

ANNUAL ISSUE-2015

INCREASING GAPS BETWEEN HAVES AND HAVES NOT LIBRARIES

Editor

Dr. Sunil Kumar Satpathy

Moderator, [lisforum_orissa](#)

Joint Editor

Mr. D R Meher

Librarian, OUART, Bhubaneswar

[lisforum_orissa](#)

(A web based forum of LIS professionals)

Estd. 25th October 2006

http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/lisforum_orissa/info

lisforum_orissa

(The name does not restrict its scope to Odisha state only; rather it is just a name indicating its place of origin)



(Dr. S. R. Ranganathan)

This forum is a common platform for LIS professionals, teachers, researchers, students to share ideas, knowledge, messages, information etc. with each other for the development of LIS profession and professionals. It will help to address issues on Library and Information Science, to solve day-to-day problems of libraries, resource sharing among libraries and generation of new ideas on LIS.

CONTENTS

FEATURE ARTICLES

PAGE

1. Digital gap between libraries: issues and hopes by
Amulya Prasad Dhal & Nibedita Swain 17-19
2. Increasing gaps between haves and have-nots libraries by
Dr. Kamal Lochan Jena 20-22
3. Reasons for imbalanced growth of academic libraries in India by
Bibhuti Bhusan Maharana 23-24
4. Haves and have-nots libraries or libraries of haves and have-nots by
D R Meher 25-26
5. Increasing gaps between haves and have not in libraries: introspection by
Dr. Shiba Prasad Panda 27-28
6. Gaps in academic library service quality by
Mr. P K Panigrahi 29-31
7. Increasing gaps between haves and have-nots libraries: ways and means to reduce
the gaps by **Prof. B Ramesh Babu** 32-38
8. 'Fond of libraries or fund for libraries' in an academic ring by
Dr. S K Satpathy 39-41

SHORT COMMUNICATION

1. Increasing Gaps between Public Libraries of Odisha: An overview by
Mr. Rudra Prasad Behera 43
2. Make a book read! by **Mr Shiba Bhue** 44
3. State and status of aided college libraries of Odisha by **Gopal Chhatar** 45
4. Deteriorating conditions of State Government college libraries: a concern
for educational imbalance by **Dr S.R. Kashyap** 46
5. "Increasing Gaps between Haves and Have-nots Libraries" by
Premaraj Mishra 47

COMMENTS /SUGGESTIONS

1. Professionalism and Patronage : Need for the development
of " lisforum_orissa" by **Dr C.K.Swain** 50
2. Theme for Annual Issue: Excellent selection /**Hari Ranjan Mishra** 51
3. Thanks to "lisforum_orissa" /**Mitrabhanu Padhan** 52

Dr. Sunil Ku. Satpathy

Moderator, lisforum_orissa

E-mail: drsksatpathy@gmail.com

Mobile-09977508422, 08602788759



From the desk of Moderator...

Since its inception in 2006, the "lisforum_orissa" has grown over the years in terms of members and messages with the support and cooperation of LIS professionals, friends and well-wishers. On the occasion of 9th Anniversary of the lisforum_orissa, I congratulate all members for their consistent support and cooperation over the years. It is a matter of pleasure that in spite of its small size in terms of members, lisforum_orissa has been able to create its own identity among the LIS professionals of India.

Every year, on the occasion of anniversary an Annual Issue (online) has been brought out by the forum on a contemporary problem of Library & Information Centres. This year the topic for the issue is "**Increasing gaps between haves and have-nots libraries.**" It is felt that gaps between various categories of academic libraries and also between same categories of libraries have increased remarkably in the sphere of collections, organization, use of ICT based tools, library services etc. Consequently the academic characters and qualities of students, so also faculty members vary considerably which indirectly affect the educational and socio-economic development of a specific area in particular and whole nation in general. But questions arise, that factors like financial assistance, infrastructure or use of modern tools and techniques in libraries etc. are the only reasons for imbalance growth of libraries? Who is responsible for this— the Central/State government, library authorities or librarians? What is the impact of this unbalanced growth of libraries; on educational system, quality of faculty members and students, or also on social, political or economic condition of people? The theme of present annual issue is an attempt to highlight this important issue of library and draw attentions/opinions of LIS faculty members, experts, scientists, professional and students on this in the form of messages, feature articles, short communications and suggestions /comments.

Annual Issue, 2015

For this annual issue, we have received some messages, featured articles, short communications and comments on [lisforum_orissa](#) from the renowned professors, scientists and professionals of our field. The bitter experience in inviting such message/articles/short communication from professionals and LIS teachers is that, the numbers received messages/write ups in comparison to numbers of invitations /request is very low. Although a large numbers of LIS literature are published by almost all LIS teachers and a good number of LIS professionals in various international or national journals, books chapters, seminar proceedings etc. still they are quite reluctant (uncomfortable ?) to write something expressing their views for the larger interest of the profession. Perhaps this is the dark side of our profession which indicates our level of involvement in library matters/problems and our contribution/interest for professional cause. Of course, we should not compel anybody for anything.

However, our beacon of hope in this darkness is that we have received a good numbers of messages, write ups for the annual issue from the LIS professionals and teachers who still care for the development of profession and professionals. I am highly grateful to the contributors of this annual issue for sharing their views on the theme, which will definitely motivate us to work for the development of LIS profession.

The contributors of this Annual Issue are the copyright holders of their write-ups and the [lisforum_orissa](#) does not bear any responsibility for the contents or comments in these. In order to avoid confusion the messages are placed as per date of acknowledgement, whereas, feature articles, short communications and comments are arranged according to the alphabetical order of surname of the authors.

I am highly thankful to the members, friends, LIS teachers and well-wishers for their direct and indirect support towards the forum.

I wish all good health and professional prosperity.

(Dr. Sunil Kumar Satpathy)

Messages

(Arranged according to date of receiving message)

Prof. R.K. Rout, PhD, DLitt

Retd. Prof. in LIS & Head, DLIS,
Dean, Faculty of Arts,
Chairman, P. G. Council,
Member- senate & syndicate,
Warden, P.G. Hostels,
Prof I/C, Central Library,
Coordinator, UGC-DRS-SAP Program,
Sambalpur University, Jyoti Vihar, Burla, Odisha.
Andarpur, Kalyani Nagar, Cuttack-753013
Mobile-09437315335



Dear LIS professionals,

I am extremely happy to know that lisforum_orissa is going to celebrate its 9th anniversary and an annual issue is going to be publish online on a timely theme "Increasing gaps between haves and have-nots libraries". This is a praiseworthy effort and I congratulate all members of the forum on its 9th anniversary.

We are living in digital India and digital Odisha. There is no necessity of importing advanced ICT for implementation in our libraries. We have to develop indigenous methods ad practices for equal and all round development of all types of college and university libraries. Automation and digitization are the call of the day to create database of all the libraries. Online service is needed to provide database searches directly to the personal computers of the researcher so that they will save 60% of their time. In this regard, a comprehensive guideline with action plan is needed for all types of libraries for uniform and all round development.

I wish the lisforum_orissa and the venture all success. I wish all of you a rewarding professional career.

(Prof R K Rout)

Dr. I.R.N. Goudar

- Adjunct Professor, Mangalore University
 - Visiting Professor Cum Library Adviser
Bangalore University Library, BANGALORE - 560056
 - Ex. Visiting Professor Cum Library Adviser, UoM, Mysore
 - Ex. Scientist 'G' and Head, ICAST, NAL, Bangalore
 - Ex. Dy Librarian, IITM, Chennai
 - Ex. Scientist (Information), IICT, Hyderabad
 - Fulbright Scholar, Univ. of Michigan and Columbia Univ, USA (1995-96)
 - British Council Scholar (1982-83)
- E-mail: goudarishwar@gmail.com
Tel: 080-23215510
Mob: 91+9611165781



Dear Friends,

I am very happy to learn that lisforum_orissa will be celebrating 9th anniversary on 25th October 2015. I learn that already it has 600 members from LIS profession covering practitioners, teachers, researchers and students. Many topics of interests, issues troubling the profession, cooperation among libraries, LIS related news, career opportunities, etc. are being posted on this platform. I suggest you to post a message on Lisforum maintained by NCSI (which has >9000 membership) giving highlights about this yahoo group.

The theme chosen for this year's Annual Issue is "INCREASING GAPS BETWEEN HAVES AND HAVES NOT LIBRARIES".

My message for the occasion is " WE, THE LIS PROFESSIONALS INCLUDING TEACHERS AND PRACTITIONERS SHOULD PUT OUR CONSORTED EFFORTS IN DECREASING THE GAPS BETWEEN HAVES AND HAVES NOT LIBRARIES". We should rebuild the image of the profession among all stakeholders of our services. The main gaps between HAVES AND HAVES-NOTs include resources and skill sets required to cope up with the technological influence on our services. I am sure the " lisforum_orissa" is already playing an important role to fill up these gaps by providing a good vehicle of communication among LIS Professionals.

Congratulations to you and all members of the forum.

Regards

(Dr. I.R.N. Goudar)

Dr. R N Mishra

Associate Professor
Dept. of Library and Information Science,
Mizoram University
(A Central University)
(Accredited with 'A' by NAAC)
Aizawl- 796004
mishramzu@gmail.com



Librarianship in the rudder of information and communication technology has shaped to a different contour where, supply of resources on demand has become crucial to the end users. The mounting resource demands of the users became more concern for the libraries where the onus lies with the librarian. Much of the discussion is about how libraries contain deep and rich collections, and about how their system-wide aggregation represents a very long tail of scholarly and cultural materials. In the process of developing need based collections for the users, the profession has become challenging which requires skills to serve the user communities in an effective way in the midst of technology. However, in the current network environment, libraries compete for scarce attention. It is a logistic approach of matching supply and demand in a timely manner across a network. Hence, sporadic and consistent efforts required to be employed for not only to meet the varied demands of the users but also for a sustainable growth of the libraries and profession as well. There is an increasing gap between have and have not and the profession in the new millennium demands to abridge with providing adequate and useful resources both explicit and tacit so as to derive utmost satisfaction from the user communities. In the process, the profession demands skills and capacities building to bridge the gap between have and have not.

Further, in this technological age, the only issue of accumulation of resources does not count which rather, needs a proper mechanism to organize with the help of technology for accelerating service, seamless access on web by the end-users, make successful the true notion of digital India and squeezing the gap between the resources and the users. Emergence, growth and development, popularity of internet in an information society has an immediate effect for transformation to a knowledge society which have posed a number of challenges for the library professionals to change their management operations and service delivery which will truly justify the library service.

A true value of learning wheel, the untiring performance of the librarian in the present context has been shifted from documents manager to information manager and which in turn reshaped to information disseminator, knowledge disseminator due to unconditional prevailing of ICT in every stage of its operation like, acquisition, organization, dissemination and preservation of knowledge leading thereby, yielding to new horizon in service domain. Therefore, tomorrow's organizations will only thrive if they recognize the uncertainty that faces them and actively imagine the possible threats and opportunities that will emerge under different circumstances

(Dr. Rabinarayan Mishra)

Annual Issue, 2015

Dr N C Shivaprakash

Department of Instrumentation
Indian Institute of Science
Bangalore 560012
shivaprakashiiisc@gmail.com
shiv@iap.iisc.ernet.in
080 22932242(O)
080 23601270(R)
0-9449086370 (M)



Dear Dr. Sunil Kumar Satpathy,

Many congratulations to you and the *lisform_orissa* on its 9th Anniversary. It is heartening to learn that the forum publishes annual issue on its anniversary selecting special theme to highlight the current developments and issues concerning the Library Information field. The theme for Annual Issue 2015 “Increasing Gaps Between Haves and Have-nots Libraries” is very apt. This shows the concern for small and medium size libraries associated with Institutions particularly, new ones which are facing acute shortage of funds to meet their user requirements. Major allocation of resources to bigger Institutions from consortia funding has also impacted resource crunch for smaller Institutions which has been widening this gap. Hope the Annual issue would be able to generate new thinking and ultimately help in bridging this gap. I take this opportunity to wish you all who are associated with this forum great success.

With warm wishes

(N C Shivaprakash)



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

(An Institute of National Importance)

Silchar, Assam, India, PIN:-788010

PHONE: +91-03842-240055; FAX: +91-03842-224797

Website: www.nits.ac.in Email: ksatpathy@gmail.com

Dr. Kishor Chandra Satpathy

MA, MLIS, PGDLAN, PhD I Mortenson Associate, UIUC, USA

Librarian

NITS/LIB/2015

Dated 28.09.2015



Message

I am very happy to learn that, lisforum_orissa, a web based forum (https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/lisforum_orissa/info) started in 2006 is going to celebrate its 9th Anniversary on 25th October 2015 and bringing out Online Annual Issue on "INCREASING GAPS BETWEEN HAVES AND HAVES NOT LIBRARIES". With the unequal distribution of funds, there is a wide gap between the haves & have not libraries. But in an information and Internet-driven age, where open access has become a way of life, the information, services, and resources are increasingly available on online. The library should take advantage to access these information resources or the knowledge & use these resources effectively for the betterment of the Society. In coming years, libraries will play a vital role in bridging the digital divide, the gap between "haves" and "have-nots" in the digital age.

I convey my heartiest congratulations to the moderator, the contributors and the users of lisforum_orissa. Hope the online issues will reflect the activities & achievements of lisforum_orissa & the readers will get an insight of professional developments in India.

I convey my best wishes to Dr Sunil Kumar Satpathy Moderator, Lisforum_Orissa for bring out this volume in the shortest possible time. I wish the lisforum_orissa to be more interactive & vibrant in the coming days.


Dr. Kishor Chandra Satpathy



नेहरू पुस्तकालय
इंदिरा गांधी कृषि विश्वविद्यालय
पोस्ट बाक्स नं. 94, कृषक नगर, रायपुर-492 012 (छ.ग.)
NEHRU LIBRARY
INDIRA GANDHI KRISHI VISHWAVIDYALAYA
P.B.NO.94, KRISHAK NAGAR, RAIPUR-492 012 (C.G.) INDIA

डॉ. माधव पाण्डेय
पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष

No. : Lib. 1 @ ...
Date : 30.9.2015



MESSAGE

It is a matter of great pleasure to learn that lisfourm_orissa release annual volume of forum.

In the era of globalization and information technology, certainly “Annual Issues of Lisfourm of Orissa” will be immense useful in our profession and landmark of library community.

My best wishes. I convey my greetings to all those who associated with this endeavor and wish all the success for this annual issue.

(Madhav Pandey)



Dr.R. Prabakaran

Head, SIRC

Scientific Information Resource Centre
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

Mumbai-400 005

Tel.: +91-22-22782230

E-mail: praba@tifr.res.in

MESSAGE

It is a matter of great pride that [isforum_orissa](http://isforum.orissa), a web based Library and Information Science Professional Forum is successfully completing its ninth year. I am happy to note that on this occasion it is publishing an Annual Issue in e-form on the theme "Increasing Gaps between Haves and Have Not in Libraries".

In an information and Internet-driven age, where information, services, and resources are increasingly available online, most of the users access the information without visiting the library. Growing use of internet facilities have also resulted in the decline of the book reading habit. Organising book exhibitions, user orientation, information literacy programmes etc. by LIS professionals will help to promote reading habits and attract the users to the library.

My hearty congratulations to the moderator Dr. S. K. Satpathy and all the members of 'isforum_orissa' for their excellent contributions.

Dr. R. Prabakaran

PROF. DR. B. RAMESH BABU

M.A., M. Com, M. Lib. Sc., Ph.D., Dip. In Tamil
Commonwealth Fellow
FORMER PROFESSOR
DEPT. OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS
CHENNAI – 600 005
22/20B THANGAVELU PILLAI GARDEN, I STREET OLD
WASHERMEN PET, CHENNAI 600 021
PHONE O44- 25954932
E-MAIL: BEERAKA52@YAHOO.COM
BEERAKARAMESHBABU@GMAIL.COM
Mobile: 0-9444311313



MESSAGE

Dear Dr Sunil Kumar Satpathy

Greetings from Chennai!

It is my great honour and privilege to share my message and best wishes on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of the '*lisforum_orissa*' falling on 25th October 2015. Please accept my hearty congratulations for the untiring efforts in spreading the information among the LIS professionals around the globe. In this context it is appreciated that this annual issue is going to discuss on the theme entitled, **“INCREASING GAPS BETWEEN HAVES AND HAVES NOT LIBRARIES”** by the LIS professionals across the country. I am of the opinion that the theme is relevant in the present day context.

The complexity of the issues that make up the digital divide problem is better understood today. It is no longer sufficient to see it simply as a disparity of access to computer technology. Rather, there is recognition that having meaningful support for using the technology is also an essential ingredient for getting online. The digital divide is a global problem. The digital divide is not just an issue for individuals and groups, but also for countries and regions within the world.

Libraries and information centres have a special role in providing information to all in order to reduce the gap between those who have the facilities to access digital information and those who do not. The country needs to improve the infrastructure of libraries and link them with information centres. Bridging the gap between the “haves” and “have-nots” in remote and rural areas of the country is the urgent need to reduce the gap between haves and have not's among the library and information centers. It is necessary to address the issue on the following parameters:

Annual Issue, 2015

1. Growth and development of the information society.
2. Initiatives, opportunities and prospects made towards bridging the digital divide.
3. The role of community information centres, government programmes, libraries and institutions.
4. Challenges and barriers to bridging the digital divide.

The challenge of libraries with respect to digital divide is to pro-actively participate in bridging the digital divide paradigm and justify the role of libraries and librarians in the emerging information literate society. In reality, the challenge of digital divide specifically intersects the vision and the very existence of libraries to provide Information for all / Knowledge for all / Books for all.

I wish the endeavour a grand success.

(Prof. B Ramesh Babu)

FEATURE ARTICLES



Amulya Prasad Dhal

DIGITAL GAP BETWEEN LIBRARIES: ISSUES AND HOPES



Nibedita Swain

The gap between “haves” and “have-nots” related to technological aspects i.e. application of ICT tools and techniques in libraries. It is the gaps between the information rich, or also called as “**haves**”, and information poor, or also called as “**have-nots**” libraries. The Haves and Have-nots libraries means the gap between those who can access to the readily access tools of information and communication technology and the knowledge that they provide access to and those without such access skills. Libraries are now operating digitally in the arena of online resources. Existing gap in access to information services between those are two categories who can afford to purchase the computer hardware and software necessary to participate in the global information network and those who cannot purchase and arrange above accessories to access the digital information. In this information age, it is recognize that information is the core of all developmental activities where libraries have the key role in collecting, storing, organising and disseminating the universal information. Many educational institutions are now conducting in-house training programme for their library professionals and educating in this global challenge. New efforts of educational networks and special networks have an appreciable role in this matter.

Library development has not been a priority of state governments in India practically, since governments try to meet the basic human needs like food, shelter, water, health, electricity, sanitation, transportation, etc. Consequently, libraries have long been suffering from financial and other crises such as lack of the appropriate technology, trained manpower, special allowance etc. In spite of all odds, the nature of library work has changed dramatically in the past twenty-five years, largely because of technology. Changes are evident in role definitions, tasks, organizational structures, user expectations, vendor relations, and campus perceptions of library/learning resources personnel.

The following is a short list of problems or issues that increase the gaps between haves and have-nots in the developing countries:

1. Shrinking library budget that forces the library managers to struggle to maintain a minimum standard of services leaving no room for new ventures and developments
2. Absence of library automation and little access to online information resources – online databases, e-journals, etc.
2. Poor facilities for access to ICT, especially the Internet.
3. Poor information literacy rate that causes lack of appreciation of modern information services and their use.
4. Poor manpower planning of libraries
5. Crisis in providing motivation/conducting staff training programs to improve working quality.

Various questions arise in mind. Should the library and information professionals sit behind and watch their developed counterparts embrace new technologies and excel in the provision of information services? Should the majority of the world population, who live in the developing and least developed countries, become information poor day by day? And should legitimate information will be limited to several developed countries? Or are there any hopes?

Some suggestions which can minimize gaps between the haves and have-nots libraries are discussed below.

Public Libraries

Most of the public libraries in India lack of proper infrastructure in terms of skilled manpower and technology. The Govt. should take up necessary steps for providing proper infrastructure and needs to strengthen the libraries in modernizing libraries and should continuously orient their users with modern information in having access to information, communication and technologies which can ultimately results in bridging digital gap.

Academic Libraries

The national knowledge commission (2007) has made a recommendation that all academic institutions must set up an Institutional repository of ETD. So the libraries should go for an effective resource sharing network through this.

Digital Libraries Project

This aims to digitize millions of rare books in the country and make it available to the users freely i.e. keeping it as an open source is a step towards bridging digital

gap. In this context we can take advantage of e-books and other electronic gadgets to read such books and journals.

Kindle is an e-book reader giving access to millions of books and store millions of books and journals for every learner. Now days this device boost the learning experience. People can access all types of books and access to knowledge center through this device.

Coping Strategies

Librarians must develop strategies for arming themselves to cope with these personal and professional stress ingredients. At the same time, in the face of personal dilemmas, they also must effectively be motivated. In order to help others, librarians first must help themselves. Have-nots lack access to computers or the Internet, while know-nots lack the training necessary to operate computers or the Internet. Hence librarians must equip themselves with modern ICT tools to provide up-to-date technology based services to users.

CONCLUSION

Since the emergence of information technology, the gap between information 'haves' and 'have-nots' has been broadening: the information rich become richer, while the information poor are poorer. In present day context, to reduce the have and have-nots in access to library information and technology, there is a need of all level participation, right from school, University, workplace and ordinary life, NGO etc. Similarly, there is an increase in outcries to bridge the digital gap. So the digital gap concerns much more information to increase the spectrum of skills we address, from an information retrieval skills, knowledge of seeking behavior and teaching.

Amulya Prasad Dhal and Nibedita Swain, both the authors are Asst.Librarians, C.V. Raman College of Engineering, Bhubaneswar, Odisha and can be reached at E-mail: amulyadhal08@gmail.com, and E-mail: nibeditaswain_bbsr@yahoo.co.in respectively.



INCREASING GAPS BETWEEN HAVES AND HAVE-NOTS LIBRARIES

Dr. Kamal Lochan Jena

After the globalization of world economy the educational system in India is proliferated new educational institutions have come into existence. Further the liberalization of education has prompted the government to establish new institutions in every corner of the country. In this context it is found that the numbers of IITs, NITs, IIMs, IISERs etc. are increasing day by day. But the very basic thing is that in every organization the infrastructure is not increasing as per requirement. It is observed that government has divided the educational institutions into two types i.e. haves and have-nots. The 'haves' institutions are flourishing with sufficient funds and sometimes they are unable to spend the allotted budget. On the other hand the 'have-nots' are in the need of money for their survival. Similarly, the case of libraries can be divided into two types in the line of educational institution facilities. In the 'haves' type of libraries includes the premier institutions like the IITs, NITs, IIMs, IISERs, IIS, NISER and many central universities. The 'have-nots' includes the private funded institutes and the state government institutes. When the premier institutes are getting funds in terms of 'crores' the poorly state government funded institutions are getting grants in terms of 'few thousands or few lakhs'. In order to utilize the allotted funds the premier institutes are expending the amount in e-resources and purchase of costly foreign books. Sometimes unnecessary documents are also procured which are not required for that institution. On the other hand the 'have-nots' are struggling to get funds for procurement of their minimum requirement.

In addition to these the staffing of libraries is also a matter of discussion. The premier institutional libraries have proper staffing pattern as per the norms of their parent department. Also they have proper technical manpower in position with properly remuneration. On the other hand the poorly funded institutions neither have proper staffing pattern nor have adequate manpower in position with proper remuneration.

If we consider the case of Odisha the situation is grim. Most of the educational institutions libraries are running without the librarians or the persons with Library & Information Science

qualification. The libraries are managed by the ministerial staff who are utilizing the library as store and behave like the storekeeper. The institutions do not provide adequate funds for the purchase of library books and journals. Even cases have come into knowledge that some institutions have the librarians in position but they are not getting any fund for the development of library. The cases of state government premier institutions have no exception to this. Most of the premier technical institutions are running without Library & Information Science qualified personnel. In case of allocation of grants they are getting very less as compared to their requirement. To the best of my knowledge no state government institution has the library budget of more than one crore. Government is increasing the numbers of students' enrollment and opening new departments in the existing infrastructure, is but reluctant to increase the library facility as well as library technical manpower. At best, government is appointing the teaching faculties to manage the courses but no technical manpower in the library is increased. Day by day the gap between the haves and have-not libraries is widening. We can take the example of state govt. funding engineering colleges where the annual budget for library is around fifty lakhs or less. But at the same time the annual budget of IITs, NITs or IIMs libraries starts at minimum five crores or more. But the numbers of students studying in these centrally funded institutions are less than that of the state government institutions. Some of the libraries of state government institutions are running without regular library staffs and these are managed by the persons who are outsourced through the manpower providing agency. These persons have no emotional or professional attachment to the institution where they are working since they are working like bonded labours.

The negligence to the libraries increased leading to increase in have-nots libraries are more widely felt with the wide spread use of Internet, availability of open source tools and open access resources. The faculties and administrators who are the so called educationist thought that we are getting everything from the Internet and there is no necessity to allocate funds for library development. But the fact is that in the Internet quality or authentic information is less available, which are required for research and higher study. Whatever the quality information are available these are paid in nature for which the e-resources are costlier day by day. Since many institutions are not engaged in research they are giving less importance to the development of libraries as a result the gap is increasing between the haves and have-nots. Further the abolition of long type answers to the questions and the introduction of multiple choice question answers have made the

impact on reading habits of the students. As a result students are using the library books very less and the authority takes this opportunity to grant lesser funds for the development of libraries.

Lastly it could be said that the educational system should not be divided into two types namely quality and quantity. The premier institutions are giving importance on quality education for which they are spending crores of rupees for the procurement of quality information and documents in libraries. In the other hand the rest institutions are giving importance to the quantity education i.e. how many students have passed from their institution and got the certificate and the knowledge is immaterial for which they are giving very less importance to their libraries. As we said library is the mirror of the quality of the institution, but they don't bother for this. Their only motto is to count the number of pass out students from their institutions. If such situation will continue, a day will come when these premier institutions will charge huge usage fees to provide the quality education. Hence, now it is right and high time to think and take appropriate action about this and take appropriate actions for this.

The author is librarian, College of Engineering & Technology, Technocampus, Ghatikia, Bhubaneswar – 751 003
E-mail: kljena@rediffmail.com



REASONS FOR IMBALANCED GROWTH OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIES IN INDIA

Bibhuti Bhusan Maharana

Introduction:

In the present age, libraries play a significant role in education which has also direct impact on social and cultural development of a nation. To play its role properly, libraries need to be developed with required library resources keeping in pace with the development of Information Communication Technology (ICT), application of various ICT based tools and services and users demand. But it is seen that there is imbalanced growth of libraries across the types of academic libraries and also among the same categories of academic libraries which has affected the educational qualities of students of those institutions. The various reasons for this imbalanced growth of academic libraries are discussed here.

Financial assistance to libraries:

Financial assistance is an important factor to develop a library successfully. The libraries need to acquire required resources of users, use various software, techniques and infrastructure, engage trained manpower to provide better services to user, for which finance is required. But the libraries of Central Funded Institutions like IITs, NITs, IIMs etc. are getting more finance whereas similar institutions like state govt. universities and colleges are not getting required amount of library budget. Even the state run academic institutions are not giving the actual budget to the library and diverting the money for other purposes. As a result some libraries with good budget are growing better and others are not able to grow.

Attitude of library staff:

The functioning of academic libraries depends more on the attitude of library staff than its resources. The library staff should be friendly, responsiveness and identify the students and faculties priorities for library resources and services. But there are many reasons which affect the functioning of library staff of have and have-nots libraries such as minimum salary, dissatisfaction with their status, with minimum staff maximum work load, inadequate resource/infrastructure to meet the user need, lack of knowledge on ICT tools etc. Also in the age of ICT and open source/access, a lot of resources, tools are available free of cost which the library staff can use and provide better services to users. Further the concept of one man show of academic libraries in case of state college libraries, poor/no staff structure, outsourcing of

library staff to run libraries hamper a lot towards the functioning of libraries and contribute toward imbalance growth of libraries.

Attitude of Authority of parent institution:

The attitudes of authorities also have impact on the growth of academic libraries. The attitude to neglect/ ignore library staff in library matters results in the imbalanced growth of academic libraries.

Infrastructure facilities of the parent institution

Infrastructure facilities like separate library building with adequate space to house and provide required services are essential, particularly in case of print resources. In case of e-resources, good Internet connections with LAN/Wi-Fi facilities are required. So the infrastructure facilities of parent institutions also contribute a lot for the imbalance growth of academic libraries.

Users' Attitude and cooperation towards libraries:

Since users are the most important component of libraries, their attitude and cooperation also affect the functions and services of libraries. Users should think about the protection of library property for future generation. All levels of academic libraries are suffering from the anti-social attitude of students. The students are engaged in many illegal activities like tearing of pages, book hiding, book stealing, violation of library rules and regulations; misbehave with library staff, careless use of books, misuse of Internet in digital libraries etc. These are also reasons for imbalanced growth of academic libraries.

Conclusion:

The imbalanced growth of libraries has direct relation on the academic performance of students and the students from academic institutions with rich (haves) libraries possess more knowledge than the students of poor (have-nots) libraries. There is also remarkable difference of students on the qualities, behavior, and social attitude. Hence governments, library authorities, library staff and also students need to think about this and reduce the increasing gaps between haves and have-nots libraries.

The author is Library Trainee, National Institute of Technology, Raipur (C.G)



HAVES AND HAVE-NOTS LIBRARIES OR LIBRARIES OF HAVES AND HAVE-NOTS

D R Meher

Why people go to library—reasons are many. For some purpose or the other, they go to library to gather information or read something, of course, only when specific data or information cannot be had by any other means. Who go to library? May be a silly question but the epithetic quote of Jim Rohn is that it is the rich people they go to library. He says “*poor people have big TV. Rich people have big library.*” Certainly having a library is an expensive affair than having a onetime expensive television set. The poor go for the latter if anything they afford to purchase big.



Library of Congress is the richest library having 30 million books only excluding other collections; however, as per the record of the year 2000 the national library of Rwanda has 6000 books in its shelves. The library of rich is the rich library and poor’s is poor.

Ones those are rich are strong, well build, smart, intelligent and still growing. Still they have been nourished with nutritive coffers. They have collections, infrastructure, personnel, systems, services, communication, look, attraction, charm, name, fame and everything. Conversely, the other have-nots have trifling collections, untrained manpower, dilapidate buildings, diseased, weak, feeble, lame, ugly—need funds as oxygen for their sustainability but not to avail. This is the happenings.

Researchers go to rich libraries, study the systems there and suggest the poor libraries to follow. Scholars go to poor libraries perceive the situations and ask these libraries to follow the stuffs that are in rich libraries. Even the NGOs give fat grants to big libraries and petty funds to the small ones.

The personnel in libraries of national importance look down upon their fellow professionals in libraries run by state governments. Even a classmate, somehow, of a rich library tends to pooh-pooh those who happened to be running a poor library. The former would boast, before the latter, of his infrastructure and facilities of his organization, what and how they are doing and happening there towards library services, maybe he has no role developing all those. *Beta*, 'come to my position and do all those with resources we have-nots have' the other would feel like putting this jibe at the aforesaid bragger.

The readers of the poor library just wait to become users. They are deprived of information all the time. As information is called power they remain powerless. There are numerous NGOs who are looking after community education programs in the third world. For unknown reasons this point is never assessed, never considered, never facilitated with. They would provide TV sets to community centers of poor societies to make the community aware of happenings/information around the world. It is easy for them, for it invites onetime installation and no recurring maintenance. Is not this a halfhearted program for have-nots? But setting up a library for the community, for the actual lifelong education, information service they should have, is indeed a costly issue. Are the funding agencies listening?

Resembling the 'riches enjoy everything in the world,' reaching and having desired information is also their right. Next time if you witness a big screen TV in somebody's drawing room don't surprise yourself then look around to see whether you can find a library is there. If it is, then you are a friend of a rich person.

The author is a Librarian in Central Library, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar-751002, email: meherdebrai@gmail.com



INCREASING GAPS BETWEEN HAVES AND HAVE NOT IN LIBRARIES: INTROSPECTION

Dr. Shiba Prasad panda

Often dilemma prevails in the mind while writing anything on a theme like “increasing gaps between haves and have-nots libraries” since if one narrates the facts on the theme, some LIS professionals may feel hurt. Hence from the beginning I beg excuses from LIS professionals if it hurts anybody. As per my knowledge and opinion, there are different reasons which increase the wide gap between the haves and have-nots libraries and haves and have-nots LIS professionals.

1. Passion for Jobs

Now-a-days the librarians or the library professionals are not doing their jobs as true library professionals with passion for their job since they have joined the job not by their choice but by chance. It is not a hot cake and it is not the first option of maximum professionals. As per my personal opinion 50% of the library professionals are working their jobs honestly and seriously and the rest are not. This is one of the main reasons for widening gap between haves and have-not libraries and library peoples.

2. Role of the Recognized/Evaluation Agency

It is general connotation that that library is the heart and soul of an academic institutions but it is theoretically only. The government and private evaluation agencies like UGC, NACC, AICTE, NBA etc. have given more importance to library collections and other aspects of library such as building, digital library etc. with no specification for recruitment, staffing pattern and pay scale for LIS professionals. Also there is doubt about the actions taken by these evaluating/affiliating bodies for fulfillment of these criteria. This is one of the reasons for widening gap between haves and have-nots among the libraries.

3. Role of the Management

The role of governing/managing body of an institution also plays a vital role to create wide gap between the haves and have-nots in libraries and librarians. Most of the librarians are in confusion whether they come under teaching or non-teaching category. Maximum institutions have mentioned that the librarians come under non-teaching category but as per the AICTE and UGC guidelines, Librarians, Deputy Librarians and the Asst. Librarians are equivalent to the Professor, Associate Professor and Asst. professor. As per my knowledge, government organization treats librarians only at par with teachers but in case of the private management the librarians are considered as the clerk or class "C" category position only. Besides the librarians' job, they are for other works also.

4. Purchasing of Resources and e-resources

Recently, Modi government have try to develop the society from traditional to digital, in this scenario the role of libraries and librarians play very important role. But in India maximum institutions are very much reluctant to adopt the latest software to automate the library and they are very much reluctant to purchase or subscribe the e-resources, printed books, e-books , magazines, journals , e-journals and other resources. They always think that it is additional financial burden for them. Those institution who are giving preferences for the development for it, they are developed and those who are not giving importance to it, they are underdeveloped.

Conclusion

There are so many reasons which are responsible for creation of gaps between the libraries and LIS professionals and it is responsibilities of Government and LIS professionals to develop such an environment which shall minimize the gap between the two.

The author is Librarian, GIET, Gunpur, Odisha. E-mail: sibagnp03@yahoo.co.in



GAPS IN ACADEMIC LIBRARY SERVICE QUALITY

Mr. P. K. Panigrahi

INTRODUCTION

Academic libraries are libraries attached to academic institutions for providing service to teaching and research needs of students and staff. These libraries serve two complementary purposes: to support the Academic Organization's curriculum, and to support the faculty and students. In process, the library plays a key role in the nation building process. Libraries are established to provide information resources and services to meet users' information needs. The purpose of a library is defeated if its users are not satisfied with the resources and services it provides.

SERVICE QUALITY

Traditionally, the success of any library is measured in terms of the size of its collection, staff, and budget. But in the present day, the libraries need to go beyond the traditional modes of assessments and apply marketing techniques for understanding customer requirements. Customer focus in services delivery is essential for satisfying the customers. The success depends on customers' perceptions or judgment on the quality of products/services provided by the service personnel in libraries. And service quality is the measure of how well the products/ services delivered meet customer expectations.

The concept of quality and customer service is not a new phenomenon for LIS professionals as it is rooted in library philosophy and principles. For example, Ranganathan's laws of library science particularly the fourth law "SAVE THE TIME OF THE READER" implicitly focus on quality of library products/services from customers' perspective. This law views the quality through efficient catalogues, self-instructive signal guides, knowledgeable staff, proper shelving, error free records, good documentation service, and adequate finance.

GAP OF SERVICE QUALITY

If we analysis the service quality reaching at users end through any survey, or questionnaire etc., then we will find out the GAP in between the customer's requirement and existing facility.

As Total Quality Management (TQM) became popular, the marketing researchers Parasuraman et al. developed the Gaps Model of Service Quality. In the Gaps Model, customer expectations are viewed as subjective judgments based on the extent to which customers believe a particular attribute is essential for an excellent service provider.

VIEW

As we know, in academic organizations, Library is the heart of organization. But if we analysis, is library getting such important image in the organization? In govt. organizations separate library funds are there. So, there may not be dissatisfaction about the image of library. If the library is a neglect area, or the management is not giving importance to the library, then it is difficult for libraries to provide the satisfactory level of services to users.

Day by day in our country, private players are moving towards educational business. When there is a word of business, there must be loss and profit. If in an academic institutions, if we think about loss and profit of any department, then the library is a nonprofit section. So, automatically, there are chances of negligence towards the libraries. But in all cases the situation is not same, several private institutions are there who have developed there library with high quality. And in government institutions also libraries are there with lower standard and services.

Several factors are there to discuss about the gap exist between the requirements and expectations of library users, as discussed below.

- i. Library Infrastructure.
- ii. Library staff pattern.
- iii. Library fund.
- iv. Information Communication Technology (ICT) facility.

i. Library Infrastructure:

If the library building is not as per library pattern or lack of sufficient numbers of chair table, light, etc., then the readers will face problem to use the library. As per govt. norms for library, such as AICTE for technical

educations or in CBSE for schools they have good policy for library infrastructure. But practically in all cases these are not applied.

ii. Library Staff Pattern:

Library staff must be qualified and sufficient staffs are also required to provide good quality services. First of all if the staff is not library science qualified, it is difficult for him / her to judge the library users requirement. In technical education's library, library opening hours are generally 12 hours or more in academic days.

If the management /authority will not provide sufficient qualified library staff, then the quality library services will be hampered the library users will not get proper service.

iii. Library Fund:

There must be sufficient fund for library management. In govt. organizations separate grants/budget are given to libraries. But in private organizations budget / grants are not provided as per requirement. If there is insufficient fund, there will be difficult to provide good and sufficient quality of reading material to library users.

iv. Information Communication Technology (ICT) facility:

In this era, ICT facility is must to provide the good quality library service. An ICT facility means availability of computers, library software, and internet connectivity. ICT trained staff are also required to handle these equipment. Day by day young generations are frequent users of ICT. Libraries are also flows towards digital library. Information Communication and Technology (ICT) will bridge the GAP between the library users and the library.

CONCLUSION

There must be strict principles/policies/guidelines for managing the academic library to provide good quality services, so that library users will get their required and quality services.

The author is Librarian, Sir Padampat Singhania University, Udaipur, Rajasthan



INCREASING GAPS BETWEEN HAVES AND HAVES NOT LIBRARIES: WAYS AND MEANS TO REDUCE THE GAP

Prof. B. Ramesh Babu

Introduction

The development of computer technology has created an information gap that has grown faster and wider over recent years. The end of the 20th century has been characterized by the very rapid development of nations toward the Information Society. Modern information and communications technologies have found their way into all spheres of human activity, causing changes among individuals, organizations and societies at large. The occupations in which people are engaged are changing. There are new methods of management and forms of organization that have proven their sustainability in the developing Information Society. Through internet access the public easily can obtain recent and detailed information. Yet within this rapid evolution of information there exists a chasm of information “haves” and “have-nots”. The disparity between these groups variously referred to as the information gap, information divide, or digital divide, cuts between age, race, gender, income, education, and geographic area.

Developing countries like India, have, therefore, made significant investments in these technologies and integrated the same with the development programmes to gainfully realize the fruits of such developments to their society. However, it is realized that this development has created a divide between the ‘have’ and the ‘have-nots’ in the form of a gap between the technology empowered’ and the ‘technology excluded’ communities. It is therefore catching the attention of governments and the other organisations in the world over to device programmes to alleviate this divide, called the digital divide.

Digital Divide: Concept

The idea of a “digital divide” that separates “information haves” from “have-nots” was introduced by the National Telecommunications and Infrastructure Administration (NTIA) of the United States Department of Commerce (USDC) in a

series of reports entitled *Falling through the Net*. In 2001, UNESCO defined the digital divide as a phenomenon that result from the unequal application of and access to information and communication technologies leading to a global knowledge gap between information 'haves' and have-nots'. The digital divide is best treated as a multifaceted concept, encompassing not just access to computers and technology but telecommunications infrastructure, economic conditions, information access, and information literacy. The new technologies while improving our life in many ways have created what is called the 'Digital Divide'. The term refers to the gap between the 'technology empowered' and the 'technology excluded' communities. It is the "troubling gap between those who use computers and the Internet and those who do not". It results from not only differences in access to ICT resources between rural and urban areas, but also the differences in access that arise from the rich/poor divide and the developed/underdeveloped nation divide. Bridges asserts that digital divide does not emerge out of technology, but is due to inequitable distribution of technology. It is a reflection of the lack of basic literacy, poverty, health and other related social issues.

General Assembly on September 8, 2000 which pledged the UN to "ensure that the benefits of new technologies especially information and communication technologies ...are available to all." This resolution is important as it has now been generally accepted that information and communications technologies (ICTs) have important roles to play in improving the level of living and the quality of life of people, especially those in the developing countries of the world where the challenge of using ICTs effectively is greatest. This task has now become urgent as the advent of the Information Superhighway and the subsequent rapid increase in the availability of information has resulted in further division between rich and poor countries. This would increase gaps between haves and have-nots not only in the growth of the society but also in the libraries sector which are the information places. Libraries have been working to bridge the divide between the information 'haves' and 'have-nots' for more than a 100 years." The Library was therefore having a direct impact on the lives of countless people all around the world.

Norris (2001) described the digital divide as "a multidimensional phenomenon" comprising disparities in the following contexts:

- Global divide. The gap in Internet access that exists between industrialized and developing countries;
- Social divide. The gap between “information rich and poor” within countries; and,
- Democratic divide. The differences within the online community of users who either choose to use technology, or not, “to engage, mobilize, and participate in public life”

Bridging the Digital Divide

1. The Digital Divide can be bridged, and can be transformed into Digital Opportunities
2. Nations seeking to bridge the Digital Divide must not “fall headlong” into projects and initiatives in the name of “leapfrogging”
3. The act of bridging the Digital Divide will involve nations on both sides of the divide – reaching bilateral agreements, e.g. the World Summit on the Information Society
4. The Digital Divide must be bridged “in context”, i.e. policies, projects and initiatives cannot be borrowed from other nations without interpreting them in the context of the target nation
5. Bridging the Digital Divide begins with recognition and could be bridged by following the steps (not necessarily sequential) outlined as follows:
 - a) Situation Analysis (Baseline Study: Where are we with respect to where we should be, and how do we get there)
 - b) Awareness and declaration of national priority
 - c) Engaging multi-stakeholder partnerships – academia, government, NGOs, civil society, and private sector
 - d) Employing appropriate tools – policy, projects & initiatives
 - e) Developing strong Human Resource to support the policy, projects and initiatives
 - f) Evaluation of processes for effective “repositioning” and adaptation

How to bridge the gap?

To bridge the digital divide, information access solutions must benefit the whole community, in particular its most disadvantaged members. Digital Library (DL) and Information Retrieval (IR) technologies are believed to be powerful tools to bridge the digital divide, as they can allow communities in developing countries to have

access to timely and relevant information. However, this can only be realized if we understand the current information access practices of these communities. Only then can we design information access technologies that will enable these communities to bridge the digital divide.

The following measures may be taken to bridge the gap:

- Make information access easier and wider
 - Make content more useful and relevant
 - Promote entrepreneurial efforts
 - Change laws and policies at national level –foster information creation and knowledge sharing
 - Usefulness -
 - adjust technology to human beings and their needs
 - provide ICT-enabled solutions to help the poor:
 - using new technology to provide clean drinking water
 - improve (rural) health care services
 - extend quality of education
 - Internet-connected libraries
1. Inform people about the advantages and prospects of ICT through Information
 2. Literacy initiatives and programmes (Ramesh Babu, 2014)
 3. Investment in human resources
 4. Investment in high quality education
 5. Define strategy for combining openness to trade, education, government regulations

Challenges & Barriers to digital opportunity in India

- Lack of proper Information communication Technology Infrastructure
- Lack of coordinated Government initiatives.
- Political Instability
- Low literacy and education
- Linguistic diversity
- Economic factors
- Psychological barriers
- Literacy and skills barriers

- Content barriers
- Infrastructural barriers
- Service Oriented challenges
- Challenges in manpower development
- Infrastructure and cost challenges
- Access and domestic divide challenges

Conclusion

Although India has made encouraging efforts to bridge the gap by initiating a number of projects and programmes for rural and remote locations, a lot more needs to be done to bring the people into the information society. All that is required is strong determination among people, good policy-makers and political support to bridge the digital divide. The country needs to improve the infrastructure of public libraries and link them with community information centres. What is required to sustain this project is adequate financial support, support of the government, industry and community participation, encouraging private participation on a mutually beneficial basis, collaboration amongst researchers, social scientists, librarians, technologist, etc., stable and corruption free government, massive campaign on e-governance involving rural people, etc. Bridging the Digital Divide is an important Global Issue because it would allow many people to have an education, stay up to date on current world events, and learn English as well as better connections with their family and people living in other countries. By closing the Digital Divide, not only can we improve communications, we can also provide paths for impoverished societies in rural areas to improve healthcare. Nothing will enable the society to bridge the digital gap until basic literacy, poverty and health care issues are addressed. The National Knowledge Commission was constituted on 13th June 2005 with the mandate of devising and guiding reforms that will transform India into a strong and vibrant knowledge economy. It focuses on certain key areas such as education, science and technology, agriculture, industry and e-governance. Many technologies are developed for the literate class, but we need to build technologies for the masses. The pace of India's future progress will depend to a large extent on its ability to make available the most useful knowledge to vast section of the population. To conclude with the words of Cohen (1997), who said,

“We are not quite sure what adventures we will have or what we will find, but there will undoubtedly be times of frustration as well as of great excitement”. Therefore, the profession of Librarianship must evolve if we are to remain viable and important participants in the world of information management and scholarship.

References

1. Chatterjee, N. (2002). Bridging the digital divide: Internet literacy training for outreach and lay health educators. *American Journal of Health Education*, 33:368-370.
2. Cohen, Kathleen (1997). Digital culture and the practices of art and art history. *Art Bulletin*, 79 (2): 187-191.
3. Das, Dipanker. (2000) The great Indian digital divide, *The Hindustan Times Daily*, 6th June 2000.
4. Lalmas, M et al (2007). Bridging the digital divide; Understanding information access practices in an Indian village community. *SIGIR*, 23-27 July. Amsterdam
5. Norris, Pippa (2001). *Digital Divide: Civic engagement, information poverty and the internet worldwide*. New York: Cambridge University Press. pp 3-4
6. Oliver, Lynn E (2007) Public Libraries and ICT Literacy: Bridging the Digital Divide. Available at <http://www.lib.sk.ca/Public-Libraries-ICT-Literacy>
7. Parvathamma, N. (2003). Digital divide in India: Need for correcting urban bias. *Information Technology and Libraries*, 22(1): 35-39
8. Rajender Singh Bist (2007). ICT enabled development and digital divide: An Indian perspective. *5th International CALIBER*, Punjab University, 8-10 Feb. Proceedings. Pp. 702-712.
9. Ramesh Babu B (2011). Digital Divide and Public Libraries: Indian Perspective. Invited talk at the *International Conference on the Convergence of Libraries, Archives and Museums (ICLAM 2011)* organised by NIFT, IFLA and CDAC, 15-17 Feb. New Delhi.

10. Ramesh Babu, B (2012). Digital Divide and Public Libraries in India: Issues, Challenges and Solutions. Paper presented in International Conference on Knowledge Management & Resource Sharing (ICKMARS-2012) during 27-28 Feb 2012 held at Waljat College of Applied Sciences, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.
11. Ramesh Babu, B (2014). Information Literacy initiatives in India: Role of LIS schools. In: APLA Centenary National Conference proceedings : "Role of Library Associations in promoting Information Literacy in the Knowledge Society, 10-12 April 2014, edited by B Ramesh Babu et al. Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh Library Association, pp. 23-34
12. Ramesh Babu, B (2015). Towards bridging digital divide through public libraries in India. IN: *Envisioning the Library of the Future* (Festschrift volume in honour of Prof. Hariharan Chandrasekharan) edited by K Veeranjanyulu *et al.* Hyderabad: BS Publications, pp. 30-39.
13. Shuva, Nafiz Zaman and Akter, Rowshon (2011). Bridging Digital Divide through Public, School and College Libraries: A case study of Bangladesh. *Journal of the Bangladesh Association of Young Researchers (JBAYR)*. 1 (1): 49-77
14. SINGH, NEENA . (2001) BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE IN INDIA: SOME CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES. WORLD LIBRARIES PART 5. AVAILABLE AT [HTTP://WWW.WORLIB.ORG/VOL17NO1/SINGH5_V17N1.SHTML](http://www.worlib.org/vol17no1/singh5_v17n1.shtml)

The author is (Professor (Retd), University of Madras, Chennai & Former Visiting Professor, Maharakham University, Thailand) 22/20B Thangavelu Pillai Garden, First Street, Old Washermen Pet, Chennai 600 021
Email: beerakarameshbabu@gmail.com



‘FOND OF LIBRARIES OR FUND FOR LIBRARIES’ IN AN ACADEMIC RING

Dr. S.K. Satpathy

The general opinion of people for every problem is the paucity of fund so also many have general views that the development of academic libraries depends solely on the amount of library budget. But, is it true that a library with good library budget can only develop and the libraries with limited or less budget cannot develop? Is it possible that libraries with enough resources only are able to provide better services to their users? If it is true, then all libraries of universities, central and state government funded Institute and also Post Graduate and old college libraries having huge library buildings, large numbers of books and other library resources would have been able to provide better library services to users. But it is seen that few libraries of this categories in India are developed. On the contrary, libraries of private universities and colleges have been able to develop themselves considerably. If we compare between the Haves and Have-nots libraries, we can see that library budget is one among many reasons. Other important are: importance of library in the parent institution, attitude of authorities towards library and amount of importance given to librarians in library matters, overall infrastructure facilities of the parent institutions and library, academic environment, quality of faculty members, research scholars and students of the institution and their attitude towards libraries, government/affiliating body policy on library, staff structure and motivation provided to them, service attitude and sincerity of library staff etc.

On the basis of author's personal work experience in three categories of academic libraries—of state government run (aided) degree college, private engineering college and central funded institute, the practical situation of libraries leading to either haves or have-nots libraries can be deliberated.

In small academic institution, like state government/semi government colleges (Post graduate and graduate), little emphasis is given to library and is mostly limited to a small collection of printed books, magazines, newspapers etc. Similarly these libraries are managed single-handedly besides; the librarian is

often engaged in other official works. Accordingly the service of library is limited to issue and return of books only. The main source of library finance is students' fee and infrequent government grant, which is also not fully utilized for these libraries. Surprisingly in most of the colleges in many states like Odisha, the post of librarian is vacant for last many unknown years. These cases are same all over India, may be some exceptions in some metro cities and state capitals. So, who is responsible for the conditions of these libraries? The state government, affiliating bodies need to frame strict guidelines for minimum library collection, staff, resources and services, which should be in reality not in prevailing practice of 'on papers' only. Here, the librarian, being a staff of junior category cannot coerce the authorities for library and its status unless the authorities feel it, hence the college authorities has responsibilities to create a library environment, give maximum autonomy to library staff in library matters and utilize the library budget in library without diverting the fund .

In case of private institutions, the proprietor tries to develop the library either to attract students or to meet the guidelines of the government or affiliating bodies. So it is seen that maximum private colleges have good resources, infrastructure and budget in comparison to government colleges. Still all libraries of this category are not developed. The problem is that either the college management meets the library guidelines of affiliating bodies by adopting inequitable means or the management is more business oriented than academic. Another aspect lacking in these libraries is retention of good qualified library staff due to job insecurity, low payment, less numbers of staff (the AICTE recommends for numbers of faculty members as per students strength but remain silent about librarians) and unnecessary interference of management or their people.

In case of libraries of Central Funded Institutions, some are in the category of haves and some are of have-nots. The main advantages of these libraries are only more library budget and an established academic system; where faculty members, research scholars and students have to depend on library resources for their study and research. Normally few libraries of old established institutions and new institutions are developing considerably than the others. The reasons for poor development of these libraries are apartheid attitude of authorities towards libraries; faculty centric academic system and ego factor of authorities to give

recognition and autonomy to library staff. Besides most libraries of have-nots categories suffer from poor staff structure, lack of motivation and library staff with government servant attitude. Surprising enough, the government or bodies like MHRD, AICTE, and UGC do not prescribe any minimum standard for these libraries in terms of collection, services, staff and modernization of libraries whereas they prescribe for separate library building, minimum collection and e-resources etc. for private colleges.

The above discussion is mostly relevant in the case of manual library system. But in the age of ICT, technologies have developed a lot and new and new technologies have been implemented in libraries. Further a lot of software (library automation software like KOHA, NewGenlib; Digital library software like GSDL; Institutional Repositories software like Dspace, e-print etc.), tools to manage e-resources in libraries, computer software (Operating system, programming software etc.) are available free of cost. These technologies and tools can be used in libraries with minimum cost and infrastructure facilities. Also a lot of free/open access e-resources of various publishers, academic/research institutions are available in form of e-books, e-journals, e-newspapers, Institutional Repositories, Digital libraries, EDT repositories etc. which libraries of any categories can avail and use in the library with few computer systems and Internet connection. Some e-resources can also be procured through consortia mode of procurement. The authorities need to support and promote the LIS professionals to use these in libraries and the LIS professionals need to take challenges and acquire necessary knowledge and skill to transfer their libraries to a rich libraries with limited budget and register themselves in have category.

What is more can be said that fond of doing something for libraries by authorities, LIS professionals and users are equally necessary as good as fund to make the libraries fall into 'Haves' category as a replacement for 'Have-nots.'

The author is Dy. Librarian & Head, Central Library, NIT, Raipur-492010(C.G), e-mail: drsksatpathy@gmail.com
Mobile-09977508422.

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

listforum-2015

Increasing Gaps between Public Libraries of Odisha: An Overview

Mr. Rudra Prasad Behera

Asst. Librarian,

HKM State Library

Bhubaneswar, Odisha

E-mail: rpb_rudra@yahoo.co.in



In the State of Odisha the subject of “Public Library” is placed under the charge of Culture Department. As on records, about 900 numbers of Public Libraries exist in different levels in Odisha. The figure of rural library increases year by year as the Government selects new libraries for RRRLF Grants from among the new applicants.

Out of 900 libraries, only HKM State Library, Bhubaneswar Public Library and 26 numbers of District/Ex-district Board Libraries/Subdivision Libraries/Memorial Hall libraries are Government Libraries and they are functioning under the direct control of the Culture Department. Information & Public Relations Department have also opened 83 numbers of Information Centres with reading room facilities in urban localities. Besides these, there are about seventeen Public libraries functioning under the different municipalities.

But, those urban and rural libraries numbering about 900 are recognized and enlisted only for receiving RRRLF Book Grants or other grants. Towards staff and services, they get nothing from the Government. Public Libraries, which are under municipalities, NGOs or Blocks, somehow are being managed depending upon resource and interest of their authorities. But rural libraries existing under the village clubs are getting only RRRLF grants, thus regular functioning in the part of these libraries is not ensured as it depends upon the voluntary attitude of the Club members.

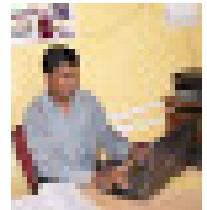
So the trend of growth in the sphere of Public libraries in Odisha is not encouraging. Neither any standard policy exists for shape and service of different level libraries; nor do the public libraries are established and managed as per public library act of Odisha. Public Library Service is not regulated and controlled by the

Government except a very few libraries although the Public Libraries Act, Odisha has been enacted in the year 2001 and which is lying unimplemented since then.

Now it needs rigorous step to be taken by the Government to properly plan for standard Public library services for the State through adequate numbers of different level public libraries and networking among public libraries are need for proper resource sharing, so that the existing gap among the public libraries in terms of shape, services and resources shall be minimized and quality Library services shall be provided to Public.

Make A Book Read!

Mr Shiba Bhue
Kendriya Vidyalaya, INS Chilka
Contact- 977838662



Dear Professionals we are talking about “Digital India” for bridging the gap of digital divide, no doubt that the buzzing area appropriate for building digital infrastructure, electronic delivery of services for common people, digital literacy and transparency in administration for development of India. Others objectives of Digital India are delivering open course materials (OER, MOOC), distance education, digital library and digital content through knowledge networks. But

I express my happiness that a suitable topic of “*INCREING GAP BETWEEN HAVE AND HAVE NOT LIBRARIES*” has been discussed in the 9th Anniversary of LIS FORUM symbolizing knowledge divide. Again the words have and have-not takes away us to the philosophy of Karl Marx remembering equality in all aspect.

I am not going to talk about Institutional Repositories, RFID enabled Library Automation Software or any virtual Library. My point is basic library service to all.

Everything we are doing is make a book read or providing a piece of information and all of us know how a story book of Chanadamama, Twinke shape our creativity in blooming mind. The joy of readings take us to zenith form our child

hood. But it is unfortunate that we have not been able to provide any library service to most of them.

Universalisation of Primary education, Madhyamik Sikshya Abhiyan, RUSA, Knowledge Commission and Right to Education needs rethinking over that. Most of our schools do not have libraries. Most students get a chance to use libraries or non-textual readings only at college levels and those who make policy for school libraries in many cases are people not from the library profession.

Many issues will crop up if we will analyse the library services for have-nots. Government initiatives, Non-government agencies' efforts have not reached to all schools. Hope at least we make others aware about the importance of making a book read for Tiny Tots.

Thank You

Happy Reading.....

State and Status of Aided College Libraries of Odisha

Gopal Chhatar
Library Trainee
National Institute of Technology
Raipur (C.G)



In recent times, varieties of academic institutions/colleges are seen offering various types of courses. In the context of general colleges, there are mainly three types of colleges in Odisha on the basis of its management such as University or Government colleges, Aided Colleges and Unaided or Private colleges. The University/Government Colleges are fully established, financed and managed by the state government. The aided colleges are initially established by the private bodies and later on these are provided with financial assistance from state government and managed by government and public representative. Private colleges are established and managed totally by private societies/trust/bodies without any assistance from government. Among these types of colleges, the numbers of aided colleges are much more in numbers in comparison to government and private colleges.

Looking into the real conditions of aided college libraries Odisha, it is seen that after 25-30 years of establishment, these libraries are not able to perform like a true library. Most of these libraries are housed in one or two rooms and separate library building is very rarely found. The collections are poor and mostly limited to text books and few reference books only. The subscription of periodicals is limited to popular magazines without or few journals only. During recent past, due to instructions of state government and other affiliating bodies, computers and few e-resources are seen in some aided college libraries but mostly seem to be symbolic. These libraries are mostly managed by one Librarian/Asst. Librarian with or without attendant. Accordingly the library services of these colleges are limited to issue and return of library books that too manually. The library automation program is also far away from reality. The sources of finance of these libraries which is mainly library fees collected from students and occasional government grants are also not totally utilized in libraries.

The poor state of libraries of aided colleges negatively affects the educational quality, examination performance, social and political conditions of the locality a lot. Hence the affiliating bodies need to introduce strict guidelines for the development of these libraries, so that the academic conditions of students and also the social, political and economic conditions of people in particular and state/nation in general can be improved.

Deteriorating Conditions of State Government College Libraries: A Concern for Educational Imbalance

Dr S.R. Kashyap
Sr. Asst. Professor, DLIS
Pt. R.S. Shukla University, Raipur (C.G)
e-mail: sr_kashyap1976@rediffmail.com



Education is the basis of social development .Formal education can be obtained from schools, colleges and universities where libraries of those institutions play an important role in teaching and learning process. The quality of education of a particular academic institution depends on the quality of its library and the services offered by the library. But now a day it is seen that the conditions of government college libraries are deteriorating day by day, mainly due to declining library budget and apartheid attitude of library authorities of parent institutions. Accordingly it has negative impact on the quality of education and the level of knowledge of students passing out from these institutions. On the other hand, the conditions of

libraries of central government funded colleges and also reputed private colleges are developing day by day due to handsome library budget and the importance given to those libraries in their academic set up. The difference on quality of education and students of the state government colleges and central government /private colleges can be very well realized by all. The difference in the level of education and quality of education indirectly effect the social development of a particular area where it is situated and also students passing out from the state government colleges face problems to compete with the students of central government/private colleges. Hence the state government need to take sufficient measures there by the libraries of state government colleges will be properly financed and given due importance thereby they can play important role in providing quality education to students and also contribute towards the social development.

"Increasing Gaps between Haves and Have-nots Libraries"

Premaraj Mishra
Manager, Information Services
Tata Steel Ltd.
Jamshedpur
E-mail: premrjmishra@gmail.com



The cost implications converging the organizations to make it imperative towards the library and information centres stiffer. To sustain the organizations a demand in high level of quality information service and staff performance improvement across all areas of library operation is required, be at the cost of considerable professionalism. The prelude to library and information centres' fundamental business challenges are timeliness in acquisition with users demand integration, alignment of organizational requirements for cutting-edge information, customer satisfaction and quality processes and service.

The "haves" - those information service providers who have calibrated their cost structures while concurrently achieving high level of quality service using

motivated employees will be the market leaders who occupy the top half of the performance curve. The contrary to this statement can be read as “have-nots” for the library and information services risking extinction. The innovation is still missing in library arena hence it can be comes under “have-nots” as well.

listorium Orissa

Comments

on

líisforum_oríssa



**PROFESSIONALISM AND PATRONAGE : NEED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF “ LISFORUM_ORISSA”**

Dr.Chandrakant Swain

Librarian

Indian Institute of Management Raipur

GEC Campus, Sejbahar

Raipur - 492015 (C.G.),India

E-mail: ckswain1969@gmail.com

It is a matter of pleasure that lisforum_orissa has successfully completed its 9th year in serving the LIS professional community of India. This forum is a unique of its kind in terms of quality and authenticity of information. During its initial stage of establishment ,we were planning to reach every LIS professional of Odisha, although it was not restricted to Odisha state only. In the passage of time, it is seen that a large numbers of LIS professionals of outside Odisha joined this forum. But one thing hurt us that many well known professionals and teachers of Odisha have not joined this forum, even they speak and discuss about the development of LIS professionals and profession. The fact is that somewhere we lack in professionalism and patronizing our profession, which the main concern and need for professional development.

Hence my suggestion and request to the LIS professionals, teachers and members of other LIS organizations of Odisha to join this forum for the betterment of profession. I also appeal the LIS departments of Universities and other departments of Odisha to patronage the “lisforum_orissa” by motivating students to join and contribute for the development of forum, there by professionalism can be developed among students and they can be benefited from the forum and they will be able to develop themselves as a true professional.



THEME FOR ANNUAL ISSUE: EXCELLENT SELECTION

Hariranjana Mishra

Asst. Librarian

C.V.Raman College of Engineering
Bhubaneswar-54

E-mail: hari.ranjan.mishra@gmail.com
mobile no.-9937791184

2015

Over the years ,it has been the endeavor of lisforum_orissa to publish an online Annual Issue highlighting an important issue of our profession ,thereby able to aware professionals on the vital issues of LIS. The theme selected for the annual issues are very much relevant to the profession and professionals .This year theme "Increasing gaps between haves and have nots libraries" is also most relevant to the present day context where some libraries are developing remarkable and some are not.

Increasing gap between haves and have not libraries reveals of the Global inequality. In fact this menace is the deductive conclusion of knows and knows not and haves and have not Society. America and other European countries are rich and are knowledge driven Society. These countries are having good libraries equipped with all type of resources.

Indian point of view, Government is spending much in important institutes with a aim that something new to come. The libraries are provided with all type of resources .Other side is that many state govt. institutes are having no personnel in library. There is huge difference between HRD Ministry run institutions and state education dept. run institutions. The main difference is due to use in the amount of technology which leads to clear cut difference between people having access to Web and having no access to web. So in this situation Libraries and Librarians should work together to bridge the divide between Knows and Knows not.

Being a member of "lisforum_orissa",I would like to invite all LIS professionals to join the forum and join hand to for the professional development.



THANKS TO "lisforum_orissa"

Mitrabhanu Padhan
Librarian, Nagaon College,
Nagaon (A),
Dist. Bolangir, Odisha

Since 2006, "lisforum_orissa" is trying to create awareness among library professionals of India through continuous message posting on various vacancies, forthcoming events and various issues of library profession and professional. Being a member of the forum, and remaining in a small town of Odisha, we are able to know about many things related to our profession through the forum. Also any queries posted in the forum are answered within minimum time which is the unique feature of "lisforum_orissa"

Publication of Annual issue on a particular theme is also very relevant, informative and useful to us. Due to this it has been able to create a special image among LIS professionals all over India.

Thanks to all members of the forum.