CHAPTER - II

PROFILE OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN KARNATAKA STATE

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2.1 About Karnataka State

Karnataka State is situated on a tableland where the Western and Eastern Ghat ranges converge into the Nilgiri hill complex. It is confined roughly within 11.5 degree north and 18.5 degree north latitude and 74 degree east longitude. The state is bounded by Maharashtra and Goa states in the north and northwest; by the Arabian Sea in the west; by Kerala and Tamilnadu states in the south and by the state of Andhra Pradesh in the east. The state extends to about 750 kms. from north to south and about 400 kms. from east to west, and covers an area of about 1,91,791 sq. kms. Karnataka's total land area is 1,91,791 sq. kms. It accounts for 5.83% of the total area of the country (32.88 lakh sq. kms.) and ranks eighth among major states of the country in size. ¹

Karnataka is endowed with fairly rich mineral wealth distributed more or less evenly over its territory. It has one of the oldest Geological Survey Department in the country, started as far back as 1880. The state contains deposits of asbestos, bauxite, chromite dolomite, gold, iron ore, kaolin, limestone, mangesite, manganese, ochre, quartz and silica sand. Karnataka is the sole producer of felsite and leading producer of gold (84%) moulding sand (63%) and fuchsite quartzite (57%)
2.2 University Education

In respect of opening new universities in the country, the years after 1960 saw a remarkable growth in the number of universities. The 1960s and 1970s are the two decades notable for a phenomenal increase in the growth of universities in the country.

Karnataka being away from university centers like Chennai and Mumbai, could not get the advantage of modern university education in the early days of the establishment of these universities (1857). Even important cities like Bangalore, Belgaum, Mysore and Dharwad had to wait for decades to get a university institution.

In 1916, the most notable event of the period happened, and that was the establishment of Mysore University. The princely state came under the jurisdiction of Madras University. The Maharaja of Mysore had no powers to take a final decision in educational matters, especially in the matter of starting a University in Mysore State by the Madras Government. The Mysore Government was able to start the University in spite of all these insurmountable difficulties only on account of the vision, untiring efforts and the tremendous prestige of Dewan Sir. M. Visveswaraya. The University was the sixth university to be established in the entire sub-continent and the first to be established in a princely state. ²
The Mysore University (1916) was the first University to be started in Karnataka. This was followed by the Karnataka University (1949), the Bangalore University (1964), the Mangalore University (1980), the Gulbarga University (1980), and the Kuvempu University (1987). The two Universities of Agricultural Sciences – one at Bangalore (1965) and the other at Dharwad (1986), cater to the needs of students aspiring for specialization in different branches of agriculture. Recently in 1991, Kannada University at Hampi has also been started to promote the study of the Kannada language, art and culture. In Bangalore, there are other centers of higher learning, like Rajiv Gandhi Health University, Indian Institute of Science (1911), Indian Institute of Management (1972), the National Law School of India University (1987) and National Institute of Mental Health Sciences (1972).

Bangalore, Mysore and Karnataka Universities have been awarded 5 star status by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), an autonomous body of the University Grants Commission.

### 2.3 University Libraries

A University is rightly described as a community center where scholars and teachers are the head, students are the body and library its heart. If the community is to perform its functions properly and efficiently
then its heart must be strong and efficient in its functioning. Thomas Carlyle was not exaggerating when he described a “true University as a Library of Books”. Sir Charles Robertson, a former distinguished Vice-Chancellor of one of the modern universities in England expressed the same ideas in another way, when he said, “if he was a dictator, he would reduce the time devoted to lectures to a third of that usually occupied by them, and insist on the students spending three hours every day in the Library”.

Sadler’s Cullcutta University Commission 1917-19 also upheld the importance of a library in a modern university:

“It is, therefore, not only right and proper but it is indispensable for the right conduct of its ordinary teaching work that the University should provide reasonable facilities for independent work and should expect its teachers to take advantage of them. It is right and proper that the University should provide great libraries and great laboratories of research with great scholar to direct them”.

The Commission further added, “The University Librarian ought to be a functionary of great importance, ranking with university professors and having a place in the supreme academic body of the University.
In India, the importance of library in University education has been often emphasized by educationists, librarians, scholars, education commissions and committees. To quote from the Report of the Radhakrishnan Commission on University Education:

"The Library is the Heart of all the University's work, directly so, as regards it research work, and indirectly as regards its educational work which derives its life from research work".  

Scientific research needs the library as well as its laboratories, while for humanistic research the library is library and laboratory both in one. Training in higher branches of learning and research is mainly a question of learning how to use the tools, and if the library tools are not there, how can the student learn to use them?

President Truman's Commission on Higher Education says, "The Library is second only to the instructional staff in its importance for high quality instruction and research".  

Both for humanistic and scientific studies a first class library is essential in a University.

Similarly, the Kothari Commission on education, in its Report submitted in 1966, further emphasized the role of libraries in higher education. To quote:
“No University, college or department should be set up without taking into account its library needs in terms of staff, books, journals, space etc. Nothing could be more damaging to growing department than to neglect its library or to give it a low priority. On the contrary, the library should be an important centre of attraction on the college or university campus”

The world is passing through a very past technological era, with a wide range of innovations revolutionizing the entire gamut of human activities. We in India need to avail of this technology explosion for raising the productivity and efficiency of the various sectors of our economy, and generally for improving the quality of people’s lives. Human resource development, undoubtedly, constitutes the base for building a prosperous and progressive nation, and putting in place suitable infrastructural facilities is a pre-requisite for realizing this goal. In the field of education, such facilities include libraries as a basic and essential component. Our learned President, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, has rightly stated that “a Library is more important than a University because a library can function without a University whereas a University cannot do without a Library”.

Now a days, higher education depends on acquiring the know-how for using a modern library to the best advantage. Highlighting the cardinal role of a library, the different Commissions on Higher Education and Universities have called it by impressive terms, such as ‘the heart of the
university', 'fulcrum of university education', 'the workshop of the scholars' and 'the laboratory of the learned'. Carlyle's description, personifying a collection of books as the true university, is, indeed, very appropriate.

Higher education requires the assimilation of a vast amount of knowledge and its further development. Classroom teaching can only serve a small part of the requirement since it can only give the students an outline of what they need to know. The students need the availability of a large volume of material to form their own judgment. Faculties need material to pursue teaching and research. Higher education requires keeping up to date in one's own field and research in new ways of presentation of material. Libraries are then indispensable to higher learning.

Libraries are even more indispensable in advance countries where individuals are able to afford a lot more of purchase of books and journals. The world today is characterized as the information age. There is an explosion of available material, and even in the richer societies, having one's own material is becoming more difficult. The importance of libraries has correspondingly grown everywhere and more so in the third world.

In the context of globalization, the importance of higher education will rise. To face international competition, our work force will have to compete
with the best. The challenge of new technologies cannot be met without more of higher education. This has both quantitative and qualitative dimensions.

Higher education is, thus, dependent for its success on the extensive and intensive use of literature. University library as an equal partner in higher education undertakes the responsibility of locating, procuring and supplying the right information to the teachers, scholars and students at the right time. It also organizes and gives access to information pointedly, exhaustively and expeditiously, and makes the selection and control as easily acceptable and as quick as possible.

**Functions**

The prime function of a University Library is to provide facilities for study and research for members of its own institution. According to Hamlin, there are three functions of University Library. They are conservation of knowledge, extension of knowledge and ideas, teaching, research, publication, extension service and interpretation. It may be noted that to teaching and research he adds publications and extension services.

Dr. S.R.Ranganathan calls for five stages in the university functions. They are preparatory study, parallel study, follow-up study and
library service. Thus a university has different functions for teachers, students and researchers.

Universities are an integral part of the society. Therefore, these have a social obligation to solve social, economical and political problems. Universities also provide extension lectures, correspondence courses, radio links, public lectures, T.V. programmes, adult education programmes etc. Thus universities contribute towards education of individuals and society in general.

A University Library is a part of university set-up. Therefore, it exists to serve the objectives of its parent organization. In other words, a University Library should aim at the advancement of the function of its university. It should reflect the character of the university.

**User Services**

The nature and efficiency of services provided vary from library to library. The intensive services made available to by some of the special libraries cannot be provided by University Libraries over a whole range of interests without great increase in the number of professionals. However, with the advent of computer, University Libraries are in a position to
provide a variety of services over a wide range of areas, which was not possible previously.

The services to be provided by University Library are given below:

a. Lending service;

b. Library orientation and bibliographic instruction;

c. Provision of general and specific information;

d. Assistance in the locating of documents or use of library catalogue or understanding of reference books etc.;

e. Literature search;

f. Reader’s advisory services; selective Dissemination of Information (SDI);

g. Compilation of bibliographies, preparation of indexing and abstracting services;

h. List of additions;

i. Reservation of documents;

j. Inter-library loan;

k. Display of new additions to the library;
1. Reprographic services;

m. Translation services.

It is being said that University Libraries are facing a situation of crisis owing to a number of factors such as explosion of literature, price rise, increase in the number of users, etc. This calls for efficient management of sources. The present situation provides a tremendous scope of innovation and experimentation. The University Libraries are hopefully expected to respond meaningfully to changing needs.

2.4 Profiles of University Libraries in Karnataka

2.4.1 Bangalore University Library, Bangalore

The Bangalore University Library came into existence an 1966 with about 35,000 books and several bound volumes of periodicals of the Central College Library affiliated to Mysore University, Mysore.

Today, the Bangalore University Library is housed in a magnificent Star Moduled functional building which includes separate wings for reference section, stack rooms and reading halls, periodical sections, computer centre and administrative divisions. The collection of books has
now crossed 3,50,000, and continues to grow at the rate exceeding 5,000 titles annually. The Library also subscribes to more than 450 periodicals covering more than 45 disciplines. About 50,000 bound volumes of back issues of all important journals are organised in subject wise arrangement.

2.4.2 Karnatak University Library, Dharwad

Prof. S.S.Basavnal Library has a good number of books, bound volumes of periodicals, theses, dissertations, project reports, and the library has been subscribing to a large number of national and international journals. The organization and administration of the Library are patterned on the motto: Books are for use, every reader must find his or her book. To build the Learning Resource Centre of the knowledge society in tune with the vision of university, to infuse the reading culture, by inspiring the younger generation, to inculcate the best of the best awareness of the information and knowledge, its access, delivery and use, to be the active partner in the progress of the quality education, research, consultancy and National development, the Library provides the following valuable services: Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) through electronic mail for the faculty and researchers, Bibliographical Information Service, E-mail and

2.4.3 Karnataka State Open University Library, Mysore (K.S.O.U.)

The KSOU Library is open to all the bonafide students of the University. It has a collection of over 90,000 books. In addition to that, the Library has also been providing the following services, viz.,

- Internet Browsing Services;
- Reference and Referral Services;
- Old question papers referring services;
- Current awareness Services.

2.4.4 Mysore University Library, Mysore

The Mysore University Library was established in the year 1918. The Library is the largest and also oldest among the University Libraries in the State of Karnataka. It has a history of over 78 years.

The library was started with 2,311 volumes. It has today a resource collection of nearly 7.5 lakh documents in its system and membership of
5600 users, which include 600 Faculty members, 600 Researchers, 3,500 PG Students, 500 Office Staff, and 400 Graduates of Mysore City.

The Information Technology Division comprises the following services and facilities:

CD-ROM Search Services, E-Mail Facility (Network of ERNET/INTERNET System), Mysore City Libraries Consortium for resource sharing and Co-operative compilations and training, INTERNET Workstation: Established for the first time amongst universities in Karnataka with 64 Kbps based circuit with the facility of 16 hrs a day and 365 days in a year, Uses LIBSYS Software for Library operations and CDS/ISIS for documentation products.

The Services and Facilities being offered by the traditional wing of the Library are:

Cubicles for researchers, Display and Exhibitions, Inter-Library Lending, Referral Services, Bibliography of archival materials and Reprography service

Special Collections

The Library has a rich collection of books relating to "History of Mysore" and administrative reports on the princely State of Mysore,
including works on Indian Painting, art and architecture. The Oriental Research Institute (ORI), one of the branches in the system has a collection of Sanskrit, Kannada and Telugu manuscripts. The entire collection constitutes 84000 works in 29000 volumes. 'Mysore Orientalist', the annual publication, gives the details of the collection and research activities undertaken by the University.

2.4.5 Gulbarga University Library, Gulbarga

The Gulbarga University Library, a knowledge Center for accessibility developed on modern lines as a prominent Learning Resource Center on sprawling Campus, is ideally situated, and is easily accessible by all the departments and students housing.

To keep pace with time and expectations of users, the library has built a strong State-of-the-Art computer facilities with 140 workstations, Main frame servers and CD NAS Server provide excellent access to CD/DVD Databases, Internet, e-learning packages, full text e-resources and databases.

The Library, one of the active members of INFLIBNET Center, Ahmedabad (An Inter University Centre, UGC, New Delhi), has been and contributing
the indigenous theses of the university in digital format to Vidyanidhi Project (Funded by Ford Foundation), University of Mysore, Mysore. The university has been provided with ERNET connectivity under UGC INFONET program for accessing about 4,500 e-journals and databases.

2.4.6 Kuvempu University Library, Shimoga

The University Library came into existence with the establishment of the Kuvempu University on June 29, 1987. Till then it was functioning as a Post-Graduate Centre Library under the control of the University of Mysore, and the library resources were housed in a temporary building at the B.R.Project. In the year 1988, the library was shifted to the academic building on Jnana Sahyadri campus. Finally the University library was shifted to its own newly constructed modular independent building in the year 2003. The library is actively participating and contributing for the success of UGC's INFLIBNET and INFONET activities.

At the time of the establishment of the University in 1987, the library had a collection 15161 books. The collection of the library has grown up considerably within a span of nineteen years covering literature of various aspects of science, social science and humanities. At present, the library
has a collection of 70,000 books, 4,124 back volumes of periodicals, 470 theses.

2.4.7 Mangalore University Library, Mangalore

Mangalore University Library is housed in a picturesque building with all modern facilities. The collections and services are fairly widespread, and meet the needs of almost all users visiting the library. The total Collections are 1,74,815 documents in number. It includes 1,21,568 books and the remaining are documents including bound-volumes, dissertations, theses, reports and Microforms. The important Library services include accessing information through on-line, CD-Rom facility, selective dissemination of information through Press Clippings, in addition to Inter-library Loan, lending, photo copying, readers' guidance, teleconferencing, reference and Internet, UGC- Infonet services. Covering 4300 full text journals of our interest and also access to around 33,000 core journals content pages with abstract wherever available from inside web database of BLLD, U K.

2.4.8 National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences Library, Bangalore

Library and Information Center was started at the erstwhile AIIMH (All India Institute of Mental Health) in the year 1954, with an initial collection of 3775 volumes and subscription to 85 journals. In the year
1974, it became National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences
(NIMHANS). Now the collection at the library has developed in
c consonance with development of the institute itself both in its scope and
size.

The Library became National Neuroscience Information Center
(NNIC) in the year 1994, with the financial support (Rs.85.00 lakhs)
shared by Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of
Biotechnology (DBT), National Informatics Centre (NIC), Indian Council of
Medical Research (ICMR) and National Institute of Mental Health and
Neurosciences (NIMHANS). The project was implemented in the year
1993.

NIC-NIMHANS National Informatics Center (NIC), established its
National Informatics Center NET (NICNET) node, with its satellite-based
national network, with 64Kbps RF link providing internet and E-mail
Services. NIC also has software and hardware input to this collaborative
center located at the National Neuroscience Information Center of
NIMHANS.

2.4.9 Indian Institute of Science Library, Bangalore:
The Library of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc.) Bangalore, was established in 1911, and it is one of the first three departments started in the Institute. It is regarded as one of the best scientific and technical libraries in India. Apart from the main library, it has departmental libraries also. The library moved in to the present premises in January 1965, built out of grants provided by University Grants Commission (UGC), in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Institute in 1959. In 1995, the library was renamed "JRD Tata Memorial Library". The National Board for Higher Mathematics (NBHM) has recognized this library as Regional Center for Mathematics for the south region, and continued to award a special grant towards subscription of Journals in Mathematics. It is no exaggeration to state that the IISc library is the largest and finest of its kind in this part of the world.

The collection of the library which includes books, journals, reports, standards and patents is regarded as one of the richest collections in the country, in the field of science and technology. This rich and valuable collection built over nine decades has some of the rare reference materials and several important journals. This vast reservoir of knowledge, on a conservative estimate, is worth over Rs. 400 crores. The annual budget of the library is over Rs. 12.00 crores of which subscription towards periodicals alone is about 11.00 crores. The library currently receives over
1500 periodical titles of which 1210 are subscribed while the remaining titles are received as gratis and on an exchange basis. In addition, over 10,000 Journals are accessible online due to INDEST subscription. The total holdings of the library exceeds 4,11,676 documents.

The library offers services such as Reference Services, Referral Service, User Guidance Service, Circulation Service, including Inter Library Loan and Document Delivery Service, Weekly display of recent additions of periodicals and books, including E-mail distribution of these lists to users on our mailing list, Bibliographic Service, Xerox Service, etc. Current awareness service is provided, and it comprises regular display of Xerox copies of articles published by the Institute faculty and students, in various periodicals that are being received in the library. Under the Corporate Membership Facility (CMF), reference facility alone has been extended to Corporate Organizations/Industries involved in R&D activities. Currently about 200 organizations/industries are availing of this facility.

The library has been using the LIBSYS an Integrated Library Management software package with all the modules for the library housekeeping operations. The library Online Catalogue database has more than 1.50 lakh records of books (Bibliographic Information) and information about 1,72,000 back volumes of periodicals. By using LIBSYS OPAC, the users can search the Library Online Catalogue by Author, Title, Subject,
and keywords. Also, the users can know the latest additions of periodicals and books and the status of a document (whether on shelf or on issue). Reservation of a book can be done Online.

The JRD Tata Memorial Library Annex and Digital Library located opposite NCSI was inaugurated on 12th March 1998 by Mr. Ratan Tata. Some of the library collections like technical reports, standards, patents and theses are located in this building.

2.4.10 University of Agricultural Science Library, Bangalore

The University Library came into existence during the year 1966-67. From its initial collection of 26,000 volumes of books and bound periodicals, it has now grown to 1,69,835 volumes. The University Library moved into its own functional building at GKV in the year 1976.

The University Library is kept open for 12 hours on working days and for limited hours on Saturday and Sundays. Students and the staff of the University can become the members of the Library, whereas bonafide outsiders who come with the introductory letters from their institutions/ID card provided by our University Library are permitted for consultation only.
The Library has created a database of Books, Journals, Theses, Reports and Reference sources and it is made available through ‘OPAC’. The library has also created databases of current periodicals, CD’s, on-line Journals subscribed and digitized database of Theses available in the Library.

The Internet Services has been provided at the GKVK library for the Staff and P.G. Students. Eleven Electronics Journals are also subscribed to by the University Library. These e-journals can also be accessed at the GKVK Library, Hebbal campus Library and all the colleges and Departments at the GKVK and Hebbal campuses.

University Library has subscribed to several Online Journals, Offline Databases, e-books, e-Journals for the year 2008. In addition to this, ICAR, under NAIP Programme, is providing access to 2100 full text journals related to the field of Agriculture and allied subjects. The library has created the database of Books, Journals, Theses, Reports and other sources of Information available in the Library. Users can access the OPAC through the Internet. In order to provide up to date and latest Scientific information to the users, the Library is getting 394 Periodicals (print), including 56 Foreign periodicals. The Library has subscribed to Springer Agriculture package of E-Journals available ‘on-line’ for the benefit of its users. Only the members of the Library can access these journals through LAN.
2.4.11 University of Agricultural Sciences Library, Dharwad

University Library came into existence, with the establishment of UAS, Dharwad on 01.10.1986. The Library consists of about one lakh documents, which includes Books, Theses, Reports, Pamphlets and Back Volumes of Periodicals. The Library receives 230 Indian, 75 International journals, and is subscribing to 117 Online Journals (Springer). The Library has about 9000 theses.

The Library also provides Book Bank Books, Special Book Bank for SC/ST students; it has JRF Collection where JRF students can borrow the books under the scheme for one semester. Also it provides Computer Based Library Services like Internet access, CD ROM search of various agencies and is well connected with LAN and WAN within the University.

2.4.12 National Law School Library, Bangalore

The Law School Library is an integral part of academic endeavour in the Law School, and is being constantly enriched by the acquisition of latest books and journals keeping in pace with changing times, in order to further the advancement of the University's academic activities.
Keeping in view the aims and objectives of the Law School, the library has been planned, and is being developed by a team of qualified professional library staff and guided by the Library Council. It has a collection of over 40,000 volumes, covering a wide range of general and special subjects consisting of text books, reference books, back volumes of journals and reports, etc., apart from legal periodicals.

The library has adopted an open access system so as to facilitate readers to have easy access to the library resources. The library has also established links with other important libraries in and around Bangalore in order to provide inter-library access for the benefit of students and teachers of NLSIU. To assist the students and research scholars in locating literature as well as information in their areas of research, general reference, current awareness and computerized catalogue have been introduced. An orientation programme for new students is also organized to help them acquaint themselves with the library system and services for maximum utilization of the available resources.

The library has introduced computerized facilities for both housekeeping as well as information retrieval.

Since the library has broad band width leased line connection to the internet, it is possible to have easy access to information directly from all
available computerized data bases all over the world, not only in the field of law but also in other disciplines. Keeping in mind the vision to create an E-Law School, the University subscribes to many international online databases.

The library has been shifted to the new building, and the same was inaugurated by Justice R. C. Lahoti, the then Chief Justice of India on 27th August 2005. This ambitious dream of the law school from the inception has come true. The building has all the modern state-of-the-art gadgets with wi-fi internet connection and highly modernized Audio-Visual equipments with teleconferencing facility. Special arrangements have also been made for the physically handicapped persons to access the library. This is a multi (three) storeyed Building with ample space of 30,000 sq ft. built-up area for storage of books and reading purposes.

Services Offered by the library are:

1. Lending of Books;
2. Reference;
3. Referral;
4. Articles Index Service ;
5. News Paper Clipping Service;
6. Inter-Library Loan;
7. CD-Rom databases search;

8. Internet Search Etc.

The Library has a Special Collection of Subrata Roy Choudhury, Collection, Guna Pai Vasanth Pai Foundation, Wadhwa and Co. Collection, Shri Vaidyanathan’s Collection.

The above mentioned centers’ collections are all received as gratis to our library by the respective Trusts / Foundations.
References