

LIBRARY MOVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA: A STATE WIDE SCAN

Nasirudheen. T



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Library Movement and Development in Delhi

Dr. K P Singh

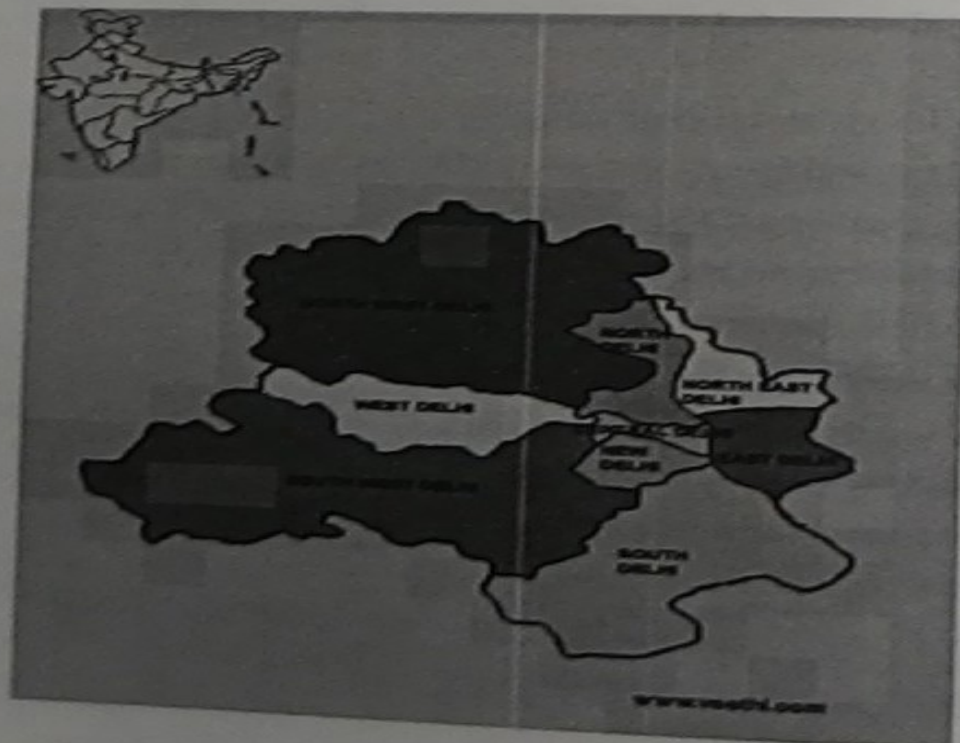
Senior Assistant Professor & Principal Investigator
Department of Library and Information Science,
University of Delhi, Delhi

Email: singhkp_1972@yahoo.co.in

Dipti Gulati

Assistant Librarian,
Institute of Information Technology and Management,
D-29, Institutional Area,
Janakpuri, New Delhi

Email: diptigulati83@gmail.com



1. Delhi : A Profile

The national capital territory of Delhi with an area of 1,484 sq. km. is situated between the Great Himalayas and the Aravalis range in the heart of Indian Sub-continent. It is surrounded by three sides by Haryana and to the east, across the river Yamuna by Uttar Pradesh. The major part of territory lies on the western side of river Yamuna, only some villages and the urban area of Shahdara lie on the eastern side of the river. The population of Delhi is around 6.75 million, which includes Male- 8,987,326 and Female- 7,800,615 having a Literacy Rate of around 86.21%.²

Delhi has seen the rise and fall of several empires which have left behind a plethora of monuments exhibiting the grandeur and glory of bygone ages. A city which traces its history to Mahabharata, the great epic tale of wars fought between estranged cousins, the Kauravas and the Pandavas for the city of Indraprastha. The Mughals ruled Delhi in succession starting from Qutab-ub-din to Khiljis, Tughlaqs. The city of Delhi passed on to the hands of the British in 1803 AD. It was only in 1911, when the capital of British Empire was shifted from Calcutta to Delhi, when Delhi received its present prestige. After independence, autonomy was conferred on the capital, although it largely remained a chief commissioner's regime. In 1956 Delhi was converted into a Union territory and gradually the chief commissioner was replaced by a Lt. Governor. In 1991, the national capital territory Act was passed by the parliament and a system of diarchy was introduced under which, the elected Government was given wide powers; except law and order which remained with the central Government. The actual enforcement of the legislation came in 1993. Not much is known about the existence of libraries in Delhi in the early period of history, as Delhi with its own romantic antiquity and continuity comprised an unparalleled urban tradition of trade and commerce which was necessary for a stable population and growth. It does not provide ample information on the dissemination of knowledge and the prominent role of libraries. Delhi has always depended for its glory and growth on political factors and the consequent structures are particularly supported by the hub of activity that in the post-independence era has truly transformed this city of virtually no library worth its name in the pre-independence period to its present position of most active, munificently funded and used library and information networks.

2. Development of Libraries in Delhi

Delhi being the national capital of the country and a house of the several central institutes and universities; has a great history on the growth and development of libraries. Based on the literature, the libraries of Delhi are grouped into four basic categories:

- Public Libraries
- Academic Libraries
- Special Libraries; and
- Government Libraries

3. Public Libraries in Delhi

A Public library is largely regarded as the People's University. Until independence, there was no significant development in Delhi which could be responsible for the growth and development of libraries. In striking contrast to the library movements in other states of Baroda, Madras and many more, Delhi lacked an enthusiasm for establishing libraries. There are several reasons for the lack of public libraries in Delhi, such as, destruction of social and political structures during the renaissance period of Delhi, lack of educational facilities, particularly higher education; attitude of the authorities was also responsible for lack of public libraries, lack of library legislation and movement in Delhi. There are 12 public libraries which are in the service of people living in Delhi.

3.1 Hardayal Municipal Public Library

It is located near old Delhi Railway Station, which was established as the Lawrence Institute and is the oldest public library in Delhi in 1862. In 1970, the library was rechristened as the Hardayal Municipal Public Library after the famous freedom fighter and intellectual Lala Hardayal. The library has a collection of more than 1,70,000 books in Hindi, English, Urdu, Arabic, Persian and Sanskrit.

3.2 Delhi Public Library

The second major public library which was established in 1961 as the 1st UNESCO pilot project sponsored by UNESCO and the Government of

India. The DPL which is governed by DPL governing board and Director General known as CEO are responsible for the administration of the DPL and its branch libraries. The DPL has a network of Zonal Libraries, Branches & Sub-branches, R C Libraries, Community Libraries, Deposit Stations, Mobile Library and Braille Library spread all over Delhi and has a collection of more than 18 lakh books in Hindi, English, Urdu, Punjabi & other Indian Languages-almost all subjects are represented in its collection. The DPL is the public library in the Delhi, which is fully automated using KOHA software. In addition to, in the country, the DPL is also a repository of the Indian published books under the Book Delivery Act 1950.

3.3 Marwari Public Library

It was set up by Seth Kedar Nath Goenka, a cloth merchant of Delhi, on the Vijaya Dashmi day in 1915 with a collection comprising 30,000 volumes. It still continues to function from the same old place as in 1915. The collection of the library includes more than 50,000 books mostly in Hindi and the library caters to more than 300 members and researchers.

4. Academic Libraries in Delhi

An academic library is a library that is attached to an academic institution above the secondary level, serving the teaching and research needs of students and staff. There is a phenomenal growth and development of academic institutions in Delhi, especially after the independence and after it received the status of Delhi as a state, many state based universities have been established. The movement of the Academic Libraries in Delhi has been put into following sections:

4.1 Delhi University Library

It is the premier university of the country and is known for its high standards in teaching and research and was established in 1922 which is a network of more than 86 colleges some of the famous colleges which has a great impact on education in India was established before Delhi University St. Stephen's College founded in 1881, Hindu College founded in 1899 and Ramjas College founded in 1917. In addition to this,

it is also consists of 16 faculties, 77 academic departments and 132435 enrolled students. To cater to the information needs of the students, faculties and staff of the university, the Delhi University Library System (DULS) came into existence in 1922. DULS is split into 8 other libraries namely, Arts Library, Central Library, Central Science Library, Ratan Tata Library, South Campus Library, Law Faculty Library, FMS Library, East Asian Studies Library. The present holdings of the DULS include: Over 14,04,000 volumes, subscription for about 2000 journals, 4000 journals are available online through Campus-Wide Networking, 13,000 Ph.D Theses and M. Phil Dissertations, 700 manuscripts of which Sanskrit and Persian account for 480 and 153 respectively.

4.2 Jawaharlal Nehru University Library

The Central Library, a knowledge hub of Jawaharlal Nehru University provides comprehensive access to books, journals, theses and dissertations, reports, surveys covering diverse disciplines. The Library collection is made up of over 50,0000 books, audiovisual items, over 10,000 journals in print format offering online access to more than 20,000. It has been developed with 2 aims that are to support the academic programmes of the University and to support the research pursuits of the teaching community and the research scholars. The holdings of the Library are particularly rich in Social Sciences and Humanities.

4.3 Jamia Millia Islamia Library

Jamia Millia Islamia, an institution originally established at Aligarh in United Provinces, India in 1920 became a Central University by an act of the Indian Parliament in 1988. In Urdu language, Jamia means 'University', and Millia means 'National'. The story of its growth from a small institution in the pre-independence India to a central university located in New Delhi—offering integrated education from nursery to research in specialized areas—is a saga of dedication, conviction and vision of a people who worked against all odds and saw it growing step by step. Dr Zakir Husain Library named after the ex-President of India, (Late) Dr. Zakir Husain in 1973, is the Central Library of the Jamia Library System, which includes the Faculty and Center Libraries. Stocking a rich collection of over 3.57 Lacs learning resources in all major discipline taught in the university and spread over an area of 23,038 sq. feet, the library caters to

the academic needs of the University students, staff & research scholars. The collection consists of books, periodicals, pamphlets, manuscripts, photographs & Electronic Resources. The library provides open access to users; except Rare Books Section; Manuscripts and Archival material where closed access is observed. The Text Books Section also observes closed access system. The library has fully computerized its most actively used collection, which is now available to users through OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) with network access across the campus-wide LAN. The Digital Library provides electronic access to thousands of E-journals through 15 major databases in various areas of Sciences, Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities, and Engineering & Law.

4.4 Indira Gandhi National Open University Library

IGNOU was established in 1985, to build an inclusive knowledge society through inclusive education. Today, it serves the educational aspirations of over 4 million students in India and 36 other countries through 21 Schools of Studies and a network of 67 regional centers, around 3,000 learner support centers and 67 overseas centers. The University offers about 490 certificate, diploma, degree and doctoral programmes, with strength of nearly 420 faculty members and academic staff at the headquarters and regional centers and about 36,000 academic counselors from conventional institutions of higher learning, professional organizations, and industry among others. The IGNOU library is the most resourceful information centre in the country in the field of Distance Education. The library has the largest collection of books, journals and other related materials in the field of Distance Education, throughout the country. It was established in 1986 in tune with the objectives of IGNOU. The Central Library caters to the needs of Academic, Administrative and Supportive staff and students at the headquarters.

There are 11 Deemed Universities some of the major one are discussed below:

4.5 Jamia Hamdard Library

Jamia Hamdard, Deemed University, established in 1989, is located in the surroundings of Tughlaqabad adjoining the Jahanpanah forest and overlooking the historic Tughlaqabad fort in the east. Jamia Hamdard was conceived as a seat of higher learning in Unani Medicine, Islamic

Studies, Biosciences, Pharmacy, Nursing and other areas of knowledge by its founder as a means of fulfilling the objects of the Wakf. The Hamdard University library system consists of central library and six faculty libraries. The central library of the university was named as 'Hakim Mohammed Said Central Library' after the name of younger brother of the founder Hakeem Abdul Hamid. The total library holdings exceed 1.46 lakh including 1,05,000 English, Urdu, Arabic, Persian, Hindi, etc. books. 17,000 bound volumes, 20,000 rare collections and 4500 manuscripts, mostly in Urdu, Arabic and Persian languages. The library receives 200 Indian and foreign journals, out of which 124 by subscriptions and 76 by gratis, covering medicine, pharmacy, nursing, biotechnology, toxicology, computer science, management science, religion and social sciences.

4.6 Shri Lal Bhadur Shastri Rastriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth Library

The Vidyapeeth was established by All India Sanskrit Sahitya Sammelan on Vijaya Dashmi day in 1962 and was named Akil Bharatiya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth. It was renamed as Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth on 2nd October, 1966. The Vidyapeeth library is housed in a commodious building having a total floor area of 586 Sq. M. on the ground and first floors with 290 Sq. M. of stocking accommodation. It has about 63926 books of various subjects of learning. In view of the current requirements, 35 journals are subscribed by the library. The library also provides Book Bank facility to the needy students. By the year 2003-2004, the Book Bank had a collection of 4550 books. Seats have been earmarked to facilitate undisturbed and effective use of the library.

4.7 Indian Agricultural Research Institute Library

got established in 1905 by the Government of India was located at Pusa, Bihar. In 1934, the institute shifted to New Delhi. Currently, the Institute has 20 divisions 5 multi-disciplinary Centers situated in Delhi. IARI Library is one of the largest and the finest agro-biological libraries in South East Asia housing a total of 6 lakh publications including 1 lakh books/monographs, 3,50,000 journal volumes, 45,000 bulletins, 15,000 post graduate theses, 10,000 pamphlets, 30,000 news clippings, 30,000 reports, and other reference materials. The Library has, on its role, 2000

members, viz., students, scientists and technical staff. It also serves about 8,000 visitors every year. The library functions as the depository of FAO, IDRC and AVRDC publications and also as the National Depository for CGIAR institutes publications.

4.8 National University of Educational Planning and Administration Library (NUEPA)

NUEPA was established in 1962 by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, as a premier organization dealing with capacity building and research in planning and management of education. It has an outstanding multi-disciplinary faculty and a library, which is well stocked with a large number of books, national and international journals and official documents in the area of educational planning and administration. In addition to its multifarious activities, it offers M. Phil., Ph.D and Part-time Ph. D. programmes in educational policy, planning and administration from a broader inter-disciplinary social science perspective. The Library has a wide collection of more than 53500 volumes on educational planning and management including books, documents, government publications, annual reports, project reports.

4.9 Indian Institute of Foreign Trade Library

IIFT was set up in 1963 by the Government of India as an autonomous organization to help professionalize the country's foreign trade management and increase exports by developing human resources; analyzing and disseminating data; and conducting research. The Library at IIFT is one of the largest of its kind in the developing world, with a holding of around 84,000 volumes and subscriptions to 800 journals with complete online cataloguing, is a veritable storehouse of information.

4.10 National Museum Library

NML collects books and journals related to the fields of history, art and culture of the World for specialized research and reference. It covers a large variety of themes such as anthropology, archaeology, conservation,

decorative arts, history, literature, museum studies, painting, philosophy and religion. It contains more than sixty thousand volumes of books, bound journals as well as several Indian and international journals and magazines.

4.11 Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University Library

Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University established by Government of NCT of Delhi under the provisions of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University Act, 1998 read with its Amendment in 1999. The University will stimulate both the hearts and minds of scholars, empower them to contribute to the welfare of society at large; train them to adopt themselves to the changing needs of the economy; advocate them for cultural leadership to ensure peace, harmony and prosperity for all. The IP University has affiliated more than 70 Institutes in Delhi. The Library is referred to as an Information Resource Centre. The collection includes books, CDs, journals and magazines etc. The Library has about 15,690 books and subscribing 250 journals.

4.12 National Law University Library

National Law University, Delhi is an institute of excellence striving for all round development and holistic growth to create enterprising, sensitized, socially aware legal personalities. In the five years since its inception, the university has managed to strike a balance between academics, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities with phenomenal success at national as well as international moot court competitions, debates and sporting events.

4.13 Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Library

The Bharat Ratna Dr B.R. Ambedkar Vishwavidyalaya (Ambedkar University, Delhi or AUD) was established by the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi through an Act of Legislature in 2007 and was notified in July 2008. AUD library has specialized collection of more than 16000 books, 130 national and international print journals,

magazines and 18 leading online publisher's journal database (more than 13500 e-journals) in the area of humanities and social science.

In addition to the above university libraries, there is one international university, i.e. South Asian University established in the year 2010 by the eight member nations of South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC), viz., Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. South Asian University Library was established to fulfill academic and research need of the students, faculty members and other users of the library. The library has text and reference books covering different subjects, i.e. computer science, mathematics, biotechnology, sociology, economics, law, international relation, etc. There are about 5,600 volumes of book available at the Library.

5. Special Libraries in Delhi

Special libraries often have a more specific clientele than libraries in traditional educational or public settings, and deal with more specialized kinds of information. Delhi is a big network of the libraries and information centers of following organizations:

5.1 Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Library (CSIR)

CSIR was established in the year 1942 with an aim to provide industrial competitiveness, social welfare, strong S&T base for strategic sectors and advancement of fundamental knowledge. CSIR has a headquarter in Delhi and 5 National Laboratories namely, Central Road Research Institute, Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, National Physical Laboratory, National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources and National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies.

5.2 Indian Council of Agricultural Research Library (ICAR)

ICAR is an autonomous organization under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. Formerly known as Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, it was established on 16 July 1929 as a registered society under the Societies

Registration Act, 1860 in pursuance of the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. The ICAR has its headquarters at New Delhi, One Deemed University-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, 3 Research Institute namely National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology, National Centre for Integrated Pest Management, National Centre for Agriculture Economics & Policy Research, 3 Directorates namely, Directorate of Knowledge Management in Agriculture, Directorate of Floriculture Research, Directorate of Maize Research, 1 National Bureau-National Bureau of Plant Genetics Resources.

5.3 Indian Council of Medical Research Library (ICMR)

ICMR was established in 1949 as the apex body in for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world with its headquarters in Delhi and three other Organizations namely, National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR), National Institute of Pathology (NIP), National Institute of Medical Statistics (NIMS).

5.4 Indian Council of Social Science Research Library (ICSSR)

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) was established in the year of 1969 by the Government of India to promote research in social sciences in the country. In Delhi, ICSSR affiliated organization are five namely, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Centre for Policy Research (CPR), Centre for Women's Development Studies (CWDS), Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID).

5.5 Defense Research Development Organization Library (DRDO)

DRDO was formed in 1958 from the amalgamation of the Technical Development Establishment (TDEs) of the Indian Army and the Directorate of Technical Development & Production (DTDP) with the Defence Science Organisation (DSO). In Delhi, DRDO is functioning

with 10 Laboratories namely, Center for Fire, Explosive and Environment Safety (CFEES), Defence Institute of Physiology & Allied Sciences (DIPAS), Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR), Defence Scientific Information & Documentation Centre (DESIDOC), Defence Terrain Research Laboratory (DTRL), Institute of Nuclear Medicine & Allied Sciences (INMAS), Institute of Systems Studies & Analyses (ISSA), Laser Science & Technology Centre (LASTEC), Scientific Analysis Group (SAG) and Solid State Physics Laboratory (SSPL).

In addition to many other prominent special libraries such as

5.6 National Council of Educational Research and Training Library (NCERT)

NCERT was set up by the Government of India in 1961 as an autonomous organization to assist in formulation and implementation of the policies and major programmes in the field of education, particularly for qualitative improvement of school education. The Division of Library, Documentation and Information (DLDI), located in Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant Block, is the Learning Resource Centre and Service Division of NCERT. The role of an institutional library is to help the institution to realize its objective. The main objective of DLDI Library is, therefore, to supplement the efforts of the Council in fulfillment of its objectives.

5.7 National Council for Applied Economic Research Library (NCAER)

The NCAER Library is one of India's premier research libraries in applied economics. Ever since its inception in 1956, the library has been an integral part of the institution, providing research support to the Council's economists as well as to policy makers, administrators, consultants, students and others from all over the country. The library plays a vital role in collecting, organizing and disseminating information for the benefit of researchers.

5.8 Indian National Science Academy Library

The National Institute of Sciences of India, now the Indian National Science Academy, was inaugurated on 7 January 1935 at Calcutta and

functioned with its HQ at Asiatic Society of Bengal till 1946 and their after shifted to Delhi in 1951. INSA Library is well equipped with modern information technology tools for retrieval and dissemination of information. It has a collection of 19,000 books, 800 scientific journals.

5.9 Indian Islamic Cultural Centre Library (IICC)

IICC also provides a forum where scholars from all fields of learning can interact with each other to promote brotherhood, friendship, peace and amity amongst the various cultural and religious groups in India and also to strive for a peaceful co-existence. **Bureau of Indian Standards - BIS** came into existence in the year 1986 with a broadened scope and more powers taking over the staff, assets, liabilities and functions of erstwhile Indian Standards Institution (ISI). The Technical Library of the Bureau is a National Clearing House for information on standards and related matters and meets the needs of industry, trade, Government, researchers and consumers alike with its headquarters Library (New Delhi).

Government Libraries in Delhi

Many Government Libraries have been established before and after the independence in order to meet the information needs of the government officials. The major Government Libraries housed in Delhi are:

5.10 Central Secretariat Library (CSL)

CSL is one of the oldest libraries of the Government of India. It dates back to 1891 when the Imperial Secretariat Library was established in Kolkata (Calcutta). With the shifting of the Capital, the Library was also moved to Delhi and since 1969 it is housed in G-Wing of the Shastri Bhawan. In terms of size of collection (5, 50,000 volumes + non-print material), it is the second largest Central Government library after the National Library, Kolkata. Its Hindi & Regional Languages Wing (Tulsi Sadan Library) is located at Bahawalpur House and branch library at R.K. Puram, New Delhi. CSL is funded and administered by the Ministry of Culture of the Government of India.

5.11 Parliament Library

Parliament Library is the largest library in Delhi and second largest library in India after the National Library. It is one of the richest repositories of books in India and was established in the year 1921 to assist members of the Indian Legislature. A modest functional Library, was established in the year 1921, with a small collection of publications comprising mainly of Departmental reports, proceedings of Legislatures, Statutes, etc., for the first time to cater to the members of the then Central Legislative Assembly. Books and other important publications, when required by members, were obtained on loan from the Libraries of the Legislative Department and the Imperial Secretariat. This Library continued to serve members on a modest scale for a number of years.

5.12 Election Commission of India Library

The library & Resource Centre of Election Commission of India is a unique information resource centre involved to collect, store and disseminate democracy, election and electoral rolls related information to the researchers, scholars, Commission staff and other community who need it for the benefit of different kind of the society.

5.13 Supreme Court of India Library

Supreme Court of India came into existence in 1950 and is located on Tilak Marg, New Delhi. Supreme Court Judges Library is a "Reference and Research" wing of the Apex Court. It has to keep a close watch over the multifarious literature requirements of the Hon'ble Judges and Court functionaries and functions as throbbing heart of the Apex Court. It was established in 1937, and then known as Federal Court Library. It contains significant legal literature to support the need of the Hon'ble Judges and the Courts. It is a grid of libraries. It maintains workable collection in 15 Bench Libraries and 31 Residential Libraries of Hon'ble Judges.

Delhi is also considered as the house of some of the country-based libraries, whose primary role is to disseminate the knowledge or information generated in their respective country such as

5.14 American Information Resource Centre Library (AIRC)

(AIRC) which was set up in 1946 as the USIS Library with 3000 books, 2000 pamphlets, 200 periodicals and seating for 24 readers. The main purpose of the American Central Library is to provide information on United States, its institution, its history, its arts, and literature and its people. At present, the library has a collection that includes 27,000 volumes, over 200 periodicals, 5 leading American Newspapers and 70 videotapes.

5.15 British Council Library

British Council Library is the gateway to a world of opportunity which offers books on Economics, Engineering, Information Technology, Law Management, Medicine and Science & technology. The Collection of the library includes 24,000 books, newspapers, journals and magazines.

The Max Muller Bhawan Library houses a selection of the latest print and audiovisual media in German and translations to keep people informed about the latest trends and current issues in Germany. Around 40% of their collection consists of books and media in English language. They have an excellent specialized selection for focal areas of the performing and visual arts, literature and philosophy. The library provides lending services, translation services and document delivery service to its users.

6. LIS Education in Delhi

The root of formal LIS education in the country started from the University of Delhi, when a full-fledged department parallel to the other disciplines was established in 1946 through the efforts of Padmashree late Prof. S R Ranganathan and Dr. S D Gupta, and started a regular course in Library Science known as Diploma in Library Science later known as Bachelor of Library and Information Science.

The Delhi University was the first university in the country who also started Masters, M.Phil. and Research programmes in Library and Information Science in 1946, 1985 and 1957 respectively. In addition to the Delhi University, earlier NISCAIR under the CSIR conducts a two-year specialized courses in LIS, i.e. Associateship in Information Science in the year 1962. Since 2012 this course has been ceased by

NISCAIR. IGNOU in response to the demand for a large number of trained personnel in libraries, documentation and information centers, the University launched its Bachelor's Degree in Library and Information Science Programme (BLISC) in 1989 and MLIS courses in 1996 through distance mode right from late eighties and this move was followed by different dual-mode state universities.

In Jamia Milia Islamia, Dr. Zakir Husain Library has been offering Bachelor's degree in Library and Information Science course to meet the needs of the Library and Information Science profession since 1985. The degree programme in Library and Information Science is intensive in nature and thereby demands students who are highly motivated and dedicated to learning.

Apart from the universities, some Library Professional Associations and Polytechnics have also started courses in library science. The Delhi Library Association has been conducting training courses at the certificate level since 1955. In view of the heavy rush, the School of Library Science is obliged to select every year about 100 candidates from amongst the applicants. It is a part-time course, conducted in two shifts. The Diploma in Library and Information Technology was started in 2003 which is of six months duration. The DLA is also running a certificate course in library science which is certified by the Govt. of India. Meera Bai Polytechnic also started two years Diploma in Library Science.

7. Library Associations in Delhi

7.1 Indian Library Association

ILA is a premier association committed to the cause of Library Movement and Development. It is the national association which represents those who work in or advocate for Indian libraries. ILA members work in college, university, public, special (corporate, non-profit and government) and school libraries. ILA has provided a wide variety of services and programs to its members and others in the library community since its formation in 1933. ILA publishes one journal i.e. Journal of Indian Library Association, a peer reviewed quarterly journal and one newsletter i.e. Newsletter of Indian Library Association.

7.2 Delhi Library Association

The DLA was founded in 1939 with the objective to promote library movement in Delhi; to provide training facilities in library science; to strengthen co-operation among libraries in Delhi and work for the improvement of library service; to improve the status and the working conditions of persons employed in the libraries; to take up publication work in library science; to co-operate with other organizations having similar objectives. It is one of the oldest and most pronounced Library associations which embarked upon several programmes and undertaken projects during its existence. The Library Herald is a quarterly journal of the Delhi Library Association has completed 44 successful volumes.

7.3 Satija Research Foundation for Library and Information Science

At the time of superannuation of renowned Professor (Dr.) M P SATIJA on 30th June 2008 from the Department of Library & Information Science, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar (Punjab), the admirers, students and research scholars throughout the country and abroad came together and decided to have a Research Foundation in his name and dedicate it to their great teacher to express their love, affection and devotion.

8. Conclusion

The role of libraries in providing widespread and inclusive access to knowledge has also been acknowledged by the National Knowledge Commission, Government of India and its core recommendation i.e. Census of Libraries in India is a very ambitious programme in order to know the actual status of libraries in terms of physical infrastructure and services. But unfortunately, there is no authentic survey or study which tells the story of census of libraries in India. Through this article an effort has been made to highlight the major activities of the major libraries housed in Delhi. The public library movement in Delhi should be strengthening in order to fulfill the objective of library recommendations by National Knowledge Commission i.e. to make public library as a community information centre. Therefore, it is the need of hour that library legislation should be implemented by the Government of Delhi.

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