



# PUBLIC LIBRARIES: CONTINUATION OF SCHOOL EDUCATION

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*(Abstract: Literacy is one of the main planks on which cultural, social and economic development of the country depends. In a country like India public libraries have a responsibility to increase the numbers of literate and educated people through appropriate programmes. Libraries can also provide a solid base to the national literacy mission. There are enough cases of people slipping back to illiteracy for want of reading material. Therefore, only libraries can act as tools for sustaining literacy in the country. Thus, the libraries serve as the store rooms of knowledge and its dissemination through different techniques among persons to participate in a creative manner in community life and to promote better understanding between individuals, groups and nation offering educational possibilities to the people.)*

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## 1. Introduction:

Literacy has been an important factor in building societies that value welfare, democracy and human rights and this is true throughout the world. Knowledge is undeniably significant in our modern society-a society that is much more complex and varied today than ever before. Society needs well-educated citizens, and wherein learning becomes a life-long learning activity. So long as reading and writing are basic needs in a knowledge-based society.

The public library has become a multi-purpose agency with multiple roles such as community information, support for education, life-long learning, recreation and leisure, culture and research. A public library is the "People's University". As per the UNESCO Public Library Manifesto (1994), 'freedom, prosperity and the development of a society and of individuals are fundamental human values'. These values can be attained through well informed citizens, shaped through utilization of public libraries

Modern society is considered as information as well as learning society. Information has changed the quality of life. Information cautiousness is wide spread now is reflected in the modern society. In this regard, information society is going to treat libraries as nodal points of local information dissemination centers.

The public library system is a democratic institution fulfilling a vital social function to officer everybody equal access to information and knowledge. This function must be combined with respect for the individual's right to acquire whatever knowledge and experience he or she may choose to seek. Libraries must shift their focus and adapt their service in line with changes in the community. On the road to a knowledge based society we must develop strategies to meet the new demands of the public and thus increase the importance of libraries. It is the use of libraries which justifies their very existence.

## **2. Role of Libraries in Information dissemination:**

As the familiarity and the role of libraries are considered as the best source of preserved knowledge, the development of any information study depends upon knowledge discovery. Therefore, functioning of the libraries in communicating the sources of knowledge is an important role in information dissemination.

Literacy is one of the main components, on which the cultural, socio-economic, political and agricultural development of the country depends upon. In a country like India, libraries have a responsibility of increasing the literacy level and educate people through appropriate programmes. Libraries can also provide a solid base to the national literacy mission. In this regard, these libraries act as the foundations for sustaining literacy is the country.

## **3. Rural Libraries are functioning in rural development and National Reconstruction:**

“Rural Library” is not a separate one; it is a branch of Public Librarianship. In fact, the rural library is a component of public library systems. The Rural Libraries in villages have a significant part to take part in the country wide programmes of societal rebuilding and national reconstruction. These libraries are contributing to the sustenance of the quality life of the ruralite in all aspects such as educational, financial, industrialized, technical and civilizing etc. and they can support the thought of an independent society. In this regard, the rural public libraries involving in the functioning of acquiring documents, giving reliable information, providing intellectual recreation, promoting research potentials, helping in family planning, developing social homogeneity, socializing the individuals, cultivation of friendship, eradicating of illiteracy, improving relationship between different classes, castes, religious etc., helping people to social behaviour and helping to promote socio-cultural, educational and monetary activities in the community. All these are the social purposes are fulfilled by the activities charted out by the libraries in the rural areas. The importance of a rural library can be established by the fact that a large portion of the facilities are provided in villages. In this direction, the rural public libraries

function as effective instruments in the education, social, cultural, political development for both an individual and society. They act as a potential force in the social and cultural life of the rural community.

#### **4. From information society to knowledge society**

Over the last two to three decades, information and communication technologies (ICT) have been the enabling factor in organization change and innovation, and there is now evidence of their impact on industrial value chains. Organisations today strive to become agile and to operate profitably in an increasingly competitive environment of continuously and unpredictably changing markets. The digital age is different from the industrial age in various ways. For example, today ICT represent a substantial and increasing part of the added value of products and services. Their impact on the economy and on society at large has led to remarkable changes. Hence, information became an important tool.

##### **4.1 Information:**

Information is important to any organization. Good and quality information can improve decision-making, enhance efficiency and allow organizations to gain competitive advantages. Many organizations are continuously looking for solutions to effectively seek and handle information within their internal and external environments. Business sectors also need information and effective means of managing information in order to assess their strengths and weaknesses. Porter and Miller reported that one of the most important elements in competitive advantage is information.

##### **4.2 Knowledge:**

In view of Davenport and Prusak, knowledge as an evolving mix of framed experience, value, contextual information and expert insight that provides a framework for evaluating and incorporating new experience and information. They found that in organizations, knowledge often becomes embedded in artifacts such as documents, videos, audio or repositories and in organizational routines, processes, practices, and norms. They also say that for knowledge to have value it must include the human additions of context, culture, experience, and interpretations.

#### **5. Public libraries as knowledge centers:**

If it is true that we live in a knowledge society that demands multimodal competencies most of which are mediated, then it follows that the role of public libraries and librarians is challenged once again.

Public libraries, in their physical as well as their virtual versions, are spaces that people enter at liberty and often in their spare time. In shaping new visions for public libraries in the knowledge society, perhaps this image is their most fundamental value. For its officers public



libraries a unique chance of catching on to the multi-sited nature of learning in a knowledge society.

Public libraries can build on those trends by redefining the physical libraries as informal knowledge centers and by developing their professional competences in close collaboration with other knowledge partners both in the private and public sectors. Such a development must respect the democratic principles for all, principles of free access for all, principles to which public libraries are committed as cornerstones of action.

To develop that kind of knowledge involves presence in the physical library, and it involves collective learning. While digital libraries certainly must and will further and finetune individual services in further, perhaps the most decisive library challenge in the years to come is to develop the physical libraries which harbor the possibilities of collective presence and hence collective learning. Ultimately, the vision must be how to develop a synergy between virtual and physical libraries with for the end users frames of reference.

Defining the role of the librarian as knowledge facilitation is in line with the projected function of the physical library as a knowledge center. The Librarian leaves his/her desk and is present amongst users; she/he engages in sustained processes that involve group of users offering him/her professional experiences and evaluations; and he/she interacts with partners across disciplinary and intuitional boundaries.

In the knowledge –based society of today library users are becoming more self-reliant in their search for knowledge and entertainment. Librarians must develop new skills of a pedagogic nature in order to give added value to the information they supply. In a multimedia society it is necessary to acquire skills beyond those of reading and writing. Public libraries are informal centers of knowledge, defined as public meeting places by reason of both the physical library space and the virtual services they offers. Members of the public visit libraries voluntarily, usually in their own free time. The democratic principle of free access for all must be maintained. These are the values and the image we must build upon when creating new strategies for the further in knowledge- based society.

A public library is a non-profit institution usually founded by public resource and the government for used by the public the uniqueness of a public library is that it is free from the hardness of days culture age religion is under language disability and status of employment and economic condition. Information here for the public including storytelling workshops community services operating languages skills seminar and what have you. Through the Institution of oblique libraries can be traced back to the ancient Greek and Roman era and the Middle East the surface in Europe and America only in the 18th and 19 centuries.

In those times and even know the concept of the public library has a community welfare centres still exists. Bible King education including culture and distributing information this

honorable places become a true Centre For spreading of informal education 11 contributing to the construction of school and putting in serious effort at illiteracy elimination and promoting the reading habit

Audio visual aids in education like exhibitions, lectures, Motion Pictures, streaming and book weeks used letters and music in tandem with extension services play a great part in the role of the library including Mass education for the illiterate in promoting adult education you must have heard of libraries on wheels that travel to distant pockets to impart knowledge information and you education to the remotest corners of the world that failed to 3 in the absence of reading material and an overview of national and International Relation seminars held on this subject help to analyze data from the project and use the recommendations on how to effectively reinforce the role of public libraries in an easier percent of learning and education this could be done by reviewing the Educational policy the policy of education cooperation between the two the need of change on professional profile and internal change required in the libraries

## **6. The role of libraries in education to the poor:**

If therefore goes without saying that the utility of the libraries goes far behind its basic Foundation as the custodian of Information and has a major role to play in educating the citizens of the world not only from the advanced Nations but also especially those poor aspirants from the developing countries that are applying for a more promising tomorrow in such circumstances where poverty precludes them from buying books libraries are there only solace for a good education in their home to try to achieve parity with their contemporaries from the more fortunate strata of the society.

## **7. Library's role in the distance learning:**

The environment of libraries in correspondence education merit discussion and as more and more students and working men and women are opting for distance learning using tutorials with screen capture or screen mast that won't educational information using game Brevard of tools like multi modal media in lieu of physical classroom to gain student scores contentment.

The libraries who prepare the correspondence course mail it to the students but in many cases preferences sexes to library support is unavailable except those accessible in the regional centres.

The past years have seen a radical shift to the VR or open educational course that have brought about Deep seated transformation in the educational system the world over and the university libraries are saving had to remove the vestiges of the challenges in the system in their legal technical and political aspects Ernest properly the where is certain to deliver its benefit of Aspiring students and employed people who find it difficult and inconvenient to attend regular classes.

## 8. The role of E-learning in education:

Electronic learning or e-Learning refers to computer enhanced learning it also referred to the research learning and teaching in the digital environment higher education is growing more dependent on e-Learning for its advantages of convenience flexibility and the option to work from any point with Internet availability at your own pace. E-Learning or electronic learning is a Computer Based learning that uses a digital environment to teach and learn

The concept of libraries has undergone a Revolution with the advent of the Information and Communication Technology know a digital library is equipped with storage of digital collections infrastructure and services to sustain lifelong learning protection of recorded information and intellectual communiqué. With the advent and advancement of the libraries education is set to become even more accessible resource full and quality oriented to students using computers or tablets.

## 9. Conclusion:

Public libraries are always been the ways to learning for majority of the population in the Society. They are knowledge centres and serves as information dissemination center and contribute towards lifelong education. The public libraries are no doubtly called as continuation of school education of rural populace.

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