The library is regarded as the heart of the university. It supports all the core functional areas of a university like research, publication, extension, education, and training. So a university can be truly called as a community where scholars and teachers are the head, students are the body and library its heart. It plays a significant role in the university education especially in India, which is often highlighted by the scholars, educationists, committees, and librarians.

Experiences and observations shows that though the university libraries specially in Assam acquire books and other materials to support their instructional and research work but most of the valuable resources remain unused from the time of its inception. Hence, an endeavor is contemplated to study why these library materials or library resources, which cost hundreds and thousands of rupees per year remain mostly unused. The study also attempted to find out, whether the documents available in the libraries do cater to the actual needs of the users, whether the facilities and environment of the libraries are conducive for the users and to know about the measures which have been taken by the libraries to make the users aware about the availability of resources for their effective use.

Five university libraries of Assam namely Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library, Gauhati University, Lakshmi Nath Bezbaroa Library, Dibrugarh University, Rev. B.M. Pugh Library, Assam Agricultural University, Rabindra Library, Assam University and Central Library, Tezpur University have been covered in this study.

From this study a clear idea of collection of the university libraries and their use has been achieved. The study has also exposed the users’ awareness about the
materials and how they are benefitted. Role of the library professionals regarding effective use of these library resources has been discussed in the present context.

It is hoped that the study has brought some feasible plans and policies for the libraries and library professionals through which these valuable resources can be brought forward for their effective use, and can contribute for the development of the society.

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