PRESENT STATUS OF RESEARCH WORK ON COLLEGE OF EDUCATION LIBRARIES: A STUDY

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INTRODUCTION

Education has the most significant role in the lives of all human beings. Throughout the history, education has been playing this vital role and has contributed a lot in shaping the destinies of societies in all phases of their development. More importantly education develops man-power for different levels of the economy. In essence, education is to be looked upon as a unique investment in the present and the future.

Today teaching is a profession requiring knowledge and skills. There exists a wide gap between theory and actual classroom curriculum transaction. One of the most important requirements to promote and strengthen education is the training of teachers who are the key resources in the

reform, redirection and renewal of education.

In the Indian system of teacher education, a variety of curricula resulting in a number of degree/diplomas e.g. NTT (Nursery Teacher Training), D.Ed. (Diploma in Education), B.Ed. (Bachelor of Education), M.Ed. (Master of Education) are prevailing.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

In independent India, government has played a significant role in teacher education. The National Council for Teacher was established in 1973, first as advisory body to advise central and state governments on matters related to teacher education. NCTE has status by an Act of Parliament in 1995 for the purpose "to achieve planned and coordinated development of the teacher education system throughout the country". At present teacher education system in India consists of Regional Institutes of Education (RIEs) funded by Central Government; District Institutes; university departments and constitutes colleges; government colleges; government aided colleges; and self-financed private colleges etc. this is vast network of covering hundreds of colleges in each large state.

College of Education libraries

The college of education library like any other library affiliated to educational institutions primarily contributes to the teaching-learning process by providing various on information and learning resources for successful completion of the course programed offered by the institution. The Library activities to satisfy the educational and research needs of the students and faculty of the institutions.

The regulatory body for teacher education in India-NCTE, has framed elaborate norms for libraries of colleges offering different teacher education courses, for a college offering B.Ed. courses (with an intake of 50) the position of librarian is placed under technical support staff. It is prescribed that one full time librarian should be there whose qualification should be as prescribed by State Government/UT administration concerned. The Librarian's appointment like other employee shall be made on the basis of recommendations of the Selection Committee constituted as per the policy of the UGC/ Affiliating University.

Regarding library infrastructure, NCTE has prescribed that each college there shall be a library-cum-reading room with seating capacity of fifty percent of the students equipped with minimum 1000 titles and 3000 books including text and reference

books relevant to the course of the study, educational encyclopedia, year books, electronic publications (CD ROMs) and minimum five journals of teacher education and subscription to five others in related discipline. The library holdings shall be augmented with addition of 200 titles annually. The Library shall have photocopying facility and computer with internet facility for the use of faculty and student-teachers.

For the college offering M.Ed. course, the number of technical staff shall be as per the norms prescribed by the University/State Government. Regarding infrastructure, it states that there shall be library-cum-reading room facility for at least 10 students and equipped with minimum 2000 books including text and reference books related to all courses of study, educational encyclopedias, electronic publication (CD ROMs) and minimum five professional research journals and internet connectivity. At least 100 quality books will be added in the library every year. The library shall have photocopying facility and computer with internet facility for the use of faculty and student-teachers.

Research Work done on College of Education Libraries in India:

A number of such studies are being frequently reported in LIS literature. Such study details are mentioned here.

Adebayo (2007) depicted that libraries of colleges of education in Nigeria were rendering basic services as recommended by National Commissions for Colleges of Education. These did not provide indexing and abstracting services.

Adekanmbi (2008) discussed the availability and use of collection development policies in the colleges of education in Botswana. Majority of the libraries did not have collection development policies. It was further found that majority of the libraries did not involve their users in formulation of policies and did not implement these for collection development.

Awolola (1998) explored the position of libraries of two colleges of education in Nigeria and revealed that libraries have failed to perform their role mainly because of inadequate finance whereas adequate funding can solve a major part of the problems. Author suggested the formulation of standards and guidelines particularly for college of education libraries.

Bhanu (2009) the study reveals that staff strength in the libraries is a main

concern. It's an urgent need to fill in the existing vacancies in these libraries and raise the staff strength to an finest level so that these libraries can achieve their objectives successfully. Among other things to be improved include Library collection and IT Application in the libraries. Although the finding do not reveal very bright picture with regard the present state of education of the college libraries in the three selected districts.

Biradar et al., (2009) found that 72.27% users were using lending service and among them 54.79% were satisfied. The services like SDI, ILL, CD Rom search etc, were fairly used, while non documentary sources were less used. Authors concluded with the urgent need to establish e-consortia model among agriculture libraries in India.

Chopra (1995) discussed the problems being faced by college libraries in Punjab. These were grouped as problems related to management, principals of colleges and library staff.

Diane (2004) examines the amounts and most common types of computer use and their effects on the students' computer attitudes. Computer use, especially home use, is strongly and consistently associated with positive computer attitudes although there are positive correlations between all computer-attitude factors and all library-anxiety factors. Computer knowledge produces positive computer attitudes and positive computer attitudes help decrease library anxiety among students.

Lohar and **Kumbar** (2007) Results of the study revealed that 52.25% users spent less than an hour and more than half an hour only in libraries per week. Only a small fraction of users was familiar with inter library loan service. Accessibility of the reading material, its adequacy, users' opinion about library services such as lending service, pattern of search for latest literature, inter-library-loan, photocopy service, orientation, computerization of libraries, the Internet, etc., were also provided.

Mukherjee (1965) found that out of the 50 teachers training colleges, most of the libraries did not have enough space for proper running. Some of the colleges did not have their own libraries. Staff and students depended on university libraries to which education section was attached.

Nzotta (1987) the result shows that in most colleges the library is accorded with the same status as an academic department and the college Librarian is directly responsible to the Principal or provost. Most college librarians have inadequate administrative powers and this has adverse effects on the quality of library services in the colleges. The libraries are unable to attract adequate funds for their services. It

was suggested the status and functions of college libraries and college librarians should be clearly spelt out in the statues establishing the colleges as in the case of Nigerian Universities.

Padama (2002) results of the study reveal that a large number of teachers use the subject periodicals most frequently. However, it is also observed that a good number of teachers expressed their general opinion about the lack of secondary periodicals and lack of online and CD-ROM database search facilities in their libraries. Since the secondary periodicals are the guide to the primary periodicals, it is necessary to procure the same and importance should also be given to online and CD ROM database searches to provide pinpointed and exhaustive literature search to teachers and research scholars. It also helps to optimise to utilisation to existing periodicals collection in the library.

Partap (2007) found that collection size of the libraries varied considerably and comparatively older colleges' had large collections. Majority of the libraries were being kept open for 6 to7 hours a day. He suggested for the introduction of user education programme and stressed on the need to increase the range and depth of collection and services.

Setty (1977) the teachers college libraries are found in-adequate in their collection, staff, services, facilities and budget. It was also found that only six teacher college libraries out of twenty-four have a collection of over 10,000 volumes. Researcher suggests that creation of union catalogue of holding all teacher college libraries in Karnataka. Appoint professional librarian with pay-scale and other service condition.

Shanmugam (1999) found that trainee teachers' information Needs were influenced greatly by the course requirements centered on their course. A general lack of interest in reading books and newspapers was observed. Computers were used largely for typing rather than for handling information.

Swarna Kumari (2004) described the opinion of students and teachers on library collection, services, opening hours, facilities, rules and regulations, reading facility and organization of documents, etc.

Vasudevan Namboori (2004) The study revealed that 47.08% of the teachers were of the opinion that the library system was unable to cater to the information needs of teachers, digital information has only a limited impact on academic community and majority of the respondents (63.55%) reported it as the major difficulty encounter by them in their information related activities.

Veer (2006) the study found that 62.38% libraries had a collection below 5000 books while 2.97% had more than 25000. In government colleges there were 103 books per user. The average number of newspaper received in government college libraries was 6, in private aided colleges it was 7.03 and private un-aided college it was only 2.58.

Vijayakumar and Parade (2002) They have identified that majority of, the respondents prefer their own house (93.3%) and (87%) read for gaining knowledge and so large copulation of the study read more than three hours in their house (46.65%).

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