



THE DISTRICT LIBRARIES AS INFORMATION SERVICE CENTER: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF DISTRICT LIBRARIES IN MAHARASHTRA AND MADHYA PRADESH.

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ABSTRACT

Public libraries have always been the door to learning for a great majority of the populations that they serve. They are knowledge centers and contribute to lifelong learning. For India, The public library has to serve as a cultural and educational centre of the community in which it is located. It has to serve as a school, college or university of the community.

KEYWORDS: *Public libraries , right information , cultural and educational centre.*



1. INTRODUCTION :

In a developing country like ours, the public libraries should have a very vigorous extension programme. Lack of access to the right information at the right time deprives the public right to development. The public libraries play an important role to disseminate the right information to the society. In order to develop information literacy, to contribute lifelong learning and to disseminate the right information to the society is a need of the research problem.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:-

- 2.1 To find out the present status of Government District Libraries in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh in terms of physical features, membership, composition pattern, collection development, languages divisions, man power, finance, governance, and such other relevant factors which jointly contribute for the overall growth of the Government District Library in both.
- 2.2 To compare the Government District Libraries to know the differences and efficiencies in their infrastructure, activities and services.
- 2.3 To analyses and evaluate the on going status and functioning of Government District Libraries in Maharashtra state and Madhya Pradesh.
- 2.4 To identify the various problems and limitation which obstruct the real growth of Government District Libraries in Maharashtra state and Madhya Pradesh state.

3. HYPOTHESIS

- 3.1 The development of Government District library in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh is not adequate for fulfilling the very objectives of district libraries.
- 3.2 Government District Libraries are unable serve as information services centers for the communities.
- 3.3 Traditional information resources are still in use in Government District Libraries.
- 3.4 The planning, organizing and implementing policies in respect of Government District libraries are not proper for the harmonious development and growth of the libraries in the Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The research study confined to the Government District Libraries i.e 20 in Maharashtra and 37 in Madhya Pradesh. The researcher examined District Libraries as Information Service Centre: A comparative study of district libraries in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

5. IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

In Maharashtra, major studies have been conducted only in public library movement, Act, and Maharashtra Granthalay Sangh. It can be seen that no comprehensive study has been conducted to reveal the present situation of the district public libraries in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

6. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

There are many tools available are used by the researcher suitable to their purpose. As the final result of research, the solution to the research problem depend on analysis of this data collected, so the data collection in the research is the very crucial stage. In the source is reliable then the results are more correct.

7. METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION.

In order to collect the data on the problem for study and to test the validity of the hypothesis stated. The following methods are used

1. Questionnaire
2. Interview
3. Personal observation
4. Records from Govt. Offices.

8. DATA ANALYSIS

The authentic list of government district libraries in Maharashtra was collected from government district library, Akola. And Madhya Pradesh government list was collected from Education Department of Bhopal. The list included 20 government district library in Maharashtra and 37 government district library in Madhya Pradesh. After the persuasion and with in the acceptable time/ period range the total libraries in both state responded and returned the filled in questionnaire. Thus out of 37 Government District Libraries, 29 (78.37%) libraries in Madhya Pradesh responded. In Maharashtra, out of 20 Government District Libraries, 15 (75%) libraries responded. Thus 44 Government District Libraries in both states were considered for the analysis and interpretation.

Harvard Referencing style guide, revised 10/06/2011 has been followed in compiling the reference list in all chapters

Maharashtra (MS)

Madhya Pradesh (MP)

Table No. 8.. 1:- Response of respondent in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

State	Questionnaire Distributed		Returned		Not returned	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
MS	20	35.09	15	75.00	05	25.00
MP	37	64.91	29	78.37	08	21.63
Total	57	100	44	77.19	13	22.80

Table No. 8.2. Establishment of district libraries

Year	MS		MP	
	No.	%	No.	%
-1963	6	40	10	34.48
1964-1972	00	00	00	00
1973-1981	00	00	15	51.72
1982-1990	00	00	04	13.79
1991-	09	66.	00	00
Total	15	100	29	100

Table no. 8.2 shows that the establishment years of district libraries with number of libraries upto 1963, 6 (40%) libraries in MS and 9 (60%) libraries in MP were established. During 1973-1981, 15 (15.72%) libraries were established in MP, but there was no library established during these years in MS. During 1982-1990, 4 (13.79%) libraries were established in MP, but there was no library set up these years. Before 1991, 9 (60%) libraries were established in MS, But there was no library set up in MP.

Table No.8.3 : Number of sections in the district libraries.

Sr.No.	Sections	MS		MP	
		No.	%	No	%
1	Stack room	15	100	29	100
2	Reading room	14	93.33	26	89.65
3	Issue section	15	100	27	93.10
4	Reference section	15	100	15	51.72
5	Women section	09	60	04	20.68
6	Children section	08	53	05	17.24
7	Competitive section	09	60	03	10.34
8	Other	03	20	02	6.89

Table no. 8.3 indicates that the number of rooms available in the government district libraries in the MP and MS comparing that 15 (100%) libraries in MS and 29 (100%) libraries in MP have stack rooms. 14 (93.33%) libraries in MS and 26(89.65%) libraries in MP have reading room. 15 (100%) libraries in MS and 27(93.10%) libraries in MP have issue section. 15 (100%) libraries in MS and 15(51.72%) libraries in MP have Reference section. 09 (60%) libraries in MS and 04 (20.68%) libraries in MP have women section. 08 (53%) libraries in MS and 05 (17.24%) libraries in MP have Children section. 09 (60%) libraries in MS and 03 (10.34%) libraries in MP have issue section.

Table No. 8.4 : Category of users.

Sr.No.	Users	MS		MP	
		No.	%	No.	%
1	Doctor	14	93.33	26	89.65
2	Engineer	14	93.33	26	89.65
3	Advocate	14	93.33	26	89.65
4	Businessman	14	93.33	29	100
5	Farmer	10	66.66	14	48.27
6	Professor	14	93.33	24	82.75
7	Housewife	14	93.33	25	86.20

8	Physical handicap	11	73.33	22	75.86
9	Neo literate	12	80.00	18	62.06
10	Children	15	100	28	96.55
11	Senior citizen	14	93.33	28	96.55
12	serviceman	14	93.33	29	100
13	Other	08	53.33	07	24.13

The result presented in the table no.8.4. revealed that Children are topped in the users list being 15 (100%) in MS while businessman 29 (100%) and servicemen 29 (100%) are topped in the users in MS. Then comes doctors (93.33%), engineers, (93.33%) advocates, (93.33%) businessmen, (93.33%) senior citizens, (93.33%) servicemen (93.33%) in MS. While children, (96%) senior citizen, (96%) doctors (89.65%), engineers, (89.65%), advocates, (89.65%) comes in MP. Other i.e. students (53.33%) in MS while 24.13 students in MP

Table No. 8.5: Types of Classifications.

Type of Classification	MS		MP	
	No.	%	No.	%
Dewy decimal classification	11	73.33	01	3.44
Expansive classification	00	00.00	00	00.00
Universal decimal classification	01	6.66	00	00.00
Subject classification	00	00.00	00	00.00
Colon classification	00	00.00	00	00.00
International classification	00	00.00	00	00.00
No Scheme	03	20.00	24	82.29
Total	13	100	25	100

Table no.8.5 shows that in MS, 11(73.33%) responding libraries are using DDC scheme to classify the library materials. 03 (73.33%) libraries did not use any scheme for classification. In MP, 01(3.34%) responding library is using DDC scheme to classify the library materials, 24 (82.29%) libraries did not use any scheme for classification. Government district libraries in MS, Dewy Decimal Classification method is used high level and Universal Decimal Classification method is used low level. And in MP government district libraries no scheme ratio is high and few decimal classification method is used very low level. Other methods are not used in the classification of book in the states of MS and MP. District libraries in MP are very poor in adopting any classification scheme.

Table No. 8.6: Collection of non- book materials.

Sr. No	Collection of non- book materials	MS		MP	
		No	%	No	%
1	Chart	09	60	12	41.37
2	Maps	10	66.66	13	44.82
3	Kits	00	00.00	00	00.00
4	Reports	04	26.66	02	6.89
5	Patent	03	20.00	02	6.89
6	Standards	00	00	00	0.00
7	Theses	04	26.66	01	3.44
8	Reprint	01	6.00	01	3.44
9	Preprints	00	6.00	01	3.44
10	Manuals	04	26.66	02	6.89

11	Photo copies	03	20.00	07	24.13
12	Project Report	02	13.33	07	24.13

Above table and figure no. 8.6 show that compare the availability of non book materials in the government district libraries of MS and MP. Availability of charts in MS 60 % and MP 41.37 %, Maps in MS 66.66 % and MP 44.82 %, Kits in MS 00 % and MP % 00, Reports in MS 26.66 % and MP 6.89 %, Patents in MS 20 % and MP 6.89 %, Standards in MS 00 % and MP 00 %, Theses in MS 26.66 % and MP 3.44 %, Reprints in MS 6 % and MP 3.44 %, Manuals in MS 26.66 % and MP 6.89 %, Photo copies in MS 20 % and MP 24.13 %, Project reports in MS 13.33 % and MP 24.13 % . Non book materials availability in the libraries of MS is high compare to MP.

Table No. 8.7 : Availability of non conventional sources of information.

Sr. No.	Availability of non conventional sources of information	MS		MP	
		No.	%	No.	%
1	Radio	01	6.66	02	6.89
2	Audio discs and tape	02	13.33	01	3.44
3	Microforms	00	00.00	00	00.00
4	Magnetic tapes	02	13.33	00	00.00
5	Floppy discs	01	6.66	01	3.44
6	CD.ROM	05	33.33	07	24.13
7	Audio-visuals	02	13.33	03	10.34

Table no.8.7 shows that compare availability of non conventional sources of information in the libraries of MS and MP. Radio 6.66 in MS and 6.89 in MP, Audio discs and tape in MS 13.33 and 3.44 in MP, Microforms are not available in the both states libraries, Magnetic tapes in MS 13.33 and not available in MP district libraries. Floppy discs in MS district libraries 6.66 and MP 3.44, C.D Rom in MS district libraries 33.33 and MP 24, 23, audio- visuals in MS 13.33 and 10.34 in MP district libraries

Table 8.8: Qualifications of the librarian.

Sr. No.	Qualification of the librarians	MS		MP	
		No.	%	No.	%
1	Graduate with B.Lib	9	60.00	4	13.79
2	Graduate with B.Lib and M.Lib.	-		2	6.89
3	P.G. with B.Lib	3	20.00	3	10.34
4	P.G.with B.Lib and M.Lib	2	13.33	3	10.34
5	Post Vaccant	1	6.66	17	58.62

Table no. 8.8 shows that in MS, 9 (60%) librarians have the qualification Graduate with B.Lib, 3 (20%) librarians have qualification P.G. with B.Lib, 2 (13.33%) librarians have the qualification P.G.with B.Lib and M.Lib and 1 (1.66) post is vacant while comparing with the MP, 4 (13.79%) librarians have the qualification with Graduate with B.Lib, 2 (6.89%) librarians have the qualification Graduate with B.Lib and M.Lib. 3 (10.34%) librarians have the qualification P.G.with B.Lib and M.Lib, 17 (58.62%) post are vacant.

9. FINDINGS:

1. The study reveals that there is the rise in the rate of set up district libraries in MS while in MP, in the beginning there was rise i.e 10 (34.48 %) to 15 (51.72%) after 1990 there is no library set up in MP.

2. It was observed that women section, children section and competitive section must have every library. But there is not available for the satisfactory level, the other requirements as competitive section, reference section are also inadequate in both state.
3. It was found that the both states libraries used by all categories of users. User of library in MS doctor, engineer, advocate, farmer professor housewife, new literate, children and other ratio is high compare to MP and businessman , physical handicaps, senior citizens and servicemen, these type of users highly use of the library in MP camper to MS.
4. The data analysis indicated that there is no uniform structure of the catalogues as register type, card type etc. and avoid the highly technical catalogue. In MS, 07 (64.66%) libraries have registered the catalogue, 06 (40%) libraries have card catalogue, 03 (20%) libraries have subject catalogue, 03 (20%) libraries have author catalogue catalogue, Only one (6.66%) library have computer form while in MP, 24 (82.75%) libraries have registered the catalogue, 08 (27.58%) libraries have card catalogue, 04 (13.79%) libraries have subject catalogue, 13 (13.79 %) libraries have author catalogue. Only There is no library have computer form.
5. It was found that non book material availability in the library of MS is high compare to MP. There have a poor collection of non-book Materials in state library such kits patent, standards, reprint, preprints, manuals, photo copies and project reports. No library has special collection such as manuscripts and rare books.
6. The data analysis indicated that both the state there have a poor collection of non conventional source of information such as radio, audio discs and tape, microforms, magnetic tapes, CD.ROM and audio-visuals aids.
7. It was observed that there is no library fully computrised in MS and MP district libraries.
8. The users expect and demand the most sophisticated services for getting the necessary information but the district libraries in both state are not in a position to cater the demand of their users. Services provided by these District Libraries in both are not satisfactory to the users to cater their information requirements. They don't provide Photo copy, Translation service and Abstract service.
9. The data collected through the survey revealed that the ready reference service i.e. advice for use of material, answer of specific queries and location of information & documents is provided up to the satisfaction of the users in both state.
10. Thus it may be concluded that the district libraries in MP less organized the educational, cultural programme than MS district libraries

10. CONCLUSIONS :

The present study examines the district libraries as information service centre:A comparative study of District Libraries in Ms and MP. The objectives of the study show that the present status of Government District Libraries in MS in a few senses is better than MP. A library is a growing organism says the fifth law of library science; its growth is three pronged i.e. readers, staff and reading material. But these district libraries in MP have not growth up properly and most of them are still in their struggle for growth. They require all sorts of care and nourishment for their aggrandizement. In this study, it has been proved that neither the government nor the Education Department has taken interest to create reading and learning consciousness among the public.

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