911 conceded by the UK Parliament and it was altered to suit the Indian environment. As per the Copyright Act of 1911 the validity of the copyright of photographs was for a period of fifty years starting from the date it was actually printed.

The exact wordings as giving in the Act are: “the term for which copyright shall subsist in photographs shall be fifty years from the making of the original negative from which the photograph was directly or indirectly derived, and the person who was owner of such negative at the time when such negative was made

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shall be deemed to be the author of the work, and, where such owner is a body corporate, the body corporate shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act to reside within the parts of His Majesty's dominions to which this Act extends if it has established a place of business within such parts." In India all photographs printed prior to 21 January 1958 are safeguarded under the copyright act for a period mentioned in the Act, they fall under the jurisdiction of the old Act.

Meaning of copyright

Copyright is a bunch of privileges specified by the law for the authors of works in the field of writing, drama, music, art and the world of cinema covering both audio and visuals. The privileges delivered in Copyright law consist of the rights of replica of the work, announcing the work to the community, reworking of the work and version of the work. The latitude and extent of safeguard delivered in copyright law depends on its features and the work's nature.

In a legal suit about copyrights which took place in Delhi High Court in 2016, the Court clearly stated that the copyright does not make the author the sole owner of the work, it is meant to enhance the knowledge of people. It further added that copyright is no divine power vested with the author, making him the ultimate owner, in fact the right has been developed so that it is able motivate action and development in the arts for the scholarly enhancement of the people. Copyright is meant to intensify and not meant to obstruct the production of knowledge. It is proposed to stimulate the imaginative action of writers and creators so that people are benefited from their creations.

Copyright Act of 1957 provides ownership of copyright to the author of a work as the first owner. On the other hand, if the work has been developed by the author under a legal contract or internship, then the contract holder or the employer is regarded to be the first owner of copyright, in the absenteeism of a legal agreement which mentions otherwise.

The Section 2(z) of the Act provides the notion of joint authorship. According to the section joint ownerships occurs when a work has been created in joint effort of more than a single author and all the authors have made equal contribution in such circumstances they are joint owners of the work and have the same privileges by the Act. The joint authorship has been exposed in legal cases such as the *Najma Heptulla v. Orient Longman Ltd. and Ors.*

Section 19 of the Copyright Act, 1957

- Mode of assignment: the assignment of the copyright will be valid only after it has been duly signed by hand by the person who has assigned or by his approved agent.
- The assignment of copyright in any work will recognize the work and will identify the rights allocated and the period and extent of territory of the assignment.

- The assignment of copyright in a work needs to lay down the royalty which will be paid (or not paid) to the author or his lawful successors for the duration of the usage of the assignment and the assignment may be subjected to amendment, addition or closure on conditions jointly settled between the parties.
- If no action is taken by the assignee for the sections mentioned in the section then they will automatically lapse after a period of one year, otherwise it has to be specified clearly in the assignment.
- In case the duration of the assignment is not mentioned then it will be assumed as five years from date of assignment.
- In case the assignment does not specify that it extends to international limits as well then it will be automatically assumed to be functional till national limits only.
- The subsections 2,3,4,5 and 6 are only applicable to assignments after the passing of the Copyright (Amendment) Act, 1994.

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6.7 IPR-INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Intellectual property denotes to conceptions of the thinker, innovations; literary and artistic works; and codes, names and imageries employed in commerce. Intellectual property can be divided into two groups:

The first is industrial property which consists of copyrights for inventions, logos, designing in industrial field and physical suggestions. The second group covers copyrights of works of literature like books, poetry, dramas it also included movies, musical work, art work and there are copyrights for designs in the field of architecture. Rights associated with copyright embrace the performers of the performances, creators of phonograms for their recordings, and presenters of programmes on radio and television.

Meaning of Intellectual Property Rights

Intellectual property rights are similar to rest of the rights concerning property. They permit originators or holders to be benefitted from their personal work or their share in a creation of a patent, trademark or work which is copyrighted. The rights are a part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights' section 27; the section provides the right to be benefitted from the safeguard of ethical and material interests consequential of an invention of scientific production or work of literature or art creation.

The significance of intellectual property was for the first time acknowledged in 1883 during the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and for the second time in 1886 during the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works. Together these treaties are controlled by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

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Need for Protecting Intellectual Property Rights

The IPR needs to be protected because of several convincing reasons. Firstly, the growth and happiness of humankind is dependent on their capability to produce and create novel works in the expanses of science and technology and culture. Secondly, by allotting protection by law the creators are encouraged to employ more resources into developing new things and improving the ones which have been developed. Thirdly, the upgradation and safeguarding of intellectual property leads to economic development, offers fresh job opportunities and develops new industries. There is an overall enhancement of the society as people have better standard of living as a result of new inventions.

A well-organized and impartial system for intellectual property will benefit countries all over the world and because of its immense possibilities it is bound to help in not only the economic development of the country but also provide socio-cultural enhancement. The strong system of intellectual property rights will help in developing the importance of innovators and the increase the keenness of the people. The society will have a healthy atmosphere which is bound to flourish under the new innovations and creativity.

In simple words Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) can be defined as rights provided by law for protecting the designs and innovations which are a product of a logical mind in various fields. General IPRs comprise of patents, copyrights, symbols and confidences of trades.

Intellectual capital is new concept which is an outcome of speedy globalisation and liberalisation of economy of India. It is regarded as an essential aspect of world trade. Intellectual property rights have started to get new status in the Indian judicial system as well. India sanctioned the agreement for instituting the World Trade Organization (the “WTO”), which encompasses the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). The intellectual property provisions of the country are completely complaint with the TRIPS provisions. India has regulations which cover several aspects of intellectual property, some have been listed below:

- Trade Marks
- Patents
- Copyrights and their Related Rights
- Industrial Designs
- Geographical Indications
- Blueprint Designs of Integrated Circuits
- Plant Variabilities
- Cybercrimes and Information Technology
- Protection of Data

Given below are the Acts which deal with protecting the intellectual property in India:

- Trade Marks Act, 1999
- The Patents Act, 1970 (it was revised in 2005)
- The Copyright Act, 1957
- The Designs Act, 2000
- The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999
- The Semiconductor Integrated Circuits Layout Design Act, 2000
- The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Right Act, 2001
- The Information Technology Act

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Check Your Progress

3. When was the Delivery of Books (Public Libraries) Act formulated?
4. What is copyright?

6.8 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. The library legislation needs to be uncomplicated and all-purpose. There should be scope for alterations and improvement.
2. One advantage of library legislation is that it aids in establishing a systematic structure of public libraries.
3. In 1954 The Delivery of Books (Public Libraries) Act, was formulated and it was applicable in all the states of India excluding state of Jammu and Kashmir.
4. Copyright is a bunch of privileges specified by the law for the authors of works in the field of writing, drama, music, art and the world of cinema covering both audio and visuals.

6.9 SUMMARY

- Facility of public library service is an accepted consequence of democratic ideology. To be able to communicate freely is a prerequisite for preserving an independent society and cultural creativity.
- The legislation of libraries provides monetary backing to the public libraries, but the provisions made in the legislation are largely affected by the prevailing social, political as well as economic situations of the country.

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- In the course of enacting the library legislation, the cess of the library cannot be imposed in a pre-conditioned manner. Or else, it may fail to get the backing of the people of the society.
- In 1867, the Press and Registration of Books Act was passed by the British. This Act was meant to regulate the printing-presses and newspapers; it was passed in order to preserve the copies of books and newspapers published in India and all the published books had to be registered.
- The Press and Registration of Books Act enabled the libraries to acquire books free of cost thus helping them to increase their collection. The second important Act during the British rule was passed in 1898, this Act helped in obtaining funds for enhancement of literary work.
- Several important library legislations were formulated after India became independent.
- In 1948 the Imperial Library Act was formulated, under the provisions of this Act the National Library of India came into existence, the Imperial Library of Calcutta was assigned the new status of the National Library.
- In 1958 at the orders of Government an advisory committee for Libraries was instituted. The committee suggested five essential functions of the library legislation
- In 1957 the Government of India, instructed the Ministry of Education to appoint a committee for advising about the services of the Libraries.
- In 1954 The Delivery of Books (Public Libraries) Act, was formulated and it was applicable in all the states of India excluding state of Jammu and Kashmir.
- The Copyright Act was valid from January 21, 1958. The subject of copyright laws in India is governed by the Copyright Act of 1957. The Act was revised in 2012 and came to be known as Copyright Amendment Act 2012.
- Copyright is a bunch of privileges specified by the law for the authors of works in the field of writing, drama, music, art and the world of cinema covering both audio and visuals.
- Intellectual property denotes to conceptions of the thinker, innovations; literary and artistic works; and codes, names and imageries employed in commerce.
- Intellectual property rights are similar to rest of the rights concerning property. They permit originators or holders to be benefitted from their personal work or their share in a creation of a patent, trademark or work which is copyrighted.

6.10 KEY WORDS

- **Right:** It is a moral or legal entitlement to have or do something.
- **Amendment:** It means a minor change or addition designed to improve a text, piece of legislation, etc.
- **Legislation:** It is the process of making or enacting laws.

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6.11 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. What is library legislation? Why is it needed?
2. What are the constituents of library legislation?
3. Write a short note on Model State and Central Library Act in India.
4. Briefly discuss Intellectual Property Rights.

Long-Answer Questions

1. Discuss the features of library legislation.
2. Write a detailed note on library legislation in India. What are its advantages?
3. Describe the features of Delivery of Books and Newspaper Act in detail
4. What is the Copyright Act? Discuss.

6.12 FURTHER READINGS

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UNIT 7 PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACT IN INDIA

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Structure

- 7.0 Introduction
- 7.1 Objectives
- 7.2 Public Libraries Act in India
 - 7.2.1 Developments in Public Library Act
- 7.3 Current Status of Public Library Act in India
- 7.4 Current Status of Public Library Act in Tamil Nadu
- 7.5 Current Status of Public Library Act in Andhra Pradesh
- 7.6 Current Status of the Public Library Act in Karnataka
- 7.7 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 7.8 Summary
- 7.9 Key Words
- 7.10 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 7.11 Further Readings

7.0 INTRODUCTION

India has completed seventy-two years of independence in 2018. In order to realise the current status of libraries in India it would be advisable to take a stock of its developments in these independent years and quick peek into the history of libraries in India. A significant milestone in the past of Indian public library services came as a result of the efforts of the Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaekward. In 1883 he introduced compulsory elementary education with the help of libraries. The education was to be free for all. This subsequently led to introduction of public library service system in India in 1907. The libraries offered free services to the users. In 2007 the library services completed hundred years. The system has come a long way since then; the journey has been bumpy but not futile.

7.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Discuss the Public Libraries Act in India
- Assess the current status of Public Library Act in India
- Analyse the current status of Public Library Act in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh

7.2 PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACT IN INDIA

According to a study by library science scholars L.S Ramaiah and M Sankara Reddy, only seventeen states have sanctioned the Public Library Act. India has 54,851 public libraries out of which thirty are state central libraries, forty are regional and local libraries, 364 are district libraries, 4658 are town libraries and the rest of the count constitute of village libraries, they are 49,758 village libraries in India.

The Public libraries mostly grew in India after independence as a lot of initiatives were taken by the government both at the central and state levels towards developing the educational system and libraries along with them as they were necessary for education. In 1941 the rate of literacy in India was just about sixteen percent. The government had started several programmes to improve this number, initiatives like extension services, educating the adults, moral education and other forms of un-official education were taken. In all the initiatives of informal education public libraries became a pillar of support for the government. The Community Development Projects were undertaken with the help of the libraries to increase the speed of social as well as economic development of the citizens. In 1951 the Delhi Public Library came into existence. It was meant to function with the support of Government as well as UNESCO. The library was a joint initiative as it was meant to function as an exemplary public library in all of Asia.

The Public Library Act gave an impetus to the setting up of public libraries in India. A large number of libraries came into existence because of the library movement not only in urban areas but their number increased at a faster rate in the rural parts of the country. At first, the public library regulation delivered the public library services with a stable financial footing as it had the support of the governmental and funds from the library cess.

7.2.1 Developments in Public Library Act

The first library Act of the country came into being in 1945, the Kolhapur Public Libraries Act, the second came in 1948 with its adaption by the state of Tamil Nadu (Madras at that time). In 1960 it was established by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka the Act was adopted in 1960, then Maharashtra in 1967, West Bengal in 1979, Manipur in 1988, Kerala and Haryana adopted the Act in 1989, Mizoram in 1993, Goa in 1994, Gujarat and Odisha in 2002, and in 2006 it was adopted by Uttaranchal and Rajasthan. The provisions of the Public Library Act were formulated on the basis of the Sinha Committee of 1957, which laid down the Model Library Bill and the Model Public Libraries Act of 1965 which was worked out by the working committee of Planning Commission. From

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the above list it is evident that less than half of the Indian states had enacted the Act and the rest were functioning without the library legislation.

As a result of the provisions of Public Libraries Act, few prominent public libraries were allotted the status of Central Libraries of their particular states. The newly designated State Central Libraries were the Connemara Public Library in Madras and Hyderabad's Asafia Library. Thus, states of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have State Central Library.

The Delivery of Book Act was conceded in 1954, it was subsequently revised in 1956 so that newspapers could also be included. As discussed in previous unit under the provision of the Act all publishers were compelled to deliver a copy of their published work to the National Library of India as well as the three public libraries in Chennai, New Delhi and Mumbai.

In 1972 an independent organisation Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) was established, it was to function under the Department of Culture, Ministry of Education with the primary focus on promotion and providing support to the movement of public libraries of India. The foundation helps in funding of several libraries, these funds are used towards developing the library services in the states.

In 1979, Department of Culture of the Ministry of Education was ordered by the Government to establish a library section. Developing public libraries in India was announced as the sole aim of this section. In 1983 the Planning Commission authorised the appointment of a Working Committee on Modernization of Library Services and Informatics. The aim of this working committee was to develop a uniform policy on how the services of the libraries be made available to maximum users.

7.3 CURRENT STATUS OF PUBLIC LIBRARY ACT IN INDIA

Implementation of library legislation provides the public libraries an arrangement, united system of libraries, uninterrupted and fixed monetary support, trained staffs, strategic organization and development, stability and competence to libraries. In case these are not provided the development and functioning of public libraries will become disorganized. In view of this all scholars of library science have repeatedly stressed on the need for clear cut laws to be formulated for functioning of public library. The legislation will ensure that services of public libraries are provided all over the country and also the Legislation goals at ensuring accurate evaluation of the requirements of the of library and assessing the current services. The legislation is very essential for planning fresh services. The Act helps in providing a system which is independent from the political environment and pressures.

Essential Features are as follows:

- The Act has been enacted in only nineteen states since the independence. The list is as follows:
 - o Madras Public Libraries Act 1948 which is currently known as Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act
 - o Hyderabad Public Libraries Act 1955 not functional anymore
 - o Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act 1960
 - o Mysore Public Libraries Act 1965 presently known as Karnataka Public Libraries Act
 - o Maharashtra Public Library Act 1967
 - o West Bengal Public Libraries Act 1979
 - o Manipur Public Libraries Act 1988
 - o Kerala Public Libraries Act 1989
 - o Haryana Public Libraries Act 1989
 - o Mizoram Public Libraries Act 1994
 - o Goa Public Libraries Act 1994
 - o Gujarat Public Libraries Act 2001
 - o Orissa Public Libraries Act 2001
 - o Uttaranchal Public Library Act 2005
 - o Rajasthan Public Library Act 2006
 - o Uttar Pradesh Public Library Act 2006
 - o Bihar Public Libraries and Information Centres Act 2008
 - o Chhattisgarh Public Libraries Act 2008
 - o Arunachal Pradesh Public Libraries Act 2009
- The public library system is headed by State Library Committee and is in all states as a counselling body, although in some states it has the authoritative powers as well. Granthalaya Parishad is the apex body in Andhra Pradesh and it has been by the State Government.
- The Public libraries of all states is headed by the Director. He is in-charge of the state's system of Public Libraries.
- In the districts the libraries are supervised and managed by the district library authority. The district library authority's chairman is either selected or sometimes he is elected. District Magistrate of West Bengal functions as the chairman for District Library authority as well.
- The staffs of the public libraries in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Manipur and Kerala are government employees. In some states the Staff recruitment is not specified.

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- Functioning of Public Libraries in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala are dependent on the library cess. The states which enacted the Acts in recent past have chosen their revenue source as the government grants instead of library cess.

The title for being the pioneer in endorsing a library act in India is bestowed upon the Kolhapur princely state which is presently in Maharashtra. It enacted a Library Act in 1945. The act currently is not in function. The population of India is on a rise and it is believed that at the rate it is increasing soon India will overtake China and become the world's most populated country. The rate of literacy in India as per the last census is 64.8 percent of its total population. In 1947 when India became independent the rate of literacy was barely 12.5 percent. The increase in the literacy rate is very encouraging and some of its credit can be given to the development of the libraries which have been constantly developing since independence. The development of the libraries in India has not been at par with Western countries, there is lot of catching up to do, but what is noteworthy here is the circumstances in which it has grown. At the time of independence barely 12 percent of its population was educated and most of the population lived in rural areas. The library legislation helped in the establishment and development of public libraries in India. Even though only nineteen states have enacted the Public Library Act and the others function in the absence of the Act.

Check Your Progress

1. How many states have sanctioned the Public Library Act in India?
2. When was the Delivery of Book Act conceded and revised?

7.4 CURRENT STATUS OF PUBLIC LIBRARY ACT IN TAMIL NADU

One of the oldest libraries of the world is Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Sarasvati Mahal Library. It is situated in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu. The manuscripts, books, paintings which are in the collection of the library are extremely rare and valuable. It is a treasure of cultural and literary works. The library was utilized as Royal Palace Library by the Nayak Kings of Thanjavur patronised the library during their period of reign from 1535 to 1675 AD, it was also utilised as the Royal Palace Library by them and the Maratha rulers during 1676 to 1855. The library was designated as a public library in 1918. The state of Tamil Nadu has control over the library and in reembrace of its patrons the library was named as Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Sarasvati Mahal Library. The library falls under the administration of state as well as central government, the functioning of the library is looked after by a duly formulated society which is funded by the government of both the state as well as the centre. After India became independent the first state to enact the

Public Library Act was Tamil Nadu in 1948, the Act began to be effective from April 1, 1950.

The Preamble of the Act clearly elaborates its objectives, as an act to arrange for the establishing of public libraries in the state of Tamil Nadu (Madras) and developing a widespread rural and urban service of Library under it. The Act has been provided with nineteen sections.

The significant features of the Act are as listed below:

- The Act helps in establishing Public Libraries in the entire State of Tamil Nadu.
- Makes provision for establishment of a State Library Committee in order to advise the government on all matters concerning the libraries.
- Facilitates the nomination of Director of Public Libraries to regulate, direct and administer public libraries.
- Composition of Local Library Authorities, for the Madras city and the districts
- All Local Library Authorities will impose the library cess in the area as an extra charge on the tax for property or housing. First the library cess was levied as 5 percent on the property tax; it has further been raised to 10 percent.
- The Act provided for Government contributions over the amount of the collected cess towards library fund to all Local Library Authority, excluding Madras city.

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7.5 CURRENT STATUS OF PUBLIC LIBRARY ACT IN ANDHRA PRADESH

In 1956 the state of Andhra Pradesh was formulated. The state comprised of Andhra areas which were composite of Madras state and Telangana area, composite of Hyderabad. Public Library Act was applicable in Telangana area. The application of two Acts in one state was causing lot of issues; in order to resolve the administrative issues, the two Acts were combined. The outcome was the Andhra Pradesh Library Act 1960; this was a revised and updated version of the two Acts. The Act was approved by the Governor on February 18, 1960. With this enactment, Andhra Pradesh became the second state of independent India to enact the Public Libraries Act.

The Preamble of the Act elaborates the objectives of the Act as: An Act which consolidates and amends the laws concerned with establishing and maintaining Public Libraries in the State of Andhra Pradesh and all matter related to its functioning. The Act comprises of seven chapters.

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Significant features of the Act are as listed below:

- The Act provides for the establishment of the Andhra Pradesh Granthalaya Parishad. The Parishad was to be the apex body with all powers about the functioning matters of the library.
- Establishment of Directorate of Public Libraries to instruct, administer and regulate the system of Public Library System.
- Establishment of Zilla Granthalaya Samastha, one at the Hyderabad city, one at the Hyderabad district and one for all the districts.
- As per the Act every Zilla Granthalaya Samstha was responsible for collecting the library cess of its region as extra charge on property tax or housing tax. The library cess was fixed as eight paise/ rupee.
- The financial records of Zilla Granthalaya Samstha will be liable for inspection.
- The Act provided for aids by the Government in form of aid for the private libraries.
- The Act provided for establishment of a Library Service in the Zilla Granthalaya Samstha which will be responsible for the employment of Librarians.

7.6 CURRENT STATUS OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY ACT IN KARNATAKA

Karnataka became the third state of India to adopt the Public Library Act in the years after independence. The Act at the time of its enactment in 1965 was referred to as the Mysore Public Libraries Act but presently it is known as Karnataka Public Libraries Act.

The Preamble of the Act elaborates the objective of the Act as: An Act which provides for establishing and maintaining the Public Libraries in the State of Karnataka which at that time was called Mysore along with organising a library service in the urban and rural parts of the state.

Significant features of the Act are listed below:

- Establishment of State Library Authority which was to meet two times annually. The Minister of Public Libraries would be appointed as the Chairman of the authority and State Librarian as ex-officio Secretary.
- The Act provided for establishing an autonomous Department of Public Libraries which will be headed by a professor. He will direct, instruct and manage the services of the library.
- The Act also provided for establishing the State Library at the highest level of the system of public library.

- The Act provided for establishment of Local Library Authority, City Library Authority and District Library Authority.
- The Act provided for appointing an Advisory Library Committee for district and rural library services.
- The library cess was to be collected as an extra charge along with the property and housing tax.

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Success of the Public Library Act

Lack of Public Involvement: Most of the laws were formulated after India got independence. The period after independence was full of challenges. The people failed to fulfil their duties and left all the work for the government and its agencies. The libraries were established for people and with poor participation from their side the libraries began to suffer under bureaucrats. Committed librarians were replaced by staff members who only considered it as a job meant for earning an income, they lacked the passion and commitment towards the profession.

The facilities for the Infrastructural Development were Missing: The Acts did not provide well for development of infrastructure. The process of collecting the library cess was not dealt in detail as a result there were lot of discrepancies. The library cess was not only essential for revenue, but they also helped in payment of wages of the local libraries authorities. The realisation came very late and many employees were not paid salaries on time. It was much later that the provision of salaries was taken up by the state governments. It seems extremely astonishing that how Ranganathan managed to advocate cess in library bills whereas UK had withdrawn the provision in 1919 itself. The libraries of present time also need to be furnished with better collection of books and new buildings and comfortable furniture.

The libraries of recent times are not able to keep up with the media options and the internet facilities. People spend all their leisure time surfing on the internet or on their smartphones and what's left is taken over by the soap operas. People have no time for libraries; very few people use the libraries for leisure reading as a result the footfall is constantly lessening at the libraries. The survival of the libraries will depend on how well they equip themselves with new technologies so that they continue to be a part of the modern society.

Fresh Direction to Services: The libraries in the west have been able to give a new direction to the library services, they have been converted into information and resource centres. Public libraries should try to get the youth to be their users so that can be inculcated with the importance of reading and enhancing their creativity.

Check Your Progress

3. What is the name of one the oldest library in the world which is located in Tamil Nadu?
4. Name the third state that adopted the Public Library Act in India.

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7.7 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. According to a study by library science scholars L.S Ramaiah and M Sankara Reddy, only seventeen states have sanctioned the Public Library Act in India.
2. The Delivery of Book Act was conceded in 1954, it was subsequently revised in 1956 so that newspapers could also be included.
3. One of the oldest libraries of the world is Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Sarasvati Mahal Library.
4. Karnataka became the third state of India to adopt the Public Library Act in the years after independence.

7.8 SUMMARY

- The Public libraries mostly grew in India after independence as a lot of initiatives were taken by the government both at the central and state levels towards developing the educational system and libraries along with them as they were necessary for education.
- The Public Library Act gave an impetus to the setting up of public libraries in India.
- The first library Act of the India came into being in 1945, the Kolhapur Public Libraries Act, the second came in 1948 with its adaption by the state of Tamil Nadu (Madras at that time).
- The provisions of the Public Library Act were formulated on the basis of the Sinha Committee of 1957, which laid down the Model Library Bill and the Model Public Libraries Act of 1965 which was worked out by the working committee of Planning Commission.
- As a result of the provisions of Public Libraries Act, few prominent public libraries were allotted the status of Central Libraries of their particular states.
- In 1972 an independent organisation Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) was established, it was to function under the Department of Culture, Ministry of Education with the primary focus on promotion and providing support to the movement of public libraries of India.
- In 1979, Department of Culture of the Ministry of Education was ordered by the Government to establish a library section.
- The title for being the pioneer in endorsing a library act is bestowed upon the Kolhapur princely state which is presently in Maharashtra. It was enacted in 1945. The act currently is not in function.

- One of the oldest libraries of the world is Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Sarasvati Mahal Library. It is situated in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.
- After India became independent the first state to enact the Public Library Act was Tamil Nadu in 1948, the Act began to be effective from April 1, 1950.
- In 1956 the state of Andhra Pradesh was formulated. The state comprised of Andhra areas which were composite of Madras state and Telengana area composite of Hyderabad. Public Library Act was applicable in Telengana area. The application of two Acts in one state was causing lot of issues; in order to resolve the administrative issues, the two Acts were combined.
- Karnataka became the third state of India to adopt the Public Library Act in the years after independence. The Act at the time of its enactment in 1965 was referred to as the Mysore Public Libraries Act but presently it is known as Karnataka Public Libraries Act.

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7.9 KEY WORDS

- **Leisure:** It refers to opportunity afforded by free time to do something.
- **Resource:** It is a source of supply, support, or aid, especially one that can be readily drawn upon when needed.
- **Tax:** It is a compulsory contribution to state revenue, levied by the government on workers' income and business profits, or added to the cost of some goods, services, and transactions.

7.10 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. Write a brief background of Public Libraries Act in India.
2. Write a short note on the current status of Public Library Act in India.
3. Analyse the success of the Public Library Act.

Long-Answer Questions

1. Give a detailed description of the current status of Public Library Act in Tamil Nadu.
2. Discuss the significant features of the Public Library Act in Andhra Pradesh.
3. Explain the current status of the Public Library Act in Karnataka.

7.11 FURTHER READINGS

NOTES

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BLOCK - III
RESOURCE SHARING

Library Cooperation

UNIT 8 LIBRARY COOPERATION

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Structure

- 8.0 Introduction
- 8.1 Objectives
- 8.2 Library Cooperation
- 8.3 Resource Sharing: Definition, Need and Purpose
- 8.4 Library Consortia: Definition, Need and Purpose
- 8.5 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 8.6 Summary
- 8.7 Key Words
- 8.8 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 8.9 Further Readings

8.0 INTRODUCTION

The phenomenon of Library cooperation is a social concept. Under this occurrence, the libraries join together so that they are able to enhance the facilities of the library seeking the corporation. This also allows the librarians to provide extended services for their users.

In this unit, you will study about library cooperation, its need and purpose. Library consortia is also described in detail in this unit.

8.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Define library cooperation
- Explain the meaning, need and purpose of resource sharing
- Discuss library consortia and describe its need and purpose

8.2 LIBRARY COOPERATION

The process of cooperation amongst libraries comprises of not only sharing the available resources but also providing services and performing functions on behalf of the libraries. The resources can be in shape of text material or non-text material. The cooperation in functions could be activities related to the procurement, handling

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or storing, etc. Providing services under the process of cooperation will cover methods, activities and processes engaged in order to create communication between the users and the resources, these services could be with regards to loaning, reference, documentation, transformation, etc. Library cooperation involves not only the process of resource sharing and library consortia but goes beyond and serves the users.

An exchange is generally among two or more libraries and it involves exchanging resources for a short-term. The exchange included allowing the usage of all the material, interchange of information, user will be allowed to use the services of the library offering the exchange, users can share the bibliographic Catalogues, union lists, and all facilities concerned with bibliography. The exchange will also take the responsibility of training the staff of the library seeking cooperation. In other words, library cooperation is a mutual sharing of resources between two or more libraries. The process helps all the libraries involved as it leads to better utilisation of resources and consumer satisfaction.

Library Cooperation is needed for the following reasons:

- Provides a large quantity of documents covering various subjects, languages and presentations;
- Scope for developing fresh topics and specialised subjects
- Escalation in the number of readers and seekers of information
- Assortment of consumer groups and their requirements of information
- Request of specific, prompt services of information services
- Enhanced availability of information and services at present cost
- Provision of available information and services at lesser expense
- Availability of more information
- Rising demand for special and exceptional material
- Lack of space
- Lack of funds

The purpose of Library Cooperation is as follows:

- Aids in loans among the libraries
- Combined procurement
- Specific acquiring programs
- Consolidated processing
- Sharing of catalogues
- Enables data of bibliography to be shared
- Central review of loan requirements

- Complaisant microfilming
- Planning and preservation of union catalogue and union list of serials
- Interchange of books

Benefits of Library Cooperation

The phenomenon of library cooperation is very useful for the system of libraries for the following reasons:

- Helps in providing a vast collection
- The cooperating libraries are able avoid duplication of topics which are not too much in demand.
- Helps in reducing the expense of providing information services
- The over quality of services offered is improved
- Enables the development of a collective library system
- Promotes practices which are good and superior
- The training programmes for staff can be organised more frequently
- Improves the data movement among libraries
- Provides special information to information centres freely

The process of library cooperation in spite of its need and advantages is not able to bring all libraries at a common footing because of the following aspects:

- The major cause for its ineffective operations is due to lack of funds.
- There is a shortage of staff to handle the process
- Lack of modern technologies in libraries
- Absence of uniform standards
- Lack of adequate knowledge
- The libraries are afraid that their material will be lost during exchange.
- The problems of Copyright
- The library staff needs to develop a positive attitude and should be willing to go out of their way to help the users
- The libraries should be open to the idea of cooperation and willingly take part in the process.

Categories of Library Cooperation

The categories of library cooperation are identified according to the geographical area which is covered during the process.

- International Level: Programme initiated by IFLA, Universal Availability of Publication (UAP) programme and Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) are examples of library cooperation at the international level.

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- National Level: includes programmes like National Social Science Documentation Centre (NASSDOC) it was started in 1970 as a Division of the ICSSR and the main purpose was to give support services to libraries.
- The library cooperation takes place at the regional as well as the local level also.

8.3 RESOURCE SHARING: DEFINITION, NEED AND PURPOSE

The concept of sharing is commonly understood as give and take of available resources between individuals or institutions as and when the need is felt, in some cases the exchange is done in a legal manner with a provision of agreement. The concept of resource sharing has been a part of libraries since the time they were established. The sharing of funds, cataloguing process, and common catalogues or documents happened all the time in the field of library. In a library, resource is a term which is used for all types of material, functions and facilities which are a part of the system of libraries. Resource incorporates not just the documented material, but it also includes the people, procedures, planning, and funds which are the constituents of the library.

Definitions of Resource Sharing

In simple terms the concept of resource sharing may be defined as an arrangement between the partaking libraries; in this arrangement all the participants willingly share their resources with others as and when required.

The Encyclopaedia of Library and Information Science has defined the concept as, “resource are a person, thing or action to which one resorts to, when needed”.

Information Scientist Allen Kent has attempted at describing the activities which are related to the concept of resource sharing, he has explained them as: “Resource sharing in libraries is defined as a mode of operation where by functions are shared in common by a number of libraries in its most positive effects. Resource sharing entails reciprocity, employing partnership in which each member has something useful to contribute to others and in which every member is willing and able to make available when needed. The term resource is used to designate any or all of the materials, functions, services and the expertise of the professional and non-professional staff. Resource implies a thing, a person or an action to which one turns for aid and help in time of need”.

On the other hand, he feels the term ‘sharing’ infers assigning, allocating or supporting activities which are beneficial for someone. It infers corporation which will lead to benefitting both the parties. While accounting for library resources it has to include not just the printed material but at the same time all the material that is not printed, this also included resources facilitated by human efforts. It would

include all the resources and sharing of them will help in improving the quality of library services.

The description provided by Kent, helps in defining the implication and importance of 'Resource Sharing' in a very apt manner. Understandably it doesn't imply that a participating library would lose its identity of existing resources rather it is only going to make significant additions to the existing resources and help in developing the new and latest resources. Though, few small changes will have to be done to the existing systems and functioning procedures, but it will be a small cost to pay for the enhancement in the services.

A.L.A. Glossary of Library and Information Science has defined the concept as: "A term covering a variety of organizations and activities engaged in jointly by a group of libraries for the purposes of improving services and/or cutting costs. Resource sharing may be established by informal or formal agreement, by contract or may operate locally regionally, nationally and internationally. The resources shared may be collections, bibliographic data, personnel, planning activities, etc. In simple terms library cooperation or library resource sharing is that when two or more libraries in existing and working jointly on agreements to achieve their goals".

The definitions above not only help in understanding the term but also outline the resources which are shared by the libraries. It explains the process by which resources are shared among the libraries.

Need of Resource Sharing

- **High Cost of Maintaining Collection:** In recent times the availability of documents is constantly increasing because of the expansion of knowledge in all fields. The cost of procuring the documents is also becoming high. The challenge to get the original document is regularly faced by the libraries as they are available in multiple forms of formats. The books have become very costly and it is not possible for the libraries to acquire all the books with their constrained budgets. In the absence of the documents in the library collection is going to affect the reader's level of satisfaction from their libraries. In times when libraries are struggling for their survival and relevance, dissatisfied readers are going to cost them heavily. In such a situation the facility of resource sharing assists libraries for functioning smoothly and solve the problem of acquiring new expensive material.
- **Lack of Space:** The pace at which documents are increasing because of enhancement of knowledge is making the libraries face another problem of providing space for storage. The libraries are unable to accommodate so many documents. The bookshelf length of libraries is already running into hundreds and thousands of kilometres. The provision of sharing resources helps libraries to cope with shortage of space as the collection can be divided and shared. Sharing will give them access to a number of documents and at the same time they will not have to worry about storing them.

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- **Provision of Documents in Varied Formats:** Sharing will not only help the users to access more number of documents, but they will also become aware of the new and different formats in which the documents are available.
- **Provide Satisfaction to More Number of Users:** The increased resources will help in keeping the users satisfied as they will have access to the information they need.
- **Sharing of Staff:** The resource sharing also includes sharing the personnel. The staff of libraries will be exposed to expertise of other members. There will be scope for providing more training programmes for them as time and money will be saved. It process will enable sharing of expert staff which will increase the efficiency of the libraries.
- **Increase in the Number of Information Seekers:** Availability of extra information will enable libraries to offer their services to more number of people. The number of people seeking information is increasing, thus it becomes important for the library to not only provides basic information about every field but at the same time they need to update their information and should be able to provide specialised info as well. And so, it is the duty of the library to obtain appropriate documents such as books, periodicals, tools for reference, advanced theses, information etc., this would offer a widespread accessibility in various fields.
- **Maintain the Dynamism of Libraries:** The present-day library needs to be dynamic and play multifarious role. They not only have to provide the information which the reader is seeking but also enable research work to take place. The libraries have to store the ancient knowledge and work towards gathering new developments and information. Some libraries are unable to procure books as soon as they are published and sometimes books go out of print very fast at such times having the facility to share it with another library is very helpful.
- **Provide Services for Selective Readers:** There are some documents and books which are used by very small number of users, the libraries under the agreement of resource sharing need not cater for them in their collection as they can be made available for the readers when the need arises.

Purpose for Resource Sharing

The facility of resource sharing is needed more in present time as the libraries are already struggling about lack of equipment, housing the increasing number of books, needs of the readers, lack of adequate staff. It is not possible for most libraries procure everything endlessly and keep up with the flow of uninterrupted knowledge. The purpose for resource sharing in libraries can be traced in the laws of library science formulated by Dr. S.R. Ranganathan we have already discussed the topic in detail in Unit 2, let's recapitulate the main ideas here briefly:

The first law states that “Books are for use”, according to this all books in the library should have at least one reader. In case a book is not being used in one library maybe it is very much in demand in another. Hence the concept of resource sharing helps in finding a reader for all books. The libraries can exchange the books with each other which are not being used frequently.

The second and the third law help in fulfilling the purpose of resource sharing in a very apt manner. The second law states that “Every person his or her book” and the third law states “Every book its reader” in this context both the laws have the same relevance and purpose, as the focus is on the books. The readers are not able to visit all the libraries, but the books can be circulated from one library to another so that they are made available to the readers who wish to read and extract information from them. The concept such as cooperation amongst libraries by sharing of resources actually gives substance to the second and the third law of library science. It will not be wrong to say that sharing is required for maximising the use of books and reducing the expenses of the libraries.

The Fourth law talks about saving the reader’s valuable time, it states, “Save the time of the readers”. The cooperation between libraries and using computers is bound to save the time of the users. The purpose of resource sharing helps in fulfilling the objective of this law. The sharing between libraries will ensure prompt delivery of information. The library staff will be able to help the readers with their requirements.

The last law of library states: “library is a growing organism”. The collection of the library is constantly growing, and libraries are facing the problems like storage, staff and accountability. All these problems are resolved with the process of libraries sharing their resources.

The explosion of knowledge is making the users constantly seek information. The process of resource sharing is an answer to all the present day’s issues faced by the libraries. The users can access improved prompt information and services at various places and the expenses can be controlled, all this will happen only once the libraries agree to share their resources.

The resource sharing among libraries has been a part of the library system since ancient time; it is another form of library cooperation. Its antiquity may be found even during the thirteenth century with cooperation existed among the libraries in the monasteries. The cooperation was seen in shape of union catalogues, they allowed the libraries to make use of each other’s resources. Kaul (1999) found that cooperation between libraries even existed during 200 B.C. There is evidence of cooperation between ancient libraries of Alexandria and Pergamum. They were jointly sharing their resources for fulfilling their needs. According to the r encyclopaedia of Library and Information Science, even in 1740 universities of Lund, Abo and Greifswald had been in agreements for sharing of their resources. Other ancient illustrations of library cooperation are evident with the help of union catalogue found in libraries of Weimar and Jean.

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According to the reporting of Kaul (1992), library cooperation in India took place for the first time in 1868 when the manuscripts were catalogued together by sharpening stones. This was a significant effort towards cooperation amongst libraries for a long time to come. In 1885 the earliest important union list containing A Catalogue of Scientific and Technical Periodicals was assembled by Henry C. Bolton. In present day the Indian system of library cooperation has become much more organised.

The international organisations such as FID, IFLA and UNESCO have taken initiatives and put in lot of effort. In 1895 Paul Otlet and Henri La Fontana formulated FID as the International Institute of Bibliography, its task was to compile a list of all the works published in the entire world. UDC came up with another tool which helped in presenting all the information which has ever been published. The purpose behind all these efforts was to enhance the accessibility of information. The IFLA initiated two programmes in the area of library cooperation, namely UBC and UAP. On the same lines UNISIST, was initiated for delivering processed information to people in the field of science and technology.

In the earlier days libraries provided books and journals to each other as way of cooperation hence it was called “Library Cooperation”. With time the cooperation was no longer limited to exchanging books it also included procurement, processing, storing of documents and partaking of know-how of library experts, as a result of these new involvements a new term was designated to the process and it began to be referred as “Resource sharing”. According to prominent personality of library science Maurice Bernard Line cooperation is beneficial in the undertakings such as selection, procurement, purchasing and ordering of books etc.; also included record keeping, book cataloguing and book classification; providing them for libraries usage and lending-borrowing of books from other libraries and storage of books for safekeeping as well as present usage.

The bases of library resource sharing are well utilisation of assets and efficiency of the member libraries. The primary aim is to offer easy accessibility of information for users of the libraries by involving internal and external resources so that there is maximum consumer satisfaction. Sharing resources helps in maximising the resources of the member libraries, the advantage is not limited to satisfying the readers but helps in saving cost and avoids duplication of resources which are rare and specialised.

Sharing resources helps in adding towards library facilities such as collection of books, cataloguing, loan facility, production of catalogue, etc.

The effective working of the process of resource sharing will take place only in the presence of adequate tools employed in the libraries. The tools which are required for success of resource sharing consist of the creating a standard bibliographic database like books and journals should have union catalogues, union lists of serials, articles should have bibliographic databases’ etc. essential tools should be developed for providing complete text of books, articles and other

relevant material. At the same besides providing the tools required for sharing resources the library should be equipped with tools for prompt delivery of documents and fast identification and location of the documents.

Extents for Resource Sharing

In present scenario sharing of resources includes many actions; it involves loaning among libraries, collective procurement, purchasing of specialised programmes, common processing, collective cataloguing, partaking of bibliographical data, central timely collections of loans, supportive microfilming, planning and preservation of Union Catalogue and Union List of Serials. All these help libraries to operate at an individual level as well as a cooperative level and satisfy their users.

- **Loan Service among Libraries:** involves loaning of documents so that the reader is able to attain the information. The libraries coordinate amongst each other and manage the information for the user. This facility is available in most of the urban areas as it requires good connectivity with other libraries for providing prompt service.
- **Collective Procurement:** The libraries collectively plan the books which have to be purchased a well thought out list helps them to save funds and time as they are saved from making individual lists, placement of orders and all the running around which is required for procuring of books. The libraries of one locality present a collective procurement list. The books are distributed amongst the libraries according to their requests. Buying books in bulk makes them avail good discount offers as well.
- **Integrated Cataloguing:** With constant issues of lack of funds resource sharing provides all measures of saving money as well as time. Having an integrated catalogue is an answer to all their above issue. As per a combined cataloguing any one or two-member libraries undertake the task. The best example of integrated cataloguing is Machine Readable Catalogue (MARC). The combined storage programs help in resolving the storage issues faced by the libraries.
- **Common Storing of Books and other material:** The combined storage programs help in resolving the storage issues faced by the libraries. In all libraries there are several books and other material which is not used frequently. In order to resolve the problem of lack of space common storage option comes very handy.
- **Collective Services for Reference and Information**
- The libraries' existing reference services when combined with other resources helps in satisfying the needs of the readers to the maximum. This facility is very helpful in research libraries. The internet facilities make it easy to provide collective referral services.

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- **Equipment Sharing:** An effective way of reducing cost of operation is to share facilities like microfilming and scanning. These facilities help in conserving ancient manuscripts. Resource sharing enables the libraries to use main frame computers in rotation. The sharing is not just till the extent of equipment and material it also extends to human resources. Libraries can benefit from the specialised knowledge of senior staff members under the exchange and training programmes.
- **Services of Translation:** Some of the books and material is in foreign languages. The combined translated efforts help in all libraries to procure the translated version of the books.
- **Planning of Bibliographies and Databases** Computerised systems in the libraries facilitate the exchange of the prepared bibliographies and with help of computers they are able to build the database of readers and the information required by them.

Levels of Resource Sharing

- **Local:** This occurs when the resources are shared amongst libraries of the same locality. These can be managed over the telephone or by providing a locality manager.
- **Regional:** Libraries of different towns fall under this level. They could be divided into north, west, east and south.
- **National:** When the sharing takes place between libraries of different states in a country. In case the resources of libraries in a country are used collectively then the exchange will take place at a national level. For instance, national organizations like INSDOC, ICSSR, UGC along with several academic Libraries, all the public libraries of the states with the National library of India are delivering inter library services.
- **International:** UNISIST helps in illustrating the cooperation and resource sharing among libraries at an international level. It has played an important role in establishment of system for world science information. International organizations such as IFLA and FID are providing their support in the process of resource sharing. All libraries of the member countries are able to benefit from UNESCO's Vitiated deposit and exchange of reading material.

Check Your Progress

1. State the purpose of library cooperation.
2. Define resource sharing.

8.4 LIBRARY CONSORTIA: DEFINITION, NEED AND PURPOSE

A consortium refers to an arrangement between members of a group with an undertaking to help the member with additional resources other than their own. In the same way Library Consortia refers to a group of libraries which come together to work for a similar effort. It involves collaborating and collating each other's efforts so that the needs of the users can be fulfilled. It can be referred to an official agreement of cooperation between libraries that have agreed to share and barter their resources and information between each other. It is a form of library cooperation which has come into existence in very recent past, in library consortia resource sharing is sharing of information which is in non-print format as it mostly involves digital and electronic form of information. The libraries in the consortium partner with each other in order to share resources and expertise. An un-official group of consortia exists in shape of The International Coalition of Library Consortia. Library consortia are able to provide essential benefits for the extremely skint libraries. The libraries which are a part of library consortia are able to provide superior quality information which would not be possible otherwise.

The term 'consortium' in its plural form is 'consortia'. It has a Latin origin and comes from fellowship; it refers to joining of various groups in order to achieve a single goal. The word "consortia" denotes following meanings coalition, union, partnership, mutual aid, corporation, etc. Consortium is an intricate organization. The members or groups are associated with each other for engaging in activities such as cooperation and sharing. It is not always used in the context of libraries. The term has been defined by several dictionaries but whenever used in the context of library its meaning remains constant. The definition of consortium in the Oxford English Dictionary is "temporary cooperation of a number of powers, companies, etc. for a common purpose. It is an association of similar type of organization/ institution who are engaged for producing and servicing the common things for providing services for a specific purpose of its users".

In the words of Arnold Hirshonin, he is an Associate Director and University Librarian at Case Western Reserve University, a library consortium is—"a generic term to indicate any group of libraries that are working together towards a common goal, whether to expand cooperation on traditional library services (such as collection development) or electronic information services".

A library consortium can be referred to a "community" consisting of multiple organisations responsible for providing information, they are formally combined with each other in order to cooperate and fulfil their common goals. They can be formed at different levels such as local, district, national, or international level; they can be combined as per their functions, formats or area of specialisation. The simple understanding is coming together of libraries for enhancing their services. They are able to function efficiently with other.

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Libraries from all over the world are able to borrow information on various topics from other libraries under the system of Interlibrary loan (ILL). The basic use of all forms of cooperation among library is to be able to get loans for information which they are not able to provide their users. It is also the reason for development of various consortia. Consortia have the capacity for developing beyond a facilitator of loaning information arrangement. Several consortia in the US have developed beyond the loaning capacity and as a result have evolved collective integrated library systems (ILS). Some of the ILS that have developed are OhioLINK, it comprises of Ohio's academic libraries, there are 88 libraries in the system, another is Northern Lights Library Network of Minnesota, it has more than 300 member libraries, the Orbis Cascade Alliance in the North-west United States; in India the MCIT Library Consortium has developed; The Louisiana Library Network, it has 49 members which not only include academic libraries but has several special libraries as well, in West Texas the Abilene Library Consortium and in South California PASCAL consortia have developed.

Joining these consortia has several benefits for the libraries. There is a subscription which all members have to pay and also an entry fees, but these costs are nothing as compared to the advantages in the long run, the amount of money the libraries are able to save because of being able to share resources is much larger. The libraries are able to increase their number of users also when they offer better services. Moreover, the establishment and application of cooperation between libraries leads to improving the communication and knowledge in various fields and also enhances cross-disciplinary cooperation.

Need for Library Consortia

The development in digital and electronic means of information gave rise to the conception of library consortia. There are many factors which made their formation essential for development of libraries. Following may be regarded as the major factors which led to their creation:

- **Outburst of Information:** The extensive research work in various fields has led to tremendously increasing the amount of information and people are constantly seeking more info in order to increase their knowledge. The libraries are not able to keep up with demand for more information. There insufficiency can lead to dissatisfaction among users. In present time the information is available in a number of formats which comprises of printed as well as non-printed info along with that information is available through internet, e-books and e-journals as well. The individual libraries are not able to produce such varied formats of information.
- **Constrained Finances:** The libraries are not only struggling to acquire all the various formats of information but another factor which prevents them from acquiring information is the cost of material. The funds which are allotted for libraries are not adequate. Lack of funds prevents the libraries to provide all the resources needed by the users. The libraries are also constrained for

space and experienced staff. These pressures clubbed together compel them to join resources with other libraries and try to overcome them.

- **Increasing demands of Users:** All users have different requirements. Their needs are constantly increasing because of the advancement in research science. Several new fields of knowledge have developed in recent times. The information is available in various formats and users want their information in latest formats. Libraries on their own are not able to satisfy their users as they lack the variety they are seeking. Combined resources of libraries are helping to meet the demands of the users.
- **Advancement in the Field of Technology:** The advancements in ways of storing information are compelling the traditional libraries to seek help from the latest establishments. The libraries on their own are unable to keep pace with storing data and information and are looking for digital options so they can keep their users happy. They are not just facing issues with print changing to non-print resources but have problem because of the constantly changing formats, development in software, short span of electronic media and at the same time they are facing pressure due to interoperability and standards. The only option left is to work in collaboration with other libraries.
- **Changing Roles of Library Professionals:** While taking a broader look at the tasks of the librarian one would find that they still involve identification, selection, procurement, preservation and distribution of information but what needs to be realised that ways of performing all these tasks have changed with time. They are no longer merely conservators of information they have become an important source of facilitating knowledge. The librarians that are unable to change their way of working are finding it difficult to survive and are constantly under pressure. The sharing of resources also enables sharing man-power; the exposure to expertise of current staff helps training of staff. The libraries are able to provide quality services with the help of trained and qualified staff.

Purpose of Library Consortia

According to library science scholars V S Cholin and C R Karisiddappa the main purpose for establishment of library consortia are:

- To improve the fundamental resources of a particular library
- To increase the subscription members thus increasing the funds
- Judicial use of existing funds
- Increase the procurement capacity
- To guarantee uninterrupted subscription of the subscribed journals
- To assure storage of information locally so that non-stop usage is possible
- To overcome manpower and storage issues

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- Help in developing staff's technical competences for collecting databases electronically
- Encourage collective use of trained and expert professionals
- To provide recent technology
- To create strategic co-operation between organisations with similar needs.

Resource sharing of information is an old concept and has been a part of library system since ancient times. The ways of sharing information have undergone changes and different formats of information require new methods for sharing. These changes led to the formation of library consortia amongst libraries. There are many advantages of forming an alliance with another library.

- Greater cooperation
- Expansion of resources with low cost
- Enhanced and latest services
- Libraries do not duplicate resources
- Library staff training programmes are initiated while sharing of experts
- Common platform to discuss problems of library functioning
- Cost of acquiring information reduces to a large extent
- Increase in satisfied users
- Libraries which are relatively small are able to function efficiently
- Users can be provided with adequate information about various subjects
- All formats of information can be updated and made available to the users.

With so many advantages the library consortia is a fast growing concept in most parts of the world. However, the concept is still not in full swing in the Indian system of library. The libraries in India are not able to fully incorporate the concept into their system because of following reasons:

- Inadequate tools of bibliography
- Lack of reliable services of telecommunication
- Lack of adequate financial support
- Scarce and unsuitable skilled manpower
- Lack of positive attitude towards the entire concept of sharing resources
- Library professional are not fully aware about the advantages of the concept
- The overall library system lacks support from senior authorities.

- There is no cooperation and interaction between the library staff and professionals
- Lack of powerful associations in the field of library
- The concept of library consortia has not been taken up an organisation at the national level
- Indian users are not keen to change over to digital resources
- Absence of local databases
- Libraries are not equipped with adequate infrastructure to sustain the technological advancement; in fact, most do not have internet facilities as well.
- Absence of volunteers for collective responsibility
- Fluctuating expectations of the users
- Obstructions from the legal, social and political organisations
- Concerns over archives of digital resources
- Lack of effective Copyright laws and costing strategy
- Unable to fairly use the information provided through the channel of consortia

For the above-mentioned reasons, the concept of library consortia still has a long way to go in the India library system. However, in countries that have evolved the concept need to consider the following aspects for effective function of the consortia in their libraries:

There has to a good repo between not just the members but also between the members and the headquarters of consortia.

- Presence of clear cut policies
- Priorities of all members have to be considered
- Addressing of issues and difficulties of members and efforts to resolve them

The libraries have very well realised that they are able to offer better services and function efficiently with the support of each other. Therefore, library consortia are going to be a part of library system in the future as well.

Check Your Progress

3. What is a consortium?
4. What gave rise to the concept of library consortia?

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8.5 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

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1. The purpose of library cooperation is that it aids in loans among the libraries.
2. Resource sharing is defined as an arrangement between the partaking libraries; in this arrangement all the participants willingly share their resources with others as and when required.
3. A consortium refers to an arrangement between members of a group with an undertaking to help the member with additional resources other than their own.
4. The development in digital and electronic means of information gave rise to the conception of library consortia.

8.6 SUMMARY

- The phenomenon of Library cooperation is a social concept. Under this occurrence the libraries join together so that they are able to enhance the facilities of the library seeking the corporation.
- The process of cooperation amongst libraries comprises of not only sharing the available resources but also providing services and performing functions on behalf of the libraries.
- Library cooperation involves not only the process of resource sharing and library consortia but goes beyond and serves the users.
- The categories of library cooperation are identified according to the geographical area which is covered during the process.
- International Level: Programme initiated by IFLA, Universal Availability of Publication (UAP) programme and Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) are examples of library cooperation at the international level.
- National Level: includes programmes like National Social Science Documentation Centre (NASSDOC) it was started in 1970 as a Division of the ICSSR and the main purpose was to give support services to libraries.
- The library cooperation takes place at the regional as well as the local level also.
- The concept of sharing is commonly understood as give and take of available resources between individuals or institutions as and when the need is felt, in some cases the exchange is done in a legal manner with a provision of agreement.
- The Encyclopaedia of Library and Information Science has defined the concept as, “*resource are a person, thing or action to which one resorts to, when needed*”.

- The explosion of knowledge is making the users constantly seek information. The process of resource sharing is an answer to all the present day's issues faced by the libraries.
- The international organisations such as FID, IFLA and UNESCO have taken initiatives and put in lot of effort.
- In 1895 Paul Otlet and Henri La Fontana formulated FID as the International Institute of Bibliography, its task was to compile a list of all the works published in the entire world.
- The IFLA initiated two programmes in the area of library cooperation, namely UBC and UAP. On the same lines UNISIST, was initiated for delivering processed information to people in the field of science and technology.
- A consortium refers to an arrangement between members of a group with an undertaking to help the member with additional resources other than their own.
- The development in digital and electronic means of information gave rise to the conception of library consortia.

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8.7 KEY WORDS

- **Format:** It is the way in which something is arranged or set out.
- **Professional:** It means to be engaged in a specified activity as one's main paid occupation rather than as an amateur.
- **Loan:** It is a thing that is borrowed, especially a sum of money that is expected to be paid back with interest.

8.8 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. What is library cooperation? Why is it needed?
2. What is the purpose of library cooperation? Mention its benefits.
3. What are the various categories of library cooperation?
4. What are the extents and levels of resource sharing?

Long-Answer Questions

1. Discuss the various definitions of resource sharing. Why is it needed?
2. What is the purpose of resource sharing? Discuss in detail.
3. Why is a library consortium needed? Also, discuss its purpose in detail.

8.9 FURTHER READINGS

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UNIT 9 NETWORKING OF LIBRARIES IN INDIA

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Structure

- 9.0 Introduction
- 9.1 Objectives
- 9.2 Library Networking in India
- 9.3 Types of Networks
- 9.4 Types of Library Networks in India
 - 9.4.1 INFLIBNET
 - 9.4.2 DELNET
 - 9.4.3 CSIR E-Journal Consortium
 - 9.4.4 UGC-INFONET
 - 9.4.5 DAE Consortium
- 9.5 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 9.6 Summary
- 9.7 Key Words
- 9.8 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 9.9 Further Readings

9.0 INTRODUCTION

Development of networks among libraries has been on an increase since the last few decades. This is because of the advancement in the science and technology. The networking between libraries takes place when groups of libraries and their information centres exchange information so that they can efficiently achieve their singular goals. Networking of libraries is activities which link the members to the resources which are put on computers by using telecommunication systems.

In this unit, you will study about library networking in India and various types of networks in detail.

9.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Discuss library networking in India
- Explain the types of networks
- Describe various networks such as DELNET, INFLIBNET, UGC – INFONET, DAE Consortium, CSIR - E-Journals Consortium

9.2 LIBRARY NETWORKING IN INDIA

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The geographical limits no longer pose a hindrance in accessing information in present times. Physical library resources have been taken over by the internet and can be accessed on-line. All activities and functions of the library can be done with the help of online access. It will not be wrong to say that networking in libraries has helped in integrating all the activities of the libraries. Libraries are able to undertake all their cooperative functions and sharing of resources with the help of the internet. In order to completely utilise the services of the library through the internet it is essential to have good internet connectivity so that local as well as international information can be accessed.

The library network has been clearly defined in the 1975 national program of “The National commission on Libraries and Information Sciences” in following words:

“Two or more libraries or other organizations engaged in a common pattern of information exchange through communication for some functional purpose. A network usually consists of a formal arrangement whereby materials, information and services provided by a variety of libraries and other organizations are available to all potential users. Libraries may be different jurisdictions but must agree to serve one another on the same basis as each serves its own constituents. Computers and telecommunication may be among tools for facilitating communication among them.”

Purpose of Networks

- Support resource sharing to happen between member libraries with the help of computer network
- Simplify and encourage distribution of documents
- Promote development of necessary collections
- Lessen excessive doubling of books and journals that are expensive
- Create centres for reference so that catalogue search can be monitored, and the process can be simplified.
- Maintaining of central on-line union catalogue for printed, non-printed and serials for all member libraries
- Facilitate searching and accessing of books creating specialised bibliographic database, serials and other materials.
- Creation of project databases with required information of institutions providing services of information through the internet
- Collaborate the networks of all the levels and keep information ready for usage by libraries and users
- Develop standardised procedure for functioning and processing of information.

Functions of Library Networks can be summarised in three broad areas, namely:

- Providing the users with information services
- Technical support to libraries that are members of the network
- Managing the administrative functions related to library networking.

Internet for Libraries

The primary task of a library is to provide prompt information to the user. In present times this task has become complex and is no longer limited to printed information in the books and journals. The information is not only available in different formats but at the same time it is stored at various locations. The libraries will not be able to provide information in the absence of networking. The Internet may be referred to system of networks which are interconnected with computers all over the world with the help of the Transmission Control Protocol or Internet Protocol. The development of Internet has helped in connecting computers anywhere in the world and helped in accessing of information. E-mail, Gopher, Telnet, File Transfer Protocol and World Wide Web are some of the tools which help the users to process and access the information. The WWW helps the integration of the remaining access tools and provides an extremely simple procedure through which information can be published as well as accessed in the computers and sent to different parts of the world. The documents of multimedia and hyper-text-links can also be stored on the computer and circulated anywhere in the world. Any information that is available on the web may be accessed with the help of an internet connection from any corner of the world. This development of internet facilities is fully explored by information providing centres and libraries.

Library Networking and Resource Sharing in India

The development of library networking is provided in the report submitted by the working group of the planning commission; the report of the seventh five-year plan (1985-1990) mentions the extent of modernization of the services and informatics of libraries. The extent of developments has been mentioned in National Policy on Library and Information systems document of 1986. In AIU and the DSIR have been strongly supporting an integrated attitude towards networking and computerization in libraries.

The growth of Indian library networks can be realised by the efforts undertaken since the 1950s. The Scientific Policy resolution in 1958 permitted the selection of various committees which gave directives for looking into the issues of library networking. In the Ninth Five Year Plan the Working Group for libraries and informatics underlined the problems which were faced by the libraries due to lack of sufficient networking provisions in the libraries. As a result networking and the Internet facilities were made the focus. UGC, Department of Electronics, Department of Telecommunication, Planning Commission and several other Departments of Government were affianced for working towards establishing

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necessary networks. The National Information System for Science and Technology (NISSAT) has undertaken the task of computerisation of libraries in various institutes of the country. The efforts and steps taken by NISSAT, Planning Commission, University Grant Commission and several government organisations have helped in establishing networking and computerised systems in many libraries all over the country. Presently most of the libraries in India are supported by computers and networking system of some variety as a result they are able to develop databases and perform the functions of the library with the help of the computer system. Usually, the publication collections are used to build up the databases since other library documents take a longer time. This as it takes less time than for the other types of library documents. After this is done then a database of collection of books, reports, theses, standards, and other material is taken up. The Library Networking Centres are in the meantime are working on obtaining databases so that the user has availability of all the records. They arrange for this access via email or on internet with the help of a telephone network. Additionally, the networking centres work towards providing software which are common so that the database can be developed, and the services of the libraries can be computerised.

Identifying the significance and necessity for the optimal exploitation of accessible resources many libraries and information networks (LINs) have been developed in most parts of the country since the later part of 1980s. Some of the networking systems in India are, The Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET); The Delhi Library Network (DELNET); BTIS, The Calcutta Library Network (CALIBNET); The Madras Library Network (MALIBNET); and there are many more.

9.3 TYPES OF NETWORKS

Different types of networks will be discussed in this section.

- **Client Server Based Networks**

In this system the clients are generally computers on the network which are functioned by individuals, they make alterations on the files having the received data and once the alterations are done the data files are sent back to the server for storing. The quality of this arrangement is that it processes very effectively specially on big networks with large number of machines. The clients are able to receive and send information at a very high speed and they do not have to wait for data. The network has full processing power that of an extremely powerful computer. Individuals are able to process several files with varied software separately without being affected by each other.

The single draw-back of this type of network is experienced once the server stops functioning, the complete network stops working.

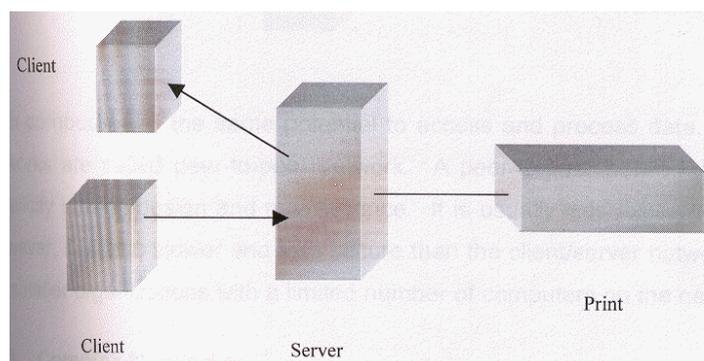


Fig. 9.1 Client Server Based Networks

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- **Peer-to-Peer Network**

Every computer has the identical potential for accessing and processing data. Such types of networks are referred to as peer-to-peer network. This network has the quality of being simple in design as well as in maintaining. The network is generally cost effective as compared to others. The drawback of this network is its lack of speed and safety when compared with previous network. Because of these qualities this is suitable for small organisations as it will not be efficient if it is attached to many computers at one time.

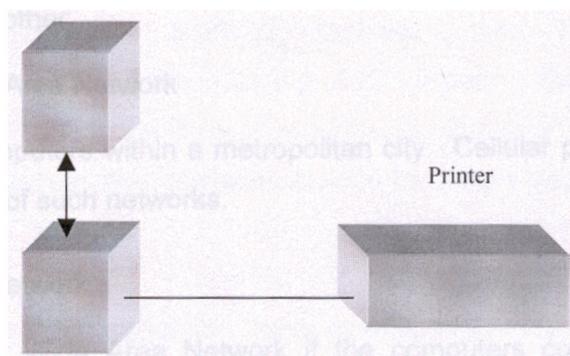


Fig. 9.2 Peer-to-Peer Network

- **Complex Networks**

This network may be joined with other networks and these networks may involve variety of machines from various sources, they all may have different mechanism of treating electronic information, need not be interpreted by rest of the network machines. The complex and intricate system is attached with distinctive software and hardware. These machines are referred to as bridges, routers and gateways, they execute task differently and translate information received in one way and supply it in a format which deciphered easily by the receiving machine

- **LAN, MAN, WAN**

The above networks are categorized as per their coverage areas geographically:

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(i) Local Area Network (LAN)

When the computers of a network are positioned at a distance of less than one kilometre, close to each other, they may be in one building; computers of an office would use this network.

(ii) Metropolitan Area Network (MAN)

The computers of a metropolitan city are connected with the help of this network. Network providers of mobile phones fall under this category.

(iii) Wide Area Network (WAN)

The network which connects computers spread over a large area, these may be as close as thirty kilometres of each other or thirty thousand kilometres away. Some parts of this network are linked with the help of cables and some which are far are connected with help of microwave or satellite transmission. Usual WAN are the ones which are functioned by the telephone corporations. The widest and all-encompassing network is the Internet as it includes all three networks.

Check Your Progress

1. What is client server-based network?
2. What is Local Area Network?

9.4 TYPES OF LIBRARY NETWORKS IN INDIA

In this section we will study the different of library networks in India. Let us begin by studying INFLIBNET.

9.4.1 INFLIBNET

INFLIBNET stands for Information and Library Network. It is an independent Inter-University Centre (IUC) functioning under University Grants Commission (UGC). The main function of the centre is to create effective infrastructure which enables the process of sharing library resources as well as the information between all institutions related to education and research. The working of INFLIBNET is collaborative with libraries of various universities of India. The purpose of the network centre is to develop the academic libraries as a hub for information.

Functions of INFLIBNET

- It promotes the computerization process in the libraries,
- Establishes standards,
- Generates union catalogue of thesis, serials, books, articles and other materials
- Accessibility of sources of bibliographic information
- Generates project, institutions and specialist databases

9.4.2 DELNET

DELNET stands for Delhi Library Network. In 1988 the project was initiated as a part of India International centre. In the beginning it had the financial backing of NISSAT. In 1992 it became an independent body and was formally listed as a society. Currently the activities of DELNET are backed by Planning Commission's NIC.

The primary function of DELNET is involved in promotion of resource sharing between all libraries within Delhi and in other parts of the country. In order to perform its primary function it develops a library network which stores and disseminates information. Coordinates efforts so that suitable collection can be developed, and duplication of resources can be avoided, offers the users services of automated information.

The members of DELNET include the libraries of several colleges and universities, along with departments of government. It helps them with all their technical requirements and assists them in creation and maintenance of databases of the bibliography, control over serials, preparations of the union catalogue, abstracting services, loaning facility, transferring of documents, photocopying services and above all provides databases of all levels. It has also created library software such as Software for libraries namely DELSEARCH and DEL-DOS have been created in helping the process of networking in libraries which will enable to access database and create new ones from different locations.

9.4.3 CSIR E-Journal Consortium

CSIR stands for Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. A consortium of CSIR has been formulated as well. As a result of the consortium National Institute of Science, Communication and Information Resources (NISCSIR) was established as an integral part CSIR. It was developed with the merging of INSDOC and NISCOM as a result it had several branches which supported the library networking in India. NISCAIR executed an agency to undertake the progression of supplying accessibility of all electronic journals present in different parts of the world to all the employees of CSIR. All this was done in order to enhance the research and advancement activities of CSIR.

The consortium has managed to achieve a lot in the field of networking of knowledge and communication.

CSIR E- Journals Consortium helps in providing electronic access to the employees of CSIR. They are able to access all the latest information of science and technology, developments in the field at minimal cost. This has been possible only because of the approach of the consortium. In order to provide the E-journals in 2002 CSIR signed a contract with Elsevier Science, under the terms of the contract it was able to access over 18000 journals. Remarkably, the laboratories of CSIR were jointly acquiring 550 printed journals from M/s Elsevier; the annual subscription was seven crores. But with the availability of e-journals in the same

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subscription they began to receive 1400 journals. CSIR is trying to rope in other providers as well as that their employees can have access to over 4500 international journals related to science and technology.

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9.4.4 UGC-INFONET

UGC-INFONET is remodelling the campuses of Indian universities with latest comprehensive network which connects all the university and college libraries all over the country. It is a communication system which will function on national level. The consortium aims at providing e-journals to the universities which are its members with the help of the UGC-INFONET. The UGC-INFONET will be overlaid by infrastructure of ERNET. This will guarantee service of quality and maximum usage of resources of the bandwidth. INFLIBNET is going to execute the project on behalf of UGC. The funds for the project will be provided by UGC, as it has launched the project. The consortium aims at providing e-journals to the universities which are its members with the help of the UGC-INFONET. The consortium's objective is to encourage usage of electronic database and give complete access of journals to the community of education in all parts of India.

The Project entitled "National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)", being jointly executed by the e-ShodhSindhu Consortium, INFLIBNET Centre and the INDEST-AICTE Consortium, IIT Delhi provides for i) cross-subscription to e-resources subscribed by the two Consortia, i.e. subscription to INDEST-AICTE resources for universities and e-ShodhSindhu resources for technical institutions; and ii) access to selected e-resources to colleges. The N-LIST project provides access to e-resources to students, researchers and faculty from colleges and other beneficiary institutions through server(s) installed at the INFLIBNET Centre. The authorized users from colleges can now access e-resources and download articles required by them directly from the publisher's website once they are duly authenticated as authorized users through servers deployed at the INFLIBNET Centre.

N-LIST: Four Components

The project has four distinct components, i.e. i) to subscribe and provide access to selected e-ShodhSindhu e-resources to technical institutions (IITs, IISc, IISERs and NITs) and monitor its usage; ii) to subscribe and provide access to selected INDEST e-resources to selected universities and monitor its usage; iii) to subscribe and provide access to selected e-resources to 6,000 Govt./ Govt.-aided colleges and monitor its usage; and iv) to act as a Monitoring Agency for colleges and evaluate, promote, impart training and monitor all activities involved in the process of providing effective and efficient access to e-resources to colleges.

The INDEST and UGC-INFONET are jointly responsible for activity listed at i) and ii) above. The INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad is responsible for activities listed at iii) and iv) above. The INFLIBNET Centre is also responsible for developing and deploying appropriate software tools and techniques for authenticating authorized users.

9.4.5 DAE Consortium

DAE Consortium stands for Department of Atomic Energy, which is a consortium developed to encourage scientific research.

Functions of DAE Consortium

- To encourage collaborations between scientists working and researching in DAE with professors of universities and various research institutions.
- The Consortium provides opportunity for the university students to work on projects which are essential for the country. They will be jointly guided by professors and the scientists.
- The Consortium helps in nurturing a healthy connection between the functioning of universities and the DAE research centre.

The project is jointly undertaken by UGC and the Atomic Energy Commission. The DAE consortium wants to encourage research work in not only their departments but also in other institutions and universities. They have the resources hence they are willing to provide facilities of the labs, library, workshops and other infrastructural requirements for research work to be conducted.

Check Your Progress

3. State one function of INFLIBNET.
4. What does DELNET stand for?

9.5 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. In client server-based networks, the clients are generally computers on the network which are functioned by individuals, they make alterations on the files having the received data and once the alterations are done the data files are sent back to the server for storing.
2. When the computers of a network are positioned at a distance of less than one kilometre, close to each other, they may be in one building; computers of an office would use Local Area Network (LAN).
3. INFLIBNET promotes the computerization process in the libraries.
4. DELNET stands for Delhi Library Network.

9.6 SUMMARY

- The geographical limits no longer pose a hindrance in accessing information in present times. Physical library resources have been taken over by the internet and can be accessed on-line.

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- Libraries are able to undertake all their cooperative functions and sharing of resources with the help of the internet.
- The primary task of a library is to provide prompt information to the user.
- The development of library networking is provided in the report submitted by the working group of the planning commission; the report of the seventh five-year plan (1985-1990) mentions the extent of modernization of the services and informatics of libraries.
- The growth of Indian library networks can be realised by the efforts undertaken since the 1950s. The Scientific Policy resolution in 1958 permitted the selection of various committees which gave directives for looking into the issues of library networking.
- Identifying the significance and necessity for the optimal exploitation of accessible resources many libraries and information networks (LNs) have been developed in most parts of the country since the later part of 1980s.
- Some of the networking systems in India are: The Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET); The Delhi Library Network (DELNET); BTIS, The Calcutta Library Network (CALIBNET); The Madras Library Network (MALIBNET); and there are many more.
- INFLIBNET stands for Information and Library Network. It is an independent Inter-University Centre (IUC) functioning under University Grants Commission (UGC).
- DELNET stands for Delhi Library Network. In 1988 the project was initiated as a part of India International centre. In the beginning it had the financial backing of NISSAT. In 1992 it became an independent body and was formally listed as a society.
- The primary function of DELNET is involved in promotion of resource sharing between all libraries within Delhi and in other parts of the country.
- The members of DELNET include the libraries of several colleges and universities, along with departments of government.
- CSIR stands for Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. A consortium of CSIR has been formulated as well.
- CSIR E- Journals Consortium helps in providing electronic access to the employees of CSIR. They are able to access all the latest information of science and technology, developments in the field at minimal cost.
- UGC-INFONET is remodelling the campuses of Indian universities with latest comprehensive network which connects all the university and college libraries all over the country.
- DAE Consortium stands for Department of Atomic Energy, it is a consortium developed to encourage scientific research.

9.7 KEY WORDS

- **Geography:** It is the nature and relative arrangement of places and physical features.
- **Internet:** It is a global computer network providing a variety of information and communication facilities, consisting of interconnected networks using standardized communication protocols.
- **Networking:** It means to interact with others to exchange information and develop professional or social contacts.

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9.8 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. List the purpose and functions of library networks.
2. Write a short note on internet for libraries.
3. Give a brief background on library networking and resource sharing in India.
4. Write a brief note on UGC -INFONET.

Long-Answer Questions

1. Describe the below mentioned types networks in detail:
 - (a) Client Server Based Networks
 - (b) Peer-to-Peer Network
 - (c) Complex Networks
 - (d) LAN, MAN, WAN
2. Explain the various library networks operating in India in detail.

9.9 FURTHER READINGS

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UNIT 10 NETWORKING OF LIBRARIES - INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Structure

- 10.0 Introduction
- 10.1 Objectives
- 10.2 Networking of Libraries: International Setting
- 10.3 International Librarians Network
- 10.4 International Nuclear Library Network (INLN)
- 10.5 International School Libraries Network (ISLN)
- 10.6 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 10.7 Summary
- 10.8 Key Words
- 10.9 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 10.10 Further Readings

10.0 INTRODUCTION

All the information is distributed to individuals with the help of Library and Information Centres. They act as a hub of information which facilitates the learning and research activities of all organisations. In present scenario information is a commodity which everybody wants in endless quantities. The societies today can be referred to as “information societies”. The need for endless information has increased the responsibilities of the library and information centre as well. They need to acquire updated information from all parts of the world. They have become an integral part of all educational and research organisations. People want information quickly and unlike the traditional libraries the present ones have to have resources so that they can satisfy their users. The development in the field of technology has made computerisation essential for undertaking simple domestic activities so they are definitely needed in libraries. The computers have to have strong networks so that they can provide the required information accurately and promptly. Libraries are happy to switch to the non-print options of information as the cost of printed information is becoming very high and moreover all libraries are facing storage-space constraints as well.

The need for library networks is required for sharing of resources by the libraries. Though the concept of library cooperation prevailed during the olden days as well but since the format of information has changed thus the ways of cooperation have also undergone a change.

10.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Explain networking of libraries in the international setting
- Describe International Librarians Network (ILN) and International Nuclear Library Network (INLN)
- Discuss the objectives of International School Library Network (ISLN)

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10.2 NETWORKING OF LIBRARIES: INTERNATIONAL SETTING

Resource sharing and networking provide libraries with large quantities of information. The concept has been a part of library science since the time libraries came into existence but with technological developments in the means of gathering information have changed in the libraries. Resource sharing was always done in order to help libraries satisfy their users and allowed them to get over their financial problems related to procurement. The resources sharing has gone beyond sharing printed material and cataloguing facilities, today libraries are able to share their resources with the help of networks. The networking of libraries mainly started during the 1970s and were further developed in 1980s. The explosion of information has compelled the libraries to develop a networking system for sharing information.

Library Networking in USA

The need to have access to endless information which was well-coordinated and was cheaper than other options led to development of library networking in America.

Till the beginning of 1970s resources were shared with the help of Farmington Plan and the Latin American Co-operative Acquisitions Project. Both the projects were active only till end of 1972. The significant developments in the field were formulated by top universities of Harvard, Yale and Columbia along with the New York Public Library; they functioned as Research Libraries Group (RLG). In April 1976, Network Advisory Committee of Library of Congress endeavoured to discover methods which will help in developing an interrelated countrywide system for sharing information of bibliography.

The largest library network of USA is Ohio College Library Centre. It was established in 1967, and by 1987 it had over 810 personnel working for supporting functions of resource sharing between more than 6700 libraries of USA and several more all over Europe, Saudi Arabia and Australia. The network's union catalogue database comprises of thirteen million records; it has additions up to 30,000 records per week. The member libraries do not have to continue with their original catalogue process. OCLC serves several regional networks as well. Some of the main

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networks served by OCLC are Bibliographic Council, Dallas (AMIGOS), ILLINET, New England Library Information Network (NELINET), Midwestern Regional Library Network (MIDLNET), Wisconsin Library Consortium (WLC) and Michigan Library Consortium (MLC).

Besides the above-mentioned networks there are few more operational in America. Function of all the networks is to promote the sharing of resources, these include The South Eastern Library Network (SOLINET); Washington Library Network (WLN), it was developed in 1972 and consists of fifty one personnel and the network provides computerised resource sharing in over 250 libraries spread in seven states of USA; Research Library Group (RLG), in 1987 Research Libraries and Information Network (RLIN) was established and it has eighty-one personnel all dedicated towards supporting collaboration programmes of RLG in over 36 important libraries. RGL was developed in 1974 by Research Libraries of Harvard, Yale, Columbia and New York Public Library. The network was set up to share collections and prevents duplication at the time of procurement and another network serving US is California Library Authority for Systems and Services (CLASS).

Library Networking in Canada

Canada has had collaboration between academic libraries since the 1960s, the system was not at a national level and serviced only at a provisional level. Some of the major library networks of the academic libraries are Tri-University Libraries (TRIUL), Ontario Universities Library Co-Operative System (OULCS), College Bibliocentre (CB) and University of Toronto Library Automation system (UTLAS).

Library Networking in United Kingdom

Resource sharing has been a part of several university libraries of United Kingdom since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The universities have been participating in the in British Union Catalogue of journals and many researchers have availed the facilities, the participating universities have the membership of South Western Regional Network, the Universities of Bath, Bristol, Exeter and Southampton are its member libraries and provide considerable loans to libraries locally as well as regionally. Libraries of the universities generated regional data banks founded on the MARC records produced by the British Library Bibliographical Services Division. Numerous university libraries are engaged in Birmingham Libraries Co-operative Mechanization Project. Assurances have been provided by the Standing Conference of National and University Libraries (SCONUL) in encouraging the information exchange and cooperation to libraries of UK, these include all major national and university libraries.

Three important library networks of United Kingdom are:

- The VISCOUNT Project- it has been initiated by The London and south Eastern Library (LASER)

- LIBERTAS Project- is an abbreviation for “Integrated Library System” and has been initiated by The South Western Academic Libraries Co-operative Automation Project (SWALCAP)
- JANET was created in 1983. Joint Academic Network (JANET) has a Wide Area Network (WAN), this enables it to link various universities, training colleges and research institutions. All studies conducted about the library networks of United Kingdom designate JANET as their most important network as it connects all the educational institutions and the services comprise of ILL, OPACs, E-Mail, electronic bulletin boards, and many more.

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Library Networking in Australia

The Government of Australia has patronised a simple resource sharing program for Australian libraries. The program is approved by a special provision in the budget of resources allotted for the National Library. The National Library of Australia (NLA) promotes and maintains an extensive variety of networks for enabling sharing of resources; these encompass science and technology, industries and social sciences. They offer reference services with the help of computers. Database of libraries in Australia is accessible on-line with the help of the Australian Information Network (AUSINET). NLA has been participating in international exchange of MARC data. The National Library of Australia is not only the national agency for Cataloguing-in-Publication (CIP) it is also for International Standard Book Number (ISBN) and ISSN; The NLA is the entitled central point for the Australian Library-Based Information System (ASLIB) and UNISIST, it is focal point for NATIS and GIP of UNESCO as well. Two extremely efficient network initiatives of Australia have been in development of College Libraries Activities Network of New South Wales (CLANN) and Co-operative Action by Victorian Academic Libraries (CALVAL).

Australian National University Communications Network (ANUNET) is a communication and resource sharing network of Australia. It was established by using distributed database management system which had diverse remote nodes. AUSINET and ANUNET are the two most essential networks of the country, along with these there are few regional networks. AUSINET is wide-ranging library and information network created by National Library, while ANUNET is network for sharing resources and was developed by Australian National University.

Check Your Progress

1. Name the largest library network of USA.
2. Mention one important library network of United Kingdom.

10.3 INTERNATIONAL LIBRARIANS NETWORK

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The International Librarians Network (ILN) is a mentoring program among peers. The aim of this program is help the librarians to cultivate international networks. It was initiated on logic that improvement and encouragement can be spread all over the world. The purpose was to build professional networks which were not constrained by national boundaries. Librarians of small libraries were to be given an opportunity to learn the professional skills from more experienced. The applicants have to apply online for getting into a suitable partnership with an international workmate. The duration of the partnership is six months and they are maintained through consistent interaction and scheduled dialogue topics which are initiated by the coordinators of the program. After completion of every term the applicant may decide to carry on with their interactions independently or they can opt for starting the program with a new partner. The intention of the program is for applicants to develop a network of autonomous professional dealings. The idea of ILN is that should be functioning with the help of volunteers from different parts of the world. Presently, the program is functioning under co-ordinators in Australian city Sydney, and it has many Country Coordinators within the Australia and at other parts in order to offer support to the applicants. A trial program was initiated in 2013 and in the starting 6 months it consisted of 92 applicants who were residents of twenty countries. The test run was undertaken to check not only its usefulness but also more importantly its sustainability prior to its formal launching in September of the same year.

The test run was done in four stages, Launching took place in stage One. It was started in February 2013. Primary advertising was done with the help of Twitter and in the beginning itself 28 applicants signed up for the program. The launching was done at no cost as the free tools were employed for the purpose.

Creation of Partnership took place in stage two. By now the program had been signed by 92 applicants, they applied through the form available on the website of ILN. The applicants even remarked about how they were looking forward to the program. The partnerships were created by the Program Coordinators; they tried to accommodate the demands of every individual. The applicants were mailed the partner's details and then the program was official started. The starting points for conversation were offered by the coordinators and they were mostly about getting to know each other. The applicants were made to focus on learning and using the online tools.

Keeping the conversation going was the aim of the third stage. The third stage was the actual test run as it had to focus on sustainability of the conversation in the partnership. The applicants began to withdraw a little as they were not used communicated from such distances. Partnership ceased as a result of lack of communication, some had to end on the basis of incorrect communication. Though it was not a complete failure as some new partnerships also developed. The

coordinators realised that they will have to provide the topics for monthly communications.

Evaluation took place in the final stage. The evaluation took place twice during the program, once in the middle and then at the time of completion of six months. The overall response was positive and on the basis of the test run following points were highlighted:

- The program was very much in demand
- The model had sustainability
- There topic of discussion acted as a stimulant for the effective communication
- There is a need to identify the applicants who require extra help from the starting of the program.
- Methods of communication should be well synchronised for strengthening the partnerships.

Presently ILN has thirteen Country Coordinators. They are working towards making this a global program so that the international library network can be cultivated, and the skills of librarians can be enhanced.

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10.4 INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR LIBRARY NETWORK (INLN)

The International Nuclear Library Network (INLN) is looked after by the IAEA Library, it stands for the Library of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and it is a consortium of nuclear libraries and knowledge centres. The Network has been developed to support the interchange of nuclear information and to build up strategic partnerships between its members. The basic strategy is dual purpose, firstly every time a fresh member becomes a part of the network, the base of collective information becomes larger and secondly bigger base of information make the network more appealing. Libraries of 27 countries are a part of this partnership. The total number of nuclear libraries is 37, as a result of this coalition they have not only developed at individual level but have helped in development of their partners as well as contributed to the entire field of nuclear science all over the world.

The International Nuclear Library Network (INLN) signifies as an association of nuclear libraries. The network is based on internet and system of information. The IAEA library hosts the information portal and it is maintained by nuclear libraries and knowledge centres globally; it has been established and sustained in a decentralized manner, as per the prescribed standards. It is able to link bibliographic information to full-text and audio-visual information, also helps in linking librarians, users of the library and researchers to the information required by them. Also, the

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network helps in linking all workers of nuclear information, thus enabling the formation of a strong group.

The INLN members provide several services to each other such as: research facilities, loaning of information between libraries, deliver of documents, awareness about latest developments, and few additional services that a member might have to offer. The website provides a landing page which allows the members to have access to the online catalogues.

The INLN is such a success because it is functions as a democratic system; all the members are treated equally and valued for their individual contributions. There is no hierarchy in its structure. The members should be willing to share their information freely with all the other members. The network purely focuses on providing timely, formatted and accurate information.

Membership of INLN services is applicable to the members of IAEA Library and to all organisations of United Nations. Other organisations that wish to be a part of INLN are dependent on the willingness of the existing members. All members have similar rights and duties.

10.5 INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL LIBRARIES NETWORK (ISLN)

International School Library Network (ISLN) is a registered society of Singapore that has been established for providing support to the library staff working in school libraries. The purpose of the society is to encourage professional development of staff and for individuals that are interested in working in school libraries.

Objectives of ISLN

- Arrange for opportunities of networking for staff working in school libraries and other intent individuals and professionals.
- Encourage continuous development of skills of teachers and librarians along with other employees of libraries.
- Circulate, develop, and print materials that would help in promoting and developing the libraries in school along with improving the relationship between teachers and librarians.
- Collaborate and coordinate with all organisations and agencies which are working in the field and other field having same objectives.

In 2009 ISLN started sponsoring the Red Dot Book Awards, a yearly student choice book award. The participants can be from any school library of Singapore. The members of the society have meetings quarterly so that the members can be updated about the latest developments in the libraries of schools and also career prospects in the field of libraries. During these meetings information is also

shared about the suppliers and good practices essential for functioning of libraries in school. Staffs of various libraries and teachers are free to be a part of these meetings. They can also subscribe to the mailing list, though it is more beneficial to take up the paid membership as then the members have access to many more documents and services. They can attend workshops organised by the society and also have access to an annual scholarship of five hundred dollars for supporting further studies for staff of libraries. They have free access to the consortium of ISLN which gives the school access to more than 2000 e- books at a bare minimum cost.

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Check Your Progress

3. What is the aim of the International Librarians Network (ILN).
4. Who looks after INLN?

10.6 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. The largest library network of USA is Ohio College Library Centre.
2. One important library network of United Kingdom is the VISCOUNT Project.
3. The aim of the International Librarians Network (ILN) program is to help the librarians to cultivate international networks.
4. The International Nuclear Library Network (INLN) is looked after by the Library of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

10.7 SUMMARY

- Resource sharing and networking provide libraries with large quantities of information.
- Resource sharing was always done in order to help libraries satisfy their users and allowed them to get over their financial problems related to procurement.
- The need to have access to endless information which was well-coordinated and was cheaper than other options led to development of library networking in America.
- Till the beginning of 1970s resources were shared with the help of Farmington Plan and the Latin American Co-operative Acquisitions Project.

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- The largest library network of USA is Ohio College Library Centre.
- Canada has had collaboration between academic libraries since the 1960s, the system was not at a national level and serviced only at a provisional level.
- Some of the major library networks of the academic libraries are Tri-University Libraries (TRIUL), Ontario Universities Library Co-Operative System (OULCS), College Bibliocentre (CB) and University of Toronto Library Automation system (UTLAS).
- The Government of Australia has patronised a simple resource sharing program for Australian libraries. The program is approved by a special provision in the budget of resources allotted for the National Library.
- The National Library of Australia (NLA) promotes and maintains an extensive variety of networks for enabling sharing of resources; these encompass science and technology, industries and social sciences.
- Australian National University Communications Network (ANUNET) is a communication and resource sharing network of Australia.
- It was established by using distributed database management system which had diverse remote nodes.
- AUSINET and ANUNET are the two most essential networks of the country, along with these there are few regional networks.
- ANUNET is network for sharing resources and was developed by Australian National University.
- The International Librarians Network (ILN) is a mentoring program among peers. The aim of this program is help the librarians to cultivate international networks.
- The International Nuclear Library Network (INLN) is looked after by the IAEA Library, it stands for the Library of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and it is a consortium of nuclear libraries and knowledge centres.
- The INLN members provide several services to each other such as: research facilities, loaning of information between libraries, deliver of documents, awareness about latest developments, and few additional services that a member might have to offer.
- International School Library Network (ISLN) is a registered society of Singapore that has been established for providing support to the library staff working in school libraries.
- The purpose of the society is to encourage professional development of staff and for individuals that are interested in working in school libraries.

10.8 KEY WORDS

- **Subscribe:** It means to arrange to receive something, typically a publication, regularly by paying in advance.
- **Scholarship:** It is a grant or payment made to support a student's education, awarded on the basis of academic or other achievement.
- **Evaluation:** It refers to the making of a judgement about the amount, number, or value of something; assessment.
- **Sustainability:** It is the ability to be maintained at a certain rate or level.

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10.9 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. Write a short note on the following:
 - a) Library Networking in USA
 - b) Library Networking in Canada
2. Compare and contrast the Library Networking in United Kingdom and Australia.
3. What is International Nuclear Library Network (INLN)?

Long-Answer Questions

1. What is International Librarians Network (ILN)? What are the four stages of its test run? Discuss in detail.
2. Assess the objectives of International School Library Network (ISLN).

10.10 FURTHER READINGS

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BLOCK - IV
LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

NOTES

**UNIT 11 LIBRARY AND
LIBRARIANSHIP**

Structure

- 11.0 Introduction
- 11.1 Objectives
- 11.2 Librarianship: Need and Purpose
- 11.3 Qualities of Good Librarian
- 11.4 Professional Ethics of Librarians
- 11.5 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 11.6 Summary
- 11.7 Key Words
- 11.8 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 11.9 Further Readings

11.0 INTRODUCTION

In recent past there has been tremendous development in the field of libraries. The increasing number of information centres and libraries is increasing the need for specialised and professional librarians. In earlier days several academic libraries were managed by the professors of the institutes and they technically functioned without a qualified librarian. This trend is no longer followed in the field of library science, as the profession of librarian requires much more expertise than just knowledge of books. With the growth and development in the collection of libraries the changes in the information formats there was a need to hire the experts of the field so that the new demands of libraries could be fulfilled. During the twentieth century there was lot of development in librarianship, professional societies were formed for librarians, professional standards for librarians were outlined, and they began to be regarded as faculty members of institutions as libraries were integral part of the institution. As a result of the changes in technology of disseminating information the role of the librarians also underwent a change; they were expected to function as the specialist of information and the new technology. The libraries needed people who could adapt to the changed role and provide the services efficiently.

11.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Explain the purpose of librarianship
- Discuss the qualities of a good librarian
- Analyse the professional ethics of librarians

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11.2 LIBRARIANSHIP: NEED AND PURPOSE

Libraries in modern time are involved in assessment and organisation of information so that information requirements of the users can be fulfilled. They are working towards supplying services and instructions which are accurate and expertly delivered. In order to understand the concept of librarianship it is essential to understand the meaning of the term, according to Collins English Dictionary the word denotes “the professional administration of library resources and services”. According to the dictionary it also refers to the entire field of library science. In other words, librarianship includes accumulating, consolidating, protecting and distributing information to the users. Librarians provide help to the library users to find and utilise the information confined in library’s collection, they help them to look at the right place and resource which carries their information, and thus they are not only supporting the needs of the individuals but also helping in fulfilling the objectives of library which is a social institution. Public libraries help in providing a venue where people are able to meet and connect with one and other. They not only provide the technical knowledge but also help in people to develop intellectually.

Libraries and professionals consolidate and assess vital papers and resources in various fields such as commerce, non-profitable organisations, and agencies of governments, IT companies and educational institutions. They help them to acquire data that is vital for projects and decision-making. The librarians with their experience are able to help these organisations to organise and utilize the informational resources and fulfil the extra requirements.

Purpose of Librarianship

- Evolving databases and services for consumers
- Motivating members of community to communicate with one and other in order to share information and resources
- Creating classification system of collected information this facilitated the use of resources by users of library and also makes the process of resource sharing easy.
- Assimilating the available search tools so that the users are able to become aware about the systems of self-help

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- Assessment of physical and electronic information assets of an organization
- Facilitating the archival location and relevant resources required for research work by members as well as other libraries.
- Developing a collection as per the needs and demands of the users
- Measuring and appraising resources according to the usage, approachability, certifying status, and cost effectiveness
- Providing help on practices for distribution of information
- Undertake projects and research work for users
- Help in collecting and collaborating of information
- Help the libraries to function efficiently in their respective consortia.
- Help in developing fresh methods for searching information by understanding the searching patterns of the users. They help in designing and creation and installation of these systems. Also guide the users about their functions.
- Interpreting available schemes of metadata and developing ways to choose the best option.
- Evaluating and using the online catalogues
- Information Display
- Help in display of large quantities of information so that it can be viewed by various audiences.

Need for Librarianship

From this list it is easy to realise that librarians are a crucial part of the library and they do much more than stamping the outgoing books and receiving the books from the users. Most people see them performing only this task and fail to realise the behind the scene functions of the librarians. The books which are issued to the readers are selected and procured by them; they are sensitive about the needs of their readers while performing this task. Librarians are responsible for processing the orders and creating the bibliographic records which help the readers to locate the book they require in the library's catalogue. Their location in the library shelves is also provided by them.

Libraries and librarians came into existence because of "Books" but they are not all that has kept them together over the centuries. Books are only one aspect of librarianship. Librarianship may be regarded as a profession for the people; the basic job of the librarian is to link people with their information, irrespective the format of the information. The core of a librarian's job is service to people. They help them in accessing and applying information for their individual fields. People seek information not only for being knowledgeable in their subject and workplace but they so time seek for recreation as well. The librarians need to have strong communication skills for performing their basic functions. People in this profession just do not need to be passionate about books and reading they

need to be fond of interacting with people as well. In all library roles customer service and communication skills are important. Librarians help in advertising the books and resources of the library to its users.

The digital information is taking over the print information and so many feel that soon librarianship will become a thing of the past. The notion that it is not needed in present scenario is a wrong conception as even information available on the internet needs to be consolidated. Moreover, all the information on the net is not accurate and somebody is required for accumulating authentic and precise information for the users. Another thing which makes the position of librarianship strong is the fact that most relevant information is accessible only after payment. The libraries often access these articles and store them as e-journals for their members to use whenever needed. The libraries also help their users to find the information online, earlier they were guiding their users about the physical location of the book now they provide the link which is needed to connect on the internet. It just that since the format of the information has changed so the way of delivering and accessing it has also changed but the role of libraries and their staff continues to be same, i.e. “service to their users”. The librarians have to be able to provide accurate information to the users for this they need to acquire specialise knowledge of the subject. They have to be trained themselves so that they can guide their users.

The librarians may be degree holders in any stream but in order to get involved into the librarianship and be a qualified librarian they require to have a master’s degree in library science. There are many libraries across the worlds which provide a graduate degree in librarianship; they also provide on-job training which helps the applicants to get experience before pursuing their masters.

11.3 QUALITIES OF GOOD LIBRARIAN

Librarianship involves functioning in a library in different departments. It would include not just the ordinary librarian but also individuals taking care of the administrative operations of the library. The field of library has several positions and they vary from library to library on the basis of their type. Although the educational qualification required for working in this field are same for most positions but there are only few who are well-suited for the jobs in a library. This suitability has nothing to do with the educational qualification but more with personal attitude and nature of an individual. The essential qualities required for the job are taught during the sessions of formal education and the personal qualities are either in-built or they need to be cultivated for being successful in the professional life.

Personal Qualities

These qualities have nothing to do with formal qualifications and experience but having these qualities will make the individual perfect for the field of librarianship.

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The natural abilities and behaviours which identify the most suitable candidate are as follows:

- Interest for gaining knowledge and learning new things
- Comfort of working around people
- Fondness for books
- High levels of general awareness
- Efficient skills of organising
- Quick with figures
- Personal qualities of being cordial, charming and moral
- Knack for gathering bulks information
- Working knowledge of computers
- The lack of above mentioned qualities will not stop an individual for working as a professional librarian, but it will definitely prevent him from flourishing in the position. These qualities help in making an individual to do a self-assessment about choosing the career in the field of librarianship.

Essential Qualities and Competencies

The qualifications learnt during the formal training are very essential to perform the basic duties and responsibilities required as a librarian, these are as follows:

- Skill in usage of latest technology for complete productivity of the library
- Needs to have complete knowledge about archiving and collecting information along with maintenance of databases and referral information
- Skilful at assessment of resources and discovering the most suitable for accessing information and resolving the issues of the users
- Skill for searching databases, resources of internet and catalogs in efficient and professional manner
- Enhanced skills as a communicator in order to interact with users and other colleagues
- Profound knowledge of books and an interest for reading a variety of topics
- Encourage reading habits amongst users
- Should be able to promptly deliver the information in a format requested by the user
- Should be able to speak well in public
- Willingness to serve the customers
- Respective to change and should be able to adjust with new methods, system and environments of the library
- Should be aware about the current affairs and cultural trends

- Should work well with team members
- Find solutions for the problems faced by the users

The above-mentioned qualities are mostly acquired during training as a librarian and rest come with experience.

People who want to constantly learn new things and love reading have a very bright scope in the field of librarianship. Nonetheless, there are some skills which are which have to be thoroughly studied and developed for holding responsible positions in the field. The skills and qualities which are most essential for librarianship are mentioned below:

- Having competent and professional knowledge of cataloguing as it is one of the primary jobs of the librarians. There is a need to have practical knowledge along with theory; there are few basic cataloguing tools which have to be learnt by the librarians working in different libraries, some of the essential tools are, Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, Resource Description & Access (RDA); For maintaining data of bibliography-MARC 21; WebDewey and printed Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC); OCLC Bibliographic Formats and Standards; CONSER Cataloguing Manual (for Serials)
- The librarian responsible for cataloguing needs to be aware of these existing tools and at the same time he must keep updated knowledge of new and revised tools. New developments in information formats bring about changes in cataloguing as well hence they have to keep checking the altered rules and regulations. They need to understand the complete functions of ILS so as to be clear about the connection between cataloguing, serials control, circulation, online public access catalogue (OPAC), and functions of acquisition are essential for creating catalogue records for their users. Another important skill is to have knowledge of using the national bibliographic utility such as the OCLC or Skyriver. In order to create original bibliographic utility records, it is very essential to understand the relation between AACR2/RDA and MARC coding. Having this knowledge will prevent duplications from occurring.
- Accurate input entry is another essential quality in present internet age. While searching the catalogue of library it is important to provide accurate item description and points of access so that the users get prompt information. Typing errors and mistakes in MARC coding in the records of bibliographic have a direct impact on searches and their outcomes in the OPAC. The mistakes not only cause inconvenience but also cost money. Perfect skills of keyboard are essential during the input of records. The need to edit and redo should be avoided.
- Efficiency is required so that money is not wasted. Most libraries function on constrained budgets all functions should be effectively and efficiently so that money is saved and not wasted. Editing the bibliographic records

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as per the needs of the organisation help in cataloguing, this editing helps in saving time as well as money. The editing should be done on the screen and not on paper as this latter is expensive and time-consuming. Flow of work and processes also have a direct impact on efficiency. Management of time along with skill organisation is very essential for efficiency and timely completion of work.

- Uniformity is another essential quality which has to be maintained while organising the collection of the library. There should be consistency in the standards and rules of cataloguing. Only when the standard rules and regulations do not cover the special needs of the library the librarian may develop policies and practices for its local usage. The librarian's mental state should be completely relaxed so that it is consistent throughout.
- Another essential quality which the librarians need to have is adaptability so that they are able to adjust to the users changing needs and formats of information. The cataloguing system also must have enough flexibility to accommodate the changes in library environment.

11.4 PROFESSIONAL ETHICS OF LIBRARIANS

The librarians have to function under a code of ethics and have to maintain a professional conduct. This ethical behaviour is not just expected from librarians but all individuals working in the field of information who have to adhere to these codes while conducting themselves at the work place. The code of ethics has been approved by Library and Information Associations; the members of the associations have to be consulted during their creation as well as their revision.

The codes of ethics have following functions:

- Provides principles on whose guidelines for formation of policies for the people of the information field. They help in resolving issues and conflicts
- Helps in improving self-awareness of the profession
- Gives clear picture to the users and other community members

The codes of ethics are based on following beliefs and their compliance is must for all professionals of library science.

- The essence of librarianship is based on ethical activity of representing a positive attitude towards professional work of distributing information.
- There is a need to spread awareness among people of present society and libraries have undertaken this task with the help of their librarians.
- The role of all institutions providing information in today's society is to help in maximum recording and presenting of information so that the users are able to use it freely.

- The heart of librarianship is in providing informational services which benefit the overall wellbeing of the people. Library is a social institution and as a result the librarians have a social obligation.
- All humans have a right to information, it has been conveyed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 by the United Nations, specifically in the Article 19 of the declaration it clearly mentions that all humans of freedom of expressing, giving opinion and right to access information.

The basis of the librarian's function is fulfilment of his duties towards the society and specifically the needs of the users of the library; he is expected to fulfil their expectations.

- A Librarian cannot discriminate between any of the users.
- A Librarian needs to respect the privacy of all users of the library
- A Librarian should honour the Freedom of Libraries in accumulating, conserving and offering material of the library.
- The objective of every Librarian should make efforts to be aware about current affairs and about the collection of the library.
- A Librarian needs to update his professional qualifications essential for serving the users.
- A Librarian should keenly contribute in the origination of policy for operation and service programs of the library.
- A Librarian needs to coordinate with all the other Librarians in order to advance professional skills on the whole.
- Librarians need to try cultivating good working environment so that the services of libraries are developed.
- Maintain cordial relations with all other libraries and their staff
- All Librarians need to make necessary efforts for the cultural development of the society.
- Librarians need to back the development of publications and publishing which are as per the requirements and taste of the users.

These ethical codes help in indicating the standard behaviour of the librarians. They are expected to be observed by them as a respect to their profession. The codes of conduct help in protecting the occupation, people working in a particular occupation and the users of their services. This Code of library Professional Conduct has been sanctioned in the AGM of 1983 by Library Association Council and these are as per the association's Bye-law 45(a).

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Check Your Progress

1. State one purpose of librarianship.
2. Give one quality of a responsible librarian.
3. Who approves the codes of ethics?

11.5 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. Librarianship helps to evolve databases and services for consumers.
2. A librarian needs to have complete knowledge about archiving and collecting information along with maintenance of databases and referral information.
3. The code of ethics has been approved by Library and Information Associations.

11.6 SUMMARY

- Libraries in modern time are involved in assessment and organisation of information so that information requirements of the users can be fulfilled.
- In order to understand the concept of librarianship it is essential to understand the meaning of the term, according to Collins English Dictionary the word denotes “*the professional administration of library resources and services*”.
- Librarianship includes accumulating, consolidating, protecting and distributing information to the users.
- Library and professional of information consolidate and assess vital papers and resources in various fields such as commerce, non-profitable organisations, and agencies of governments, IT companies and educational institutions.
- Libraries and librarians came into existence because of “Books” but they are not all that has kept them together over the centuries.
- Librarianship may be regarded as a profession for the people; the basic job of the librarian is to link people with their information, irrespective the format of the information.
- The digital information is taking over the print information and so many feel that soon librarianship will become a thing of the past.
- The librarians may be degree holders in any stream but in order to get involved into the librarianship and be a qualified librarian they require to have a master’s degree in library science.

- Librarianship involves functioning in a library in different departments.
- The librarians have to function under a code of ethics and have to maintain a professional conduct.
- The code of ethics has been approved by Library and Information Associations, the members of the associations have to be consulted during their creation as well as their revision.
- The basis of the librarian's function is fulfilment of his duties towards the society and specifically the needs of the users of the library; he is expected to fulfil their expectations.

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11.7 KEY WORDS

- **Discrimination:** It is the recognition and understanding of the difference between one thing and another.
- **Digital:** It describes electronic technology that generates, stores and processes data in terms of two states, positive and nonpositive.
- **Skill:** It is the ability to do something well; expertise.

11.8 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. Why is librarianship needed?
2. Discuss the purpose of librarianship.
3. Assess the functions of the codes of ethics.
4. What are the duties of a librarian?

Long-Answer Questions

1. State the personal qualities and competencies needed to be a good librarian.
2. Write a detailed note on the professional ethics of the librarians.

11.9 FURTHER READINGS

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UNIT 12 PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS— INTERNATIONAL

*Professional Associations—
International*

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Structure

- 12.0 Introduction
- 12.1 Objectives
- 12.2 Professional Associations
 - 12.2.1 Need for Professional Library Association
 - 12.2.2 Objectives of Professional Library Associations
 - 12.2.3 Functions of Professional Library Associations
 - 12.2.4 Types of Library Associations
- 12.3 International Role of American Library Association
- 12.4 International Role of ASLIB
- 12.5 International Role of IFLA
- 12.6 International Role of CILIP
- 12.7 International Role of UNESCO
- 12.8 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 12.9 Summary
- 12.10 Key Words
- 12.11 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 12.12 Further Readings

12.0 INTRODUCTION

Professional Associations and institutes help in gaining knowledge of that particular industry, system and provide undated news about the advancement and research possibilities for the industry. Becoming a member of such associations help the individuals by providing them support and guidance and exhibits their level of commitment towards their job. There are several professional associations for each industry and they function at various levels. These are formed when Experts of different professions and individuals with specific interests join to form associations.

12.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Explain the meaning and need for professional library associations
- List the objectives of professional library associations

- Assess the international role of ALA, ASLIB, IFLA and CILIP
- Discuss the role of UNESCO and establishment of public libraries

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12.2 PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

The association from a psychological point of view has been defined as a society which people join to stand out from others by associating with a crowd that conducts themselves in different ways and yet as part of the group they adhere to the principles of the group. Several sociologists and anthropologists have suggested that the members should be allowed a few instances of deviating from the set principles as an undue strictness would result in loss of members. Like most individuals people associated with the library world join the respective associations so that they are recognised as a serious and dedicated member of the library community. According to scholars of library science people join professional associations to establish their identity in the profession and to avail the benefits offered by these associations for training and development in librarianship.

12.2.1 Need for Professional Library Association

There are several factors which prompt librarians to join the professional associations of Librarianship. As per the report of a survey undertaken by California's academic libraries in 1992, most individuals join so that they are able to interact with other members of the profession, in fact according to the survey the ones who joined for this reason was about ninety-eight percent. There were about eighty one percent people who considered the membership essential for continuation and future growth in the profession. There were many who joined these associations so that they could keep their knowledge updated as they would be exposed to many more professional journals. Around seventy four percent utilised their membership as an opportunity for public speaking and become an author.

The librarians see the associations as a reliable source for gaining and sharing information and knowledge and also as members, they get an opportunity to interact with professionals of the field, nationally as well as internationally. Professionals of information understand the importance of prompt and accurate information and thus, they feel that being members of professional associations keeps them updated and helps in their development. During the conferences held by the associations, there is open sharing of all the latest information and knowledge and each person present there can benefit from the inputs. There are several informal group discussions and round tables at the conferences and they also provide an opportunity to learn about latest developments, new tools and upcoming events.

12.2.2 Objectives of Professional Library Associations

- Encourage bonding between all existing professionals and prospective professionals of the library world. They are able to interact with each other at conferences and meetings organised in order discuss the workings of the libraries and improvement schemes required for efficient functioning.
- Help in promoting, establishing and improving libraries and their services
- To stimulate and support studies and research related to bibliography
- To uplift the profession of librarianship so that librarians can enjoy better standards of living
- To monitor the important legislation for functioning of libraries and promote other essential laws required for regulating, managing and extending the services of libraries.
- To accumulate, organize, and distribute information which is essential for promoting the objectives of association as well as the members
- To function in a legal manner and maintain the ethics of the profession

The associations while trying to fulfil the above objectives organise several training programs, workshops, lectures, filming events, etc. They also undertake publication of newsletters, provide on-line exchanges and undertake many such activities for distribution of information and development of the members and their organisation.

12.2.3 Functions of Professional Library Associations

- Creating and observing the standards of the library industry and maintenance of professional ethics by everyone
- Counselling about developing curriculum to various educational institutes
- Sponsoring and promoting developmental activities for practicing professionals as well as prospective candidates.
- Provide a platform for members to interact
- Promotion of librarianship as a career in the society
- Guiding students about the career possibilities
- Helping students for master's options and providing information about job openings
- Providing an association's library which is open to all members
- Publishing and distributing newsletters, journals etc. on regular intervals, to give information about all the latest news of the industry and events affecting the industry

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12.2.4 Types of Library Associations

There are many library associations all over the world.

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There are few associations which are formed for the country they exist in, the most prominent among them are American Library Association (ALA), and this is the oldest association to be formed, Library Association of Singapore (LAS), or the Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians (CONSAL).

There are few which fall under the category of special library associations as these cater to a specific clientele and their collection is also as per the nature of their profession, these include, Special Libraries Association (SLA), International Association of Technological University Libraries (IATUL) or Association of Research Libraries (ARL).

There few associations where criteria of membership is on the basis of religion or ethnicities and traditions, these include the American Indian Library Association, the Chinese American Librarians Association, the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association, the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, the Association of Jewish Libraries, and the Catholic Library Association.

There are few library associations which function at the international level, these global associations include, International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) and many more which have recently started functioning at the international level, one among these is the International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists (IAALD).

12.3 INTERNATIONAL ROLE OF AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The primogenital and the biggest library association functioning at an international level is the American Library Association. It was set up in 1876 in Philadelphia. Currently it includes over 64,000 members. The mission of the association is to be a leader for all developmental, promotional and enhancement activities in field of librarianship, to enhance the learning and accessibility. The membership is offered on payment basis to individuals, libraries and organisations related to library or interested in librarianship.

ALA provides specialized services and publications to all those interested in the library world, it updates people of America through its website about all latest news of libraries in America and political issues. It is a non-profit organisation which is situated in America, but it provided support and library education to all to all at an international level.

The association was established in 1876 on 6 October in Philadelphia during the Centennial International Exhibition. The Moto of the Association was adopted in 1892 and it was restored in 1988 by the ALA Council, it states, “*The best reading, for the largest number, at the least cost*”.

In 1998 the ALA Council’s five key Action Areas were decided in 1998, all their resources and energies were to be focused towards, Diversity, Impartiality of Access, Education and Nonstop Learning, freedom of Intellect, and Literary in twenty-first Century.

International Goal 1: The association is leader in advocating library activities internationally they try to look into all the issues faced during functioning and by the professionals. The association plays a vital role in formulation of international principles and policies pertaining to library and information science and their users.

- Increase awareness about libraries and librarianship at an international level and support all operations starting from the grassroots
- Encourage a growth in research and assessment documenting the influence of libraries worldwide.
- Escalation in resources and training for international sponsors looking for finance and backing for libraries.
- Supply governance at international level to address the essential issues of libraries in areas such as literateness, academic freedom, discretion, impartial use, conservation, cultural heritage, impartiality of accessibility, and free access of government information to people.
- Increasing cooperation and associations among organisation at every level for growth of legislation and development of policies
- Increase awareness about solicitation of financed channelized towards rebuilding of libraries internationally
- Increasing consciousness among the countries librarians so that they are aware and support the international endeavours undertaken by the association.
- Encourage usage of latest technologies for library functions and resolve the issues which arise in their functioning

International Goal 2: ALA’s departments shall aim to provide development opportunities to librarians all across the globe by coordinating with various organisations to maintain the level of quality of librarians and also maintain the cultural variety in the respective libraries.

- Make sure that each LIS educational organisation has an international librarianship and the inclusion of various global library problems in their curriculum.

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- Working in collaboration with ALA departments so as to promote their developmental opportunities to international librarians
- To find and promote chances of import and export of librarians in the US, allowing foreign librarians a chance to work in the US and US librarians to work abroad.
- Enhance the cultural ethnicity of the workplace in a library so as to reflect an increasingly diverse quasi national community.

International Goal 3 ALA helps in libraries to transform their services according to the changing trends in format and extent of information as per the requirement of the users. ALA helps in digitalising the information process in libraries all over the world.

- Maximise the process of sharing knowledge of various professional practises and concepts between the global communities of librarians
- To include the various non-traditional and unorthodox ideas prevalent in the international realm into the US systems
- Allowing the libraries with an opportunity to use the new and upcoming technologies by supporting and welcoming the new age of innovation and technological experimentation
- To maximise the support for the current process of development of various libraries by increasing the schemes introduced for the development of international leadership qualities
- Introduce and increase the usage of materials and services of the library into the classroom.

International Goal 4: The association promotes activities which help in engaging the members of libraries within United States as well as internationally.

- Increase the personal and virtual interaction of librarians in various conferences, seminars, and tutorials on an international level.
- Removing hurdles to participation and interaction of participants on an international level through various technological advancements and innovations.
- Maximise the communication within ALA.
- Bring up innovative models for the purpose of recognizing member participation.
- Integrate new strategies to involve library science enthusiasts and upcoming professionals in the ALA's activities on an international level.

International Goal 5: The association on its own maintains high standards of efficiency so that it is able set an example and achieve all its global endeavours.

- Allot adequate assets to support the global activities of the International Relations Office and other units of the ALA.

- Boost proceeds from global sources.
- Procure funds for various global activities from a plethora of sources including foundations, governments, and co-operations.
- Boost the level of technological equipment to aid the global member needs of these meetings.
- To initiate a better level of cooperation amongst the various global libraries and related organisation
- Assess the result of ALA global deeds.

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Check Your Progress

1. Define association.
2. State one objective of professional library associations.

12.4 INTERNATIONAL ROLE OF ASLIB

ASLIB stands for Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux. It was established in 1924 in England, it was initiated after the British association of special libraries and information centres, Association for Information Management became non-operational and till 2010 the organisation functioned as an autonomous body. In 2010 Emerald Group Publishing absorbed the organisation as one of its divisions. As a part of the Emerald Group it has a very crucial role in developing the professional skills of librarians all over the world. For this it provided many courses and programmes which help in their training. The organisation also organises publishing programmes so that information professionals can explore authorship career. ASLIB arranges for training and improvement of personnel so that they are able to perform their key function of providing information with efficiency. Several courses are offered for people through workshops, internal development programmes for both domestic and international applicants. ASLIB's headquarters is situated at Howard House, Wagon Lane, Bingley, United Kingdom. The organisation functions as the professional development branch for libraries and their professional all over the world.

12.5 INTERNATIONAL ROLE OF IFLA

IFLA stands for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. The organisation works globally to represent the interest of people who are dependent on libraries and professionals of information professionals. It was established in 1927 in Scotland, its headquarters are housed in the National Library of Netherlands in The Hague. IFLA had been established as an autonomous and

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non-profitable organisation. The yearly IFLA World Library and Information Congress is supported by IFLA, it works towards encouraging worldwide and impartial availability of information, thoughts, and allows the development of innovative ideas in all arenas of society.

IFLA collaborates with UNESCO, and as a result many of its manifestos are accepted by manifestos of UNESCO as well. As a part of the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) it coordinates with the committee's activities to safeguard the cultural heritage of world which is vulnerable because of disasters like war and nature.

Objectives of IFLA: As an international organisation the association has the following objectives:

- Ensure representation of the interest of librarianship internationally and deal with their problems
- Encourage continuous development of library staff and encourage the education of library science.
- To advance, uphold and endorse guiding principle of services offered by libraries all over the world

The core values of IFLA help in reinforcing the objectives.

It endorses the Article 19 of the Human Rights which promotes the freedom of expression. It strongly supports the need of people living in a society for their free access for information about everything in the world. It guarantees free access by developing the library and information services. The federation is committed towards all its members and does not discriminate them on the grounds of race, religion, country, political system or physical location.

Activities of IFLA

In 1984 the federation launched the Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP) in order to provide support towards development of libraries in the developing countries. During its launch it was even referred to as Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World, the name was change during the 1990s. The objective of the established libraries is to advocated availability of information for all. The activities of the programme were focused towards:

- Constructing programmes for strong associations of libraries
- Developing International Leaders Programme
- Promotion for the need of access to information and libraries in the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Develop library services for people suffering from inability to read in form of Libraries Serving Persons with a Print Disability (LPD). In 2012 the

manifesto of LPD has been recognized by the Governing Board of the IFLA. Finally in 2013 the manifesto was put in practice at the 37th General Conference of UNESCO in Paris. As per the manifesto the library services have to be developed equally for the visually disabled as well.

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12.6 INTERNATIONAL ROLE OF CILIP

CILIP stands for the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals. It is a body which constitutes of all professionals of library in United Kingdom. It works towards development of the professionals such as the librarians, specialist in information and managers of knowledge managers. The Library and Information Association is an autonomous body and functions for representing and supporting professionals of information. They support their members for development of skills, in shaping their careers successfully and enable them to provide quality services of library and information.

The 2020 goal of CILIP is to enhance the skills of libraries and their professionals all over the world for developing rich societies.

The association came into existence in 2002 as a result of a merger between Library Association (1877) and Institute of Information Scientists (1958). After the merger the association had over 23,000 members. The first President of CILIP was Sheila Corral and in 2003 Margaret Watson took over as the President. The headquarters are at Ridgmount Street, London it was constructed in 1965 for housing the headquarters of LA. The association has been registered as a Charity Commission.

The activities of CILIP include a launching of Information Professional, a monthly journal which provides news and analysis of the field and also includes interviews of various information professionals. Besides this, CILIP publications also Library and Information Update from 2002 to 2017 and prior to this Library Association Record had been printed from 1899 to 2002. Their publication includes a recruitment website as well, called Lisjobnet and has professional books under the name Facet Publishing.

The association organises an annual conference which is attended by both members as well as non-members. The conference gets renowned speakers like Dr Carla Hayden, Professor Luciano Floridi and Sir Nigel Shadbolt.

CILIP functions towards raising the profile of the library and information professionals by campaigning, awards and medals for encouraging good practice. “My Library by Right” is one of the campaigning efforts of CILIP, celebrations like library week and giving away awards like Libraries Change Lives Award help all those attached to librarianship.

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The Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Medals for children's books are also awarded by CILIP. Several interest groups have created their own awards to encourage the personnel; some of them are the Jason Farradane Award and Tony Kent Strix Award of UKeIG. More than twenty interest groups are working and liaising with CILIP some of these groups work for conservation of rare books and develop libraries in prisons, namely, the National Acquisitions Group, and the Information for Social Change and another one is Society of Indexers. CILIP was among the initiating member of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). The association also provided certification to several courses which allot a degree in library and information science at universities situated in different parts of the world.

12.7 INTERNATIONAL ROLE OF UNESCO

UNESCO had visualized the essential concept of public library system and it felt that it was the basic duty of all governments of country to provide their people information services. In order to make this vision a reality it worked towards spreading library systems all over the world. During the latter part of twentieth century, the activities of UNESCO in the field of education and training received a unified character. The model of UNISIST and NATIS were initiated.

UNESCO and Establishment of Public Libraries

In 1953, Seminar took place in Ibadan at Nigeria; the focus was on preparing an elaborate plan for a central system of library. The system should include not only aspects of circulation of books but also methods of storage and training of personnel in Africa to be appointed as Librarians.

- The pilot project under UNESCO's Public Library Manifesto was the establishment of the Delhi Public Library.
- At the Beirut Seminar of 1959 the decision was taken to nationalise the library services. The need for sound planning at national level was essential for the development of libraries in the Arab countries.
- The second Pilot Public Library Project of UNESCO was undertaken in Colombia, The Library was formally inaugurated in 1954. The project was considered more successful and as a result two more Public Libraries were opened in Colombia subsequently.
- The third library was opened in Enugu; the Regional Central Library was established in the Nigeria's eastern region. The project was supported by the British Council. The Eastern Region Library Board was set up in Nigeria in 1955.

- The fourth in the project was the Ivory Coast Central Library in 1963 at Abidjan; the project was at a smaller scale than Enugu as a small Urban Public Library was established Treichville.

The UNISIST was established in 1971 to undertake development of personnel in the field of information. Several training programs were developed in the field of information and library science; these were supported on contract basis by the Education and Training Committee of the International Federation for Documentation (FID). Many new subjects were included in the curriculum of library schools which covered areas of communication, management, and computerization. Attempts were also made to amalgamate librarianship and documentation as a new discipline of “informatics,” since there was not much response; UNISIST focused its attention over developing the existing subjects and connect it with all the parts of the program. A temporary committee was set in order to formulate the training policies and programme, the committee liaised with various departments of government to outline the policies of the training for short-term as well as long-term. The long-term goals involved setting up facilities for training of professionals in every country.

UNISIST’s crucial activities have included observing and bringing together of national and international programs which supported the training and education of individuals in the field of scientific and technical information. The efforts of UNSIST in the last five years have paid off in form of development of several specialised courses which have come up all over the world.

Role of UNESCO in the development and expansion of library and records services is commendable; it has helped the services to grow in the third world countries. From the early phase of the development of public library services, to the nation-wide planning of information services, the results of earlier discoveries and understandings steered the Intergovernmental Conference on NATIS in 1974.

The conference was focused on resolving the nation-wide planning of record keeping and library services of archive. It attempted at defining the strategies for planning policy. Several recommendations were adopted regarding the objectives of system of information which was able to provide information in every sector. The mission of NATIS was to guarantee that individuals involved in political, economic, scientific, scholastic and social undertakings are able to receive the information they need and contribute to the society to their fullest ability. The mission of NATIS could be fulfilled only with the presence of an efficient library system for the conservation and utilization of archives; for awareness of the users; for planning of manpower planning.

UNESCO is the solitary organization that has mentioned the objective of public Library Services clearly in its philosophy. The efforts taken by UNESCO in developing libraries throughout the world made all those involved understand

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the significance of Library Legislation. At the same time, it was realised that legislation for libraries is not also understood that, library legislation is a solution but actually a tool which would help in development and improvement of the library system in the country. Legislations are required in order to strengthen the system of libraries in respective countries and finally throughout the world.

The “Public Library Manifesto” was initially outlined in 1949. As a result of changes in the information system UNESCO requested IFLA to revise the manifesto. The revised version is very accurate. An all-encompassing network of information is endorsed in the Manifesto. It clearly states that “the public library network must be designed in relation to national, regional and special libraries as well as libraries in schools, colleges and universities”. The manifesto clearly accepts the important role of Public Library in the social system and for this reason it includes the duties of the society and the national government in development of libraries in the country.

Check Your Progress

3. When and where was ALA set up?
4. What does ASLIB stand for?

12.8 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. The association has been defined as a society which people join to stand out from others by associating with a crowd that conducts themselves in different ways and yet as part of the group they adhere to the principles of the group.
2. One objective of professional library associations is to stimulate, and support studies and research related to bibliography.
3. American Library Association was set up in 1876 in Philadelphia.
4. ASLIB stands for Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux.

12.9 SUMMARY

- Professional Associations and institutes help in gaining knowledge of that particular industry, system and provide undated news about the advancement and research possibilities for the industry.
- Becoming a member of professional librarians, associations help the individuals by providing them support and guidance and exhibits their level of commitment towards their job.

- There are several factors which prompt librarians to join the professional associations of Librarianship.
- As per the report of a survey undertaken by California's academic libraries in 1992, most individuals join so that they are able to interact with other members of the profession, in fact according to the survey the ones who joined for this reason was about ninety-eight percent.
- The librarians see the associations as a reliable source for gaining and sharing information and knowledge and also as members they get an opportunity to interact with professionals of the field nationally as well as internationally.
- There are few associations which are formed for the country they exist in, the most prominent among them are American Library Association (ALA), and this is the oldest association to be formed, Library Association of Singapore (LAS), or the Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians (CONSAL).
- The primogenital and the biggest library association functioning at an international level is the American Library Association. It was set up in 1876 in Philadelphia.
- ALA provides specialized services and publications to all those interested in the library world, it updates people of America through its website about all latest news of libraries in America and political issues.
- The association was established in 1876 on 6 October in Philadelphia during the Centennial International Exhibition.
- The Moto of the Association was adopted in 1892 and it was restored in 1988 by the ALA Council, it states, "*The best reading, for the largest number, at the least cost*".
- In 1998 the ALA Council's five key Action Areas were decided in 1998, all their resources and energies were to be focused towards, Diversity, Impartiality of Access, Education and Nonstop Learning, freedom of Intellect, and Literary in twenty-first Century.
- ASLIB stands for Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux.
- It was established in 1924 in England, initiated after the British association of special libraries and information centres, Association for Information Management became non-operational and till 2010 the organisation functioned as an autonomous body.
- IFLA stands for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. The organisation works globally to represent the interest of people who are dependent on libraries and professionals of information professionals.

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- In 1984 the federation launched the Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP) in order to provide support towards development of libraries in the developing countries.
- CILIP stands for the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals. It is a body which constitutes of all professionals of library in United Kingdom.
- CILIP functions towards raising the profile of the library and information professionals by campaigning, awards and medals for encouraging good practice.
- The “Public Library Manifesto” was initially outlined in 1949. As a result of changes in the information system UNESCO requested IFLA to revise the manifesto.

12.10 KEY WORDS

- **Manifesto:** It is a public declaration of policy and aims, especially one issued before an election by a political party or candidate.
- **Non-profit organization:** It is one which is not driven by profit but by dedication to a given cause that is the target of all income beyond what it takes to run the organization.

12.11 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. Explain the need for professional library association.
2. What are the objectives and functions of professional library association?
3. Write a short note explaining the types of library associations.
4. Briefly discuss the role of CILIP.

Long-Answer Questions

1. Critically comment on international role of American Library Association.
2. What is the international role of Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux?
3. What is IFLA? Discuss its role in the international setting.
4. Discuss the role of UNESCO and the establishment of public libraries.

12.12 FURTHER READINGS

*Professional Associations—
International*

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UNIT 13 PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS— NATIONAL

Structure

- 13.0 Introduction
- 13.1 Objectives
- 13.2 Indian Library Association (ILA)
- 13.3 Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres
- 13.4 Indian Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science
- 13.5 Madras Library Association
- 13.6 Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation
- 13.7 SALIS (Society for the Advancement of Library and Information Science)
- 13.8 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 13.9 Summary
- 13.10 Key Words
- 13.11 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 13.12 Further Readings

13.0 INTRODUCTION

Libraries play an important role in developing the society and its culture. Considering this it becomes very essential for every government to promote libraries along with the people associated with the libraries. The aim of promoting and training the professionals of Library and Information Science (LIS) is in a way helping in promotion of libraries, education and more over it is helping in serving the people of the society which will help in developing the social and economic system of the country. Development of competent staff for LIS is largely dependent on the quality of education provided to the students of LIS. In present environment of networking adequate training and education for library personnel has become very crucial. Here the role of various library associations comes into play as along with various universities and institutions the associations also offer various course and training programs at the under graduation and post-graduation levels. They help in providing effective on job training to the applicants and start up several training and beginner courses, programmes for orientation, seminars, consultations etc. The associations help in existing professionals to enhance their skills and knowledge so that they are able to keep up with the challenges of the present century.

13.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Analyse professional library associations in India
- Describe the objectives of Indian Library Association
- Explain the objectives and activities of IASLIC and IATLIS
- Discuss the Madras Library Association and Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library foundation

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13.2 INDIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (ILA)

ILA stands for Indian Library Association; it was established on 22 September 1933 in Calcutta during the First All India Library Conference. From the time the Indian Library Association was established it has been working towards providing a wide range of services and training programs for the members and professionals of the library science. The association helps in providing the personnel with advice and support about all technical issues arising during their operations. The policy processes and operations of ILA are conducted by its three constituents, The Council, The Executive Committee and the Sectional Committees.

Objectives of ILA

The basic functions of the association were outlined at the time of its establishment and they have been maintained since, they are as follows:

- Maintenance and development of the Indian library movement
- Promote and organise training programs for the library staff
- Overall development and upgradation of the standard of life of the librarians

Two extra objectives were incorporated in 1935, these were added to enhance the field of library science for the future needs, and these were:

- Promoting researches in the field of library science
- Collaborate with all international organisations in the field of library science working towards achieving the same goals.

Four new objectives were added by the constitution of ILA in the amendment of 1970, these were:

- Promoting the objectives and activities of the association with the help of publishing bulletins, monthly reports and books
- Support development of new libraries and information and documentation centre which will increase the services for the people

- To encourage pronouncement of suitable library legislation in India
- Work religiously towards achieving all the above-mentioned objectives and take all necessary steps so that they are achieved.

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Three extra objectives were added through the constitutional amendment of January 1987, they were focused on providing equality of services for all.

- Organisation of seminars, meetings and conferences in order to enhance the interaction between personnel connected to the information and library field. These forums provided a venue for group discussions and realising the issues faced during operations and providing resources to overcome the issues.
- Recognition of all institutions communicating and promoting library and information science education and training
- Outlining and formulating the standards and guidelines for operations and management of systems for library and information services.

Till 1945 the ILA office was located in Calcutta at the Imperial Library. In 1946 for little over seven years it was located in Delhi University and then once again to Calcutta. Finally, in 1964 August the office was relocated to Delhi once more and now since then it has been in Delhi. Under the ruling of the Special General Body Meeting which took place on May 24, 1970 the headquarters of the association is permanently at New Delhi. Till April 1982 it was situated in North Delhi. Efforts are being made to allot a permanent office for the association, for this in June 2016 a letter addressed to Delhi's Lt Governor was sent and request was made to provide an appropriate location for the academic body.

13.3 INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTRES

IASLIC stands for the Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres. The association was established on September 3, 1955 in Calcutta by the efforts of J. Saha, A.K Mukherjee and G.B Ghosh. IASLIC functions as a non-profitable organisation towards supporting and developing all aspects of special libraries. For this purpose, IASLIC embarks on supporting and coordinating research and trainings, it organises training courses for short durations, holds meetings, seminars and conferences at regular intervals so that the existing issues related to LIS can be discussed and resolved. The association is involved in publication of reports, newsletters, manuals and bulletins for the spreading awareness and provide an insight to its activities. The first elected President of the association was Dr. Hora and its Honorary General Secretary was one of its founders Mr J. Saha. The headquarters are situated Kolkata. The membership of the association is open to independent individual as well as institutions. Most libraries

of India are its institutional members though it has several independent academics and professors as its members also.

In the last fifty years since its inception the association has worked rigorously in order to promote India's Library Movement. The association has been involved in improving the professional's competencies of the people of LIS. It has played a crucial role in collaborating and cooperating with the professionals as well as various organisations. As India's most premier association it holds yearly conferences on several aspects in different parts of the country. The proceedings of the conference are published. After independence many special libraries were established in order to support the fast pace of social and economic development as a result of industrial expansion. The founders of the association were librarians who realised the need and importance of special libraries and information centres. Their establishment led to the realisation that for their efficient functioning there was a need for skilled staff that could help in spreading the vast amount of specialised information developed in the country. The sharing of information would not only help in enhancing the cooperation and support but also improving the technical competence and professional proficiency. Such and many more factors led to the development of IASLIC. At the time of its establishment the association had 125 members and in recent past the count has increased to more than 2500 members.

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Objectives of IASLIC

- To boost and encourage the methodical acquirement, organization, and diffusion of knowledge
- Quality enhancement of library and information service and documentation work
- To collaborate and assist special libraries on their activities and research work relating to all fields
- To act as an essential link between libraries, information centres and centres undertaking documentation work and all other specialised institutions and individuals involved
- Develop the technical knowledge of staff working in special libraries and information centres and also to promote their overall well-being
- Provide facilities for research and help in developing latest techniques of information dissemination and documentation
- Provide assistance and support to the activities of science and technology
- To take all necessary steps for the achievement of the above-mentioned objectives

Activities of IASLIC

- The IASLIC undertakes publication work in order to highlight their activities and spread awareness for them among the members as well as other

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connected with the field. The association publishes a three-monthly Bulletin, they also publish a monthly Newsletter and annually they publish abstracts about the Indian Library Science.

- The association has been regularly organising seminars and conferences in different cities; these are attended by the professionals, till now forty-five such events have been held.
- The association has been organising professional educational workshops and courses, till date about thirty-five short duration courses have been organised. These training programmes are organised in collaboration of various universities and networking departments of Library and Information like UGC, DSIR and CSIR.
- The association helps in providing technical support and advice to their members.
- There are several interest groups activities undertaken and regular meetings are held with the members on topics like automation, informatics, LIS education, cultural and social information, etc. – so far 35 short term training courses / workshops
- The association helps in providing all the relevant information of the industry.
- In order to promote the LIS education and awareness IASLIC organises lectures, these are delivered by prominent personalities of various fields. The association initiated the lecture series named Ranganathan Memorial in 1993, at this event various professionals of library science give lectures and the award for librarian of the year is awarded to the most deserving candidate during the event.

The Library Movement in India has been receiving constant support from IASLIC since its establishment. It has not only promoted development of libraries but at the same time helped in uplifting the standards of the library professionals, both socially as well as economically. The organisation is not only recognised in India but has an international acknowledgment as well. The activities of IASLIC have been expanding in various directions notwithstanding the financial and managerial constrains. The association has played a significant role in taking initiatives and supporting all aspects of librarianship of special libraries throughout the country by developing and coordinating the viewpoints of various professionals and using it as a tool to improve the professional performance of the people working in special libraries.

13.4 INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

IATLIS stands for Indian Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science. The concept for formation of a teacher's association for individuals

teaching in the field of library was suggested at the Regional Seminar of UNESCO in October 1960 at the Delhi University. The concept was further discussed in 1963 at the All India Seminar on Education for Librarianship held at Banaras Hindu University, the discussions took place again in 1965 at the All India Seminar on Education for Librarianship that was organised at SNDT Women's University and for third time in 1966 at the All India Seminar on Teaching of Library Science that took place in University of Delhi. To gather the views of teachers in library schools a memo was prepared by Prof Bashiruddin after consultation with two professors from the Rajasthan School. Even after so much discussion a unanimous decision could not be reached.

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Finally, the decision was taken on December 19, 1969; during a meeting that was held at the Sarada Ranganathan Endowment Lectures it was summoned by Mr. P. N. Kaula at DRTC, it was also chaired by Mr. C. K. Langridge. There were many library school teachers attending the meeting. Mr P.N Kaula was asked to give the opening address by Dr. D. B. Krishna Rao and announce the formation of the association. During the address Kaula defined the structure of Library education in India and listed the reasons for requirement of association exclusively for the library school teachers. Dr. D. B. Krishna Rao confirmed the formation of the Indian Association of Teachers of library science, the association's formation was to be supported by an ad-hoc committee and Chairman of the committee was going to be Dr. D. B. Krishna Rao and Mr. P. N. Kaula was appointed as the Secretary. Hence a national organisation working towards enhancement of professionals promoting Indian library education, the Indian Association of the Teachers of Library and Information Science (IATLIS) was created. On December 21, 1970, The General Body meeting took place for drafting and adoption of the constitution of the association.

The primary objectives of Association are as follows:

- Encourage ideas to be exchanged on developing education in library science.
- Encourage research in education in library science.
- Undertake publications of books and journals required for library science education.
- Organise seminars, colloquium, and workshops to promote the development and awareness about the education in library science.
- To provide necessary advice and support for edification of library science.
- Promotion of teachers training in the field of library science all over the country.
- Work towards the promotion of Library Science teacher's welfare and their professional training.

13.5 MADRAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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MALA stand for Madras Library Association. Dr. S.R. Ranganathan and Mr. K. V. Krishnanswamy Aiyar are the founders of the association; it was established on January 31, 1928. The association was meant to promote the library movement in the earlier Madras Presidency and it was closely associated with the national political freedom movement and social development. The movements for Swaraj were organised by Indian National Congress, the conferences and meetings for the purpose also offered a forum for various organisations working towards social development. In December 1927 the Congress session and the fifth All India Library Conference were together organised in Madras, and during this event the founders deliberated over the formation of an association to promote the library movement as well as social development as they felt that both were closely related to each other.

Activities of MALA

After its launch, MALA started several new programmes like,

- Providing mobile library services to facilitate villages of Mannargudi and Cuddalore
- Library services were started in hospitals as well.
- Promotion and spread of awareness of the Library Movement, the association published volumes of essays by well-known authors both in English and regional languages.
- List of bibliography records was compiled
- Libraries were promoted in schools and MALA initiated several competitions like essay writing and debates to encourage children to use the services of the library.
- As a result of the association's efforts librarian training programme was initiated in 1929 from 1931 it was handled by the University of Madras subsequently it advanced as a diploma at the post-graduation level and finally it became an independent course at the under-graduation level
- The association undertook publication of all aspects of library science starting from the Five Laws of Library Science, to the Colon Classification, Classified Catalogue Code and literature on Library Administration. These monographs have national as well as international acknowledgment.

It took over two decades of determination on the part of MALA for the Madras Public Libraries Act was passed in 1948. It was determined efforts of the associations for more than twenty years which payed off, the Act was first of its kind and provided the groundwork for the others which subsequently followed. With the efforts of the founders especially S.R Ranganathan the association was

allotted funds for developing a permanent address. Since 1976 it is housed as a part of the Gokhale Shastri Institute in Mylapore.

The primary objectives of the association are:

- To promote the library movement in all parts of the country especially in the South India
- To create awareness and benefits of the library services in schools, villages, etc.
- Organise activities such as seminars, lectures, movie-shows, fairs, to spread awareness.

The initiatives taken by MALA were recognised and admired by government as well as the people of Madras. The starting year membership of the library association was over four hundred it mainly comprised of the elite population and they supported the aims of the association to spread education with the help of libraries.

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13.6 RAJA RAM MOHAN ROY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

RRRLF stands for Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library foundation. The Government of India took the initiative to establish the foundation on May 27, 1972. The primary aim of the foundation was to give an impetus to the Public Library Movement in all parts of the country. The Government wanted people to be motivated to use the services of the public library in their area.

It is an autonomous body functioning at the union level. The foundation is financed by the Government's Cultural Ministry. Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation is recognised by the Societies Registration Act of 1961 of West Bengal. It functions as central office of the public library system for the Government and the objective of advancement of the public library movement has been included in its Memorandum.

The supreme policy making body of RRRLF is the foundation. The foundation has twenty two members and these are selected by the Government of India. The foundation is constituted with experienced academics, prominent administrators, and of course librarians. The chairman of the foundation is either one of the top officials working at the Department of Culture Ministry of Government or someone who is selected by the Ministry. RRRLF's administrative head and ex-officio Member-Secretary is the Director General. The Foundation functions on behalf of all states and the Union Territories with the help of State Library Committee. The foundation collaborates with the governments of states and the UTs; each state is equipped with State Library Planning Committee (SLPC/SLC) system. The government of the state and the UT share some part of funding with the foundation to enable smooth functioning of the programmes of the foundation.

Objective of RRRLF

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- To articulate a national library policy and to evolve a system for national library services
- Provision of technical support and financial backing for all libraries
- Encourage and support functioning of organisations at all levels which promote development of libraries
- Encourage researches for developing libraries
- Provide consultation and guidance to the Government over matters that effect the development of libraries in India
- To promulgate the implementation of library legislation in the India

The promotion of public libraries and their services has been the primary objective of the foundation. It undertakes all the necessary steps in order to achieve its primary objective. The foundation works towards providing adequate services to people, so they are able to cultivate a habit for reading. It coordinates with governments and independent organisation working for development of libraries. The foundation is also responsible for maintaining the collections at the libraries, libraries without reading material will be of no use. It takes steps to provide the services in rural areas as well with initiatives like mobile libraries, developing book banks, etc. The foundation has been responsible for organising exhibitions of books, conducting seminars and developing training programmes in order to effectively fulfil its objectives. The foundation also supports activities of institutions which are not directly part of the library system. They work with several external and voluntary institutes that help in enhancing the library services. The foundation has been continuously focusing of developing children libraries. The foundation provides financial support to several NGO's that work towards developing services of the public libraries.

13.7 SALIS (SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE)

SALIS has framed its objectives by considering and accommodating the aspirations of its members particularly young and upcoming library professionals. The objectives are framed after considerable deliberations in appropriate forums. They are practicable, executable and achievable. The execution of these objectives are reviewed periodically in its Annual General Body (AGB) meetings. The aims and objectives of SALIS are enumerated below:

- To promote the development and advancement of Library and Information Science and Technology (LIST) and all related fields
- To provide a common forum/network of Library and Information Science (LIS)

- Professionals to meet frequently and exchange their ideas and share their experiences
- To organise and conduct events of interest to the members such as meetings, lectures, seminars, conferences, training programmes, workshops, etc.
- To disseminate important scientific, technical and other information relevant to the scope and objectives of the society through publication of newsletters, reports, etc.,
- To collaborate with the various National/International professional bodies/agencies for the development of Libraries and Information Centres, etc. as well as for the professionals
- To encourage professionals for their yeomen services to the profession by giving awards etc
- To undertake projects and conduct research, etc in various areas of LIST
- To promote application of Information Technology in Library and Information Centres in order to provide timely and quality services to the end users
- To take active measures to inculcate the reading habits for developing the society

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Check Your Progress

1. State one basic objective of ILA.
2. What does IASLIC stand for?
3. Who founded Madras Library Association?
4. When was Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library foundation established?

13.8 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. One basic objective of ILA is the maintenance and development of the Indian library movement.
2. IASLIC stands for the Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres
3. Dr. S.R. Ranganathan and Mr. K.V. Krishnanswamy Aiyar are the founders of the Madras Library Association.
4. The Government of India took the initiative to establish the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library foundation on May 27, 1972.

13.9 SUMMARY

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- ILA stands for Indian Library Association; it was established on 22 September 1933 in Calcutta during the First All India Library Conference.
- The association helps in providing the personnel with advice and support about all technical issues arising during their operations.
- The policy processes and operations of ILA are conducted by its three constituents, The Council, The Executive Committee and the Sectional Committees.
- Till 1945 the ILA office was located in Calcutta at the Imperial Library. In 1946 for little over seven years it was located in Delhi University and then once again to Calcutta.
- IASLIC stands for the Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres. The association was established on September 3, 1955 in Calcutta by the efforts of J. Saha, A.K Mukherjee and G.B Ghosh.
- IASLIC functions as a non-profitable organisation towards supporting and developing all aspects of special libraries.
- The IASLIC undertakes publication work in order to highlight their activities and spread awareness for them among the members as well as other connected with the field.
- The Library Movement in India has been receiving constant support from IASLIC since its establishment.
- IATLIS stands for Indian Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science.
- The concept for formation of a teacher's association for individuals teaching in the field of library was suggested at the Regional Seminar of UNESCO in October 1960 at the Delhi University.
- MALA stand for Madras Library Association. Dr. S.R. Ranganathan and Mr. K.V. Krishnanswamy Aiyar are the founders of the association; it was established on January 31, 1928.
- MALA was meant to promote the library movement in the earlier Madras Presidency and it was closely associated with the national political freedom movement and social development.
- RRRLF stands for Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library foundation. The Government of India took the initiative to establish the foundation on May 27, 1972.
- The primary aim of RRRLF was to give an impetus to the Public Library Movement in all parts of the country.
- The supreme policy making body of RRRLF is the foundation. The foundation has twenty-two members, and these are selected by the Government of India.

- The promotion of public libraries and their services has been the primary objective of RRLF. It undertakes all the necessary steps in order to achieve its primary objective.
- The RRLF provides financial support to several NGO's that work towards developing services of the public libraries.

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13.10 KEY WORDS

- **Founder:** It refers to someone who establishes an organization.
- **Memorandum:** It is a document recording the terms of a contract or other legal details.
- **Promotion:** It is the publicizing of a product, organization, or venture so as to increase sales or public awareness.

13.11 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. State the objectives of Indian Library Association.
2. What is IATLIS? What are its primary objectives?

Long-Answer Questions

1. Give a detailed description of the objectives and activities of Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres.
2. Discuss the inception of Madras Library Association in detail.
3. What is the role of Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library foundation?

13.12 FURTHER READINGS

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- Evans, Wendy and David Baker. 2011. *Libraries and Society: Role, Responsibility and Future in an Age of Change*. Amsterdam: Elsevier.

UNIT 14 ETHICAL DILEMMAS

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Structure

- 14.0 Introduction
- 14.1 Objectives
- 14.2 Ethical Dilemmas: Censorship and Privacy
- 14.3 Professional Standards for Librarians
- 14.4 Personal Behaviour and Code of Conduct
- 14.5 Liability and Information Quality
 - 14.5.1 Information Quality
- 14.6 Answers to Check Your Progress Questions
- 14.7 Summary
- 14.8 Key Words
- 14.9 Self Assessment Questions and Exercises
- 14.10 Further Readings

14.0 INTRODUCTION

Since the beginning of the twentieth century, the ethical responsibility of the librarians has been acknowledged by the library legislations. It is their ethical duty to deliver the information requested by the users in their preferred format. Librarians have the function of choosing, consolidating, and inculcating clients on how to locate information, and guiding over usage of resources, and conserving all types of resources irrespective of format and process. The explosion of information and its availability on the internet and other persuasive sources has generated fresh challenges for librarians and they are forced to question the earlier ethics of professionalism. The librarians need to learn and use the fresh skills in order to acquire and provide reliable information from the various resources of electronic media. They need to understand the developing and expanding technology. Information from printed sources offer permanence of sorts however the electronic non-print needs careful management otherwise it can be extremely temporary. The services of internet offer bulk, unrestrained, free assemblage of resources. The librarians are unable to safeguard the integrity of the information provided by the library. Librarians are not just in dilemma because of the issues over the traditional ethics but the presence of a virtual library has provided them with a new set of them as they constantly face the challenge of providing fair access of well organised resources, deal with request to filter information, to provide licencing policies with less restrictions and most essential the maintenance of privacy of users in electronic communications.

14.1 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- Discuss the concepts of censorship and privacy
- Analyse professional standards for librarians
- Assess the personal behaviour and code of conduct of librarians
- Explain impending responsibilities of the librarians
- Assess the information quality

14.2 ETHICAL DILEMMAS: CENSORSHIP AND PRIVACY

Lee W. Finks had voiced his opinion about requiring fresh codes of ethics in librarianship, in 1995 ALA had developed a new set of codes but Finks felt that they were some which were still not a part of the new list. Essential part of his thesis was based on the conviction that ethical codes meant for all professionals of information especially the librarians should not be unsupportive statements to fool library authorities and the users. They need represent the values and principles that have been prevalent from ancient times. Fink was of the view that they need to “focus on the way we do our work and whether or not we perform in a way that can honestly be called professional”. Additionally, Johan Bekker pointed that as the society adjudicates an occupation with the people involved in it then all members ought to adhere to clearly demarcated standards of ethics. Particularly ethical matters pertaining to material selection, privacy and intellectual freedom needs to be considered very thoughtfully by the librarians.

Libraries are exposed to several ethical dilemmas on a daily basis over reference work. The manner in which the librarians handle these are very important as they could have a severe impact on the society. Few of these problems were brought to limelight by Robert Hauptman during his experiment that he has undertaken in 1975. He had paid a visit to thirteen libraries and requested the librarians to provide him with information about ways to develop a powerful bomb which will be able to blow up an entire township. All the librarians without questioning his intentions provided him with his information. Here he highlighted the dilemma faced by librarians working in a reference section of the library, they are asked to provide access to all types of information requested by the users, they are not expected to question and are not permitted to refuse the request even on grounds of moral duty towards the society. In his analysis of the experiment Hauptman called it as a “dubious professional commitment to dispense information” (Hauptman). He felt that the librarians should have the authority to refuse such

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request which is not authenticated by any authority and the librarians should have the right to question such users about their intentions. He conveyed his thoughts in very simple statement, “whenever there is a direct conflict between professional ethics and societal good, the latter must take precedence” (Hauptman). There were many other who agreed and felt that social good should get priority over professional ethics. Hauptman felt that this dilemma will not be faced by librarians if it was formally included in the code of ethics, the librarians should have the right to refuse such requests.

There have been several journals that have discussed the topic about ethics in providing information. There is need to censor the information by the librarians. In her journal, “Information Ethics: Freedom, Democracy, Responsibility”, Martha M. Smith has pointed that this debate has been going on since the time libraries have been established. The questions about how the librarian should attend to such queries have been raised during the wars as well. Hauptman has reminded his readers that the difference between delivering information and advice is very thin and librarians associated with special libraries have to be very cautious. Giving advice over legal and medical matters is considered unethical behaviour in librarianship. At such times the advice of the librarian should be to request the users to seek professional help. Librarians working in the reference section will face such dilemmas on routine basis and they will have to make appropriate decisions as they will be accountable for those decisions.

The librarians have accountability towards the society; however, they are accountable to every user of the library as well. All the users have to be respected and dealt with in a cultured manner. According to David A. Tyckoson the priority of every librarian should be towards the patrons of the library and then other members of staff and librarianship. There is a need to establish guidelines for ethics and they have to be closely monitored. The libraries all over the world need to address the dilemmas highlighted in the experiment conducted by experienced librarians like Hauptman and the views of Finks and Bekker. The ethical codes for the librarians need to incorporate the certainties of digital information as well. Most of the old code are no longer relevant and are extremely philosophical for current trends. With non-stop changes in the library systems it is essential to update the ethical codes of the library personnel in order to avoid dilemmas faced by them; these also affect their level of efficiency.

Privacy is another touchy issue; the librarians face the dilemma when a user seeks information about topics that might invade the privacy of another person. The confidentiality of the patron is one of the main components of ethical practices. The topics an individual prefers to read are confidential information. Their queries, sources of reference, sites of internet and books they have read are all confidential information.

The Constitution of United States protects the user's confidentiality with the help of the Fourth Amendment provides protection against unlawful search and seizure; the Fifth Amendment provides protection from self-accusation and the fourteenth Amendment provides due process. The confidentiality of the user is recognized by federal as well as state law. In 1974 the Privacy Act was implemented by the Congress and again restructured in 1988, according to the act creating and maintaining secret documents and databases on individuals or using collected information for purpose other than it was meant to be used is against the law. The applicability of Privacy Act is in terms of the circulation records. Librarians maintain that circulation records are constructed in order to keep a check on the location of material of the library materials. The intention was not to find about others interest and did not have any political purpose. Most states in US have implemented legislations in order to make the record of library confidential. As a result of these laws, libraries remove the information of the material from their circulation records and internet within two days. As luck would have it, there are times when users want the list of their read books and are upset when the library is unable to supply the same. At such times the librarians need to inform the logic behind erasing the info is their way ensuring their privacy.

Law implementer are able to access the records of the library after seeking permission from the judge in case they are able to convince the judge about its urgency in an investigation of crime records. There is a lot of debate over this liberty as well and many feel that certain law enforcing bodies have shown tendency to misuse this and invaded the privacy of the patrons. During the 1970s the FBI initiated a "Library Awareness Program." The agents of the agency restricted the circulation of certain records and for this purpose they employed library staff and asked them to report in case they spotted any suspicious looking patrons with foreign accent showing interest in information related to defence or scientific data. FBI agents appealed to the patriotic sentiments of the staff and asked them to spy over the library users. This was an act of invading privacy and the ALA strongly protested against it and questioned FBI and spoke about it in the Congress. The association wanted this to stop and asked the agents to stop pressurising the librarians for doing spying for them. The FBI officially never ended this program but in present times the librarians have become much more aware and are able to distinguish between their ethical and moral duties.

Censorship of the material is another common dilemma faced by the librarians. The librarians responsible for acquisition are expected to accumulate materials that represent the point of views of users and under no circumstances they gather the censored information. The librarians are constantly worried about collecting controversial and socially negative material that may harm the reputation of the library. Sometimes the librarians are personally offended by the publication, yet they need to procure it, at such times they are should have the liberty to choose or not to choose such materials.

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14.3 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR LIBRARIANS

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Establishing standards helps the professional to be equipped not only with the professional education required for the job but at the same time they work on their skills, capabilities and behaviour as well. The professional standards can be used for designing and developing job profiles, description of the post and also the educational programmes and basis for their evaluation.

Librarians are able to employ the standards to recognise their strengths and areas where they need to brush up their skills. The library authorities are able to use the standards to cross-check the performance of the librarians and staff involved in the library. They help in identifying the areas that require advance professional trainings.

Basic ideology of librarianship is to deliver the information demanded by each patron or client in an impartial and unbiased manner. The central obligation of the librarian is to bring seekers of information in contact with the sources of information. This is a constant objective and it has nothing to do with the changing formats of the information. They could be developing a metadata or responding to a query at the desk of the reference section, training a user or developing a fresh electronic service. The librarians should not try to judge people while assisting them in finding their required information. The information in the library is for all and the librarians cannot be selective and refrain it from few while providing it freely to others. They need to under all circumstances hold a professional standard.

- Provide access of all material and information equally and not give preference to any individual or institution. Giving exclusive treatment to some would be highly unprofessional behaviour.
- Provide all required information to the press.
- Maintaining the privacy of all the patrons
- Uphold the policies and rules of the libraries
- Keep circulation records of all patrons confidential. Librarians cannot reveal the patron's informational request and records of circulation to anyone. This will be not only regarded as unprofessional behaviour but also unethical and illegal.
- The level of service should not depend on the status, wealth or position of the individual.
- Provision of professional guidance to help the patrons utilise the services of the library and they should not try to give professional help regarding the topic of the information they are seeking. Librarians have to guide them not advise them.

- The role of the librarians is to provide access to information at the least amount of expenditure for the patrons; however, they have to respect the copyrights of the author as well. They need to remember the ethical and legal implications of the material's copyrights.
- High professional standards are expected from the librarians during collecting the material for the library. The collection has to be developed very thoughtfully. The material collected should be socially positive and should not generate any unpleasantness. The librarian has to reflect high standards of professionalism and choose the material that is suitable for the community. The institution should have clear cut guidelines about procedures of selection and these should be adhered to by the librarians.
- The librarians should not try to use their professional position for personal gains. For instance, the funds allotted should be used for acquiring material for the library and they should not try to patronise any particular vendor. The librarians dealing with manuscripts and old information should not try to misquote the actual prices provided by the vendors. The librarians should not accept any personal gifts from the patrons as well, there are occasions when the patrons wish to give gifts as token of gratitude to them.

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Check Your Progress

1. When was the Privacy Act implemented?
2. How does establishing standards help?

14.4 PERSONAL BEHAVIOUR AND CODE OF CONDUCT

The educational qualification helps individuals to get jobs of their choice but it's their personal behaviour at work that helps them to sustain and evolve in their jobs. The manner in which the librarian behaves with the user is very essential. They need to have following personal qualities for being a likable librarian:

- Adaptableness, tractability, and keenness for fresh experience and knowledge
- They should be able to communicate and provide advice to the users.
- Understand the importance of libraries and promote its worth to the users and aspiring individuals.
- Helping users to become self-sufficient,
- Uphold the freedom of expression and protect the right to access information and knowledge

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- Conserving the quantity of human knowledge for generations of tomorrow
- The librarians need to be effective negotiators as they have to work with others and reach a solution which is beneficial as well as acceptable.
- The librarians should be able to work in an environment that is constantly changing and full of ambiguities
- Have an open-mind towards changes. They should be able work in all conditions and provide the services of the library.
- They have to be decision makers and perceptive about the implications of their decisions.
- Should be able to identify the issues and determine their requirement and precision towards the information in question.
- They need to take sound decisions to solve the problems faced by the users.
- Need to possess the ability to cope and solve conflicts and differences in a positive manner
- They should be able to take initiative to resolve the issues and the users should not be dillydallied.
- Another essential personal quality of librarians lies in their capacity to innovate solutions to the problems, methods of delivering information. They should be imaginative for developments to take place.
- They could be cooperative as they need to coordinate with various agencies during their work
- They should have good marketing skills so that they are able to promote the library and its services
- They should try to become a role model for fresh graduates to pursue librarianship as a career option.
- The should be able to assist the members about the new technologies and methods of information
- The librarians should be a keen reader and to some extent a writer as well, they should be able to make effective proposals in order to get aid and support from various government agencies.
- They should have presentation and public speaking skills, so they are able to interact with people.

A prominent expert in the field of Librarianship Johan Bekker has provided the list of code of conduct for the librarians:

- Librarians need to utilise superior professional judgement while dealing with patrons. Thus, services provided by them should be superior quality. They should fulfil the spoken needs of the users and it is important for them to

predict their needs as well. Fulfilling the needs of the patrons is their primary task. They should willingly assist the users so that they are able to get their information. They need to protect the privacy of all users. Fulfilling this code will prevent incompetency and misconduct in the profession.

- The librarians should work towards improving the libraries and their services and for this they should actively become the members of professional associations, keep developing their professional skills and qualifications. Work hard towards protecting the reputation of the library and with their conduct try to enhance its reputation. They need to not only help the patrons in their research work but on their own also they need to undertake research work and try to develop new methods to improve the services of the library. The research will also help them to understand their existing services better. Function is a fair manner so that they never have to compromise on their sound judgements taken with a professional approach. They should not try to favour any one particular organisation or user over others and try to give them personal favours.
- Another important code of conduct for the librarians is creation and maintenance of conducive environment in the library which helps in promoting research work and knowledge. The librarians should respect the user's freedom of enquiry and thought and freedom of expression for this reason the librarians should allow information access freely to everyone without and disparities. They have to provide information in a completely unbiased manner and should not in any way hamper the intellectual freedom of the users. They should deter from exertions to censoring material of the library.
- The Librarians need to be concerned about the social well-being of the people and the society they live in. Thus, they need to preserve and safeguard the sources of information from the past. They need to provide the information to the present users and also preserve them for future generations. They have to maintain the confidentiality of the source of the information and also the users. Evade contravention into others professional practices. The provided information should not be used to harm other individuals in anyway and it should not restrain the liberty of others. This code is meant not only for the users but also the staff of the library. The code asserts the library as a social institution which works in accordance to the cultural and social traditions of the society.

The implementation of the above-mentioned codes will be dependent on the capability and acceptance of the librarians. They need to take these statements seriously and see that nobody is breaching the codes of conduct.

14.5 LIABILITY AND INFORMATION QUALITY

Let us begin by discussing some of the impending responsibilities of librarians.

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Impending Responsibilities of the Librarians

The librarians enter the profession fully knowing that they have to incur responsibilities. They are prone to several liability cases that might be filed by the patrons or organisations. The legal definition of liability denotes being bound or obligated by law. The librarians have responsibilities which they have to fulfil and in case they fail they will be answerable in the court of law.

They could be held liable for an accident in the library wherein the user might fall from the step ladder while searching for a book or might fall on wet floor. Patrons can take issue over services of reference. The user's guardians or parents might charge the librarian of a children library with the charge that the information was not fit for child's consumption. An organisation could hold the library responsible for providing inadequate information for their ongoing researches or delayed delivery of information. The liability issue may not always arise due to an external source it could be over an internal issue amongst the employees and the authority of the library as well. The liability's scope extends to the entire librarianship.

The users of the library believe that the librarians are experts in their field and have blind faith in their skills and do not doubt the information provided by them to be incorrect. They are considered to be specialists in information recovery, services for the reader, and management of information. The patron would accept the provided information as facts and correct statements of records. Users do not doubt the accuracy and do not cross-check the information, it is only once the applied information becomes a cause of loss do they realise the blunder committed by them and the librarian. In such cases the clients hold the librarian responsible and file a case against them charging them of malpractice and irresponsible behaviour.

In present times the user is completely aware of their rights and takes action in case they are not satisfied with the services provided. People like Ralph Nader have spread awareness among people and they have even held the librarians liable for their services as they are offering informational services on all types of issues and topics. All corporations are open for scrutiny by the public and the field of librarianship is no exception. Clients demand correct information and they have the liberty to hold the library and their librarian responsible for the losses in case inaccurate information has been provided.

There are laws and regulation which safeguard the rights of the users and provide them with the right to sue the individual or the entire library, depending on the level of negligence. The librarian could be made to pay financial damages in case it is established in the court of law that the loss occurred due to personal liability. The users of the library do realise that suing the librarian would not help them to recover their losses as they do not have enough funds hence they have begun to sue the library authorities and essentially the trustees or the fund managers of the library.

The individuals accepting the job at a library should be completely aware of these developments and work with full caution and should not impart information unless hundred percent sure about its authenticity and accuracy. The library and its employees may opt for insurance coverage. Insurance provides protection against lawsuits and help in safeguarding the library from fraud cases.

14.5.1 Information Quality

The chain of distributing information is liable to break at any point. The mistake could occur in any part of the distribution process, it could be at the time of publishing, collecting, storing, circulation, recovery, or application. Attributing the mistake to the source quality is the easiest option. In order to avoid mistakes and maintain the quality it is essential that all the links in the process are strong. This will ensure effective transferring of accurate and quality information. Information quality is affected in view of following occurrence:

- **Unsuitable Substance:** according to the TQM definition the quality of information is good when it is fit for the purpose and the outcome is as per the desirability of the users. The measurement of quality is not done on hypothetical aspects, but it matches the rational anticipations of the consumer and is fabricated in agreement with a fixed criterion agreed by the provider as well as the user. There is a problem when the quality does not match the expectations of the user.
- **Vague or Consciously Duplicitous:** There is no fixed measure through which perfect standards of information can be measured. The Data Quality Act in US has tried to formulate system to measure the quality of information this has been done by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The agency has evolved a “Assessment Factors for Evaluating the Quality of Information from External Sources” the factors help in establishing the standards for quality of the information.
- **Subjective or Non-Objective:** Before the arrival of the Internet, most of the experts assumed that information recovered from was any electronic facility was absolutely correct and reflected the strategy of their search. With the establishment of links which are on payment basis this assumption is no longer valid. The experts cannot be sure about the relevance of the facts presented to them is going to be the best set for their strategy.
- **Inadequate and Unfinished Information:** Quality of information suffers when it is incomplete as it may mislead the users and communicate a wrong or different picture.
- **Outdated Information:** Even if all the above aspects are perfect and the information is adequate, impartial, accurate and relevant the quality is still not good in case the information is out-of-date, this is most relevant to information related to finance and industries. Outdated knowledge in

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these sectors is useless and for this reason it is essential to provide the current data in order to maintain the quality of the information.

The Dissemination Process

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The quality of information is largely dependent on the process of the dissemination. The quality is bound to suffer when incorrect data is continuously distributed. The problem has become very severe with the use of electronic media, the information travels very fast and it gets distributed to skilled as well as unskilled consumers and as a result the information is repeated and communicated all over again. The quantity of knowledge is so large that it is not possible to retrieve the information and it gets established as facts at an astonishing speed. It is even worse when initially the information circulated is correct and at some point of distribution, it goes haywire, almost like a 'Chinese whisper' carried on through the electronic media. The problem is intensified when the mistake takes place in the initial stages as the users are not able to cross-check with the earlier references, as a result the incorrect information continues to be circulated. The most relevant illustration can be seen in the story of chemical structure provided by Perkin's mauve, the first synthetic dyestuff. It was initially created in 1856 and till 1924 the incorrect structure continued to be circulated. The correct structure was formulated in 1994.

Constituents of Information Quality

The librarians have a primary responsibility to provide accurate information to their users. They have to make sure that the information is up to the mark as otherwise they can be held liable and be sued by the patrons. There are many universally accepted frameworks which have been developed for present scenario of information explosion. These frameworks help in assessing the quality of the data provided to the users from different aspects. The data has to be assessed from multiple aspects so that it can be verified from all angles and the overall quality can be indicated. Such frameworks occasionally club indicators of quality into sets, classes, or intensities.

Given below are some of the constituents for information quality which have been extracted from quality framework given by Knight, these help in listing the necessary features of the information resource. The features only provide a broad outline and act as a tool for assessing and explaining the usability of the information provided by print as well as non-printed resources.

- **Trust:** The first constitute is evaluating the trust-factor of the information. It is important to evaluate the level to which the data can be trusted. The assessment has to be done on the basis of particular subjective aspects, it has to be judged for its authenticity, usage acceptability and applicability, the related discipline, the repute of source from where the data has been generated and lastly the preconceptions of the people involved in the assessment.

- **Authenticity:** In this context the authenticity of the data may be referred to the approximate measure of the degree to which the information is arbitrated as ‘good science’, responding to queries concerning the trustworthiness of the tools employed to gather the information, the dependability of fundamental framework of the theory, the comprehensiveness, accurateness, and authority of the information, and consistency of ontology in the data. The data has to be understandable before it can be evaluated for its authenticity.
- **Understandable Data:** In order to evaluate the understand-ability of any data it is essential to realise the context, this includes clear description, usability of data, documentation, metadata, or origin of the data.
- **Usability:** This refers to the accessibility of the data, in order to use information it has to be first accessed and discovered and present it in a usable format. The person judging the quality of the information would first need the necessary tools to access and then only the integrity of the data will be established.
- **Integrity:** Integrity of data accepts that the data may be confirmed to be same, as per an initially acknowledged or certified state. Data integrity is needed for using the data, understanding the data, authenticating and proving its quality on the whole. The constituent of Integrity is prone to be subjected to discrepancy, or disconcertion, and might have substantial effect on quality of other factors. The extent of the effect may depend on disconcertion. This disconcertion could be a part of the format in file or its location in the file.

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Check Your Progress

3. State one personal quality of likeable librarians.
4. What does the quality of information depend on?

14.6 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS QUESTIONS

1. The Privacy Act was implemented by the Congress in 1974.
2. Establishing standards helps the professional to be equipped not only with the professional education required for the job but at the same time they work on their skills, capabilities and behaviour as well.
3. One personal quality of likeable librarians is that they should be able to communicate and provide advice to the users.
4. The quality of information is largely dependent on the process of the dissemination.

14.7 SUMMARY

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- Lee W. Finks had voiced his opinion about requiring fresh codes of ethics in librarianship; in 1995 ALA had developed a new set of codes but Finks felt that they were some which were still not a part of the new list.
- Libraries are exposed to several ethical dilemmas on a daily basis over reference work.
- There have been several journals that have discussed the topic about ethics in providing information. There is need to censor the information by the librarians.
- According to David A. Tyckoson, the priority of every librarian should be towards the patrons of the library and then other members of staff and librarianship.
- Privacy is another touchy issue; the librarians face the dilemma when a user seeks information about topics that might invade the privacy of another person.
- The confidentiality of the patron is one of the main components of ethical practices.
- In 1974 the Privacy Act was implemented by the Congress and again restructured in 1988, according to the act creating and maintaining secret documents and databases on individuals or using collected information for purpose other than it was meant to be used is against the law.
- Censorship of the material is another common dilemma faced by the librarians.
- Establishing standards helps the professional to be equipped not only with the professional education required for the job but at the same time they work on their skills, capabilities and behaviour as well.
- Basic ideology of librarianship is to deliver the information demanded by each patron or client in an impartial and unbiased manner.
- The central obligation of the librarian is to bring seekers of information in contact with the sources of information.
- The educational qualification helps individuals to get jobs of their choice but it's their personal behaviour at work that helps them to sustain and evolve in their jobs.
- A prominent expert in the field of Librarianship Johan Bekker has provided the list of code of conduct for the librarians.
- The legal definition of Liability denotes being bound or obligated by law. The librarians have responsibilities which they have to fulfil and in case they fail they will be answerable in the court of law.

- There are laws and regulation which safeguard the rights of the users and provide them with the right to sue the individual or the entire library, depending on the level of negligence.
- The chain of distributing information is liable to break at any point. The mistake could occur in any part of the distribution process, it could be at the time of publishing, collecting, storing, circulation, recovery, or application.
- There is no fixed measure through which perfect standards of information can be measured.
- The Data Quality Act in US has tried to formulate system to measure the quality of information this has been done by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- The quality of information is largely dependent on the process of the dissemination. The quality is bound to suffer when incorrect data is continuously distributed.
- The librarians have a primary responsibility to provide accurate information to their users.

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14.8 KEY WORDS

- **Patron:** It refers to a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or cause.
- **Vendor:** It refers to a person or company offering something for sale, especially a trader in the street.
- **Liability:** It denotes being bound or obligated by law.

14.9 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS AND EXERCISES

Short-Answer Questions

1. Discuss the concepts of censorship and privacy in the context of libraries and librarians.
2. Give a detailed description of the Privacy Act.

Long-Answer Questions

1. Write a detailed note on the required professional standards for librarians.
2. Discuss the personal behaviour and the code of conduct that librarians need to follow.
3. Explain the concept of liability and information quality in detail. What are the constituents of information quality?

14.10 FURTHER READINGS

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