

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND ROLE OF RRRLF FOR PROMOTION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES**Dolly Sharma***

*Librarian,
DAV College for Women,
Ferozepur Cantt.
Punjab, India

QR Code

ABSTRACT: -The paper discusses about the library legislation in India and also discussed about the RRRLF and their role in promotion of public library. Public library system in India strengthen and improve the educational importance through knowledge dissemination establishing public libraries at the state, district, municipality, village and many others level. The government of India have established and funded to run different Public libraries. In this paper we learn about the library legislation and the time of their amendment .We also learn about the RRRLF and their service and promotional activities. The public libraries play an important role for societal and national development. Though, many of the states have not enacted public library act. They are still in progress and persuading the state government for early legislation. RRRLF also gave continue contribution with public to increase their sources and facilities. RRRLF play a major role in the development of public libraries.

KEY WORDS – public library, legislation, RRRLF, India, government

INTRODUCTION

A public library is a nonprofit library maintained for public use. Library movement is a saga of organized growth and development of libraries giving the details of establishment maintains and functioning of libraries in a geographical proximity. No country in the world can progress without providing for public library services to the citizens. In democratic to strength the of information and to promote the social culture country like India to establish the service

institutes like public libraries in order, historical ,scientific and technical knowledge in the public at large public libraries arose worldwide along with growth in education , Literacy and publication . Every country has its own public library History with influential leaders. The growth and development of public library system in India may be studied by categorizing it broadly into three groups.

- * Ancient libraries
- * Medieval libraries
- * Modern libraries

Libraries were established in ancient India mainly by the patronage extended by emperors, major capitalists and scholar there is evidence of well-developed libraries even in the sixth century A.D the famous Nalanda University in Bihar had its own magnificent library with a massive collection of manuscripts covering the universe of knowledge. Admission to library was restricted to scholars' .Other ancient universities, such as Taxila and Vikramashila also had a valuable library.

In 1808 the government of Bombay proposed to register libraries. During the first half of the 19th century, the three presidency towns of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras had public libraries. These libraries were mostly financed by Europeans residing in these towns.

The first three decades of the 20th century can be looked on as the golden age of the Indian library system. On January 31, 1902 the imperial library act was passed and Lord Curzon transformed the Calcutta public library into the imperial library in 1906.

POST- INDEPENDENCE PERIOD

Public libraries in India made a tremendous growth after the independence of India in 1947. the central and the state government took a

number of steps forward for the development of the nation from the point of education and considered library as essential part of its. Hence public library became part of the education budget. The government undertook some programs such as extension of services, continuing education, social education, non-formal education and adult education. In order to accelerated the pace of socio-economic development. The government considered public libraries to be an integral part of development projects.

The Connemara public library in madras became the state central library in 1950 under the provision of madras public libraries act 1948, and became one of the three depository libraries in 1955.

PUBLIC LIBRARY LEGISLATION

India attained freedom in 1947 and became a republic in 1950. To facilitate administration, it not has a national capital region of Delhi, 28 states and 6 union territories after independence. Even before independence, Kolhapur princely state of the western India passed public libraries act in 1945.

Today, only half of the states of the Indian union have successfully passed the library legislation. However, in the coming few years, there is greater possibility for a library law being enacted in the remaining states. Now we will

discuss about different states which has library legislation.

Public Library Legislation and Year of Enacting			
Sr. No.	Library	Nature of Law	Year
01	Madras (Tamil Nadu) Public Library Act (First)	Library Cess (10%) on Property Tax	1948
02	Andhra Pradesh Public Library Act (Second)	Library Cess (8%) on Lands And Buildings	1960
03	Library Act (Third) Karnataka (Mysore) Public	Library Cess (6%) on Lands, Buildings, Vehicles And Profession	1965
04	Maharashtra Public Library Act (Fourth)	No Library Cess	1967
05	West Bengal Public Library Act	No Library Cess	1979
06	Manipur Public Library Act	No Library Cess	1988
07	Haryana Public Library Act	Cess Local Bodies to Levy	1989
08	Kerala Public Library Act	Library Cess (5%) on Property Tax and Not Less Than 1% of State Expenditure on Education	1989
09	Goa Public Library Act	Ps. Per Liter .And 0.50	1993

Sr. No.	Library	Nature of Law	Year
		Surcharge On IFML@0.50	
10	Mizoram Public Library Act	No Library Cess	1993
11	Gujarat Public Library Act	No Library Cess	2001
12	Orissa Public Library Act	No Library Cess	2001
13	Uttar Pradesh Public Library Act	----	2005
14	Uttarakhand Public Library Act	----	2005
15	Rajasthan Public Library Act	----	2006
16	Bihar Public Library Act	----	2007
17	Chhattisgarh Public Library Act	----	2007
18	Pondicherry Public Library Act	----	2007
19	Arunachal Pradesh Public Library Act	----	2009

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

Andaman and Nicobar islands in the Bay of Bengal served as prisoners for life convicts, political prisoners' and exiles during the British regime. On 1st November 1956, the Andaman and Nicobar islands were made a union territory. The Andaman and Nicobar library association formed in 1977 prepared the blue print for a public library system for the state and submitted in to the administrative authorities for approval.

As a result of the constant efforts of the association, the government constituted the Andaman and Nicobar library planning committee in 1978. Now the association has taken up the work of library legislation.

ANDHARA PRADESH

The state Andhra was formed in 1st October, 1953. Its capital is Hyderabad and has 23 districts. Andhra Pradesh public libraries act 1960. This came into force from 1st April, 1960. It is under the administrative control of honorable minister of school education and primary education. This act was later amended in 1964, 1969, 1987 and 1989. Andhra Pradesh has a good public library system with state central library regional libraries, district central libraries and branches and a full time director to control the system.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

After the formation of the state in 1978 the secretariat library was converted into the state central library. Presently there is one state central library. Its 2 branches , 16 district libraries, 3 divisional libraries, 13 sub divisional libraries, 26 block libraries and 30 circle libraries. Mobile library service was introduced in the capital city through automobile van. There are district libraries in all district head quarters. However there is no initiative for the public library act so far.

BIHAR

With the continuous efforts of reputed library professional of the state Bihar government passed the public libraries act in 2008. Bihar has a state library at Patna and district libraries in all the districts.

GOA

The first public library in Goa named "publican libraia" was started in 1932. It was one of the oldest public in India. After liberation this library was converted into the central library. The governments constituted the state library advisory board in 1983 and appointed a subcommittee, for drafting the library bill and presenting it to the government. The library bill was introduced by Mr. Don Vick Fernandez in the assembly in 1993 and passed on 26th November 1993. It got the assent of the governor on 29th July 1995.

GUJARAT

Gujarat state shares border with Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. The state has international border with Pakistan. The capital of Gujarat is Gandhinagar and the state has 25 districts. This state has a rich heritage of public library movement. Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad of Baroda state was the pioneer of public library movement in India as early as 1910. After the continuous efforts for a long time, Shri Monoharsinhji Jadeja, the chairman, state library advisory committee redrafted the library bill and submitted to the government. This bill was published in the gazette on 28th dec.1977 and the bill was passed in the year 2001 and implemented.

HARYANA

The state of Haryana was carved of the state of Punjab on November 1966. It is one of the smallest states of India and has 20 districts. The state central library at Haryana was started in 1967. This library was managed under the administrative control of director of higher education. The public library act was passed in the state in 1989.

KERALA

The state of Kerala was formed in 1956. This state has earned the credit of having the highest literacy rate in India. The Kerala public library bill was **passed in February 1989.**

MANIPUR

The Manipur library association was established in 1987 and was very active from its inception. It has created library awareness in the entire state the association drafted the Manipur public libraries bill and got it introduced in legislative assembly on 1st August 1988.

ORISSA

Orissa has significant historical background harping back to the reign of the Kalinga dynasty. Orissa has libraries from an early period. During the fifth five-year plan, the government of Orissa started district libraries in all district headquarters' Orissa library legislation bill was passed on 25th march 1988.

RAJASTHAN

Rajasthan public libraries act was passed in 2006. It has a state central library, 7 divisional libraries, 33 district libraries, 9 Tehsil libraries and 228 block level libraries.

TAMILNADU

The name Tamil Nadu was adopted for this state on 14th January 1969. Its capital is Chennai. Dr. S R Ranganathan as of the madras university, first through about library legislation in India as early as 1925 and succeed in 1948. It was implemented with effect from April 1950

UTTARAKHAND

This state has been carved out from the hill area of the state of Uttar Pradesh. This state has 13 districts. The government felt the need of library legislation and passed an act in 2005.

UTTAR PRADESH

Uttar Pradesh is famous for its manuscripts libraries. Manuscripts were collected and housed in the Rampur library. The Uttar Pradesh library association was founded in 1949. Dr S R Ranganathan drafted the Uttar Pradesh public libraries bill in 1949 and published it in the form of a book. This bill was submitted to the government and circulated to all the members of the legislation assembly. Despite the education minister's keenness in putting the public libraries act in to the statute book, his efforts did not materialize. Ultimately the government issued an ordinance in 2006 for library legislation.

WEST BANGAL

The Bengal public libraries act was passed in the assembly on 12th september 1979. This state has 9 state central library, district libraries and other libraries at a lower level .It has a directorate of libraries to manage the system

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR LIBRARIES

The government of India appointed a committee in 1957 to report on the status of public library development in the country. It is also called the Sinha committee.

The chief recommendations of the report were:-

- Library service should be made free to every citizens of India.
- The hierarchy of public library services in the country should begin with national library and proceed to state central library, district library, block library and Panchayat library.
- State government should accept responsibility for public library services in their states.

ROLE OF RRRLF IN PROMOTING PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The year 1972 is a significant year in the history of library movement in India. The country was celebrating the silver jubilee of its independence. It was the bi-century year of the birth of Raja Rammohun Roy, a pioneer social reformer who had stressed the need for the modern education for the progress of the nation. Raja Rammohun Roy library foundation (RRRLF) was established in may 1972, by the department of culture, government of India to spread library services all over the country in co-operation with state government, union territory administrator organizations working in the field.

RRRLF is a central autonomous organization established and fully financed by the ministry of culture, government of India. RRRLF is registered under the west Bengal society registration act, 1961. It is the nodal agency of the government of India to support public library services and system and promote public library

movement in the country. The supreme policy making body of RRRLF is called the foundation. It consists since 2005-06 the foundation has also taken up the initiative to develop the district youth resource Centre (DYRC) in collaboration with Nehru Yuvak Kendra sangathana, an autonomous organization under the ministry of sports & youth affairs of 22 member nominated by the government of India. Professor Brij kishore Sharma is the present chairman of RRRLF. The foundation functions in each state.

OBJECTIVE OF RRRLF

Main objective of RRRLF are:-

- (a) Promotion of the library movement in India
- (b) Adoption of a national library policy by the central and state governments.
- (c) Periodic publication of reports on library development
- (d) Development of national library system by integrating the services of national libraries, state central libraries, district libraries and other types of libraries through an inter lending library system.
- (e) To advice the Government of India library development

The primary objective of RRRLF is the promotion of the library movement. The foundation also has a program of assistance to libraries for workshops, conferencing and exhibits. The current programs of assistance by RRRLF are:-

- Collection building.

- Rural libraries and mobile libraries service for the rural area.
- Public library building.
- Seminar, workshops, conference and training courses.
- Television and VCR equipment's for educational purposes.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES OF RRRLF

RRRLF has undertaken several promotional activities for qualitative improvement of library services. It has played a major role in the preparation of national policy on library & information system. It has also issued guidelines on public library system and services. RRRLF also interacts with many national & international professional associations like IFLA, ILA, and IASLIC different state level library association.

The foundation has also undertaken a program of giving seven awards annually, one for the best state central library and six for the best district library.

CONCLUSION

The present paper concludes that the legislation of public libraries in India. The public libraries play an important role for societal and national development. Public library system efforts to support resource sharing have greatly contributed to the development of system. Though, many of the states have not enacted public library act. They are still in progress and persuading the state government for early

legislation. RRRLF also gave continue contribution with public to increase their sources and facilities. RRRLF play a major role in the development of public libraries.

References

- About RRRLF. (n.d.).retrieved February19, 2016,from http://rrrlf.nic.in/about_rrrlf.asp
- Badhusha, K. N., & Nagarajan, M. Development of Public Library Systems and Services in India. V3 Journal of library and information Sciences.
- Barua, B. P. (1992). National Policy on Library and Information Systems and Services for India: Perspectives and Projections. Popular Prakashan.
- Barua, B. P. (1994). Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation and Library Movement in India. In 39th All India Library Conference. Delhi: Indian Library Association.
- Bhattacharjee, R. (2002). Public library services in India: systems, modernization, networking and deficiencies. National Round Table on the Modernization and Networking of Libraries in India, DELNET, New Delhi, 81-99.
- Buragohain, A. (1999). Public Library Scenario in India-Problems and Prospects. Herald of Library Science, 38, 5-13.
- Ekbote, G. R. (1997). Public library system. Hyderabad. Ekboter Brothers.
- Indian Library Association. (1999). Library Vision 2010: Indian Libraries and Librarianship in retrospect and prospect: 45th ILA Conference. Hisar, ILA, Delhi.
- National mission on libraries ministry of culture, government of India.(n.d.). retrieved February 19,2016,from [http://www.nmlindia.nic.in/library scenario in India.](http://www.nmlindia.nic.in/library_scenario_in_india)
- Promotional activities page.(n.d). retrieved February19,2016,from [http://www.rrrlf.nic.in/promotionl activity .asp](http://www.rrrlf.nic.in/promotionl_activity.asp)
- Sharma, P. S. (1985). Public libraries in India. Ess Ess Publications.
- Wani, Z. A. (2008). Development of public libraries in India.