CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The investigator searched the available literature for the purpose of the present study and visited many libraries in Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana and Delhi to ascertain the published material for the present study. The investigator has not come across much valuable literature related to library services to prisoners in India, in the form of books, periodical articles, dissertations etc. However, some reports and proceedings of various committees had been published which could throw some light on a part of the present study of library services to prisoners in India.

However, it was observed that a lot of research has been done on this subject i.e. "Library Services to Prisoners" in other developed countries. So an effort has been made to include the
papers published in foreign periodicals which give significant information on the subject.

A report of the All India Jails Committee. 1919-20 (1920)\(^1\) recommended prisoners education, reading time to be given to the prisoners and establishment of library and reading room in prisons.

It recommended that jails should have regular supply of books suitable for issue to those prisoners who can read. Kellogg (1934)\(^2\) stressed upon the co-operation between the public libraries and libraries of the correctional institutions. The trend to organize all libraries into a system and network was the main factor, which promoted co-operation between the public libraries and the correctional institutions, according to her. Theodora Kellogg described how the Seymour Library (Auburn, New York.) supplied duplicate copies of fiction titles to the Library of Auburn Prison.

Clemmer (1940)\(^3\) while dealing with the social aspects of the prisoners have emphasized on the need of prison library and its impact on the prisoners. This is the best suitable way in which a prisoner can spend his leisure hours. Richard F. Watson (1951)\(^4\)

dealt with the beginning of provision of library services to the prisoners in England and other European countries. He described the growth of prison libraries in modern Europe and other countries. He also emphasized that prison librarian must be a realist. He would never have enough books, so he must be selective in his stock and how the local authorities can participate in the prison library programmes. Martin (1954) described the history of American prison system from the beginning and how the reformatory idea took over in the American prisons.

The prison libraries were further emphasized in "Encyclopaedia of Librarianship", edited by Thomas Landau (1957) its origin, growth and the prison act by which the library services can be provided in the prisons are described, how the prison library functions and from where it gets its finances are described.

All India Jail Manual Committee (1960) stressed upon the prison library to provide reading opportunities to all the prisoners. Suitable provision is to be made in the annual budget for purchase of books and periodicals. There should be close cooperation

between the library and other educational activities of the prison. Prisoners should be allowed to keep the books but these books would have to be approved by the prison authorities. Smith (1962)\(^8\) asserted that educational work in the prisons is useless without a comprehensive library from which the inmates can be supplied books. It is seen that most of the prisoners make good use of their time in prisons by using prison libraries. They learn different languages, traits, improve their mental attitude and vocabulary also.

Punjab Government (1963)\(^9\) in its 'Manual for the Superintendence and Management of Jails in the Punjab' expressed that the libraries will be maintained in all Jails for the use of prisoners. Every educated prisoner who is well behaved will be allowed to read books on Sundays and during the hours of rest on other days. P.A.G. Reitz, (1970)\(^{10}\) focussed on the availability of suitable libraries for the prisoners. He also suggested that in addition to the prison libraries, the facility of public and other libraries must also be incorporated. Demand for any book, which is

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not available in the library, should be met by public libraries of that region.

O. James Werner (1970)\textsuperscript{11} surveyed that the prisoners not only need legal information relevant to their imprisonment but also to solve their family, personal and financial problems. The writer sent questionnaires to law schools, county libraries and state law libraries, which indicated that state law school libraries are willing to lend law books or photocopies of legal material to the inmates. Vidya Bhushan. (1970)\textsuperscript{12} stressed upon the importance of libraries in penal institution as a useful agency not only of wholesome recreation but also of direct and indirect education. To fulfill the function of educational as well as recreational agency, the prison library must have adequate funds, proper facilities for reading, good selection of books, skilled supervision and the methods to stimulate and guide the reader's interests.

Rittenhouse (1971)\textsuperscript{13} identified various factors which led to the upgrading of library services in Erie County Penitentiary (Pennsylvania. U.S.A.) These factors were mainly progrmwmes
relating to the rehabilitation of prisoners and the presence of highly motivated correctional staff, who were dedicated to strengthening the education programme for prisoners. All this led to the successful library service to the prisoners.

Maclead (1972)\textsuperscript{14} as a head of task force on service to the prison libraries found that if the librarians are to play a significant part in prison law libraries, then the library schools must organize training for specialists and for those whose work includes prison law librarianship and a need was felt to set up national and state prison library committees with a section devoted to law libraries. Poe (1973)\textsuperscript{15} observed that a Special Committee of American Association of Law Libraries deal with the law library services to the prisoners. Many institutions formed resident organisation to provide legal assistance to the prisoners. The extent of the law library service to individual prisoner varies between libraries. Reference services are also available in the law libraries serving prisoners. Andrews (1973)\textsuperscript{16}, an inmate of Rahway State Prison Library, New Jersey, focussed on factors involved in planning the

library collection. J. Rhodes (1973)\textsuperscript{17} discussed the changing role of prison as one of the most eventual part of resocializing the inmates. The Canadian Solicitor General instituted a major breakthrough in the prison academic services by authorizing increased use of community's educational resources. The prison library services progressed and the inmates became active and enthusiastic participants in the system.

Visitation (1974)\textsuperscript{18} commented on the current state of the prison libraries in New York, their funding and staffing. Also gave examples of different types of services offered to the prisoners which can be adopted by other libraries. Rubin (1974)\textsuperscript{19} felt that the public library with its multifaceted approach to the a community would be a great asset to a correctional institution, yet very few of the existing creative programmes offered to the prisoners have been initiated by the library.

Wagner (1974)\textsuperscript{20} focussed on the contribution of Association of American Publisher (AAP). The AAP organised the books for prison projects in order to generate public and legislative action to

\textsuperscript{19} Rubin, Rhea Joyce. Service to the Ex advantaged. Catholic Library World, 45(9), April, 1974, pp 438-9.
improve library services in prisons. About 180 publishers provided 10 copies each of 1700 titles, selected by Prison Committee for New York prisons. American Library Association (1974) guidelines for library service programmes to jails contained separate sections on the following aspects:

1) A prisoner's right to read;
2) Attitude of jail administrators;
3) Prisoners & local committee towards jail library service;
4) Factors to be considered before initiating a service;
5) Selection of library material;
6) Importance of multi media approach; and
7) Provision of legal material.

Jeffries (1975) concentrated on three main aspects of providing library service at correctional centres. These aspects were firstly the people who are to be served, secondly, their reading requirements and thirdly the problems that may arise in setting up a library. Kirby (1975) focussed on the problems faced by the prison librarian while running a prison library and offered practical measures which can be taken up by prison librarians to improve

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the general level of prison library service. Enge (1975)\textsuperscript{24} described the two prison libraries of Hall and Haga in Sweden. The prisoners have right to an efficient library service as a source of knowledge, information and entertainment. The libraries which are just as well equipped as any public library, with books, newspapers, periodicals, tapes, discs and slides in the prison.

Zabel (1976)\textsuperscript{25} presented an overview of the history of libraries in American prisons. It is mainly a compilation of events arranged first by chronology and then by state, presenting a development of prison library service in America. Turbert (1976)\textsuperscript{26} described the Library of Prison Staff College, England, which serves tutor and students of the college and all types of staff at prisons in England, Wales and in certain circumstances Scotland also. The range of prisons and their staff is diverse and library has to cater for a wide spectrum of subjects. He commented on library collection, staffing, book selection and inter library co-operation.

The year 1977 is significant for the review of literature because during this years 'Library Trends' and 'Wilson Library Bulletin' devoted the journals to The Library Services to the


Bulletin* devoted the journals to 'The Library Services to the Prisoners'. They published the special edition in the year on the Prison libraries. Pool (1977) surveyed various factors which influenced the growing relationship and co-operation between public libraries and correctional facilities. Wilkins (1977) focused on the trends that have influenced the development of correctional library programs. Ledonne (1977) surveyed the library and information problems faced by correctional institutions and provided solutions. Dalton (1977) discussed the status of library services, aims and purposes of these services in different countries. Library services provided by state, public and institutional libraries and also by international organizations and agencies in different countries. Burt (1977) stressed on the fulfillment of the informational needs of the inmates. The residents of correctional facilities be provided with the best possible services. Werner (1977) laid emphasis on providing an attorney as well as basic

law library backed up by the State Library to the prisoners as the
doctor and medical facilities are provided to the prisoners.

Rubin (1977)\textsuperscript{33}, as a guest editor of Wilson Library Bulletin's
special feature comprising seven contributions each devoted to the
library services to the prisoners, offering views of librarian ship, the
law, correction and prisoners which revealed the slow development
of the profession's interest in a movement which is now a bonofide
concern of librarianship. Gruensfelder (1977)\textsuperscript{34} discussed the
problems faced by the prison libraries like scarce funds, limited
accommodation and difficulties due to reluctance of librarians to
work in correctional centres. Eisenberg (1977)\textsuperscript{35} outlined the
development which led to the requirements by law that prisoners
should have access to the adequate law material. Morrison (1977)\textsuperscript{36}
focussed that library services should also include advice on the use
of law material, photostat and notary services. Souza (1977)\textsuperscript{37}
oberved that lack of qualified staff and administrative support has
retarded the development of prison library service in the state of

\begin{itemize}
\item Rubin, Rhea J. Breaking in Library Service to Prisoners Wilson Library Bulletin, 51 (6), Feb.,
1977, pp. 496-533.
\item Gruensfelder, Rober C. Law Enforcers Lend a Hand., Wilson Library Bulletin, 51 (6), Feb.,
\item Eisenberg, Howard B. Long Arm of the Library: Prison Law Collections. Wilson Library
\item Souza, Sandra J. Providing for Prisoners in Massachusetts. Wilson Library Bulletin, 51(6), Feb.,
\end{itemize}
Massachusetts. House (1977)\textsuperscript{38} presented an account of an experiment conducted in a number of correctional centres of Texas, Department of Corrections to determine whether inmates' attitudes can be changed by participation in book discussion programmes. Result showed that books and libraries can perform therapeutic as well as informational, recreational and educational functions in the prison.

Srivastava (1977)\textsuperscript{39} felt that need of library is great in Indian prisons because there are no fruitful avenues for the self expression of the inmates and the feeling of imprisonment is so demoralizing that except calm and quite reading, there is hardly anything better which can sustain or augment the moral scruples of the inmates. Barclay (1978)\textsuperscript{40} described how the Bistor (Virginia) Public Library started serving the 40-50 prisoners in the city's jail in 1974 at Sheriff's request and became very popular with the prisoners. At first the librarian distributed public library books among the prisoners but gradually a separate prison collection was built up at the prison. This shows that almost any library can extend its service to prisoners with a minimum of effort and excuse.

\begin{itemize}
\item[39.] Srivastava, S.P. Indian Prison Community. Lucknow: Pustak kendra, 1977. \enquote{pp.101-14.}
\end{itemize}
Suvak (1978)\textsuperscript{41} recounted the efforts of a librarian who moved straight from library school to a prison library, in attempt to assess the prisoners needs of the library through his reading of what prisoners themselves had written behind the bars.

Datir, (1978)\textsuperscript{42} emphasized on the importance of libraries in penal institutions. A book has a strong influence on the prisoner as it accompanies the prisoner. According to him, there is no reason why the standard library technique should not be employed in the prison library. "For the librarian, the main problem is to succeed in an advocacy programme in an atmosphere of suspicion, suppressed violence and fear, for maximum recognition of juvenile rights programmes of preventive steps", as stated by Madden (1979)\textsuperscript{43} while reviewing the reading rights of the young adults with in the institution. He also emphasized on methods of improving library awareness among prisoners. The success of Jackson Community College Library's prison extention programme, described by

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{43} Madden, Susan B. Rights of Young Adults in Correctional Institution. Top of the news, 35. (3), spring, 1979, pp. 247-55.
\end{itemize}
Morrow (1980)\(^{44}\) showed that a large number of prisoners were interested to avail the library services within the premises of prison. Pearson (1981)\(^{45}\) gave a complete picture regarding the development of reading material and library provisions for United Kingdom prisoners over the last 200 years. The prison libraries were run by the Home office, Prison Department and were treated as a component of general education provision.

A guide to planning and conducting workshops, conferences, programmes and staff development sessions on prison library service for prison staff, library staff and community and social workers was presented by Schexnadyre and Robbins (1981).\(^{46}\) Beyeley, Greenfield and Nogueira (1981)\(^{47}\) described a step by step guide for prison library staff and how to initiate or improve the local Prison Library service. 5th Annual Conference of Study School of Prison Library, Subject Group of the Library Association, U.K. held at Brussels University in 1983, which was attended by 165 prison library officers, education officers and librarians, emphasized on


need of the prison library service. Bottrilli (1983)\textsuperscript{48} reported a one day course on "Prison Libraries: Finance and Services, held in London on 8\textsuperscript{th} November, 1983. During the course, Michael Dolon gave a survey of the historical development of the prison library service in U.K. Arthur Pearson defined the objectives of the prison library services. David Parket spoke on the problems and practicalities of operating a library service to prisoners.

Rubin (1983)\textsuperscript{49} observed that most of the prison libraries are run by non professional librarians, by security personnel or prisoners, so what the librarians community can do about the lack of good professional librarians in the correctional institution. Hendry (1984)\textsuperscript{50} discussed the crucial central role of the prison libraries in the society as it is a special kind of library that reflects the need of people it serves. Hang (1984)\textsuperscript{51} presented the organization of prison libraries in Norway since 1980. Four Norwegian prisons established library services in prisons in cooperation with Norwegian Directors for Public and School Libraries, the prison administration, and the local public library. The value of


professional appraisal of prison library services has been discussed by Pearson (1984)52. This included a list of 15 appraisals covering a total of 47 U.K. establishments carried out between 1975-83. Flores (1984)53 considered that prison inmate's actual prospect for gaining meaningful access to the courts is through the use of prison law libraries rather than legal assistance programmes. He also discussed the past and future role of law libraries in providing services to prisoners.

A new working group on prison library services was set up at IFLA's Chicago Conference during the year 1985. The working group held its first open session at IFLA's Tokoy conference where Stephen Mallinger presented a paper entitled, "The information needs of inmates and the prison library." He outlined five basic information needs of prisons and how these can be fulfilled. He also assessed the language problem and provision of legal material to prisoners under trial. Smitton (1985)54 reported a one day seminar for Chief Librarians organised on Nov 11, 1984 by the Library Association in close connection with the Home Office, Prison

Department (U.K.). Pool (1985)\textsuperscript{55} chronicled the trends in U.S. prison libraries during 1970's. It also included the development of national standards for prison libraries. Repenning (1987)\textsuperscript{56} described the process of planning adopted while designing a prison library service.

During the IFLA conference, in 1987 Dalton (1988)\textsuperscript{57} described that many types of prison library services exist worldwide and gave a representative overview in several responding countries. Koons (1988)\textsuperscript{58} found that in Ohio State, every prison has a library in its premises and Department of Rehabilitation and Correction had given library service a priority in the success of its correctional programmes. United Nations (1988)\textsuperscript{59} has also prescribed certain standards for the treatment of prisoners. Principle 28 of the 'Body of Principles for the protection of all persons under any form of Detention or Imprisonment' stated that a detained or imprisoned person shall have the right to obtain with

\begin{itemize}
\item Pool, Jane. Library Services to Correctional Facilities Catholic Library World, 56 (9), April 1985, pp. 387-389.
\end{itemize}
in the limits of available resources if from public sources, reasonable quantities of educational, cultural and informational material subject to reasonable conditions to ensure security and good order in the place of detention or imprisonment.'

Wilson Library Bulletin, Vol. 64 (2), Oct. 1989 devoted a special section to prison libraries edited by Vogel (1989) published various articles, reviewing the problems faced by prison libraries, traced the growth of prison libraries, the value of prison library for moral improvement and rehabilitation. Sullivan (1989) explored the history of the development of libraries vis-à-vis the American Penitentiary ideology. Suvak (1989) provided an insight into the controversies raised by correctional library philosophy, policy and function while portraying the difficulties faced by prison libraries. Suvak (1989) in another article explored whether the prison library programmes represent the aim of libraries or should they be used as penological tools by prison administrators in an effort to counteract criminality.

Vogel (1989)\textsuperscript{64} outlined a do it yourself process for learning the language of the prison community and speaking fluent librarian ship. Souza (1989)\textsuperscript{65} explored that good prison libraries are run by highly motivated professionals who not only get to see the prisoners every day but also get the opportunity to affect their lives in some way. The public library model which has been popularly applied to prison libraries in general has been criticized by Coyle (1989)\textsuperscript{66}. Diaz (1989)\textsuperscript{67} focussed on the progressive development of collection in prison libraries. Roy (1989)\textsuperscript{68} emphasized the importance of good libraries for prison inmates as a suitable recreation for long hours of enforced idleness and solitude. It will connect the prisoners to the outside world. At the IFLA's annual conference at Stockholm (Sweden) in August 1990, Desmond (1990)\textsuperscript{69} described the role of prison library service with particular attention to the provision in the detention centre at Wheal field, Dublin.

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Jeanne (1990) described that prison library is similar to a small public library in its functioning but with special clientele. The well stocked library at Way Land Prison, branch of Norfolk county libraries were described try Joel (1990). Anderson (1991) evaluated the response to two surveys conducted for a distance education project for prison inmates, focussing on prison library. In his paper presented in the 58th IFLA General Conference held in New Delhi (India) during 30th August-5 Sept, 1992 Kaiser summarised some of the recent recommendations made by international bodies such as United Nations, Council of Europe and IFLA regarding guidelines for setting up of library services of prisoners and sat out guidelines for collection, staff, equipment, public relation and finance. It commemorated the 150th anniversary of the establishment of first prison library in Netherlands by presenting the views of some prisoners on the Prison library service Lithgow and Hepworth (1993) described research project to


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develop and test a service of performance indicators for use in evaluating prison libraries so as to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the service.

It has been a long standing view that books in some manner might change people's attitude and that prison library functions can help to rehabilitate the criminals. This view has been reconsidered by Stevens (1993)\textsuperscript{75} who discussed the role of prison library. Blunt (1994)\textsuperscript{76} discussed the successful implementation of service level agreements of library provisions to prisoners. The author is responsible for the policy and development of Prison library in U.K. Prisons. Hopkins (1994)\textsuperscript{77} reviews prison library services provision in United kingdom prisons, also highlights. He problems faced by the authorities in providing the library services.

Stevens and Usherwood (1995)\textsuperscript{78} described that the prison library remain undeveloped because its contribution to rehabilitate in such a unique environment is not properly appreciated. Prison libraries must be better funded and develop as a proactive and integrated service.

Womboh (1995) presented a summery of the Nigerian Prisons on the use of prison libraries by inmates. Survey indicated that Prison inmates make good use of library. 'Seminar' Vol. 439, March 1996 published a special issue on Prisons and Punishment. In this issue various prison reforms were discussed. Tejbir Singh (1996) in his editorial, stressed that deviant minds should be exposed to the teachings of great men and women as a best attempt in prison reforms.

Hugo (1996) compared the library services provided to prisoners in South Africa and Netherlands. According to him all the prisons library services are linked to educational services Bratt (1996) a prisoner serving a life sentence in U.S. Jail had given an account of the value of the prison library to him in his personal development since being jailed.

Vogel (1987) claimed that prison libraries have been doubled since 1980s so as the prison population. But the condition of finance has not been improved much.

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81. Hugo, N. Contribution Towards Rehabilitation and Improving the Quality of Inmates Lives KWAZANPLIS, 2 (3), May/June 1996, pp. 3-6
Lemon (1997)\textsuperscript{84} noted that prison library can assist the prisoners with legal issues, education, computer skills, carrier information and rehabilitation. Subramaniam (1977)\textsuperscript{85} while focussing on human rights has described that prisoners have right to have a library in the prison for the use of all categories of prisoners, adequately stocked with both recreational and instructional books and prisoners shall be encouraged to make full use of it. Sullivan (1998)\textsuperscript{86} in a special issue of 'Library and Culture', devoted to the proceedings of an International Conference on the History of Reading and Libraries in U.S. and Russia, held in Vologda, Russia in June, 1996 organised by IFLA round tables on 'Library History and Research in Reading' discussed reading for self improvement and the role of prison libraries in U.S. Penal Reform. He examined prison library policies, collections and inmate reactions. Nyeng (1998)\textsuperscript{87} presented an interview with Eisebethlsen, Librarian at Koge local prison and Herstedvestes State Prison.

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{84} Lemon, M. Prison Libraries Change Lives. Information Outlook, 1. (11), Nov. 1997, pp. 36-8.
\item \textsuperscript{87} Nyeng, P. Library Days Behind Bars. Scandinavian Public Library Quarterly, 31. (1), 1998, pp. 8-11.
\end{itemize}
Demark, about her work, working conditions, relationship with inmates, freedom of access to information and freedom of expression and inmates reading habits.

Kiran Bedi (1998) brought about fundamental changes in the prison management. Bedi, while writing about the various reforms, she introduced, has also focussed on the well furnished library for the inmates. Earlier there was only one reading room for the prisoners, but soon it attained the stature of full fledged library. Publishers as well as writers decided to donate books liberally. Books covered a vast range of subjects such as science, computer, basic medicine, literature, history, religion and management. General books as well children books were also supplied. Delhi public Library started its mobile library-service to prison. All the duty wards in Tihar Jail now keep books and periodicals with other essential items. An inmate, who had a knowledge of library sciences and possessed basic cataloguing skills was put in charge of the library.

Bhatnagar (1999) stressed upon the need of legal information and help to be provided to the prisoners as well as

undertrials. Prabhjot Singh (1999)\textsuperscript{90}, while reporting about the Institute of Correctional Administration in Chandigarh, has given the views of Anuradha Gupta, Director of the Institute, Home Secretary Chandigarh. She has stressed upon the importance of education and books to the prisoners for their rehabilitation as well as for behaviour modification, mental healing and self analysis. Lohumi (2000)\textsuperscript{91} reported that jails in Himachal Pradesh will no longer be the centres for inflicting deterrent punishment on offenders, but will be transformed into reformatories to enable the inmates to reform themselves through educational development so that they can be reassimilated in the mainstream. Sandhu. (2000),\textsuperscript{92} ADGP, Prisons, Himachal Pradesh explained the various programmes for the treatment of offenders like opportunities for diversified education, modification of behaviour and inculcation of social and moral values.

A perusal of the above mentioned review of literation reveals that no systematic research on 'Library Services to the Prisoners' has been undertaken in any part of India. Hence the present proposed work is aimed at filling this gap.

\textsuperscript{90} Prabhjot Singh Where Prisoners will be Corrected. The Tribune, January 9, 1999, pp. 6.
\textsuperscript{92} Sandhu I.N.S. In : H.P. Jails to Become Reformatories. The Tribune, September, 25\textsuperscript{th} 2000, pp. 3.