EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Networking and Resource sharing have been one of the important areas in library and information services for long time. Dr. S. R. Ranganathan has emphasized much on this concept as library co-operation in his book *Five Laws of Library Science*. Indeed, all five laws guidelines have the practice of networking and resource sharing for better and effective library operations and services. Today, we live in an information era. Every day, a lot of publications are published throughout the world. Therefore, it is impossible for any modern library to procure all the resources to meet the various needs of the users. Several factors such as rapid increase of publications, reduced financial resources, increase of prices and ever increasing expectations of users have made the libraries to look for alternative means of resources. One of the important means is sharing of resources among themselves.

The library and information centre is an important component of any educational institution, which is hub of the teaching and learning activities where students, researchers and teachers can explore the vast resources of information. In the traditional libraries, users have to spend more time for searching a small piece of information and for that, they have to depend mainly on the library professionals or library staff. However, in the age of information communication technology, computers are being used for day-to-day housekeeping activity of the library which saves the time of the end users, and library professionals also and at the same time avoid duplication of work and make the library service smooth and effective. (Sinha, 2008).

The primary objective of a library is to provide right information to right user at right time in right form. To fulfil this objective libraries have to provide maximum access to information irrespective of location. ICT has helped to meet these objectives successfully. Applications of ICT and development of networks, use of internet and WWW have changed the practices in libraries. Due to this change librarians and libraries are facing problems like budget, information explosion, satisfying user needs etc. However, the concept of library cooperation and resource sharing is developed since long in different
nomenclature like ILL, sharing of catalogue data, professional skills, information resources etc. Recently ICT made revolutionary change by developing networks and provide better services to user community.

Libraries from its inception are called as store houses of information having qualitative collection of documents useful to the information society. Libraries are also called as power houses of information and knowledge resources centers which disseminate information and help users in generating new knowledge base on the existing knowledge. However, libraries are not self sufficient and are unable to fulfil all the needs of users due to information explosion and rising cost of publications. Librarians have understood the situation, initiated Inter Library Loan (ILL) facilities, and now reached to library networks in the passage of time with different transformations. The Librarians, UGC, NISSAT made different efforts in achieving resource sharing and provide information resources to the users through developing centers and consortium.

University Grants Commission (UGC) and National Information System for Science and Technology (NISSAT) under Department of Science and Technology (DST) developed many library networks to strengthen the resource collection in particular discipline and also share resources and develop specialised databases. INFLIBNET, CALIBNET, DELNET, MYLIBNET and many more city networks are the outcome of the efforts of UGC and NISSAT.

The study is presented in seven chapters.

Chapter 1 – Introduction: This chapter highlights need of library networks, library networks in India, background of study, reason to select topic, scope and limitations, aim and objectives, research methodology, hypothesis, uniqueness of study and structure of the study etc.

Chapter 2 – Literature Review: This chapter is a brief analysis of information literature published in different forms and consulted by researcher, relevant to study. The different facets considered while conducting literature are discussed at length with brief summary. The literature survey help in building the concepts developed in the mind of researcher and also used and cited reference in text suitably in different chapters.
Executive Summary

Chapter 3 – Resource Sharing and Networking: In this chapter highlights about overview and different components of resource sharing and networking applied in libraries.

Chapter 4 – BTISNet Centres: This chapter highlights about details about BTISNet Centres under DBT.

Chapter 5 – Approach to Resource Sharing in BTISNet Centres: This chapter highlights about approaching towards to resource sharing in BTISNet centre libraries.

Chapter 6- Library Resources and Services: Data Analysis: This chapter analysis the data collected from the questionnaire and presented after the evaluation systematically using different statistical methods. This chapter in general helps in narrating the status of BTISNet libraries in India.

Chapter 7 – Conclusions and Recommendations: This chapter analysis the data collected from the questionnaire and presented after the evaluation systematically using different statistical methods. This chapter in general helps in narrating the status of management libraries.

In view of foregoing discussions, it is apparent that libraries in present centuries will become the centres of resource sharing with no boundaries, words so ever. Library networks are expected to play major roles as partners in global networking of information centres. In the field of biotechnology in India, SP University of Pune, Bioinformatics centre has made a good beginning by coordinating Pune Library Network (PUNE-NET). This centre may be given responsibility to coordinate all the resource sharing activities within BTISNet. It is hoped that with right kind of initiatives in this direction will certainly give a boost to research activities in the field of bioinformatics in the country.