CHAPTER V

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS

As a logical extension of the earlier analyses and discussions, this final Chapter carries the leading findings, few suggestions and the scope for further research in this field. The following are the leading findings of the study:

5.1 LEADING FINDINGS

Libraries play a vital role in promoting the progress of knowledge. They provide information within an appropriate context to transform information into knowledge in an individual’s mind. Libraries have a fundamental role to play in the development of strategies for lifelong learning.

Libraries play a multifaceted role in informal, educational, social and cultural aspects and provide excellent learning opportunities for the diverse user population. An outstanding customer service, makes libraries’ contribution effective in lifelong learning.

The libraries provide necessary information in a manner that enhances education. The library is not only a connecting link between teaching and learning, but also a place where classroom learning could be enhanced with its enormous resources.
Books and libraries form an important part of the history of civilization. Library is an institution of social change which plays a dynamic role in the process of transformation of a society from an old social order to a new one. So, libraries are to be recognized as the real centres of learning at all levels of education. The goal of library services both in traditional and virtual libraries is to aid the library users to achieve success in their education by providing the resources and conducive atmosphere that will foster intellectual, emotional, and social development.

It is observed that the budget allocation for books a fluctuating trend for the selected aided and autonomous colleges during the study period.

It is identified that the average number of books allocated among the aided colleges during the study period in Sri. K.G.S. Arts College and G.Venkataswamy Naidu College was higher which constitute 472 each respectively. In case of aided colleges, the average number of books allocated was higher in St. Xavier's College which constitute 597.

It is analysed that the trend coefficients of number of books allocated among all the selected aided colleges are statistically significant at 5 percent level except Aadithanar College, Ambai Arts College, Arignar Anna College, Dakshina Mara Nadar Sangam College, P.M.T. College, Sree Ayappa College, Sree Devi
Kumari College, St. Jude’s College, Vivekananda College, Women’s Christian College and Pioneer Kumarasamy College because the t-values are less than 1.96.

It is understood that the budget allocation for journals have fluctuating trends among all the selected aided and autonomous colleges affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli during the study period.

The average number of journals allocated among the aided colleges during the study period was high in Kamaraj College which constitutes 34. In case of autonomous colleges, the average number of journals allocated was the highest in St. Xavier's College which constitutes 43.

In case of aided colleges, the compound growth rate was higher in Sri. K.G.S. Arts College and G. Venkataswamy Naidu College which constitutes 11.055 percent whereas among the autonomous colleges the compound growth rate was higher in Scott Christian College which constitutes 5.680 percent.

The budget allocation for magazines was constant during the year 2005-2006 to 2007-2008 and then there was a slight change during other years among all the selected aided and autonomous colleges affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli during the study period except in Holy Cross College which comes under the category of autonomous colleges.
It is observed that the average number of magazines allocated among the aided colleges during the study period was the highest in Kamaraj College which constitutes 43. In case of autonomous colleges, the average number of magazines allocated was the highest in St. Xavier's College which constitutes 87.

It is learnt that the trend coefficients of the number of magazines allocated among all the selected aided and autonomous colleges affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli are statistically significant at 5 percent level because the t-values are greater than 1.96 except in Sarah Tucker College among autonomous colleges.

It is elucidated that the financial contribution to the libraries by the University Grants Commission (UGC) have an increasing trend for all the selected aided colleges except Aadithanar College, Arignar Anna College, Dakshina Mara Nadar Sangam College, P.M.T. College, St. Jude’s College, Vivekananda College, Women’s Christian College and Pioneer Kumarasami College because they are not getting any grant from UGC. In case of all the selected autonomous colleges, the financial contribution by the UGC has an increasing trend during the study period.

Among the aided colleges Sri. K.G.S. Arts College, G. Venkataswamy Naidu College and Kamaraj College obtained the maximum financial support
from UGC. In case of autonomous colleges, St. Xavier’s College received the maximum financial support from UGC.

The compound growth rate was high for St. Mary’s College among the aided category and Sri Parasakthi College among the autonomous category which constitute 18.709 percent and 20.237 percent respectively.

It is observed that the financial contribution to the libraries by the management had an increasing trend for all the aided colleges except Sri. K.G.S. Arts College, G. Venkataswamy Naidu College and Kamaraj College. In case of all the autonomous colleges, the financial contribution by the management has an increasing trend during the study period except Scott Christian College and Sri Parasakthi College.

No continuous stability is manifested among aided colleges and autonomous colleges in respect of the financial contribution by the management for the development of libraries.

It is expounded that the trend coefficients of the financial contribution by the management for the development of libraries among the aided and autonomous colleges affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University are not statistically significant at 5 percent level because the t-values are less than 1.96 except for Pope’s College which comes under the aided category.
It is proposed that the amount spent on maintenance of libraries have a fluctuating trend among all the selected aided and autonomous colleges affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli during the period from 2005-2006 to 2009-2010.

It is found that Aadithanar College, St. John’s College and Women’s Christian College stood first based on the average amount (Rs.13100) spent on the maintenance of libraries among the aided colleges during the study period. In case of autonomous colleges, St. Xavier's College stood first with Rs. 69600 as the average amount spent on the maintenance of libraries,

It is revealed that the trend coefficients of the amount spent on maintenance of libraries among the aided colleges such as A P C Mahalekshmi College, Sri. K.G.S. Arts College, Sree Devi Kumari College, St.Jude’s College, Thiruvalluvar College, St. Mary’s College and V.O.C. College and autonomous colleges such as Sarah Tucker College and St. Xavier’s College are statistically significant at 5 percent level because the t-values are greater than 1.96.

It is evident that the total number of books kept in the aided colleges libraries for English stood first which constitutes 1,07,060. It is followed by Tamil, History, Chemistry, Commerce, Mathematics, Economics, Computer Science, Physics, Zoology and Botany. It is concluded that English and Tamil
(language books) are maintained in large number by the selected aided colleges libraries under study.

It is found that the total number of books kept in the autonomous college libraries in Chemistry stood first which constitutes 94,642. It is followed by Physics, Mathematics, Tamil, English, Economics, History, Commerce, Zoology, Botany and Computer Science. So, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics books are maintained in large numbers by the selected autonomous college libraries under study.

It is inferred that among the aided colleges libraries the average number of books maintained for English and Tamil subjects which claim 4117 and 3716 respectively are majority in number. In the case of autonomous colleges libraries, the average number of books maintained in Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics are the major ones which claim 15773, 14706 and 14015 respectively.

It is found that the majority of the PG students are benefited through net facilities in aided colleges affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli which constitute 634. It is followed by undergraduate students, research scholars and staff who claim 483, 447 and 341 respectively.
It is seen that the majority of the PG students are benefited through net facilities in autonomous colleges affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli which constitute 742. It is followed by undergraduate students, research scholars and staff which constitute 610, 458 and 267 respectively.

It is observed that the average number of PG students benefited by net facilities in aided and autonomous college libraries stood first which constitute 24 and 123 respectively. With regard to coefficient of variation, it was higher for the research scholars in aided colleges (135.49 percent), and UG students in the autonomous colleges (78.85 percent).

It is evident that the age group below 20 years is the dominant group that use the net facilities in both aided and autonomous colleges.

It is found that in aided colleges, the percentage of male users is 64.62 whereas in autonomous colleges, it is 76.67 percent of the total. The female users constitute 35.38 percent to its total in aided colleges, whereas in the autonomous colleges it is 23.33 percent.

The analysis reveals that majority of the aided and autonomous colleges under study are situated in rural areas.
It is found that the important levels of education are undergraduation and post graduation which claims 73.08 and 18.46 percent to the total respectively in aided colleges, and 50.00 percent and 36.67 percent respectively in autonomous colleges.

It is inferred that the majority of the library users (93.46 percent) have computer skills in aided colleges whereas in autonomous colleges it constitutes 61.67 percent. The analysis reveals that the majority of the library users in aided and autonomous colleges are having computer skills.

It may be concluded that there is no significant relationship between the average score for traditional method and age group of library users. It leads to the fact that age group does not influence the traditional method for the development of libraries among the aided and autonomous colleges.

It is found that both in the aided and autonomous colleges there is no significant relationship between gender of the users and their opinion score on the traditional method for the development of libraries.

It is also concluded that in the aided and autonomous colleges, there is no significant association between location and the adoption of traditional method for the development of libraries.
It is found that there is no significant relationship between the average score for traditional method and educational qualification of the library users which leads to the fact that educational qualification does not influence the traditional method for the development of libraries among the aided and autonomous colleges.

It is evident that in the case of both aided and autonomous colleges, there is no significant association between computer skills and the adoption of traditional methods for development of libraries.

It is found that the development of libraries through traditional method among the aided and autonomous colleges affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University is influenced by several factors in the following order,

- Fulfilling the needs of the Users
- Administration of Libraries
- Effective Functioning of Libraries
- Infrastructural Facilities
- Provisions for Stock Room
- Allotment of Funds
- Easy Assessment of Books
- Maintenance of Registers
- Responsibility of Staff Members and
- Maintenance of Libraries
It is concluded that there is no significant relationship between the average score on digital environment for the development of libraries and age group of library users and it leads to the fact that age group does not influence the digital environment for the development of libraries among the aided and autonomous colleges.

It is found that both in the case of aided and autonomous colleges, there is no significant relationship between gender of the users and their opinion score on the digital environment for the development of libraries.

It is revealed that in the case of both aided and autonomous colleges, there is no significant association between location and the adoption of digital environment method for the development of libraries.

It is concluded that there is no significant relationship between the average score for digital environment and educational qualification of the library users among aided and autonomous college libraries.

It is shown that in the case of both aided and autonomous colleges there is no significant association between computer skills and the adoption of digital environment for development of libraries.
It is found that the development of libraries through digital environment among the aided and autonomous colleges affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli are influenced by certain important factors in the following order:

- Introduction of New Information Technologies
- Assessment of Electronic Resources
- Helpful for Research and Reference
- Provisions for Usage of Networking Facilities and Company Softwares
- Provisions for Interlink and Web Connections
- Application of Information Technology and
- Provisions for multimedia and DELNET/INFIBNET

Regarding the level of opinion about the infrastructure and management of the aided and autonomous colleges, it is found that 37 (11.60 percent) of library users have a high level of opinion, 225 (70.30 percent) have a medium level opinion, and 58 (18.10 percent) have a low level of opinion about the infrastructure and management of libraries.
5.2 A FEW SUGGESTIONS

The following are a few suggestions:

- The aided and autonomous colleges under study have to adopt serious measures to accelerate the pace and pattern of management and development.

- A wide gap is found between the urban and rural colleges so far as the process of modernization is concerned. Concerned college managements, the University and the UGC should give serious thought to this imbalance and correct them promptly.

- More than 50 percent of the aided colleges are not in sound financial health. It is one of the reasons for lack of high level electronic exposure on the part of the staff and students. This discouraging syndrome should be duly dealt with.

- Management system should give priorities to the recruitment policies and staffing pattern. That will still enhance the levels of performance.

- Most of the colleges will have to improve the average number of books, to achieve greater stability.

- It is suggested with a sense of seriousness that the budget allocation for magazines and journals should be increased. They are more useful than books to update knowledge.
The infrastructure inputs and reading room facilities will have to be strengthened and modernised in many of the aided colleges libraries in rural areas.

The amount of money spent on maintenance should be increased in a number of libraries of colleges.

The students should be motivated and properly trained towards the use of the ‘wonder boxes’ (computers).

Above all, the library staff should be highly qualified and fit enough to motivate, guide and inspire the users. Steps should be taken in this direction more carefully.

5.3 CONCLUSION

The researcher had a high sense of joy and satisfaction while she gave the final touches to this humble but useful work. It was so because she could study and complete successfully a very significant problem of knowledge and wisdom. A library is the brain of the academic body and system. The problem selected has been local to a great extent and the proverb, “Nothing is real unless it is also local” holds good immensely.

The researcher is optimistic that this modest work will enable desirable innovative exercises in this field. If more pragmatic efforts are taken in the light
of some of the suggestions given by this researcher, the librarians are bound to achieve high levels of success.

5.4 SCOPE FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The present topic has been impregnated with innumerable and possible topics for further research.

- One can study the impact of computers in libraries.
- The nature and benefits of modernization can be analysed.
- The process of digital usages could be evaluated.
- A study could be attempted on the matrix or morphology of management of libraries.
- One can examine the several stages of management and the contribution of library personnel.
- A researcher may examine the status of physical facilities found in college libraries.

Thus, there is vast scope in this field for further research works to be undertaken successfully.