CHAPTER -1
INTRODUCTION: PROBLEM AND METHODOLOGY

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In a democratic country like India, mass media plays a vital role in creating awareness in the people about the national policies and programmes, besides providing a healthy entertainment. It helps people to become active partners in the nation-building endeavour. Apart from the three public institutions in a democratic society, consisting of the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary, the press is regarded as the Fourth Estate. Amongst the mass media, the press is deemed as the most powerful and influential medium. The press has a very important place in the society especially in a democratic country because the press, as the voice of the people, embodies the freedom of speech and expression of the citizens. The press contributes its major share for the upliftment of the society in the modern age. The masses today depend greatly on the press for local, national as well as international news. In spite of the heavy impact of the radio and television on the public, newspaper still continues to serve as the basic news medium.

A newspaper is an unbound publication issued at regular intervals that seeks to inform, explain and interpret, influence and entertain the general masses. Although the newspapers lack the speed and the visual quality of radio and television news, yet they provide greater depth and variety in reporting. A newspaper, according to Librarian’s Glossary (1977) is a “publication issued periodically usually daily or weekly containing the most recent news”. According to the ALA Glossary (1983), the newspaper is “a serial issued at stated frequent intervals (usually daily, weekly or semi-weekly) containing news, opinions, advertisements and other items of current affairs often of local interest”. International Encyclopedia of Information Technology and Library Science (1942) describes it as “a publication issued at stated and frequent intervals daily, weekly or semi weekly which reports events and discuss topics of current interest”. Glossary of Library Science and Technical
Terms (1980) defines it as “a publication reporting the most recent events and discussing topics of current interest, issued periodically, usually daily”.

Newspaper serves many functions including provision of a daily chronicle of events, serving as a political organ and promoting free speech. No other information source is as comprehensive in its coverage of daily life or as wide in its scope of possible content as is the newspaper. Newspaper also serves as an important historical source, both primary and secondary, for scholars in all disciplines, librarians, teachers, students and genealogists who use the newspapers' content for relevant material to answer their research questions. The contents of newspaper are never out of date, since they are a continuing history of mankind. As a result, the libraries keep complete files of the newspapers in hard copy or microform so that, they are permanently available to their users.

Newspaper, therefore, is considered as the most popular mass media. A newspaper reader can obtain a lot of information regarding local, national and international current affairs from a single issue of a newspaper. A newspaper caters to the needs of different readers by publishing various types of news such as political, economic, social, scientific, developmental, criminal, religious, sports, etc. Infact, newspaper has four basic responsibilities towards the society, These include provision of information, offering guidance or interpretation of the news, entertainment and to serve the public. People belonging to different strata of the society, such as journalists, feature writers, administrators, academicians, research scholars as well as the common people make use of the newspapers in their personal as well as professional lives. As such, a newspaper is a medium that caters to the divergent interests of the society.

1.0.1. ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEWSPAPER

For centuries, various civilizations have used the print media to provide news and information to the masses. The earliest recorded newspaper was in the from of handwritten notices, namely, the Acta Diurna, Acta Senatus, and Acta Publica which appeared around 59 B.C. During the Julius Caesar regime, public was informed of important social and political happenings and
upcoming events through large white boards displayed at popular places like
the Baths, and the Acta kept citizens informed about government scandals,
military campaign, trials and executions. The first newspaper appeared in the
form of handwritten newsheets in Beijing (China) during the 8th Century. (5)
However, it was not until the middle of the 15th Century, when a German
inventor, John Gutenberg, developed movable metal type and improved the
quality of print, that the newspaper as a means of mass communication
became possible. Gutenberg’s machine enabled the free exchange of ideas,
spread the knowledge and themes amongst the masses.

The Germans were the pioneers of newspaper production in Europe.
In the second half of the 15th Century, a number of news-sheets appeared at
irregular intervals which were printed in Nureberg, Colongne, and Augsburg.
These were probably the earliest forerunners of newspapers as they are
known today. In the 16th and 17th centuries, newspapers proliferated in
Germany. In the beginning of the 16th century, handwritten newsheets were
distributed in Venice. In 1562, a printed news-sheet called ‘Notizie Scritte’
first appeared as a monthly publication. The first newspaper, the ‘Gazette De
France’, was published in Paris in 1631. From the beginning, the French
Press expressed strong political opinions. In addition, many persons wrote for
newspapers in France, adding an intellectual cost to the dissemination of
news. France also was the first country to produce newspapers for
readership.

Printing was introduced in England in 1476, but it was nearly a century
and a half before newspaper became a part of the general scene. There were
few random publications, such as ‘News Out of Kent’ (1561) and ‘Morris
Rebellion’ (1579). The regular newspaper in English was printed from
Amsterdam in 1620. Similarly, one sheet newspapers appeared from London
in 1621 which covered mostly foreign news, usually reprinted from
Amsterdam and Frankfurt publications. In 1632, during the reign of Charles I,
news-sheets were banned in England. They were not restored until 1641 as
part of the long Parliament efforts to limit the power of the king. One such
publication was published by John Thomas entitled ‘Diurnal Occurrences’. In
1660, newspapers were again restricted and the only newspaper entitled ‘The
Oxford Gazette’ (later called ‘London Gazette’), a twice-weekly government organ was first printed in 1666. The first daily newspaper was the ‘Daily Courant’ which begun in 1702. The early part of the 18th century may be regarded as the golden age in the history of English Newspaper. Many literary persons like Defoe, Swift, Fielding and Samuel Johnson contributed their writings to the newspapers. Addison and Steele made significant developments to newspapers in England when they published ‘The Tatler’ from 1709 to 1711 and ‘The Spectator’ from 1711 to 1712. 

In America, the first newspaper entitled ‘Public Occurrences’ appeared in Boston in 1690. However, it was suppressed after one issue because it was critical of public policy and was without any authority. Boston Postmaster named John Campbell brought out a newspaper entitled ‘Newsletter’ in 1704 which continued to be published until the outbreak of the American Revolution. Later in 1719, two additional newspapers appeared—one from Boston entitled ‘The Gazette’ and the other from Philadelphia entitled ‘The American Weekly Mercury’. Two years later, the Franklins entered the newspaper field with the ‘New England Courant’ which was published from Boston. Most of the colonial newspapers were small in format consisting of four, six or eight pages. After the American Revolution, the press settled into a period of partnership between the Federalists and the Republicans and the national leaders used the newspapers to appeal directly to the people. The period between 1830 to 1860 is known as the “penny press” period because during this period the newspapers became truly “news driven” and developed circulation that assured their continuity and independence.

In Asia, Japan was the first country which started publishing a newspaper in the 17th Century named ‘Yomiuri’, which included printed handbills (small printed notices), sold in major cities to commemorate major social gathering or events. The early modern newspapers were the ‘Nagasaki Shipping List’ and ‘Advertiser’, which were published bi-weekly by A.W. Hansard. In 1862, the Tokugawa shogunate began publishing the ‘Kampan Batabiya Shimbun’, a translated edition of a widely-distributed Dutch government newspaper. These newspapers were published for foreigners,
and contained only foreign news. The first Japanese daily newspaper that covered both foreign and domestic news was the ‘Yokohama Mainichi Shimbun’ which was first published in 1871. Japanese newspapers faced almost no government interference and are considered to be the only real free-press newspapers in Asia. (8)

Till the mid 20th century, the newspaper publishers throughout the world used the traditional methods for publishing the newspaper. With the adoption of information technology in the newspaper industry, many newspaper organizations started publishing their newspapers in the electronic format towards the end of the 20th century. The first online newspaper the ‘California Dispatch’ was published from United States of America on 1st July, 1980 that brought the electronic information to the very doorsteps of the subscribers.

1.0.1.1 HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEWSPAPERS IN INDIA

The printing press was introduced in India in 1556 A.D. The Christian missionaries brought it to India for publishing the Evangelical literature. The British East India Company also installed various printing presses in India at Bombay in 1674, at Madras in 1772 and at Calcutta in 1779. However, the Company’s officials did not encourage the publications of newspapers.

The history of the Indian newspaper is the history of the slow and systematic development of national thought, the growth of public opinion and the struggle for India’s independence. The first definite step to publish newspaper in India was taken by William Bolts in 1776. The first Indian newspaper ‘The Bengal Gazette’ popularly known as Hicky’s Gazette was published by James Augustus Hicky on January 29, 1780, which was forbidden for ten months due to its conflict with the then Governor-General, Waren Hastings, who withdrew the permission for the publication of the newspaper as it was disturbing the peace of the English Settlement in Calcutta. In June 1781, James Augustus Hicky was imprisoned for being unable to pay a fine of Rs. 80,000/-, but his imprisonment did not extinguish his paper. Though Hicky’s Gazette was soon destroyed by the inmate force
of its own corruption, yet it was the progenitor of a healthier offspring. He is considered to be a pioneer of the Indian Press. After Hicky's Gazette, many newspapers came into existence namely, 'India Gazette' in 1780, 'The Calcutta Gazette' in 1784, 'The Bengal Journal' in 1785, 'The Calcutta Amusement' in 1785 and 'The Madras Courier' in 1790. All these newspapers were published from England and were mostly circulated amongst the Englishmen working in or affiliated to the British East India Company.

The last decade of the 18th Century saw the publication of newspapers on a large scale. In Calcutta, 'The Asiatic Mirror' started publishing in 1794 and 'The Indian World', 'The Calcutta Courier', 'The Indian Appollo' as well as 'The Bengal Harakuru' started publishing in 1795. 'The Harakuru', initially known as 'Haracurrah', became the Indian daily newspaper in 1864. 'The Telegraph' was first published in 1796, 'The Calcutta Morning Post' and 'The Oriental Star' started publishing in 1798 and 'The Relater' in 1799. All these newspapers started publishing from Calcutta. In Bombay Presidency, 'The Bombay Herald' was the first English newspaper published in 1789 which was a weekly newspaper. The second newspaper 'The Bombay Courier', a forerunner of the present 'Times of India' started the following year. It was renamed 'The Bombay Times' in 1838. In June 1771, 'The Bombay Gazette' started publishing followed by 'Bombay Herald' and 'Bombay Gazette' in 1792.

The first wholly Indian owned newspaper was 'The Bengal Gazette' which was started by Gangadhar Bhattacharya in 1816. Though, it existed for a very short period of one year, it is justly remembered as the pioneer of Indian owned newspapers. John Buston and James Mackenzie, who were associated with the Oriental Star Press wanted to establish a Sunday newspaper. The authorities allowed them to go on their mission. Thus, 'The Gurdian' newspaper was brought out which was the first Sunday newspaper of India and it covered the matters mostly on nature.

After this, the birth of newspapers in various Indian languages commenced. 'Digdarshan', the first Bengali language monthly, was started in 1718 and its name was later on changed to 'Samachar Darpan'. 'Friends of India' was founded on April 30th, 1818 with J.C. Marshman as its editor. In
June 1820, a quarterly newspaper entitled ‘The Friends of India’ was started for highlighting the subjects connected with India. Raja Rammohun Roy, a social reformer and founder of Indian Language Press, intended to reshape journalism purely on Indian lines. In 1821, he founded the ‘Sambad Kaumudi’, ‘Buckingha’s’ and ‘Calcutta Journal’ which gave wide publicity in their columns to this new Indian project. In the same year, he founded ‘Mirat-ul-Akbar’, a weekly published in Bengali and Persian language.\(^{(11)}\)

On November 1, 1858, Queen Victoria took charge of the administration of India. Lord Canning, who was newly designated as Viceroy of India, visioned the press in a different eye. To maintain a better relationship between the Press and the Government, he established the Editor’s Room where the journalists had an access to examine the government papers related to the public interest. From 1858 onwards, the sale of both English as well as the Indian language newspapers went up. From both the sections, there was a criticism against the Government. The Indian language newspapers and the Indian editors and proprietors of English papers were vehement and strong in their criticism of Government policies and actions. The British officers sensed this growing criticism of the Indian Press. As a result, Lord Lyton, the then Viceroy, introduced a powerful legislation to curb the Indian language Press. The Vernacular Press Act IX of 1878 became a law in March 1878 and the Language Press all over India was muzzled.\(^{(12)}\) This Act was a great blow to the freedom of press in India and caused the language newspapers to suffer drastically.

In order to keep the press fully informed of accurate and current information, Lord Lyton instituted the post of Press Commissioner for India and Sir Robert Lethbridge was appointed on this post. The commissioner was intended to be a Liaison Officer between the Government and the Indian Language Press. Prior to this appointment, he was connected with ‘The Calcutta Review’, ‘The Englishman’, ‘The Friends of India’, ‘The Pioneer’ and ‘The Times of India’ and had also worked as a Calcutta correspondent of ‘The London Times’. He was aware of the difficulties of the Indian Press. Hence, after his appointment, he became a true friend of the Indian language newspapers and his relationship with the Indian Press was very cordial.
During his existence as the Press Commissioner, there were no problems for the Indian language newspapers.

The ‘Amrit Bazaar Patrika’, a weekly Bengali newspaper started publishing in 1868. It was started by four brothers to fight the cause of peasants who were being exploited by indigo planters. A reputed newspaper entitled ‘The Hindu’ initially was started as a weekly in Madras on September 20th, 1876 and was subsequently converted into a tri-weekly in 1833 to create political awareness among the people. In 1889, it became a daily newspaper and fully supported the policies of the Congress. It got full support from Hume who evinced a deep interest in its development. ‘The Tribune’ started publishing in 1881 from Punjab. The cause for which Congress was established was also strongly supported by ‘The Statesman’, ‘Amrit Bazaar Patrika’, ‘The Banga Basi’ and ‘The Kesari’, and these papers played a significant role in the struggle for national independence. Towards the end of the 19th century for the first time, a conference of the editors and journalists was held in Calcutta. In 1891, the Native Press Association was established with the objective and motive of improving the tone of the native press and preserving modernization in the discussion of public questions. By this time, the Indian newspapers were gradually becoming more and more political in character.

During the First World War, Indians whole heartedly supported the cause of the allied powers and lent a helping hand to Great Britain. In return, they wanted freedom and independence. A new national group called the Home Rule League, inspired and encouraged by Annie Besant and Bal Gangadhar Tilak emerged on the Indian political scene. To articulate their views and present their demands, Besant bought ‘The Madras Standard’ and changed its title to ‘New India’ wherein she strongly argued that dominion status should be granted to India. Following the arrest of Besant and other promoters of the paper namely, B.P. Wadia and George S. Arundale, the newspaper office was looked after by A. Rangaswami Ayengar, the then editor of the ‘Swadesamitran’. He also contributed editorials to this paper. Later, K.T. Telang assumed the responsibility of managing the office.\(^{(13)}\)
After returning to India from South Africa in 1915, Mahatma Gandhi shouldered the charge of the Indian Freedom Movement. He was not new to journalism. Even in South Africa, he used the press as an instrument to propagate his own views. He published a newspaper called 'The Indian Opinion'. Soon after his return to India, he acquired an English and a Gujrati weekly to spread his ideas. He made it a point not to receive any advertisement for his papers, viz., 'The Young India' (English) and 'The Navjivan' (Gujrati). The former had a daily circulation of 45,000 copies. Another newspaper 'The Servant of India', a weekly, was founded on 18th February, 1918, edited firstly by B.S. Srinivasa Sastry. It appeared on the third death anniversary of Gopal Krishan Gokhale, the founder of 'The Servant of India Society'. The weekly was one of the two national newspapers which came into existence with the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms. The other newspapers 'The Hindustan Times' 'The Servant of India' continued till 1939. T. Prakasam, popularly known as Andhra Kesari (The lion of Andhra), started a newspaper entitled 'The Swarajya' in 1922 from Madras to advocate the ideals and principles of Mahatma Gandhi. It was closed down in 1934 after rendering a Yeomen service to the cause of the national struggle for independence. In 1923, a new party called the Swaraj Party was formed under the leadership of Moti Lal Nehru and C.R. Das of Bengal. They differed from Gandhiji with regard to the Non-cooperation Movement and did not find any newspaper which could articulate their views. Therefore, they started a newspaper called 'The Hindustan Times' with K.M. Panicker as its first editor. In 1923, Chitttaranjan Das started a newspaper entitled 'The Forward' from Calcutta. Like 'Swarajya' in Madras, it became extremely popular in Bengal. After some time, its old title, 'The Forward', was restored and it was edited by Subash Chandra Bose as an organ of Forward Block, a new party founded by him. As a nationalist newspaper, 'The Forward' immensely contributed to the cause and growth of democratic ideals in India especially in Bengal. The year 1947 which brought Independence to India, heralded a new era in the history of Indian Press. It witnessed not only the opening of a new chapter in its history but also saw the emergence of a press with a new role to
play with much vigour and energy. Before independence, its main role was to support the cause of national independence. But after independence, its main role became more significant as it has to address itself to the task of national development and nation building. As a result, it has acquired a new dimension both in make-up and content.

In Asia, especially India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, most of the major dailies have adopted computerized photocomposition for type setting. In India, facsimile satellite transmission is used by some of the major dailies for bringing out editions from different centers. ‘The Hindu’ newspaper was the first newspaper from India to go on the Internet way back in 1995 and after that ‘The Times of India’, ‘Indian Express’ and ‘The Deccan Herald’ were available on the Internet by early 1996. While the Internet has been hosting mostly contents in English, attempts were made by newspaper publishers in Indian languages to host contents in their respective languages. At present, it is estimated that about 120 online newspapers of India are available on the Internet.

According to a report submitted by the Registrar of Newspaper for India, the total number of registered newspaper/periodicals in India (as on 31st March 2008) were 69,323 including 7,710 dailies, 379 tri/bi-weeklies, 23,414 weeklies, 9,053 fortnightly, 20,948 monthlies, 4,687 quarterlies, 605 annuals and 2,518 having some other periodicity. This growth in the number of newspaper publications in India is due to the vital role played by various agencies including RNI, PIB, etc.

1.0.2. REGISTER OF NEWSPAPER FOR INDIA (RNI)

The Office of the Registrar of Newspaper for India (RNI) came into existence on July 1, 1956, on the recommendation of the First Press Commission in 1953 and by amending the ‘Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867’. The Press and Registration of Books Act contains the duties and functions of the RNI. On account of the responsibilities entrusted upon RNI during all these years, the office is performing both statutory as well as non-statutory functions.
Under the statutory functions of RNI, the following jobs are covered:

(a) To compile and maintain a ‘Register of Newspapers’ containing particulars about all the newspapers published in the country;

(b) To issue the ‘Certificate of Registration’ to the newspapers published under valid declaration;

(c) To scrutinise and analyse the annual statements sent by the publishers of various newspapers every year under Section 19-D of the ‘Press and Registration of Books Act’ containing information on circulation, ownership, etc.

(d) To Inform the District Magistrates about the availability of titles to intending publishers for filing declaration;

(e) To ensure that newspapers are published in accordance with the provisions of the ‘Press and Registration of Books Act’;

(f) To verify, under Section 19-F of the PRB Act, of circulation claims furnished by the publishers in their ‘Annual Statements’; and

(g) To prepare and submit a report containing all available information and statistics about the Press in India, to the Government on or before 31st December each year with particular reference to the emerging trends in circulation of newspapers and in the direction of common ownership units, etc. (17)

The following acts fall under the non-statutory functions:

(a) To implement Newsprint Allocation Policy Guidelines and issue Eligibility Certificates to the newspapers to import newsprints and also ‘Entitlement Certificates’ to procure indigenous newsprints;

(b) To assess and certify the essential needs and requirements of newspaper establishments to import printing and composing machinery and allied materials.

1.0.3. PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

The Press information Bureau (PIB) is the nodal agency of the Government of India to disseminate information to the print and electronic
media about the government policies, programmes, initiatives and achievements. The PIB is functioning as an interface between the Government and the media and also provides feedback to the Government with peoples’ reactions as reflected in the media. With its eight regional offices and 35 branch offices and information centers, PIB disseminates information through different modes of communication, such as press releases, press notes, feature articles, background, press briefings, interviews, press conferences and press tours, etc. The information released in 15 languages reaches about 8,400 newspapers and most of the media organizations. The Bureau has a team of Departmental Publicity Officers who are attached to various ministries and departments for the purpose of assisting them in dissemination of information to the media through press releases and press conferences, etc., and advising on all matters pertaining to the publicity activities. They also provide feedback to their respective ministries and departments.

The Bureau is connected with all regional and branch offices over computer network to facilitate fast dissemination of information. PIB is connected to 29 regional centers by video conferencing system through NIC to enable the media persons at regional centers to participate in press conferences in New Delhi and other parts of the country. PIB provides accreditation to media representatives including foreign media at Delhi. This facilitates them to have an easy access to information from the Government sources. About 1,047 correspondents and 409 cameramen /photographers have been accredited by it. Besides, about 63 editors/media critics and 155 technicians have also been equipped with professional facilities. Apart from regular accreditation, PIB also grants more than 500 temporary accreditation every year to foreign media-persons who visit India for a short period. (18)

1.0.4. NEWS AGENCIES

1.0.4.1. PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India’s largest agency, Press Trust of India (PTI) is a non-profit sharing cooperative owned by the country’s newspapers with a mandate to provide efficient and unbiased news to all subscribers. It was founded on August 27,
1947 and it started functioning from February 1, 1949. PTI offers its news services in English and Hindi. 'Bhasha' is the Hindi language news service of the agency. PTI subscribers include 500 newspapers in India and abroad. All major TV/Radio Channels in India and several abroad (including BBC in London) receive PTI services. PTI has its own satellite delivery system through a transponder on an INSAT satellite for getting its services reached directly to subscribers anywhere in the country. With a staff of about 1,300, including 350 journalists, PTI has nearly 80 bureaus across the country and foreign correspondents in major cities of the world. Besides the news and photo services, other services of the agency include mailer packages of feature, science service, economic service and data India and screen-based services as news-scan and stock scan.

**1.0.4.2. UNITED NEWS OF INDIA**

United News of India (UNI) was incorporated under the Companies Act 1956 on December 19th, 1959 and it started functioning effectively from 21st March, 1961. UNI’s innovative spirit was evident when it became the first news agency in India to launch a full fledged Hindi wire service UNIVARTA in 1982 and a photo service and a graphics service in the same decade. UNI today has about 825 subscribers. It also has 70 offices in India and employee strength of more than 1,000 persons, including 323 journalists. UNI is also the first Indian news agency to deliver its entire news service in English and Hindi as well as its photo service through the Internet. Subscribers can download the stories and pictures from the UNI and UNIVARTA website.

**1.0.4.3. NON ALIGNED NEWS AGENCIES POOL**

The Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool (NANAP) is an arrangement for exchange of news amongst the news agencies of non-aligned countries that were, for long, victims of imbalances and bias in the flow of news. The pool came into existence in 1976 with India as its first Chairman (1976-79). The Pool is a world-wide operation embracing four continents- Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America. The pool news is exchanged in four languages, i.e., English, French, Spanish and Arabic.
1.0.4.4. PRESS COUNCIL OF INDIA

The Press Council of India has been established under the Act of Parliament for the purpose of preserving the freedom of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India. The following are the functions of the council in furtherance of its objects:

1. To help newspapers to maintain their independence;

2. To build up a code of conduct for newspapers and journalists in accordance with high professional standards;

3. To ensure on the part of newspapers and journalists the maintenance of high standards of public taste and foster a due sense of both the rights and responsibilities of citizenship;

4. To encourage the growth of a sense of responsibility and public service among all those engaged in the profession of journalism;

5. To keep under review any development likely to restrict the supply and dissemination of news of public interest and importance;

6. To keep under review such cases of assistance received by any newspaper or news agency in India from foreign sources as are referred to it by the Central Government.

7. To promote the establishment of such common service for the supply and dissemination of news to newspapers as may, from time to time appear to it to be desirable.

8. To provide facilities for the proper education and training of persons in the profession of journalism.

9. To promote a proper functional relationship among all classless of persons engaged in the production or publication of newspapers.

10. To study developments which amy tend towards monopoly or concentration of ownership of newspapers including a study of the ownership or financial structure of newspapers and if necessary to suggest remedies therefore.
11. To promote technical or other research.
12. To do such other acts as may be incidental or conducive to the discharge of the above functions.

The Chairman of the Council is, by convention, a retired judge of the Supreme Court of India. The Council has 28 members, 20 from the newspaper world, five are Members of Parliament (three nominated by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and two by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha) and remaining three from the University Grants Commission. The Council is reconstituted every three years. The Council has its own source of revenue as it collects levy from the registered newspapers and news agencies. It also receives grant in aid from the Central Government for performing its functions.\(^{(22)}\)

1.0.4.5 OTHER NEWS AGENCIES

Other news agencies in India include:

i) Indian News and Features Alliance (INFA)
ii) Cartographic News Service (CNS)
iii) Data News Features (DNF)
iv) Indian Press Agency (IPA)
v) National News Service (NNS)
vi) News Features of India (NFI)

Several foreign news agencies also have offices in India which include:

i) Agence France Press (AFP)
ii) Associated Press (AP)
iii) United Press International (UPI)
iv) Tass News Agency-Telegrafonia Agenstvo Sovietskavo Soiuze (TASS)
v) Reuter

1.0.5 NEWSPAPER LIBRARIES

The role of newspaper library is very important. Earlier the newspaper libraries were called ‘morgue’ and the librarians were called the ‘morgue
clerks'. Morgue was the repository of newspaper clippings, photograph negatives, cuts (metal, engravings of photos) and hot metal galley and additional material required for the further reference, such as maps, dictionaries and encyclopedias. Today, the newspaper libraries are called by various names like archives department, information centers, news libraries and the librarians are called as archivists, information professionals and news librarians. The newspaper library is a collection of reference material and sometimes of illustrations planned to serve the daily needs of personnel working in the newspaper industry. It provides a quick reference service on any of diverse topics forming the news of the day. Newspaper libraries have three fundamental characteristics- emphasis on very recent information, brevity and concision in its presentation and rapidity of the services.

*International Encyclopedia of Information and Library Science (1997)* describes it as “a library provided for the needs of the staff of a newspaper sometimes affectionately referred to as the ‘morgue’. Although such a library will usually contain some reference books and other published materials, its chief content will be cuttings, files, notes assembled by staff members, and photographs and other illustrations. Electronic access to information is increasingly used in an industry dependent on the speed at which it can assemble and disseminate information”. *Glossary of Library Science and Technical Terms (1980)* defines it as “a library attached to a newspaper to serve the daily needs of the members of its staff and usually containing a collection of reference books, reports, government documents, press cuttings, etc., and also professional literature, i.e., books on journalism”.

The task of a newspaper library is to select, classify and make available the huge amount of information which is processed and distributed daily. The increasing demand for news, the modern environment and the growing complexities of current affairs and with its emphasis on recent issues and topics not dealt with by other sources, the newspaper libraries provide unique services. Newspaper library stocks books, bound newspaper files, pamphlets, government publications and press cuttings. In addition, many libraries also stock photographs, maps, halftone blocks, photographic negatives and microfilms. Some of them also maintain an index to their own newspapers.
1.0.5.1 ORGANISATION OF THE NEWSPAPER LIBRARY

Two distinct divisions constitute a complete newspaper library. One is the reference department or library proper. The other is the indexing department, which is of secondary character, supplementing the former with regards to detailed information contained in the files of contemporary newspapers, or periodical publications. (25)

1.0.5.1.1 Organizational Structure of the Newspaper Library

The organizational structure of the newspaper library, in general can be shown as:

![Organizational Structure Diagram]

### (i) REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

Material in this department can be classified into the following four principal groups:

i) General reference works which include dictionaries, encyclopedias, annuals, atlases and gazetteers, directories of addresses, etc.

ii) Biographical
works which include biographical dictionaries and encyclopedias, Who's Who series, professional directories, memorial volumes, obituary sketches (clipping of personal items and sketches which appear in daily and other newspapers and periodicals), etc. (iii) Public documents which include state, municipal and other public administrations’ official documents, congressional directories, legislative manuals of the different states and reports. (iv) Portraits and pictures of individuals, groups and places.

(ii) INDEXING DEPARTMENT

In the indexing department, the complete or partial indexing of the newspaper is done daily by the librarian who personally goes over the paper and underscores the heading or headings under which it should be indexed. For indexing, small cards of 3 x 5 inches size are used commonly.

1.0.5.2 MANAGING INFORMATION IN NEWSPAPER LIBRARIES

There are four characteristic types of information management in a newspaper library, which include:

a) Information about current events which may be generated internally (for example, by journalists finding stories or interviewing people of public interest) or externally.

b) Information for historical or background editorial research which may rely entirely on internal information or on a mixture of internal and external resources.

c) Information required for the effective management of the organization which might be about the company’s publications or information useful for corporate planning.

d) Information for reuse or resale, perhaps in formats other than the newspaper. This includes electronic publishing, but it might also cover the publication of directories, guide books and gazettes.\(^{(26)}\)

1.0.5.3. COLLECTION IN NEWSPAPER LIBRARIES AND ITS CARE & PRESERVATION

The following type of material is normally kept in the newspaper libraries with appropriate arrangement:
1. The hard copy of newspapers are preserved in ideal storage conditions like air conditioned room with the temperature maintained at about 60 °F and the relative humidity at about 60 percent are used commonly. Other methods are the use of ‘Lissapol’, a chemical and rice sheets pasted on both sides of the newspaper. Photo-static, micro-photographic, micro-card and microfilming are also used for preserving the newspaper.

At present the newspapers are published in the electronic formats as well and the complete newspapers are kept in Post Document Format (PDF).

2. Newspaper clipping files are arranged under three main headings, i.e., general subjects, biographical material and foreign news and are kept in envelopes and filed in standard four-drawer foolscap or quarto-sized cabinets. An alternative practice is to mount the newspaper clippings on the paper and bind the mounted clippings in a spring back or clipped folders and accommodate it with the books on the shelves.

Today, the newspaper clippings are also kept in the electronic format. The software and hardware is developed to maintain the newspaper clippings. The National Informatics Centre has developed a NewsNIC, a web based full-text news clippings project for the newspaper clippings service.

3. The book stock is arranged according to the classification scheme and usually on open shelving made of wood or metal. Since the majority of the books in a newspaper library is of a reference nature, very few of them are discarded and frequently need the rebinding.

4. Government publications, pamphlets and reports are arranged by the name of the Government Department whereas local government reports are arranged according to the names of local authorities and secondly by the name of the individual committees responsible for their publication. The pamphlets are usually classified according to the subject. The commonly used method for preserving the Government publications and reports is to file them in boxes specially classified for this purpose. Some newspaper libraries used foolscap- size box file on special shelving for this purpose.
Photographs are generally filed as newspaper cuttings such as general subject, biographical and foreign news. These are generally filed in vertical steel filing cabinets. The four-drawer quarto and foolscap size are the usual types which are used for filing half-plate and full-plate photographs. Within the cabinets, the photographs are usually filed in folder or envelopes. In the present scenario, the newspaper libraries are storing the photographs in digital format in their servers.

 Blocks are arranged in alphabetical order according to the surnames and Christian names of the individuals concerned. Half-tone and line blocks are usually filed in strong envelopes and are accommodated on wooden or steel shelving. Blocks vary in size, but the majority of the blocks filed are either single of half columns. Only the blocks of specific individuals and specific subjects are preserved.

 Negatives, usually in the newspaper libraries are of glass not film. These are arranged on the principles similar to those employed in the classification and filing of newspaper cuttings. Transparent or semi-transparent bags are used to preserve the glass negatives and then filed in the boxes. The negative number is written on the packet and also on the negative. The boxes are accommodated on metal or wooden shelving.

1.0.5.4 USERS OF THE NEWSPAPER LIBRARIES

According to Srivastva, Malviya and Gupta, the mission of the newspaper library is to acquire, produce and develop cultural, educational and information delivering to the needy persons. The needy persons/users of the newspaper libraries normally comprise the following:

(a) **Editorial Staff:** The editorial staff comes under the editorial department. It deals with editing, evaluating the news and features, interpretation of news and finally, positioning the news in the newspaper.

(b) **Journalists:** Journalists are those professionals and users of information who are primarily associated with gathering of news and
views. They write the news and feature articles that are of interest to the society. They have a greater role to play as they direct the society in the right direction.

(c) **Administrative Staff:** The administrative staff carries out the administrative work pertaining to the personnel working in the newspaper industry—their selection, training, promotion, allotment of work, maintenance of leave records, liaison with the public and government departments, general facilities and all such work that facilitates the working of other departments.

(d) **Press Staff:** Press staff deals with all the work of printing including installation of machines, plant lay out, composing, processing, loading, scheduling, maintenance of machines, etc.

(e) **Other Staff:** Other users of the newspaper libraries include the staff working in the photographic department, circulation department, and marketing & public relations department.

All such categories of users of libraries have different requirements on information depending upon their work and the newspaper libraries cater to their diverse needs.

1.0.5.5. **ROLE OF NEWSPAPER LIBRARIANS**

The newspaper library that was earlier called morgue is now an information centre and a big archive for the newspapers. It provides right information to the right user at the right time. The newspaper librarian usually acts as an intermediary between the journalists and the formal sources of information. Out of the vast information generated in the newspapers, it is the librarian who goes through the different news items, scrutinizes them, classifies them and prioritizes the process of the specific items for retrieval. The newspaper librarian, therefore, gets involved not only in the dissemination of the information but also in providing a logical explanation and the contents of information retrieved. Stimulating search to answer the various information necessitated by the working journalists, is probably carried out to a far greater degree than is generally recognized by librarians who tend to formalize requests and expect inquiries to be refined to a manageable level of
specificity. According to Nora Paul,\textsuperscript{(29)} the following roles are performed by the newspaper librarians:

a) **INFORMATION GATEKEEPERS**

Traditionally, the collection of single copies of paper based information resources had been the job of a newspaper librarian and his role was that of a cataloguer, circulation agent and a custodian. Since, the location of such resources had to be determined, the requests for their use were controlled. These had to be carefully replaced at their location after use, hence the librarians acted as Information Gatekeepers, controlling the flow of the information resources in the library. As such, they simply acted as clerical assistance rather than partner in research and reporting.

b) **INFORMATION INTERMEDIARY**

With the arrival of database containing the text of the new product, the news librarians became the information intermediaries, they knew how to build and retrieve the information from the databases. Moreover, as the database became invaluable and expensive, the librarian acted as the intermediary for economic reasons as the funding for database access was usually in the library budget. The staff employed in the newspaper organization naturally has to go to the library to access information from the database.

c) **END-USER COACH**

Tremendous growth in the number of information resources on the Internet and it’s availability on reporter’s computers resulted in more number of information end-user searchers and the newspaper librarian now acts as an advisor, trainer, and a coach for the end user searchers. Even though, the reporters and the editors are searching the information themselves, yet they need proper guidance and training for searching and evaluating the information. The newspaper librarian with their training in understanding, evaluating, cataloguing and compiling the information are guiding such users. The relationship between the newspaper library and the newsroom resulted in an information partnership where the librarian’s skills as evaluator, tracker and trainer of information collaborate with the reporter’s role as interpreter,
explainer and compelling writer. As a result, the news reporting became more accurate, contains more perspective, brings in more voices and provides different angles than was possible in the past.

d) NEW ROLE OF NEWSPAPER LIBRARIANS: PAGE ASSEMBLY LINE TO PAGINATION

As the production line of the newsroom changed from an assembly line to pagination systems, the newspaper librarian’s role as overseer of all departments’ data processing needs became more important. The digitization of photographs and graphics as page elements have to be archived. The newspaper librarian can play an important role in the development and planning of pagination systems or for any major changes in the production process.

e) PACKAGING AND DELIVERY OF NEW MEDIA

In view of the ascending growth of electronic news products, the news librarians are contributing to the content of the newspaper’s website through the creation of special information packages, backgrounders, and chronologies. Initially, these were created as a research aid for reporters, and were made available on the newsroom’s Intranet. The librarian is also contributing to the website through the creating links to quality information resources that users of the site might want to be aware of. As the form and function of online news becomes defined, and the readers who need additional information of high quality, would need the librarian’s searching and evaluating skills involved.

During the current information age, the role of the information professional has expanded and grown in importance building on the traditional skills. They have always performed the function of information managers, and in future they will be best suited to refine and redefine their roles in the newsroom which will increasingly rely on their professional strength of location, evaluation and education of how to use information resources.

1.0.5.6. HISTORY OF NEWSPAPER LIBRARIES

The history of newspaper libraries is neither clear nor straightforward. There is some dispute about the exact date of the first newspaper library. Not
only the records were not maintained, but there is a further problem of definition. Do we establish the date of the library's founding with the date of the first clipping retained, the date of the oldest reel of microfilm, the date of the first reference book purchased, or when the first newspaper librarian was employed? (30)

1.0.5.6.1. NEWSPAPER LIBRARIES IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

Not until the 1850’s did the managers of the largest newspapers began to allot space, money and staff to build news libraries, newspaper organizations found that they could no longer rely upon unverifiable human memory. Haphazard methods of information gathering and fact checking were frustrating, time consuming and dangerous. The value of accurate, complete and convenient access to information was beginning to be recognized as crucial for reporters and editors. It took time, but the newspaper publishers started awakening to their deep public responsibilities as well as their corporate ones. There were some other factors that influenced newspaper organizations to install in-house libraries, such as, social upheavals, wars, earthquakes, fires and floods which required historical records checking and comparison.

Most early newspaper morgues began collecting reference books (atlases, dictionaries, encyclopedia, local histories, etc.). Later on, clippings and photos selected from their own newspapers were added. Occasionally newspapers acquired such collections from other newspapers also. ‘The New York Hearld’, which began publication in 1835, started to build a library of books in 1845. Clippings were, however, not saved systematically until 1860, the beginning of the Civil War. ‘The New York Tribune’, founded in 1841, began its library of books in late 1850’s. It’s clippings collection which at first included only biographical material, was started in 1860. ‘The Tribune’ also started its library in 1875, went retrospective with it to 1841 and continued indexing until 1906. ‘The New York Times’, founded in 1851, began a handwritten index at approximately the same time. Clippings, some dating from as early as 1869, were primarily biographical in nature. Subject headings were not used by ‘The New York Times’ until 1914, when a growing
collection of war material formed the nucleus of the subject clip files. 'The New York World' started its reference department in 1889 with clippings going back to 1870s. The collection of clips, reference books, bound volumes, photographs and engravings were rarely held in one centralized location. Frequently, these collections were distributed among various departments within the newspaper building. Clips were kept in the "biographical department". Books were kept in the "Library". Photos and cuts were in the "art department". Decades later, there was a strong trend towards centralizing the collections. Even so, complete newspaper library clipping collections was rare.

'The New York Daily News', established in 1919, started its library by purchasing a collection of clippings covering events from 1908 to 1923. New York was not the only place where newspapers developed early libraries. 'The Boston Herald' established its library in 1876. It added substantially to its collection when it acquired 'The Boston Travelers' clippings dating back to 1825. 'The Boston Globe' launched its library in 1887 with reference books. A collection of clippings about prominent persons was donated to the newspaper library by one of its editor. Systematically arranged clippings of the newspaper in Globe did not begin until 1890. The library was reorganized in 1922 by William Alcott, who succeeded the first Globe Librarian, Edson W. White. 'The Massachusetts Springfield Republican' began its clipping collection in 1888. 'The San Francisco Chronicle' established a complete library in 1879. 'The Chronicle' was the first newspaper to file clippings in 9" x 4" envelopes which were placed in upright tin document boxes. This is said to have been the beginning of the modern vertical filing system. The 1890s saw the establishment of the 'St. Louis Post-Dispatch' and 'Detroit News' libraries. The latter was reorganized in 1917 when 'The News' newspaper entered its new building.

The newspaper librarians' role in the nineteenth century was traditional. They were merely a caretaker or clerk in the newspaper libraries. They kept the complete record of mats, cuts, books and old newspapers. Gradually, they started to keep the photos and newspaper clippings and started to index them.
1.0.5.6.2. NEWSPAPER LIBRARIES IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

In the early 20th Century, publishers and editors of smaller newspapers began publishing on shoestring budgets. Uncertain revenues and economically hard times caused other than a few publications, to fold their operations. A premium was placed on holding down costs. These publishers for the most part did not invest in in-house libraries, which are quite understandable. Many newspapers with a circulation under 25,000 did not have back issues indexed or clipped. Early issues of such newspapers were rarely saved or preserved systematically. It was not until the mid 1930’s that the microfilming of newspapers became commonplace. Usually the bound editions of newspapers served as the morgue. Frequently, these editions became dog-earned, torn faded and even lost through repeated handling. Lack of competition amongst the newspapers in smaller communities and the philosophy that the newspapers were interested only in today’s news, served the reporters and the citizens poorly. Time and efforts were needed to convince the publishers of smaller newspapers about the value of preservation and in-house libraries, even on a modest scale. Although the ‘Asheville (North Carolina) Citizen’ newspaper library had clips dating back to 1920s, many smaller and midsized newspapers did not begin establishing their libraries until the World War II.

For the larger newspapers, the situation was different. In the first decade of the twentieth Century, large metropolitan newspapers that launched their in-house libraries include ‘Denver Post’, ‘Los Angeles Times’, ‘Baltimore Sun’, ‘Christian Science Monitor’, ‘Kansas City Star’, and ‘Cleveland Plain Dealer’. A larger economic base, a more diverse population and greater competition among readers, were some of the reasons for the expansion of newspaper libraries in the early decades of the Twentieth Century. World War I, natural disasters, political upheavals, economic recessions, business closings, crop failure and weather catastrophes have been cited as the impetus for editors and publishers to examine the adequacy of their libraries for quick fact checking. The arrival and growing influence of national/international wire services further fueled the fierce competition for timely, accurate, comprehensive news gathering.(32)
The appearance of Joseph Kwapil and his Newspaper Group (Newspaper Divisions) in 1923 was the turning point for the newspaper librarians. If the morgue mentality was not yet dead, it was under attack. The mission of this group was to define and maintain accuracy, quality and efficiency in newspaper libraries. In 1927, Newspaper division undertook its first survey of newspaper librarians. One of the division’s founders, Agnes J. Peterson, described the then current state of newspaper libraries including the library space, equipment, staff size, collection development policies, clip files procedures, reference service, indexing projects, record keeping and subject headings control. She noted that there were a wide divergence in library collections and uncertainty in library methods, no well-developed standards or even guidelines appeared to measure the quality of news library services and collections. Hence, the news librarians struggled for decades with these problems.

Peterson called for the Newspaper Division to begin some real work in standardizing newspaper library organization and practices. She cautioned that such an effort should not be approached with the idea that each library has its own mission. Her survey analysis also revealed that most of the news librarians were former newsroom staff. Although they were familiar with newsroom practices, yet they were not acquainted with standard library procedures. Hence, they could not deliver the performance necessary to support newspaper queries and investigations. She gave five basic elements of newspaper libraries which include: Accurate, current, accessible files of news clips, photos, graphics, maps and newspaper microfilm; A core collection of reference books and serials; Space and equipment to house and maintain the collection; Qualified staff to manage the collection and provide reference service; and Money to support the expanding operations.

By 1930s, Newspaper Librarians were turning away from being Librarians of the clipping collections to the Information Specialists. The change came in parts from the news industry itself and from the emerging newspaper library profession. The Newspaper Division performed a leadership role in this evolution. Over the years, its continuing educational seminars, conferences, workshops and publications became the foundation
for the highest standards of professional newspaper librarianship. 1950s and 1960s saw the period of decline of the newspapers and their readership gradually decreased. Large metropolitan newspapers either merged or closed. The collections of such defunct newspaper libraries faced an uncertain future. As a result, their collections were either donated to public or academic libraries, or were discarded or lost.

The millions of clips and photos stored in thousands of boxes and cabinets became the residue of defunct dailies. The picture file of the ‘New York World Telegram’ along with the ‘New York Sun’s’ photos, was deposited in the Library of Congress in 1968. The morgue of the ‘New York Sun’, which ceased publication in 1950, was merged in the New York Public Library. The 14 million clippings from the ‘Hearld Tribune’ were donated to New York University Library. The clips of the ‘Newark News’, which ceased publication in 1972, are available in the Newark Public Library. The Brooklyn Library has the morgue of the ‘Brooklyn Eagle’, which ceased publication in 1973. A portion of the library collection of ‘The Washington Star’, which ceased publication in 1981, was donated to the Martin Luther King Library in Washington, D.C. ‘The St. Paul (Minnesota) Dispatch’, ‘Pioneer Press’ and the ‘San Francisco Chronicle’ gave some of their old clips and photos to various libraries and historical societies. The early glass photographic plates and photo files of the ‘Chicago Daily News’ were given to the Chicago Historical Society years before it ceased in 1978. ‘The Indianapolis Times’, which ceased publication in 1965, sent its morgue to the Indiana University School of Journalism. Even after the morgue of the Long Island Press, which ceased publication in 1977, was absorbed by the ‘New York Post’, the public was still able to get information from the clip files.

From 1960 to 1970, it was a period of significant growth for newspaper librarians. As a group, the Newspaper Librarians started discovering their new professional identity as Information Managers. Professional standards were explored, continuing educational programs were started, and professional publications were launched. The American Press Institute (API) offered a two week seminar for news librarians in 1967 followed by another seminar in 1971. In 1986, API offered a three day course on news library
technology. API was not the only trade organization to sponsor news library
seminars. The Southern Newspaper Publishers Association (SNAP) organized several, three to four days workshops in 1970s and 1980s. In
1980s, the Newspaper Division conference program included special seminars for veteran news librarians on advanced library technology including electronic libraries, digital photo archiving and computer-assisted journalism, etc. Such seminars were considered of great value to newspaper librarians as well as generated significant revenue for the division’s treasury.

Another Florida-based organization, the Poynter Institute for Media Studies have held several annual week-long seminars since April 1990 with a small, select group of librarians and news staff to address mutual concern. In 1979, Newspaper Division’s Automation Committee gave basic specifications for a Full-Text On-Line Automated Newspaper Library System. The specifications were the result of the joint efforts of a wide range of newspaper automation experts including newspaper librarians, data processing personnel, and system vendors. The specifications were approved in 1979.

In the later decades of the twentieth century, more sophisticated information services and equipment arrived. Professionally trained experienced information specialists figured more prominently in news library staff. This trend was, however, just another step in developing full partnership with the journalistic enterprise. Surprising to most newspaper librarians is the strong and vital participation by magazine and broadcast news librarians in the early decades of the Newspaper Division’s history. It was in the 1980s that special-interest groups were formed in the Newspaper Division with the goal of attracting new members among the media partners. The involvement of broadcast news librarians, such as Laura Kapnick from CBS, Joe McHugh, formerly with NBC, Jeannette Kopak with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation paved the way for a new special-interest group within the division. Long time participation from news magazine librarians, such as Time’s Ben Lightman, Newsweek’s Ted Slate, National Geographic’s Virginia Hills, and U.S. News & World Report’s Kathy Trimble, prompted a recognition, at last, that its membership not only comprised exclusively of newspaper librarians. Programs and workshops designed for these special news librarians
appeared at the annual conferences. The division acknowledged this growing trend in membership from broadcast and magazine news organizations and in 1987 changed its name from the Newspaper Division to the News Division of the Special Libraries Association. These broadcast and magazine librarians joined their newspaper comrades in tackling the technological challenges of the decade including computer output microfiche, optical disks, computerized indexing, automated full-text retrieval systems, digital photo archiving, online database searching, spreadsheets, computer assisted reporting, media polling, etc.

1.0.5.6.3. ELECTRONIC NEWS LIBRARIES

In late 1970s and early 1980s, many newspapers went from hot type to cold type, that is, to electronic front-end typesetting. It had its impact on the newspaper libraries as well. A brief history of automated newspaper library systems acknowledges that The New York Times’ Information bank led the way in 1971. The original Information Bank consisted of a computer index and abstracts of the articles in the Times and other selected publications, with coverage extending back to 1969. This pioneering system was the first newspaper database to become publicly available in electronic form. Full-text was added to The New York Times Information Service in 1981. Other newspapers also experimented with automating their libraries’ clipping files. The Detroit Free Press began using a system called Miracode in 1971, which used a numerically coded index to the microfilmed full text of articles stored in 16-mm roll microfilm cassettes. In 1976, the Louisville Courier-Journal installed INFO-KY with DEC PDP computers for online index and microfiche storage. The system allowed the first full-text, online electronic newspapers library system in 1977 using the QL software.

In 1985, more than 50 newspapers were using commercial electronic systems for full-text storage and retrieval of newspaper stories. Besides offering convenient in-house and remote access, these systems are encouraging news libraries to explore potential revenue from the general public. By the end of 1980s, over 150 United States and Canadian newspapers had electronic full-text storage systems operational or in the development stage and the number is constantly increasing.
Access to full-text news databases, such as NEXIS, VU/TEXT, Data Times, Dow Jones News Retrieval System, BRS and DIALOG, is becoming more frequent in larger news libraries all over the world. Since Knight-Ridder’s purchase of DIALOG in 1989, DIALOG has been mounting an increasing number of full-text newspaper databases on its system. Larger, better-financed newspaper libraries have obviously led the way to the development of electronic libraries. Unlike their colleagues from larger newspapers, news librarians from smaller organizations lacked budget for computers, books, etc. and without the management’s support, these librarians were struggling to meet the information needs of their clients. Working with in-house computer systems and data-management staff, librarians were getting space on the front-end electronic typesetting equipment to establish news indexes, ready reference directories and subject-authority files, to mention just a few information tools. This was also a period when smaller newspapers were awakening to the possibility that not just the big, metropolitan papers could have a quality in-house library. Recognizing that the journalistic function of “watchdog” could not be left to large papers exclusively, midsized and smaller papers are now beginning to invest in the tools to support their own news staffs. They are hiring professionally trained librarians who are knowledgeable about database searching and information management.

In the current scenario, the newspaper librarians are preparing themselves for an expanding new role. The effort requires not only new skills and knowledge, but a willingness to actively participate in the development of new technology. Times and methods have changed and so have the news industry and its libraries. Regardless of whether the tools of the twenty-first century news librarians remain scissors, file cabinets and telephones, or computers, optical discs and satellites, the vital ingredient will always be the individual’s professionalism and enthusiasm. Infact, the newspaper librarians can utilize the IFLA’s guidelines dealing with newspapers’ cataloguing, preservation, etc.
1.0.6. INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR MAINTENANCE OF NEWSPAPERS

At the international level, the newspaper section of IFLA is concerned with all the issues relating to newspapers in libraries, archives including acquisition and collection of development intellectual and physical access: storage and handling, preservation of newspapers and their contents, inter library lending and impact of digital technologies on all these. IFLA's programme is also associated with managing the preservation of periodicals and newspapers. It has given very helpful guidelines for the cataloguing and preservation of newspapers.

The guidelines for the cataloguing of newspapers, prepared by the IFLAs' section on Serial Publications Working Group on Newspapers, are intended to identify cataloguing and holdings data necessary for the creation of newspaper records which would satisfy needs relating to access and accuracy of description. The basic purpose of these guidelines is to define a set of data elements required for item identification and bibliographic description of newspapers which would facilitate compatible newspaper cataloguing worldwide; to define data elements required for identification of agencies holding newspapers in their collections; to facilitate international exchange of newspaper records in manual and machine readable form. These guidelines can be used by the newspaper libraries as well as for current and retrospective cataloguing of newspaper collections, input of newspaper records into data base facilities, International exchange of newspaper bibliographic records and for compiling newspaper bibliographies and specialized listings. The set of newspaper data elements for manual records presented in these guidelines is based on the International Standard Bibliographic Description for Serials (ISBD (s)) and machine readable record is based on UNIMARC. In the manual records, it provides description area that includes title, proper edition, statement, numeric and chronological designations, place of publisher, extent dimensions, notes, ISSN and location data with required code such as M (mandatory), MA (Mandatory if applicable or available), o (optional). For UNIMARC records, these guidelines provide
identification block, descriptive information block, notes block, linking entry block, related title block, intellectual responsibility block, international use block with specific filed from 001 to 805 and with codes such as M (mandatory), MA (mandatory if applicable) o (optional abbreviation), REP (repeatable), NR (not repeatable).

The IFLAs Newspaper Section has also prepared a manual of basic Guidelines for Newspaper Preservation Microfilming. It has provided detailed information and process about how to set up a microfilming project, policy discussions, selection criteria for newspapers to be microfilmed and filming priorities, financial estimates of a newspaper microfilming project, treatment and storage of hardcopy originals, copyright, bibliographic requirements prior to microfilming, preparation procedures, preparing of items to be filmed, preparing of targets for the microfilm, microfilming process, choice of filming agency, microfilming procedures, transportation and security arrangements, microfilm checking, cataloguing, and preservation, checking of the microfilm, fitting of reels, labeling boxes, cataloguing and shelf marking preservation requirements, hardcopy originals, checking and preservation after microfilming, preservation of hardcopy originals, disposal of hardcopy originals. These guidelines are very helpful in microfilming the newspaper for preservation. Such guidelines can not only be used by different libraries for the organization of newspapers but can also be used by newspaper organizations for maintaining their libraries.

1.0.7. NEWSPAPER LIBRARIES IN INDIA

Although, the growth of print media in India can be traced from a number of historical documents but the history of newspaper libraries is an untold story. It is possible that the full fledged newspaper libraries started functioning since the well managed newspaper’s date of inception. It is assumed that in India, the first newspaper ‘The Bengal Gazette’ which started its publication in 1780, might have established its library in the same year, followed by ‘The Calcutta Gazette’ in 1784. ‘The Asiatic Mirror’ might have established its library in 1794, followed by the ‘Indian World’ ‘The Calcutta Courier’, ‘The Indian Appollo’ and ‘The Bengal Harakuru’ might have started their newspaper libraries in 1795. ‘The Telegraph’ might have established its
newspaper library in 1796 and ‘The Calcutta Morning Post’ and ‘The Oriental Star’ in 1798 and ‘The Relator’ in 1799 respectively.

In the 19th Century, ‘The Bengal Gazette’ which was started by Gangadhar Bhattacharya might have established its library in 1816. ‘The Friends of India’ established its library in 1818, followed by ‘Sambad Kaamudi’, ‘Backinghas’ and ‘Calcutta Journal’ in 1821. ‘The Amrit Bazaar Patrika’, a weekly, started its newspaper library in 1868 and the reputed newspaper ‘Hindu’ in 1876. In the 20th Century, ‘The Young India’ (English) and ‘The Navjeevan’ (Gujrati) might have started their libraries in 1915, followed by ‘The Servants of India’ which started its library in 1918.


1.1. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Newspaper libraries are invaluable for the press and the effectiveness of the press largely depends on the effective and well organized libraries in their organizations. With the rapid growth of newspaper industry, the information requirement of the journalists and other staff of the newspaper organizations has witnessed a spectacular change. It is in this context, the present study was undertaken to find out the organization and management of newspaper libraries including the available infrastructure and facilities provided in newspaper libraries in Chandigarh, Delhi and Punjab. An attempt has also been made to find out the level of satisfaction of users and to highlight various problems faced by them in accessing the information from the libraries of their respective organizations. A survey of twelve newspaper libraries situated in Chandigarh, Delhi and Punjab was carried out in order to
suggest solutions to the problem faced by the libraries in managing and dissemination of information, so that the qualitative library and information services can be provided by the newspaper libraries to their users. The newspaper libraries surveyed included the libraries of newspapers entitled Ajj Di Awaaz, Ajit, Amar Ujala, Daily Pioneer, Dainik Bhaskar, Dainik Jagran, Desh Sewak, Hindustan Times, The Indian Express, The Statesman, The Times of India and The Tribune.

1.2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study included:

1. To study the existing management of newspaper libraries in Chandigarh, Delhi and Punjab as well as their infrastructure such as collection, budget, staff, services and application of information technology.

2. To know the various information sources available in the newspaper libraries under study.

3. To study the various information services provided by the newspaper libraries and their utilization.

4. To study the existing status of library automation in the newspaper libraries.

5. To find out the level of resource sharing amongst the newspaper libraries at the local level as well as at the regional level.

6. To find out the existing state of utilization of newspaper libraries by their users.

7. To highlight suggestions for the effective management of newspaper libraries in India.

8. To provide a blue print for the networking of newspaper libraries situated in Chandigarh, Delhi and Punjab.

1.3. HYPOTHESES

In the light of the above-mentioned objectives, the following hypotheses have been tested in the present study:
1. The existing newspaper libraries in Chandigarh, Delhi and Punjab have poor library facilities.

2. Collection development of books, journals and relevant literature are practically neglected in almost all the newspaper libraries.

3. The library and information services provided by the newspaper libraries are traditional and as a result, their services remain under utilized.

4. Library automation is in embryonic stage in most of the newspaper libraries under study.

5. There is lack of resource sharing amongst the newspaper libraries.

6. Utilization of the newspaper libraries is far from satisfactory.

7. The existing manpower in the newspaper libraries is not able to effectively manage their libraries in current IT era due to insufficient practical knowledge and training.

8. Lack of finance is the major hurdle for developing sufficient infrastructural facilities and manpower in the newspaper libraries.

1.4. UNIVERSE OF THE STUDY

For the purpose of the present study, the newspaper libraries situated in Chandigarh, Delhi and Punjab that publish dailies in three languages, i.e., English, Hindi and Punjabi were selected as the universe of the study in hand. The following newspaper libraries were covered to ascertain data for the present research work:

**Chandigarh :**

1. Dainik Bhaskar (Hindi)
2. Desh Sewak (Punjabi)
3. The Indian Express (English)
4. The Tribune (English)

**Delhi:**

5. Daily Pioneer (English)
6. Hindustan Times (English)
7. The Statesman (English)
8. The Times of India (English)

Punjab:
9. Ajj Di Awaz (Punjabi)
10. Ajit (Punjabi)
11. Amar Ujala (Hindi)
12. Dainik Jagaran (Punjabi)

1.5. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research is an objective, impartial, empirical and logical analysis and recording of controlled observations. It is a systematic attempt to obtain answers to meaningful questions about phenomena or events through the application of scientific procedures. Thus, for the logical analysis of the problem, an appropriate methodology and procedure is required. The method adopted to conduct research for the present study was survey method of research. The data was collected from the library professionals as well as users of twelve newspaper libraries with the help of two pre-designed questionnaires- one for the librarians and second for the users. The researcher personally visited each and every respondent from different newspaper libraries under purview of study more than once, so as to make the questionnaire free from any ambiguity, as well as to collect current and authentic information.

1.6. SAMPLING

Since the users of the newspaper libraries comprise a large number of staff working in such organizations, it was not feasible to collect information from all of them. Hence, the stratified random sampling technique was used for collecting the data and 10% (i.e., 232) of the users from the total population (i.e., 2362) were surveyed from all the twelve newspaper organizations.
1.7. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

Keeping in view the objectives of the study, the data collected through the questionnaires were analyzed and interpreted with the help of statistical tabulation methods. The data have been presented, compared, analyzed by using tables, diagrams and charts.

1.8. LIMITATIONS

The number of newspapers published from Chandigarh, Delhi and Punjab is very large as there are a number of dailies, weeklies, fortnightly, etc. being published from these State/Union Territories. Most of them do not have their libraries. Therefore, this study covers only big daily newspapers (as defined in ‘Land and People of Indian States and Union Territories’ on the basis of their circulation) situated in Chandigarh, Delhi and Punjab. The study covers only those newspaper libraries that are attached to newspapers published daily in English, Hindi and Punjabi only.

1.9. STRUCTURE OF THE THESIS

The present work has been divided into six chapters. First chapter entitled “Introduction: Problem and Methodology” describes the origin and development of newspaper and newspaper libraries, the statement of the problem, objectives of the study, hypotheses, universe of the study, sampling, research methodology, tools and techniques and limitations of the present study.

In chapter 2 entitled “Review of Literature”, the existing literature dealing with the newspaper libraries including their organization and management as well as utilization has been reviewed. It includes the published literature on the newspaper libraries from all over the world.

Chapter 3 entitled “Profile of Newspaper Libraries in Chandigarh, Delhi and Punjab”, include the profile of twelve newspaper libraries surveyed. It gives their history and organizational structure.

Chapter 4 entitled “Management and Utilization of Newspaper Libraries” contains analysis of the data collected from the surveyed newspaper libraries in terms of their organization, staffing, budgeting, library
collection, infrastructure, facilities, automation and library services based on
the data collected through the questionnaires from the library professionals as
well as the users. It also highlights the problems faced by the library staff in
managing the information in their respective libraries and also analyses the
level of satisfaction of various categories of users of these libraries.

Chapter 5 entitled “Findings and Suggestions” deals with the results
and findings of the study and draw conclusions from the study. This chapter
also enlists some viable suggestions in order to promote various library
services and make information management more effective in the newspaper
libraries.

Chapter 6 entitled “A Proposed Model for Newspaper Libraries
Network” provides a model for the networking of newspaper libraries in
Chandigarh, Delhi and Punjab. This chapter also describes the use of
Information Technology to make such libraries more efficient.

A comprehensive bibliography is listed after chapter 6. Care has been
taken to maintain uniformity through out the listing of bibliography according to
APA style.

Two appendices have also been appended at the end. Appendix I
includes the questionnaire used for collecting the data from the librarians
working in the newspaper libraries. Appendix II includes the questionnaire
used to ascertain the data from the users of the newspaper libraries.

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