Role of Library in Boarding School and Colleges

Nitesh Kumar

Gaushala, Katihar, Bihar

ABSTRACT

A library is a collection of books, and possibly other materials and media, that is accessible for use by its members and members of allied institutions. Libraries provide physical (hard copies) or digital (soft copies) materials, and may be a physical location, a virtual space, or both. A library's collection normally includes printed materials which may be borrowed, and usually also includes a reference section of publications which may only be utilized inside the premises. In modern Indian education, libraries play a crucial role as vital access points to information and knowledge, facilitating research, promoting critical thinking, fostering digital literacy, and supporting lifelong learning, especially by providing diverse resources like e-books, online databases, and academic journals, which are essential for students and faculty to engage in meaningful research and stay updated with latest developments in their field. The present study will analyse the role of library in Modern Education system.

Keywords: Digital, Publications, Developments, Institutions, Dynamic

Introduction:

The history of libraries began with the first efforts to organize collections of documents. The first libraries consisted of archives of the earliest form of writing—the clay tablets in cuneiform script discovered in Sumer, some dating back to 2600 BC. Private or personal libraries made up of written books appeared in classical Greece in the 5th century BC. In the 6th century, at the very close of the Classical period, the great libraries of the Mediterranean world remained those of Constinople and Alexandria. The Fatimids (r. 909–1171) also possessed many great libraries within their domains. The historian Ibn Abi Tayyi' describes their palace library, which probably contained the largest collection of literature on earth at the time, as a "wonder of the world". Throughout history, along with bloody massacres, the destruction of libraries has been critical for conquerors who wish to destroy every trace of the vanquished community's recorded memory. A prominent example of this can be found in the Mongol massacre of the Nizaris at Alamut in 1256 and the torching of their library, "the fame of which", boasts the conqueror Juwayni, "had spread throughout the world".

Research Methodology:

This article has been brought out on the basis of evaluation of recent literature published on the internet and other relevant sources and is kind of descriptive study. it is an attempt being made to understand and evaluate the use of Libraries as an integral part of our education system.

Results and Discussion :

The role of school libraries in the academic and professional growth of students is immeasurable. Every boarding school has a library to fulfil the educational needs of every child. It acts as a valuable resource centre that enhances the overall learning experience. The school library is a dynamic and integral part of the educational institutions that enrich every student's learning experience by offering a wide range of resources, fostering information literacy, and promoting a culture of reading and inquiry. Let us learn more about the role of school libraries in supporting education.

1. Libraries in boarding School:

Boarding schools in India have a well-built infrastructure to accommodate numerous students and address their educational needs. An advanced boarding school infrastructure assists education by

offering all facilities such as smart classes, dormitories, playgrounds, mess, libraries, and washrooms. Libraries are an integral part of the infrastructure of all residential schools in India. The government has opened central libraries in many cities that are not a part of any boarding school but run independently. Libraries act as an essential source of diverse knowledge for students. Modern libraries in private boarding schools are equipped with study areas, cubicles, chairs, tables, and AC's to provide a comfortable study environment. One or more librarians are employed to act as in charges for the library. They track and record all books and their date of issue and return. With the advent of technology, software and applications are being integrated into libraries for smooth functioning.

2. Libraries support teaching and learning:

Libraries are superior self-learning centers that give access to diverse study materials. It is accessible to both students and teachers. Indian boarding schools have all sorts of study material such as fiction and non-fiction, books from various writers, research papers, cyclopedia, journals, magazines, periodicals, etc. These books are classified into various categories and then systematically organised into sections on shelves in the library to make it easier for students, teachers, and librarians to find them. Libraries implement a strict disciplinary environment to ensure a sound and mentally stimulating environment where students can study without distractions.

3. Important role in education:

The role of school libraries in education impacts students' educational growth and allows them to access unlimited study material.

1. The vast pool of study material in libraries helps satisfy the study needs of students and teachers. School libraries play a dynamic role in boosting students' academic and professional development by providing them with a plethora of study material.

2. It also allows teachers to access more study material to offer well-crafted lectures with an in-depth understanding of concepts.

3. School syllabus is limited, but what if students want to read more about any topic or writer without purchasing books? Libraries offer free and unlimited study resources to students and teachers.

4. It encourages reading and self-studies in students from a very young age.

5. Students can take their laptops and smart devices to the library to get a sound space for studying even if they are not using the books in the library.

6. The quiet and conducive environment of libraries fosters research work and mindful and critical thinking as it is free from distractions.

7. The company of many people focusing on their studies also acts as an encouragement for others to study.

3. Difference between libraries and e-libraries

1. Definition:

An e-library or digital library is an online collection of books, journals, research papers, magazines, and more. A library is offline where students and teachers can find many books and other study materials.

2. Format:

E-libraries offer electronic content uploaded on the library website and available digitally. Libraries offer study materials in printed format, which is physically available for anyone visiting the library.

3. Flexibility:

E-libraries can be accessed from anywhere by anyone since they just require an internet connection. You can access the resources at any time. You can even download study material on your smart devices. Libraries require people to visit the place in person, where they get access to a sound reading environment. The operating hours of many libraries are fixed.

4. Benefits:

E-libraries offer access to various resources, including audio books and videos. Libraries offer the comfort of a mentally stimulating environment where students get to study without any distractions.

5. Benefits of going to the library:

The purpose of school libraries is to equip stu-

dents and teachers with all sorts of study material. Students in every residential school spend a significant amount of their free time in libraries to prepare for their exams or read other books in their leisure time. The advantages of school libraries in education are as follows-

1. Free borrowing of books:

School libraries allow students to issue a limited number of books in one go for a limited period. The books can be reissued if required by the student or teacher. This allows cost-effective reading where students can read numerous books without purchasing them.

2. Academic research:

Students pursuing their PhD or any other field requiring data, statistics and other quantitative information to supplement their research can get help from librarians. Libraries have a wealth of academic journals, databases, and reference materials that allow students to conduct research and complete school projects.

3. Preservative hubs:

Libraries have existed for years and are a hub for historical documents, rare manuscripts, and valuable study materials. This way, libraries also preserve cultural and intellectual heritage for upcoming generations.

4. Access to free internet and technology–

Students or teachers who do not have laptops can use the laptops available in libraries. They also offer free high-speed Wi-Fi to facilitate online research, digital literacy development, and access to various online databases. This way, students can combine the knowledge of books and technology to build their understanding.

5. Builds social connections:

Libraries foster social interactions by providing an unbiased platform for students from all social and economic backgrounds to come together and exchange their thoughts, share ideas, and have intellectual discussions.

The role of school libraries in student life is very crucial as it helps in providing a nurturing and resourceful environment where students can study and even spend their leisure time productively.

6. Role of College Libraries in Higher Education

The Role of college libraries as a higher educational institution plays a significant role. It collects, organizes and disseminates information, the recorded knowledge to the faculty and supports generation of new knowledge. The aims of college education and college libraries are interrelated. So, library must become an integral part of curriculum for development of human civilization. The college library provides an opportunity for self-education to the students besides supplementing the class lectures. Realizing the importance of college libraries, the UGC has been granting special sums of money towards the development of college libraries. Apart from primary and secondary education, higher education is the main instrument for development and transformation, Ministry of Human Resource Development, University Grant Commission and statutory bodies work as the collective central mechanism for higher education in India. These are regarded as policy formulators as well as the regulatory bodies in regard to higher education. Higher education in India has acquired special significance since independence. This is to be gauged in terms of what the society expects, from it and the fulfillment of these expectations in terms of its requirements.

Referring to the 21st the century, it has been acknowledged worldwide as the knowledge society. Every nation now finds itself operating in an increasing competitive and globalized institutional environment where the information infrastructure, research and innovation systems, education and lifelong learning and regulatory frame work are crucial variables. Higher education plays a crucial role in the re–construction and development of the nation. The higher education may be the nature of general, vocational, professional or technical education. The role of library plays a significant role in each and every field. Indian higher education system needs to deliver, quality, and quantity and exclusiveness. The role of library to improve equality and quality education is essential to

improve skilled man power or human resources. India has third largest higher education system in the world. After independence there was a remarkable improvement in education and research. After independence the University Grant Commission (UGC) of 1948- 49 under the chairman ship of Dr. Ramakrishna criticized the unsatisfactory condition of the college and university libraries. The commission described library as the heart of the university and college. Accelerating technological changes is bringing all libraries to the threshold of a radically different era, the college libraries are no exception to this. Success in implementing this change over depends on proper planning. Keeping in mind, the objectives of automation as the financial and man power support available.

Conclusion:

The ICT has played an important role in the library and information centre. The application of ICT is much essential for higher educational institution of college libraries and information centre, because these centres are carrier of information which is useful for everyone.

References:

1. Asif, M., & Singh, K. K. (2022). Libraries @ national education policy (NEP 2020) in India. Indian Journal of Library Science and Information Technology, 7(1), 18-21. https://doi.org/10.18231/j.ijlsit.2022.004.

2. Azim, M. A., & Ajahar, S. (2022). Higher Education in India and Japan: A Comparative Study. IJFMR, 4(6).

3. https://doi.org/10.36948/ijfmr.2022.v04i06.948

4. Development, Resource. (2020). National Education Policy 2020. Economic Political Weekly, 55(31), 4L. Retrieved from https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf

5. Ibrahim, S. M. A. S., & Pa'anga, H. S. (2022). An Overview of New Education Policy 2020. SUMEDHA Journal of Management, 11(2), 74-80

6. https://doi.org/10.46454/sumedha/11.2.2022.429.

7. K. C., T. (2022). Impact of National Education Policy 2020 on Higher Education. SUMEDHA Journal of Management, 11(2), 27–35. DOI

8. https://doi.org/10.46454/sumedha/11.2.2022.422

9. Lamani, M. (2021). New Education Policy-2020: Role of Libraries. International Journal of Research in Library Science, 7(3), 166-171. DOI:

10. https://doi.org/10.26761/ijrls.7.3.2021.1436

11. Ministry of Education. (2022). Salient Features of NEP-2020. Retrieved from

12. https://pib.gov.in/Press Release Iframe Page. aspx? PRID=1847066.

13. http://www.kkmcollege.org/

14. http://www.dnyanopasak.org.in/

15. http://www.lskjmm.org/

16. http://www.nutansansthasylu.org/

17. http://www.justdial.com/

18. http://www.kkmcollege.org/

✦ ✦ ✦