

ROLE OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIAN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM: PRESENT AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

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Abstract: - *For the better development of any organization, there should be some associations which that may oversee the activity of such organizations and take measures and implement strategies for their development for the betterment of such organizations. Public libraries are also considered as one of the important organizations of not only the country but also over the world. There should be certain associations. For the development of public libraries of India so many professional bodies are formed, established, and are working perfectly to play a vital role for the cooperation among libraries and its professionals. A library association's basic mission is to improve, expand, and promote professional knowledge in libraries, information institutions, and research centers, to provide quality leadership among library professions, to promote and improve library services, and to promote educational programs and other innovative programs and publications. This study tries to cover the role that played by such professional bodies for the development of Indian public library system and what role should be played or what plan can executed through such professional bodies for the better development of public library scenario of the country.*

Keywords: Advisory committee for libraries, ILA, Library Legislation, Professional body, NEP 2020, NKC, NML, RRRLF

1. Introduction:

Professional Body, by definition, means an organization or association with individual members practicing a profession or occupation in which the organization or association maintains an oversight of the knowledge, skills, conduct and practice of that profession or occupation (*Science Council*). The success of any professional body depends on its dedication, selfless attitude and voluntary efforts towards its respective society. Professional body is one that is involved in one of

the specialized professions or in a career involving a high degree of education and proficiency. Professional association membership consists of practitioners, i.e. individuals who are working as a source of subsistence or income.

Unlike other professional bodies, library related professional bodies are also extending their hands to develop the libraries and create a bridge of cooperation among the libraries and library professionals under one umbrella. The basic motive of a library professional body is to

improve and expand professional knowledge in libraries by providing qualitative leadership, promoting best practices, and supporting instructional programming and other innovative programmes and publications.

American library Association (ALA) was the first and largest professional body in the world established in the year 1876 in Philadelphia which later moved to Chicago and established its headquarter there. Later, in Great Britain and the countries also started to establish library associations/organizations to promote libraries and library education internationally and nationally. In India, the first national association was founded in 1920 named All-India Public Library Association. Later in the year 1933 the Indian Library Association was established with the objective to develop libraries and library professionals in nationwide and to represent its objective internationally.

With the rapid changes in society and impact of ICT in our daily lives, professional bodies also have to change their roles and objectives to meet the demand of the technological development of public libraries.

2. Scope of the Study

Scope of the study is mainly confined to the role played by Indian professional bodies to develop the public library system of India and what the role should be played by these bodies to develop the public libraries of the country with the rapid changes in society due to proliferation of

electronic resources and impact and use of ICT in libraries.

3. Objectives of the study:

The basic objective of the study is to find out what type of role is playing presently by the professional bodies to develop the public library system of India and what role would be these bodies may play to make Indian public library system more developed and more advanced in future days.

4. The Public Library and the Public library system: a brief outline:

Public libraries are regarded as people's university which meets the information needs of all the members of the community regardless of caste, creed, age, gender, religion, language, disability, economic and employment status, educational attainment, etc. It has been considered as social institution based on the democratic principle "of the people, by the people and for the people". The most widely accepted definition of a public library was formulated by UNESCO in 1949 which was later revised in 1972. According to UNESCO Manifesto, "The public library, the local gateway to knowledge, provides a basic condition for lifelong learning, independent decision-making and cultural development of the individual and social groups." Further the Manifesto proclaims UNESCO's belief in the public library "as a living force for education, culture and information, and as an essential agent for the fostering of peace and spiritual welfare through the minds of men and women"

(IFLA/UNESCO, 1994). On the other hand, Public library system is the study of the various levels of public libraries, their divisions, which are existed under the networked environment for the purpose of service of the society. The public libraries may range in size from one-room facilities in sparsely populated rural areas to large multi-branch systems that serve millions of people in urban areas. The cooperation or network among the public libraries is acknowledged as Public Library System.

4.1 Present State of Public Library System of India:

History reveals that public library system and services started in India before the sixth century A.D. when Nalanda University, Bihar had a massive collection of manuscripts in its own library. The library collection was located in three buildings of nine floors each, and three hundred rooms each. This library had been opened by King Davapal, then Emperor of India. The library was accessible to anybody known to scholar who was interested in reading, translating and even copying the documents that were housed in the library. Mughal emperors and other ruler of the country, India had a fond love of books and established numbers of libraries in the medieval period. The public library movement in India had its roots in the late 19th century, with contributions from Maharaja Sayajirao III Gaekwad of Baroda who initiated public library services, the library education programs started by William Alanson

Borden and S. R. Ranganathan leaded library law and scholarship in the field of Library science.

At present, India has a total number of 46,746 numbers of public libraries; out of which 31 numbers are State Central Libraries, 11 numbers are State/Special Libraries, 582 numbers are State District/District Libraries, 531 numbers are Regional/Divisional/Sub divisional Libraries, 11154 numbers are City/town Libraries, 12714 numbers are Panchayat/Rural/Village Libraries, 27 numbers are Mobile Libraries, 918 numbers are School Public Libraries, 1703 numbers are other type of public libraries, 19075 numbers are those libraries which are run by NGOs/Trusts etc. (*RRRLF, 2022*)

5. Role of professional bodies in the development of public library system of India:

Before the independence of India, numbers of professional bodies were established for the development of Indian public library system, but unfortunately maximum numbers of these bodies were in the state level for which these were unable to achieve the goal under one umbrella. In the year 1919, the first All India Public Library Conference was held in Madras which was sponsored by Andhra Desa Library Association, the first state library association in the country established in 1914. As an outcome of this conference the first national association in the country, the All-India Public Library Association, was founded in the year 1920 under the

presidentship of J.S. Khudolkar, the then curator of the state libraries of Baroda. The association offered services by conducting summer school of librarianship in 1934, organized numbers of public library conferences in different cities of the country and helped in public library movement of the country. The association also represented as Delegate to the annual conference of the British and American library associations in 1928 and 1933, and the second International Congress of Libraries and Bibliography, held in Spain in 1935. But unfortunately, around 1937 it ceased to exist and was subsequently substituted by Indian Library Association (ILA) that was established in the year 1933. In the same year, the All India Rural Library Service Association was founded but it was also stopped working due to the lack of leadership quality of the association.

After the establishment of ILA, numbers of professional bodies have been established with different aims and objectives for different kind of libraries. But only a few professional bodies have played a significant role for the development of public library system in India in national level. These select professional bodies can be listed according to their establishment year in the following manner-

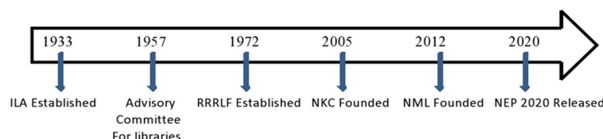


Fig 1: List of select Professional bodies play role for public library development in India

On the other hand, some world-famous professional bodies like Public library Association

(PLA), International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) plays vital role in development of public library system in India. However, because the study is limited to Indian professional bodies, therefore, here, in this article the author is attempting to analyze and focus on the roles that Indian professional bodies are currently playing and will play in the future.

5.1. Role of ILA and its future Prospects on Public Libraries

ILA, the Indian Library Association was established on 13th September, 1933 as a result of the 1st All India Library Conference held at Calcutta with the following basic objectives-

- Prolongation of the Library movement of India and enactment of library legislation
- Promotion of librarians' training, and
- Improvement of the status of the librarians

Later, more objectives were added as the organization grew up and more people from LIS fraternity joined the association.

As per the law of ILA's constitution, its professional work has been distributed in the following eleven sections-

- Agricultural Libraries
- Govt. Departmental Libraries
- Engineering and Tech. Libraries
- Health Science Libraries
- Educatory Library and Information Science
- Oriental Libraries

- **Public Libraries**
- School/Children Libraries
- Special Libraries
- University and College Libraries
- Library and Information Technology

ILA, from its beginning, has been struggling hard for the development of public library system in India. The association is trying to develop the public library system from the district level to state. ILA believes that without the public library legislation in each state the overall development of public libraries will not be possible and for that ILA continuously recommends and suggests the Central government to enact the public library act to each state. In the year 1942, ILA published the “Draft Model of Indian Libraries Act” and sent to the states for adoption. In the year 1963, a library bill was drafted in the guidance of ILA under the chairmanship of Dr. D.M. Sen. In 1966 another model public libraries bill was prepared by the library legislation subcommittee of planning commission. Again, in 1981 one more draft model public library bill was prepared under the guidance of Dr. Velega Venkatapaiah , the chairman of ILA’s Central sectional Committee. After made slight changes in the bill, it was accepted in 1990 and made official in the year 1991. But unfortunately, majority of states denied accepting it positively. One of the major agenda of this act was establishing a network of public libraries from state going down to village level. Though, numbers of draft bill and model acts for library legislation was prepared and modified by

different committees, but only because of ILA’s tremendous initiative that India today has library legislation in eighteen states including one union territory.

India comprises twenty-eight states and eight territories of union. All these states and union territories have their own library structures, organization, and pattern of financial assistance. Among these twenty-eight states and eight union territories, nineteen (eighteen states+ one union territory) have passed Library Legislation act.

Table 1: Name of the states having Library Act according to the year of act passed

Sl. No.	Name of the states/ Union Territory	Year of Library act passed
1.	Tamilnadu	1948
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1960
3.	Karnataka	1965
4.	Maharashtra	1967
5.	West Bengal	1979
6.	Manipur	1988
7.	Haryana	1989
8.	Kerala	1989
9.	Mizoram	1993
10.	Goa	1993
11.	Gujrat	2001
12.	Orissa	2001
13.	Uttarakhand	2005
14.	Rajasthan	2006
15.	Uttar Pradesh	2006
16.	Bihar	2008
17.	Chhattisgarh	2009
18.	Arunachal Pradesh	2009
19.	Telangana	2015

Source:

http://rrrlf.nic.in/StaticPages_PubLibSystem/PubLibScenario.aspx

Further, since 1933 to date, ILA organizes more than sixty-four numbers of international/national seminars/conferences with various themes related to libraries and library education where public library and library legislation are also placed as the main theme in numbers of conferences/seminars. ILA is also organizing book display and book exhibition programs through the district/state central libraries to promote and marketing of public library services. Though ILA strongly supports India's public library system in its attempts to enhance and grow it, it will require much more effort from ILA in the near future.

ILA can take following steps to play more active role for the better development of Indian public library system in future-

- All states must pass library laws for the growth and development of the public library system across the country, and this will only be feasible if the ILA supports each state and union territory in doing so. In states like Assam, where the draft of the bill has already been given to the state government several times, the ILA can create a separate executive body to look into this subject and make it apparent to the higher authority of the state/country in order to approve the library legislation act. This ILA executive body can also develop a model law or draft bill for states where no such legislation exists.
- ILA may take the appropriate procedures, in coordination with each state

government, to select and promote public librarians based on their qualifications and expertise. A master's degree in library science is required as a minimum requirement, so that library science experts may readily fill these positions and better serve the community.

- In the event of a pandemic, such as Corona-19, the ILA can conduct webinars for public library staff and users in collaboration with state library organizations, and different instructive talks can be provided to broaden knowledge.

5.2. Role of Advisory committee for libraries and its future prospects on Public Libraries

The Government of India set up an Advisory committee in 1957 to report the status of public library development of the country. The committee was also known as Sinha Committee as it was chaired by K.P. Sinha and its report was submitted in the year 1958 to Dr. K.L. Srimali, the then Education Minister of Indian Government. Based on the report and recommendations of the committee, Indian Government took so many initiatives for the development of public libraries of the country; as a result, the following major outcomes are seen in present days-

- The public libraries and public library services become free for all or with a very nominal fee for which any Indian citizen can avail its services.

- On the recommendation of Advisory Committee, today public library services of all states of India follow the same hierarchical structure – starting from State central Libraries to village/Panchayat libraries.
- In each state a Directorate has been established to look after the public libraries of each state which can be considered a remarkable recommendation of Sinha Committee.
- In some states, a library cess (tax or fee) of six paisa for each rupee of property tax has been levied with the permission of local bodies.

However, the committee also recommended a co-operation among the university libraries and public libraries of the respective state so that users can avail more facilities. The committee also expected that comprehensive state library legislation should be adopted by each state and national governments implementing the freedom of any person to have access to libraries free of charge. The Government of India is expected to have financial assistance required for this reason to the State Governments. The committee also recommended forming an All India Library Advisory Council as a central agency to review and assess the work done at the state level.

Despite the fact that the Advisory Committee for Libraries made several recommendations in 1957, the most of them were never adopted. However, the status of India's public library system has

remained mostly unchanged since 1957. Many of these ideas can still be fulfilled if the Indian government so desires-

- One of the major recommendation of this committee was co-operation among the university libraries and public libraries of the respective state so that users can avail more facilities which are not visible in most states due to lack of proper communication among public and academic library staff. Some initiatives like induction program, seminars may be organized by the state government in collaboration with the university/college libraries of the respective state to cooperate and coordinate towards the public library.
- All India Library Advisory Council as a central agency must be formed by the Government of India to look after and review the state level works done by any state.

5.3. Role of RRRLF and its future prospects on Public Libraries

The year 1972 marks a watershed moment in the history of India's public library system. In this year, the RRRLF (Raja Rammouhan Roy Library Foundation) was founded. It is a main independent agency established and completely supported by the Ministry of Culture of India. RRRLF is registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961. It is the Nodal Agency of Indian Government to support public

library facilities and systems and support the movement of public libraries in the country in accordance with the targets set out in its Memorandum of Association. RRRLF has five zonal divisions viz.- Southern Zonal Office, North-East Zonal Office, Eastern Zonal Office, Northern Zonal Office, Western Zonal Office with its head quarter in Kolkata.

RRRLF functions as a promotional agency, an advisory and consultancy organization, a funding body for public library development in India.

Some important objectives are:

- to promote library movement in the country
- to enunciate a national library policy and to help build up a national library system
- to provide financial and technical assistance to libraries
- to provide financial assistance to organisations, regional or national engaged in the promotion of library development
- to publish appropriate literature and to act as a clearing house of ideas and information on library development in India and abroad
- to promote research in problems of library development
- to advise the government on all matters pertaining to the library development in the country

(http://rrrlf.nic.in/StaticPages_AboutUs/AboutRrrlf.aspx)

RRRLF since its establishment years had initiated many schemes (matching and non-matching) for the establishment and development of public libraries in the country. RRRLF, through its matching programs, assists in the acquisition of a sufficient supply of books and reading materials. Rural Book Deposit Centers and Mobile Library Services are being developed with the assistance of such matching schemes. Assistance to public libraries for library building construction/renovation, Assist with training, seminars, workshops, library awareness programs, and book exhibits are also provided by RRRLF. While under non matching schemes, Assistance has been offered to the country's public libraries for the Central Selection of Books (in Hindi and English) for State Central Libraries and District Libraries, establishment of RRRLF Children's Corners in Public Libraries, and Assistance to Voluntary Organization-run Libraries (NGOs), Children's Sections, Women's Sections, Senior Citizen Sections, and Neo literate Sections and Career Guidance Section in the Public Library., assistance to Centrally Sponsored Libraries, assistance towards Providing facilities for differentially Abled users in the libraries, assistance towards Collection & Compilation of Library Statistics.

Besides these assistances, RRRLF also organizes so many lectures, workshops and seminars for the public library as well as all library professionals to promote public library services among common people. RRRLF has already completed a project named *Viswa Bharati* on collection of Rabindra

Bhavan, Visva-Bharati by digitizing through CDAC.

RRRLF has already conducted a survey on public libraries of the country and according to this data given by RRRLF in RRRLF website, India has a total number of 46,746 numbers of public libraries; out of which 31 numbers are State Central Libraries, 11 numbers are State/Special Libraries, 582 numbers are State District/District Libraries, 531 numbers are Regional/Divisional/Sub divisional Libraries, 11154 numbers are City/town Libraries, 12714 numbers are Panchayat/Rural/Village Libraries, 27 numbers are Mobile Libraries, 918 numbers are School Public Libraries, 1703 numbers are other type of public libraries, 19075 numbers are those libraries which are run by NGOs/Trusts etc. (RRRLF, 2022).

Despite the fact that RRRLF has undertaken a lot of initiatives to enhance India's public library system, it is clear that the Indian public library system will require a significant transformation in the near future to cope with the IT-based environment. To deal with such problems, RRRLF might take the following actions-

- Today we are in 21st era in where almost everything is IT based and public libraries cannot remain far from this common concept. RRRLF is trying to create an IT based environment in the public libraries of India but only installing IT equipment are not sufficient for IT based services; in fact the library staff /the human resources

should be well trained to handle the IT gadgets so that proper IT based services can be provided to the users.

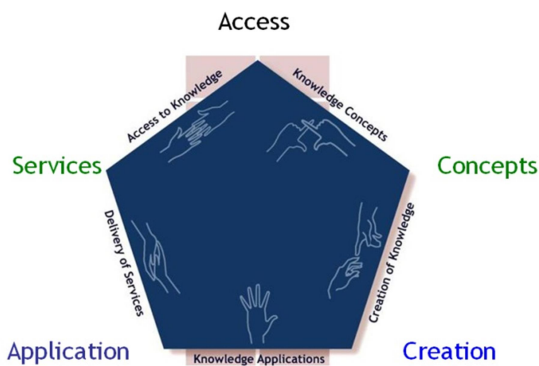
- Installing the software in the libraries is not sufficient to automate a library. RRRLF should take feedback from the library professionals whether they are using the software in actual sense and if it is using to what extent the library is automated.
- Despite the fact that the RRRLF has offered a great deal of support to state public libraries, some libraries does not seem to be taking use of it. RRRLF shall conduct thorough investigations into such situations and take appropriate action in cases of financial mismanagement and other relevant issues.
- RRRLF may take an initiative to create a digital repository of rare publications, including pre-Independence newspapers, journals, and other materials held in public libraries. Selected copyright-free works from public libraries, such as paintings, photos, and manuscripts, will be digitized and made available online. As part of the National Digital Preservation Program, this National Digital Repository will be gradually expanded to include metadata for all rare items available in Indian public libraries, as well as the digital form of copyright-free works. This Digital Repository will also include material about

Indian libraries, library systems, and services, as well as library development.

5.4. Role of National Knowledge Commission and its future prospects on Public Libraries

The National Knowledge Commission (NKC), chaired by Mr. Sam Pitroda, was established in June 2005 with a time-frame of three years, from 2nd October 2005 to 2nd October 2008 by the Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh to develop a roadmap for reforming India's knowledge-related institutions and infrastructure, enabling the country to address future challenges.

The National Knowledge Commission deliberations have focused on five key areas of the knowledge paradigm – access to knowledge, knowledge concepts, knowledge creation, knowledge application and development of better knowledge services.



Source:

<http://knowledgecommissionarchive.nic.in/focus/default.asp>

Under these five areas of knowledge paradigm lots of issues have been discussed and among

them library issue has also been elaborately discussed under access to knowledge area. The NKC structure is made up of various working groups and committees for better discussion of these topics. NKC also has a working committee dedicated to library issues, with twelve members who have prepared 10 proposals such as Set up a National Mission on Libraries, Prepare a National Census of all Libraries, Revamp Library and Information Science education, training and research facilities, Re-assess staffing of libraries, Set up a Central Library Fund, Modernize library management, Encourage greater community participation in library management, Promote Information Communication Technology (ICT) applications in all libraries, Facilitate donation and maintenance of private collections and Encourage public - private partnerships in development of library and information services for improving India's libraries.

Libraries: Gateways to Knowledge was the title of the report produced by this working group. Out of those, following three has been taken up on priority basis:

- Establish the National Mission on Libraries
- Undertake a Census of the Libraries in India
- Establish the Indian Institute for Library and Information Science.

There is no doubt that NKC placed a high priority on putting its recommendations into action, yet most of the suggestions on public libraries were

only available in paper form. The Indian government may take the following actions to ensure that the NKC is a complete success.-

- NKC's main motto was knowledge enhancement. To meet the demands of today's information society, diverse competences and skills are required. The public libraries must collaborate closely with other knowledge sources like RRRLF etc. in order to provide information to the general public partners in both the private and governmental sectors.
- The staffing and organizational arrangements in most Indian public libraries are not the same as those recommended in the NKC report. The government should take the effort to monitor the system in all public libraries, whether through RRRLF or ALA and should implement the same procedure for all the public libraries.
- Government of India should take initiative to establish the Indian Institute for Library and Information Science to offer training programs in relevant areas and to conduct continuing education programs (including training of trainers) for the library and information professionals b. To identify, sponsor and conduct R&D programs in the field of Library and Information Science, including newly emerging research areas.

5.5. Role of National Mission on Libraries and its future prospects on Public Libraries

The Ministry of Culture, Government of India, established the National Mission on Libraries (NML) via notification No. 18-4/2009 lib (Pt) dated 4th May, 2012, in response to the National Knowledge Commission's recommendation for continued attention to the development of libraries And Libraries and Information Science sector. It was launched by the then President of India, Pranab Mukherjee in 2014.

The scheme consists of four components-

- Creation of National Virtual Library of India (NVLI)
- Setting up of NML Model Libraries
- Quantitative & Qualitative Survey of Libraries
- Capacity Building

Project NML can be considered as fully successful due to the following reasons-

- The government of India has fully succeeded in planning to digitize reading material in different languages by launching the national Virtual Library of India project. IIT Bombay has been tasked with the development of the **National Virtual Library of India**, which would cost Rs.72.34 core (in collaboration with C-DAC, Pune and IGNOU, Delhi). This is an essential component of the broader aim of providing knowledge about India's complete cultural history on the internet. One of the main goals of the project is to

gather, standardize, and compile all of the accessible digital materials.

- The mission's goal is to update the infrastructure and technology of 35 State Central Libraries, 35 District Libraries (to be identified by state governments), and 6 Ministry of Culture libraries which has been already completed under the scheme of Setting up on NML Model Libraries.
- Through a study of 5000 libraries, the Quantitative and Qualitative Survey of Libraries was already performed to create a baseline data of libraries in India. The qualitative survey has been undertaken to collect data from 7000 users & non-users to understand the need and expectation of citizens from the Public Library.
- In today's information world, information is exploding across all fields. Professionally skilled and trained individuals are necessary to gather, organize, and transmit information effectively and efficiently. They should also have strong communication skills, since only then will public libraries be able to fulfill its function as a lifelong learning institute. The Capacity Building project has aimed to improve the professional competency of library staff.

Being the nodal agency of NML, RRRLF can prescribe the following prospective actions to develop the Indian public library system in the future-

- For the capacity building, NML may review or frame its human resource policy and if needed can also modify those as per the need of IT based environment. The public library staff shall be trained in accordance with the Staff Training Policy. The National Mission on Libraries will develop a staff training policy and present it to the Ministry of Culture. A training calendar should be created at the start of the year for this reason. The National Library Mission will analyze skill development requirements and offer customized training. Salary structure and other related aspects of public library staff can also be previewed by RRRLF.
- The National Mission on Libraries will guarantee that all information posted on the NML website is monitored on a regular basis so that any user may readily obtain the information they want.
- The National Mission on Libraries will host literary events, book readings, and quizzes on a regular basis (at least once a month) to attract more readers and participants. More significantly, there should be programs that are relevant to the kids and children to attract them. In this sense, collaboration with local universities, colleges, and schools is essential. In reality, several of these programs can be offered on university/college and school campuses

(especially Govt. Schools) to attract them towards the public libraries.

5.6. Role of National Education Policy 2020 and Its future prospects on Public Libraries

The Union Cabinet of India adopted the National Education Policy 2020 on July 29, 2020, which sets the goal for India's future education system. The 1986 National Policy on Education has been replaced with the current policy. In both rural and urban India, the program provides a comprehensive framework for basic through higher education, as well as vocational training. The policy's goal is to make the world a better place.

According to the NEP 2020 Policy – “Education is fundamental for achieving full human potential, developing an equitable and just society, and promoting national development. Providing universal access to quality education is the key to India’s continued ascent and leadership on the global stage in terms of economic growth, social justice and equality, scientific advancement, national integration, and cultural preservation”.(NEP 2020).In simple words, by offering high-quality education to everyone, National Education Policy 2020 envisages an India-centric education system that directly contributes to developing our nation into a sustainable and dynamic knowledge society. As a result, the primary goal of NEP 2020 is to improve and modernize India's educational system so that education is more accessible to all, regardless of caste, religion, age, or gender. As a

result, public libraries are the most appropriate venue for achieving this aim. Though NEP 2020 has not played directly any role for the development of the Indian public library system, yet to offer an education for an individual, schools and libraries must create a secure, welcoming environment in which he or she may be intellectually stimulated and the library can become a Learning Hub. Aside from the overall development of students, the educational system, and even public libraries, NEP 2020 may highlight the following issues, which will improve the whole scenario in the future:

- Reading habit should be inculcated among students by making the use of public libraries and for that public libraries should take prospective to attract its users.
- During non-school hours, digital libraries will be developed to serve the community, and book clubs may gather in public libraries to encourage extended reading.
- A National Book Promotion Policy will take a number of steps to guarantee that books are available, accessible, of high quality, and popular across geographies, languages, levels, and genres.

6. Conclusion:

From the study it is revealed that numbers of professional bodies are formed and established for the development of public library system of India in time to time in all over the India. All are playing a major role for the development of

libraries and their professionals. Every year in India, these professional bodies play an important role in the advancement of librarianship by holding workshops, seminars, conferences, and other relevant educational and training programs, as well as research programs, but the reason for this is that the development and improvement in the field of librarianship and its professionals is very limited. Other associations, as well as the ILA and other professional organizations, are to blame for the current repentant state of librarianship in India. As a result, what is the correct growth of public libraries in India after 74 years of independence? All groups just express their views on a topic, but they do not take action until it is absolutely necessary. More than 85 percent of states have enacted library legislation, yet it is ineffective. Most professional bodies made several resolutions during the course of their existence, but owing to a variety of unknown factors, such plans were never properly implemented.

The first and most important step in every nation's growth is to have well-developed communities. Villagers should also be educated in order to improve the villages. Public libraries, in addition to schools and universities, should be developed for this purpose. Libraries that are well-developed not only produce well-developed brains, but also attractive minds. In such cases, public libraries should be well-developed, and professional bodies should take the necessary steps to ensure their overall growth.

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