CHAPTER VI
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SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS

Summary:

The present study "Organization and Management of Marathi manuscripts in India with special reference to Maharashtra" can be summarized as follows:

Chapter one starts with genesis of study and selection of topic. Need of the scholars coming to Jayakar Library in search of Marathi works and specially old Manuscripts, is the basic motivation behind this study. In order to study the topic systematically, initially, means of human communication have been studied with graphic representation. Early writing materials like Talpatra, Bhurjapatra etc. have been studied in consequence.

Brief history of Marathi writings helps to give span covered under the topic of study. The definitions of the prominent terms like Archives, Manuscripts, Management etc. are given. In order to support the present study, review of fifteen studies taken place earlier have been given. The survey with open ended questions have been conducted and responses received have been given in the topic, research methodology. Chapter concludes with attempts made for data collection and background preparation.

Chapter two provides profiles of the forty institutes under study. Those have been presented in categorical manner, starting with (A) Academic (B) Archives/Govt. (C) Museums (D) Private
Collections, (E) Public (F) Religious (G) Research. Profiles helps to understand the organisational structure of the institution. It also gives brief history of the institute which helps to understand administrative structure of the institute. After the extensive profiles of the institutes, resume of the interviews with the scholars have been given.

Chapter three gives analysis of MS collections with different institutes. Locations of the institutes in Maharashtra and outside have been shown in maps. Further places have been shown with the bar graphs and response percentage shown in pie-chart. Data of the holdings have been analysed with the help of 20 tables and descriptive account wherever necessary.

Chapter four deals with Government policies and programmes for collection, organization and preservation of MSS. It takes review from Mughal period to British times. Then in present context, efforts done at State, National and International level have been covered. At State Level work of two institutes has been presented. At national level, five prominent institutes contribution has been presented. At international level again two remarkable institutes work has been presented.

In Chapter number five importance of preservation, conservation has been emphasized. Technical details regarding decay of documents, its causes, preventive measures and curative treatment have been studied at length. Then the institutes imparting training in preservation, conservation have been studied with their syllabus. The curriculum development committees role appointed by UGC, syllabus of IGNOU and other
aspects have been studied here in order to understand the importance of this activity.

The present sixth chapter reviews all the earlier chapters by way of summary. Then the findings based on the categorical analysis, coupled with solutions and suggestions forms the content of this chapter.

Findings and Suggestions:

Findings are based on the results acquired while analysing the data. Categorical sequence has been followed, while giving findings and suggestions.

Academic Institutions:

1. There are eleven academic institute responded, out of these three colleges are older than the Universities. Their MSS collections are smaller than the universities. The other details provided by these colleges reveals that their MSS collections remained neglected. Specially collection at Ashtang Aurved Mahavidyalaya and Pratap Centre for philosophy needs immediate action for preservation / conservation.
2. Universities in Maharashtra need to preserve their MSS collections systematically as preserved at Vadodara and Thiruvanthapuram.
3. The number of Marathi MSS in academic institutes stands third in comparison to Sanskrit and Other MSS respectively.
Percentage of Marathi MSS as compared to Sanskrit MSS is much more less. (Sanskrit - 78%, Marathi - 5.97%).

4. All the universities and reputed colleges in Maharashtra need to preserve and conserve MSS for academic purpose.

5. The University libraries are having financial provisions for purchase of MSS, along with maintenance of them. College libraries do not have adequate provisions.

   All the university libraries have accessioned their MSS collection in standard format. Two college libraries have not accessioned their collection. Bhosala Vedashastra Mahavidyalaya, Nagpur, have accessioned their collection.

6. The universities in Maharashtra, can develop their MSS section as per the guideline of UGC and National Archives of India. The colleges, since they are unable to maintain the MSS, can retain photocopy with them and can hand over the original MSS to some renowned MSS Library or University.

7. The MSS collections in university libraries have been classified and catalogued in a standard format suggested by the National Archive of India.

   The MSS collection in two small colleges is not classified and catalogued.

8. The catalogues catalogorum by V. Raghavan, has been published for Sanskrit MSS. On the same line catalogues catalogorum may be prepared for Marathi MSS.

   Recently emerged 'Rajya Marathi Vikas Sanstha' may take lead in this activity of catalogues catalogorum for Marathi MSS.
9. Among the University libraries, three libraries at Vadodara, Thiruvanathapuram and Nagpur have fumigation facility which is effective for large scale disinfecticidal treatment. This provision is not there at Mumbai, Pune and Kolhapur. The college library MSS collections also do not have the fumigation facility.

10. All the academic, Archival / Govt., Museums, Private and public library collections, alongwith research libraries can come together and evolve the co-operative fumigation facility. This is need of the time. The places like Pune, Kolhapur and all other cities in Maharashtra, can gear up this activity in Chemistry departments of Colleges or Universities.

11. The review taken regarding bibliographic activity in table No. 3.3(A), reveals that compilation of catalogues has taken place related to Sanskrit MSS mainly. There are rare Marathi MSS collections with Jayakar Library and Nagpur university library.

12. Catalogues of notable Marathi MSS be compiled and published.

13. The Marathi MSS are useful from the research point of view and they have aesthetic value also.

14. The Marathi MSS, worthy of publications may be published. MSS in need of conservation treatment may be given immediate attention.
Archival/Government Institutes:

15. (The) Asiatic Society, Mumbai, and the Pune Archives have old and rare MSS literature. Out of these two, the collection at the Asiatic society, Mumbai is under preservation treatment. On the other hand, the collections, in outside Maharashtra institutes, are preserved properly.

16. Noting the significance of the old, rare Archival/MSS literature, steps should be taken for their conservation. (Present author in his visit to Mumbai, observed that the conservation laboratory is established at the Asiatic Society, Mumbai. It is happy sign that some staff had been trained at ICI, Lucknow, and they are devoted to the work of conservation).

17. The five Government institutes outside Maharashtra seems to very much keen in, acquiring the MSS, processing the MSS and maintenance of MSS.

18. There are number of identified and unidentified MSS collections in Maharashtra. Govt. of Maharashtra, should take efforts to collect this valuable treasure. The senior position of Manuscript Officer in the office of Director of Libraries, Maharashtra State, which was abolished should be restored.

19. The governmental institutes outside Maharashtra have gathered number of MSS. The Govt. of Maharashtra, should strive for gathering of Marathi MSS.
20. The Ministry of Culture of Government of Maharashtra, has announced for revival of Marathi culture. Search of Marathi MSS collections, is best suiting agenda for their activities.

21. The information acquired in summary shows that, the Govt. of Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu, are having rigorous plans for accumulation of MSS. Their classification and cataloguing. The Marathi MSS collection is neglected in its own country.

22. The Govt. of Maharashtra may take steps to collect and process the MSS collection, on the line as the Government of Rajasthan.

23. The table No.3.7 (B) reveals that all the state Governments in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan have given special attention to MSS collection.

24. As back as in 1936 late Shri. Shrikrishna Shakar Deo founder of Samartha Vagdevta Mandir, Dhulia, had exclaimed that, 'I can establish 100 such institutes, if I move around the bank of river Krishna'. The dream of late Shrikrishna Shankar Deo, can come down to reality, if Government of Maharashtra supports this activity of MSS collection and preservation.

25. Analysis of the questions responded by Archival/Govt, institutes, specially from outside Maharashtra region, indicates that though their is no concern for upkeep and maintenance of Marathi MSS, with them, information has been provided, regarding their status in the institute.

26. The Marathi MSS available outside Maharashtra, may be procured by state Archives, Director of Libraries and by the institutes. Exchange system also can be adopted, or otherwise
photocopy, microfilm, can be acquired, in order to enrich our collections.

**Museums:**

27. The MSS collections are there in museums. Present researcher could acquire data from one museum only.

28. The Director of Archaeology, may collect information on the MSS holdings in their museums and can publish it for the knowledge of Public. Such activities are carried out at Calcutta and Madras on behalf of their respective directorate.

**Private collections:**

29. Marathi Msas are possessed by individuals, families. The sample survey of private collection, indicates, that their holdings are recorded nowhere, with Govt. records. The individuals are not able to maintain them for want of funds. Next generation of scholars is not keen in maintaining this collection in the house.

30. Governmental machinery, through Director of Archives or through, Director of Libraries, should bring solution on this difficulty with scholars. List of such scholars may be prepared. If they are not able to maintain the collection, then they may be pursued to give it to renowned institutes like - Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, or to Government of Maharashtra, Director of Libraries.
Public Libraries:

31. There are MSS collections with public libraries. Since the priority areas of public library are different, the MSS collections might have been neglected.

32. The Director of Libraries, Govt. of Maharashtra, can reduce down the work-load of MSS keeping from the public libraries. They can be brought together under the control of 'Manuscripts Officer' position in senior cadre. The post was abolished recently which needs to be restored.

Religious Institutes:

33. Religious institutes have been established quite long back during the Peshwa period and in some cases earlier to that period.

34. Survey of the holdings with these religious institutes reveals some important and rare MSS.

35. Religious institutes possess more number of Marathi MSS.

36. Governmental agency like, State Archives or Director of Libraries should come forward to enlist this treasure and preserve it for posterity. Since the units are small, they do not have funds.

37. Paucity of funds and the limited resources had marred the growth of these institutes.

38. Govt. of Maharashtra may come forward with the proposals, to be forwarded to the National Archives of India. In this
regard, present researcher, has given the scheme for financial assistance in Appendix.

39. The Marathi MSS collection, with the religious institutes, may get decayed soon, for want of proper preservation.

40. Immediate steps are needed to be taken by the Maharashtra and philanthropic institutes like ICI, Lucknow, through its regional chapters.

Research Institutes:

41. Research institutes have a long history. The institutes under study have been established between the range of 60 to 174 years. Naturally the MSS collection acquired by them is noteworthy.

42. Institutes like Adyar and Oriental Research Institute from outside Maharashtra region and BORI Pune, Rajwade Sanshodhan Mandal, Samarth Vagdevta Mandir, Dhule from Maharashtra region, are in a position to take proper care of MSS with them. Remaining institutes are in need of finances for proper maintenance of MSS.

43. The Research institutes rank second in MSS collection next to Archival / Govt. institutes.

44. Whatever the Central and State Government schemes and facilities are there for preservation and conservation of MSS may be made known to these institutes in order to retain the MSS collection in good condition.
45. Responses to the question on classification and cataloguing reveals that there is local variation in classification and cataloguing, from institute to institute.

46. Uniform code of cataloguing, coupled with standard scheme of classification for oriental literature is advocated. The efforts to give standards have been done by Revati Dashmukh in her masters' dissertation in LIS 1990.

47. Research institutes in Maharashtra do not have preservation/conservation machinery.

48. Fumigation facility which is preliminary preservative treatment, is also not available with the renowned institutes like - Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute in Pune or even Rajwade Sanshodhan Mandal and Samarth Vagdevta Mandir at Dhule.

Fumigation is preliminary disinfecticidal treatment, that need to be started soon, if not co-operative programme for fumigation may be adopted.

48. Information revealed, regarding bibliographic control activity, is quite encouraging. These Research institutes, are doing noble job of bringing knowledge to the public, by way of publications.

49. The Marathi MSS holdings which are noteworthy and rare, needs to be published. Steps may be taken by Government and voluntary organisations by seeking assistance of National Archives of India.
Summary of Findings and Suggestions:

50. General analysis of the categorial division of institutes shows that, 'Khanak-e-Naqshabandia (1649)', is the oldest institute responded to the questionnaire from, Religious category. Likewise from the same category 'Shri chakradharswami' Grantha sangrahalaya (1992)', happens to be the recent or new institute responded to the questionnaire.

51. The span of survey, which covers 350 years duration, opens new dimension of work i.e., to prepare a index of all the institutional, holdings of Marathi MSS.

The work can be undertaken by the government aided institute, like - Rajya Marathi Vikas Sanstha', Mumbai, (Director of this institute has suggested present author to prepare scheme for that purpose).

52. The total amount of MSS in all responding forty institutes comes to 6,93,792/-. The number of Marathi MSS, 56,152 proportionately comes 8.09% to the total. (The figures are approximations as per the responses provided by the institutions).

53. The approximations of figures stated in findings tends to explore for Marathi MSS. 'Rajya Marathi Vikas Sanstha', vested a job of exploring Marathi MSS in south India to Dr. Vasant Joshi. Same type of campaign can be opened for Marathi MSS in North India, at the places like - Gwalior, Indore, Banaras etc.
54. The responses to the preservation / conservation of MSS in general reveals that most of the institutes in Maharashtra, do not have proper means and measures for preservation and conservation, specially the lack of fumigation, deacidification and general maintainance of the MSS.

55. It is suggested to establish centralised fumigation chamber, with equipped laboratory for bringing in control the deterioration of MSS in Maharashtra.

Government of Maharashtra, through Department of Archives or Director of Libraries, should take lead in this activity, if not, concerned institutes by coming together may establish such service unit with laboratory.

56. The bibliographic activity reveals and identifies that the institutes in Maharashtra, are lagging far behind in this endeavour, except 'Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute'.

57. Efforts made if collectively, by administering the grant from the government of Maharashtra, may enhance the activity of publication of catalogues as well as rare and noteworthy MSS.

58. Physical facilities like - microfilming, xeroxing and copying, are not there with, private collections i.e., scholars, and public libraries. These are necessary for duplicating the original.

59. Government agencies, through Director of Libraries or through State Archives, needs to take review of such collection and retain it with them in surrogate form.

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60. Computers have played their important role in all the fields. Scanning of old and rare Mss, use of multi media and worldwide access to Mss literature via Internet, are the possibilities due to computer applications.

All the institutes possessing Mss should join hands for this purpose and produce computerized database.