CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0. Preamble

The Public Library is the local center of information, making all kinds of knowledge and information readily available to its users. The services of the public library are provided as the basis of equality of access for all, regardless of age, race, sex, religion, nationality, language or social status. Specific services and materials must be provided for those who cannot, for whatever reason, use the regular services and materials, for example, linguistic minorities, people with disabilities or people in hospital or prison. All age groups must find material relevant to their needs.

The collections and services have to include all types of appropriate media and modern technologies as well as traditional materials. High quality and relevance to local needs and conditions are fundamental. Material must reflect current trends and the evolution of society as the memory of human endeavor and imagination as well. Collections and services should not be subject to any form of ideological, political or religious censorship, nor commercial pressure. The concept of the earliest libraries in India revolved around the whims and fancies of the certain individual groups. With the developments in science and technology, particularly in the computer and telecommunications sector, the libraries have much to gain.

In addition to the overwhelming response from people all over the world to a democratic form of government created an atmosphere for opening up various aspects of human thought and dissemination of information to all levels. Since the libraries are to function on the person-to-person relationship a careful and well defined goal, objectives, rules and regulations have to be kept in mind.

1.1. Definition

According to Ronald Benge, the Public Library concept consists of four elements: First, the Public Libraries are available on the loan of materials and for reference purposes to all citizens. Secondly that the Public Libraries mainly support from public funds either
on a local or on a national basis. The third element is their service as far as the individual is concerned should be free. The fourth one is that all material should be available as an integral part of right.

As per the Model Public Libraries Act of Ranganathan, "Public Library" means a) State Service Library established or declared to be State Service Library for the purpose of this Act; b) Any library established or maintained by a Local Library Authority, including the traveling libraries and service stations; c) Any library, open for the public free of charge and maintained and managed by the Government or by any local body; d) An aided Library receiving grant-in-aid from the Government according to prescribed rules; and e) Any other library notified by the Government as a Public Library for this Act.

For S.R. Ranganathan, the library is a social institution and it has to serve several purposes as put forth below:-

- It should help the lifelong self-education of one and all;
- It should furnish up-to-date facts and information on all subjects to one and all;
- It should distribute in an unbiased and balanced way all shades of recorded views and thoughts to one and all as a help in the discharge of their political functions in respect of a local, national and international affairs;
- It should contribute to productivity drive by informing top managements of the latest trends in diverse enterprises by plugging back into the minds of researchers, designers and technologists; every piece of relevant new thought promptly and pin-pointedly;
- It should provide to one and all a harmless and elevating use of leisure;
- It should preserve the literary remains of humanity for posterity as vehicles of culture and as source materials for antiquarian research; in general;
- It should work for the continued social well-being as the agency in command of all socialized recorded thought.

1.2. **History of Public Libraries**

The library is a social institution. It plays an important role in preserving a society's cultural heritage, i.e., It is filled by the function of preserving and disseminating human culture and civilization contained within the documents. They enable humankind to
spend their leisure time on the systematic learning that inculcates their thinking power to the device and new information or product. This results in all-round development of the community. Libraries consist of books on literature, art, music, science and socializing about help and caring. All in all, the library ranks as one of the society’s most useful service institutions. India is one of the developing nations that concentrate on wisdom. It has a very long history of providing library service to the people.

India is celebrating the 60 year of Independence in 2007 and taking stock of developments in various fields. It is also an important landmark in the history of public library services in India. Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaykward has introduced free compulsory elementary education backed by libraries in 1883 in the district of Baroda and henceforth for the first time in India free public library services were introduced as a system in 1907 and extended to the entire state. It can, therefore, be traced out that 2007 is the centenary year of free public library services in India.

The Republic of India, or Bharat, is a sovereign country in South Asia. It is the seventh largest country by geographical area, the second most popular country, and the largest democratic country in the world, bounded by the Indian Ocean on the south, the Arabian Sea on the west, and the Bay of Bengal on the east. India has a coastline of over 7500 kilometers. Surrounded by neighboring countries namely, Pakistan to the west; China, Nepal, and Bhutan to the northeast; and Bangladesh and Myanmar to the east.

The empire built by the Maurya dynasty under Emperor Ashoka united the most of South Asia in the third century BC. From 180 BC, a series of invasions from Central Asia followed, including those led by the Indo-Greeks, Indo-Scythians, Indo-Parthians and Kushans in the northwestern Indian Subcontinent. From the third century BC, the Gupta dynasty oversaw the period referred to as ancient India's "Golden Age." While the north had been larger, fewer kingdoms, south India had several dynasties such as the Chalukyas, Cholas, Pallavas, Pandyas, and Cheras which overlapped in time and territory. Science, engineering, art, literature, astronomy, and philosophy flourished under the patronage of these kings. Following invasions from Central Asia between the tenth and twelfth centuries, much of north India came under the rule of the Delhi Sultanate and later the Mughal dynasty. Mughal emperors gradually expanded their kingdoms to cover large parts of the subcontinent. Nevertheless, several indigenous kingdoms, such as the Vijayanagar
Empire, flourished especially in the south. In the seventeenth and eighteenth century, the Mughal supremacy declined and the Maratha Empire became the dominant power. From the sixteenth century, several European countries, including Portugal, Netherlands, France and the United Kingdom started arriving as traders and later took advantage of the fractious nature of relations between the kingdoms to establish colonies in the country.

By 1856, the majority of Indian terrains were under the control of the British East India Company. In 1857, a nationwide insurrection of rebelling military units and kingdoms variously referred to as the First War of Indian Independence or Sepoy Mutiny, seriously challenged British rule but eventually failed. As a consequence, India came under the direct control of the British Crown as a colony of the British Empire. During the first half of the twentieth century, a nationwide struggle for independence was launched by the Indian National Congress and other political organisations. Millions of protesters engaged in mass campaigns of Civil Disobedience with a commitment to Ahimsa or nonviolence, led by Mahatma Gandhi.

Finally, on 15 August 1947, India gained independence from British rule, but not before losing its Muslim-majority areas, which were carved out into the separate nation-state of Pakistan. Three years later, India became a republic, and a new constitution came into effect on 26 January 1950. India is administratively divided into 28 states, 7 Union Territories, with the National Capital Territory of Delhi. There are as much as 593 Districts, 5463 Sub-Districts, 3799 Community Development Blocks, 4378 Urban Agglomeration/Towns, 384 Urban Agglomeration, 5161 Towns, 593731 Inhabited Villages and 44656 Uninhabited Villages.

The population of the country is increasing every year. The total population, according to the 2001 census, is 1,028,610,328, which is the second largest population of a country next to China. Its literacy rate is 560,687,797 that are 64.8% of the total population. At the time of India's independence in 1947, its literacy rate was 12.2%. Since then, it has increased to 64.8% (53.7% for females and 75.3% for males).

The state of Kerala has the highest literacy rate (91%); Bihar has the lowest (47%). The national gender ratio is 944 females per 1,000 males. India's median age is 24.9, and the population growth rate of 1.38% per annum; there are 22.01 births per 1,000 people per annum.
1.3. Public Libraries in India

The public library is largely regarded as the People's University. It has tremendous developments in India from the early period to till date at various stages. The most of the Indian states now have free public library services to develop the people of India at different levels, which can be stated as below briefly;

1.3.1. Ancient Period (before 1200 AD)

According to Ekbote, "The history as the development of the public library may be said to be as old as that of education in India." During Vedic times, the pupils stayed in the guru-gruha for several years for education. Since ancient times, India has been very much pertinent in search of knowledge and wisdom. Oral communication was the best means amongst the people of India and writing was not available. "The earliest written and recorded materials found in India are the inscriptions on stone pillars of King Asoka (300 BC); these inscriptions could be called the first outside open libraries." Later, Ashrams came into existence in India and students study under the supervision of well-known teachers. They kept many manuscripts for use by the teachers and students as well as for the visitors.

Many students joined ashrams and such big ashrams were known as vidyapeeth, where numbers of teachers are engaged to teach the students. These educational institutions collected many different manuscripts and other materials which can help in their teaching and daily routine. They kept and preserved carefully. "The reading materials, of course, related to many subjects formed the source material for transmitting knowledge in different streams of education and culture. The collections might be likened to modern libraries since they were carefully maintained and extensively used by students and teachers alike." Such ashrams or vidyapeeths, where manuscripts and other reading materials were reserved, may be regarded as a kind of library as they serve information and knowledge to the students and community in different ways. Pandey S K Sharma stated that; "In India, since the ancient time libraries have been functioning as light houses for those who wanted to read and to extend the boundaries of various disciplines. References are available to prove that Nalanda University (in Bihar) had its own
multistoried library in 600 AD with a massive collection of manuscripts. The
collection at the library was housed in three buildings, each having nine floors and
three hundred rooms. This library was opened by the Emperor of India, King
Davapal. The library was open for anybody that was known scholar and took
interest in reading, interpreting and even copying the documents kept in the library.
Chinese traveller Whuen Sang is known to have consulted this library in the
seventh century and to have taken from here hundreds of treatises to China and
Japan. This library was completely destroyed by Bakhtiar Khilaji, who invaded
India in AD 1205 and burnt the library. The library kept on burning for about six
months. Libraries in ancient India also developed at their famous centers of
learning, such as Vikramshila and Odantapuri. Universities of ancient India, like
Taxila and Vikramshala also have a valuable collection of tantras and manuscripts
in their libraries.

1.3.2. Medieval Period (1200-1757 AD)

Muslims mostly ruled during the Medieval Period of India. Historically, it is also
known as Mughal Period. There were great changes not only in social and political,
but also on education and library systems during this period. The Muslim rulers
made great contributions to Indian culture and libraries played a significant role
in the socio-cultural development throughout the nation. According to Khursid,
"The period of Mughal is considered as the golden period of Indian history
for its educational, literary, and library activities."

1.3.3. Development of Library during Mughal Period

Babur, king of Kabul invaded India and annexed Delhi to his kingdom. "He
established the first Mughal Imperial Library in 1526." Babur inherited
manuscripts from his father and kept in his library and also collected books from
different sources of his kingdom. Babur died in 1530 and was succeeded by
his son Humayun. Humayun lived in Agra and established a library in his palace.
He set up a library at Agra Fort, which was managed by Lal Beg. In his library, he
kept the books, gilded pen cases, portfolios, picture books and beautiful works
of calligraphy. After the death of Humayun, his son, Akbar, succeeded him in
1356. Akbar is regarded as one of the greatest Mughal kings. Akbar improved the management of the library with some technical works. He appointed Sheik Faizi to manage and control library services. Akbar was very much interested in manuscripts and appointed calligraphers to copy good manuscripts.

He established a separate library for women at Fatehpur Sikri and made great improvements to the library. At the time of his death in 1605, the Imperial Library had twenty-four thousand volumes of books. Jahangir, another ruler of the Mughal period, made a law that when a wealthy man dies heirless, the income from the property should be used for building and repairing schools, monasteries, libraries, and other institutions. Some wealthy and scholars, like Abdul Rahim Khan-i-Khanan, Shaik Faizi, Gulbadan Begum and the ruler of Mysore and Jaipur also had their private libraries. Some Hindu learning centers also have libraries. “The libraries of these centers contain huge collections of manuscripts on religion and philosophy as well as other subjects like medicine, science and history.” Christian missionaries have also contributed for the libraries since the advent of Vasco da Gama to India.

During the Mughal period, library technical works, viz. Accessioning, Classification and Cataloguing were also carried out in some plausible ways. The head librarian was known as “Nizam” and the assistant librarian as “Muhatin” or “Darogha.” Other staffs of libraries during Mughal period were namely Scribes, Book Illustrators, Calligraphers, Copyists, Translators, Bookbinders and Gilders.

1.3.4. The British Period (1757-1947)

The Britishers came to India primarily to establish trade and commerce. Some of them were very much interested in the uplift of rich cultural heritage of India. “A large number of Academic institutions were established during the British period by the East India Company (the representatives of the British Empire) and by the Christian missionaries.” The Senate of Serampore University 1818, The University of Calcutta was established in 1857 and its library was opened in 1873. Other Universities, University of Bombay and University of Madras were established in
1879 and 1907 respectively. There were only nineteen Universities in India before 1947. Universities were equipped with libraries in accordance with the Indian University Act of 1904. The Bengal Royal Asiatic Society sets up library in 1784, Bombay Royal Asiatic Society in 1804 and Calcutta Public Library in 1835. Establishment of these libraries enlightened the community and may be regarded as the foundation of the concept of public libraries to the Indian people. Some of the important libraries set up in 19th Century in India are:

- Andrews Library, Surat in 1850
- Gaya Public Library, Gaya in 1855
- Long Library, Rajkot in 1856
- Connemara Public Library, Madras in 1860
- Government Library, Janagarh in 1867
- Adyar Library, Adyar in 1886 and
- Dahi Laxmi Library, Nadiad in 1892.

Apart from these, other libraries, like the Gujarat Vernacular Society along with a library, in Ahmedabad 1848 and Barton Library, Bhavnagar in 1882 were established. Some of the Indian states also established public libraries. Baroda established Baroda State Library in Baroda in 1877, Cochin established Public Library and Reading Room in Trichur in 1873, Dhar established Victoria General Library in Dhar in 1856, Indore established General Library in Indore in 1852, and Jaipur established Maharajah’s Public Library in Jaipur in 1899. Others states also established such a kind of libraries, viz. Jammu and Kashmir in 1879, Kahtiawar, in 1886, Kolhapur in 1850, Nizam’s Dominion in 1891 and Travancore in 1829. The first significant date in the development of public libraries in India is 1808 when the Bombay Government initiated a proposal to register libraries, which were to be given copies of books published from the ‘Funds for the Encouragement of Literature’.
The contributions of His Highness the Maharaja Sayajirao III Gaykwad of Baroda towards library movement in India cannot be overlooked. He is remembered even today as the Father of Library Movement in India. At the age of 18, in 1881, he was entrusted with full power to the government of Baroda in the Gujarat speaking region of the Bombay Presidency and the Peninsula of Kathiawar. The Baroda’s population was predominantly rural, the main occupation was agriculture. The people in general were economically poor and socially backward. According to him, education was the foundation to reconstruct a new social and economic life and education should be the right of the humblest villager. He introduced free and compulsory education in his princely states. Baroda became the first territory not only among the native states but also in British India to have a compulsory free primary education. He opined that primary education was to be the very base and decided to preserve it by means of libraries, which were the only agencies for perpetual universal self-education. He decided to establish a library as an experiment in one of the towns of a taluka and in order to implement his idea immediately; he issued orders to his ministers. “In conformity to his ruler’s instructions, the Minister of Education prepared a detailed plan to open Circulating Libraries in the State, which was approved in March, 1907.

Every public library instituted through the State’s financial assistance was to be named as Circulating Library. In 1906, he went to America as “an observer, a student desirous of acquiring all the knowledge and experience that could enable him to make his own state a model one in India”. He was very much impressed by the library services of America for the development of the people in their social, economic and educational life. He then invited an American, William Alanson Borden, a pupil-assistant of Charles A Cutter, who was working as Librarian of the Young Men’s Institute, New Haven, Connecticut to come and established library services in India. In response to his invitation, Borden reached Baroda on November 6, 1910, and became the Director of State Libraries. It can be traced back that public library movement started since 1910 in India. Borden made a survey of libraries in Baroda and concludes that there were over 241 libraries, holding a little over 100000 volumes. On the contrary he did not find any of those
libraries adequately housed, nor did he find them shelved in such a manner as to make them more attractive to readers or convenient to those in command.

The Maharaja apparently accepted Borden's proposals and ordered that the whole scheme might be implemented in parts. The Library Department was created under Order No.9/19, January 30, 1911, for organizing libraries in Baroda. As the Director of state libraries, he planned a network of free public libraries consisting a state central library, four districts or divisional libraries, forty-five town libraries, and more than a thousand village libraries—all integrated into one chain system. Borden played a leading role in the establishment, management and organization of public libraries in India. As a result of the system, within two decades 85% of the Baroda urban and rural population had their access to libraries. Borden developed library classification scheme to suit Indian libraries. Another great contribution of Borden was the establishment of the first library school in India, in which he trained his own assistants and successors. Borden conducted the first formal library-training programme in India at Baroda in 1911. He was an instrumental in the foundation of the Baroda Library Club and its journal, "Library Miscellany" published quarterly in three languages between 1912 and 1919.

1.3.5. Contributions of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan

University of Madras created the post of University Librarian in 1923 and Dr. S R Ranganathan joined the post on 4 January 1924. Ranganathan published his Five Laws of Library Science in 1931, Colon Classification in 1933 and Classified Catalog Code in 1934. He also prepared Model Public Library Bill and the legislated library bill in Indian states. He made a tremendous contribution for the development of libraries in India. Scholars, educationists and people of library bent of mind founded the Calcutta Public Library in 1835 and the same was opened on 21 March 1836 for the public. In 1944, Calcutta Public Library was shifted to a new and spacious building, constructed in honor of the Governor-General of India, Lord Metcalf. Indian War of Independence broke out in 1857 resulted in Europeans of Calcutta withdrew their support for the library management in 1899. Consequently, the management and establishment of the library gradually waned and by the end of the century, the activities at the library came to a standstill.
Lord Curzon, the Viceroy and Governor-General of India visited Calcutta in 1899 and found a miserable condition of the Calcutta Public Library. He bought the rights of the Library of the proprietors and later merged it with the Official Imperial Library consisting of government departmental libraries of the East India Company. He then declared open of a new Imperial Library of India on 30 January 1903 in the Metcalf Hall. In 1948, one year after the independence of India, Imperial Library was transformed into the National library of India and was housed in the Viceroy’s Palace in Calcutta, namely, the Belvedere Palace.

1.3.6. Post-Independence Period (1947 onwards)

Public libraries in India made a tremendous growth after the independence of India in 1947. The central and the state governments took a number of steps forward for the development throughout of the nation from the point of education and considered library as essential part of it. The programs executed by provincial and central governments since 1910 for the social and adult education of the populace paved the way to the enactment of library laws and rules for grants-in-aid in the country. Hence the public library became part of the education budget. To enhance the level of literacy of 16% in 1941, the government undertook some programmes such as extension services, continuing education, social education, non-formal education and adult education. The government further initiated steps in the development of community and organized some projects in this regard. Libraries were considered to be an essential part of the Community Development Project that was launched during the first plan period. In order to accelerate the pace of socioeconomic development, the government considered public libraries to be an integral part of development projects.

The Connemara Public Library in Madras became the State Central Library in 1950 under the provision of Madras Public Libraries Act 1948, and became one of the three depository libraries in 1955. Delhi Public Library was established in 1951 as the first UNESCO Public Library Pilot Project under the joint auspices of UNESCO and Government of India to adopt “Modern Techniques to Indian Conditions” and to serve as a model public library in Asia. In 1954, the Delivery of Book Act was passed to include newspaper. The act obligated every publisher in
India to deposit one copy each of its publications to the National Library in Calcutta, the Asiatic Society Library in Bombay, Connemara Public Library in Madras, and Delhi.

1.4. Library Legislation

Since the beginning, the public libraries served as the local information centers making the source of knowledge readily available to the public. The local community from the local fund or individual munificence could not achieve the services of a public library. Public leaders, scholars and learned societies have realized that the only way to establish and develop a public library system is through legislation. The UNESCO Public Library Manifesto, 1972 stated, “The public library should be established under the clear mandate of law,” which is substantiated by the IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Manifesto 1994 as; “The public library shall in principle be free of charge. The public library is the responsibility of local and national authorities. It must be supported by specific legislation and financed by national and local government. It has to be an essential component of any long-term strategy for culture, information provision, literacy and education.”

Libraries are recorded under the Article 246 of Indian Constitution, Seventh Schedule List II of State List No.12 and the Indian Constitution (Seventh Amendment) Act, 1956, Section 27 reads, “Libraries, museums and other similar institutions controlled or financed by the State; ancient and historical monuments and records other than those to be of national importance.” Provision of public library service is the responsibility of the State Government as the subject matter of libraries is relatable to entry 12 of the State List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.

1.4.1. Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, a pioneer of Library Legislation

Dr. S. R. Ranganathan regarded as the pioneer of library legislation in India. “The concept of legislation for libraries is a contribution of S R Ranganathan to Indian public libraries.” He made library legislation obligatory for the implementation of the second law of library science, “Every reader his/her book”. According to Ranganathan the second law can be properly carried out only by legislation. Dr. S R Ranganathan strived a lot for library legislation and prepared different library bills for the Indian Union and constituent states; such as; Model Library Act
for constituent states of India (1930); Bengal (1931); Bombay (1946); Central Province and Berar (1946); Old Madras state (1946) which later became Act in 1948; United Province (1947); Cochin (1947); Travancore (1947); Union Government (1948); Madhya Pradesh (1950); Union and Constituent States (1950); Constituent States (1957); Union (1957); West Bengal (1958); Kerala (1959); Uttar Pradesh (1960); Mysore (1961) which became Act in 1965; Assam (1964); Gujarat (1964) and Model Library Bill (1972).

The Public libraries also considered as community information centers providing access at a local level to a wide range of knowledge and information for the benefit of the individual and society as a whole. To ensure sustained development and information network services public libraries should be based on legislation. “Public library legislation may be in various forms depending upon the government structure. It can be simple, allowing the establishment of public libraries but leaving standards of service to the level of government directly responsible for the library, or more complex, with specific detail on what services should be provided and to what standard.” However, no British Government passed a library Act for the creation of the public library system in Indian states.

1.4.2. The Dire Need for the Public Libraries' Legislation

To put into practice the concept of libraries many scholars and the pioneers in the library movement took efforts to draft model public library bills and tried to define public libraries in specific terms well suited to their local needs and conditions. S.R.Ranganathan defines a public library as mainly library established and maintained by a local library authority including traveling library, any library open to the public free of charge and maintained by any local body etc. According to the UNESCO definition a public library is started and maintained under the clear mandate of law which is free to all section of the community regardless of race, colour, age, sex, nationality, language, status or level of education attainment and which does not collect any charge for the service. The UNESCO definition of public libraries calls for a network of public libraries with the statutory backing.
The Advisory committee on libraries appointed by the Government of India (1958) (India, Education (Ministry of) Advisory Committee for Libraries, Report 1958, Delhi, Manager of Publications, 1961, p.31.) It further more, focuses on the free and fair library service to all. In addition, it gave importance to the nature of the materials to be kept in the libraries. In its own terms, it stated that a "public library is the one, which houses learning materials giving reliable information freely and without partiality or prejudice on as wide a variety of subjects as will satisfy the interests of readers."

The above definitions of the public library focus upon the need for a well defined public library system backed by the constant flow of funds and a well managed organisation. The subscription libraries run by the individual communities or individuals may not fulfill the requirement of a well defined public library system whatever may be the potentiality of the persons who manage. Hence, the institution of public library needs to be backed by law with a provision for a financial base with the population, which will legitimatize the institution of the public and for the public. It is to be maintained efficiently and permanently with uniform pulsating and integrated library service and properly laid out network of library systems. A simple executive order does not maintain a sound system. However well it might be, executive orders cannot generate finances.

1.4.3. Advantages of Library Legislation

A Library Act provides the following advantages:

1. Helps in the establishment of an organized network of public libraries;

2. A sound administrative set-up;

3. Proper and continuous financial support;

4. Coordination in administration and management of public libraries;

5. Centralized services like purchase, processing, bibliographical and other services can be provided conveniently.
6. Possibility of providing quality library service, at qualified hands, at free of charge.

1.4.4. Functions of Library Legislation

The Advisory Committee for Libraries constituted by the Government of India (1958) proposed the following five functions of library legislation:

1. The aim of Library legislation is to create the necessary library agencies and to define clear cut powers and duties of each unit in a library system.

2. It should clearly define the government's responsibility in the matter of public libraries;

3. Legislation should lay down the constitution and functions of the library authority at national, state and district levels;

4. Legislation should provide an assured basis for library finance. There are two ways of providing a firm basis for library finance:

   (i) A special library cess; and

   (ii) Reservation of a certain percentage of the education budget.

5. Legislation should lay down the structure of libraries, ensure in establishment, development and maintenance on an approved and uniform pattern for the service of the community and prevents in haphazard growth.

6. Legislation should provide for the participation of the representative of the public, in the work of the public libraries at all levels.

7. It provides a machinery to examine and report on the working of libraries from time to time.

8. The library rules framed under the Act may make the public and the library authority's alert about their duties and rights towards the scientific management and utilization of libraries.
1.4.5. Library Legislation in India

Present Status of Library Legislation in India: The credit of enacting a library act for the first time in India goes to the Kolhapur princely state of the present Maharashtra in 1945. The act is presently non-functional. In India, nineteen states have so far enacted library legislation and the rest is providing library services without legislation. The list of the nineteen Acts is given below:

- Tamil Nadu (Madras) Public Libraries Act, 1948
- Andhra Pradesh (Hyderabad) Public Libraries Act, 1960
- Karnataka (Mysore) Public Libraries Act, 1965
- Maharashtra Public Libraries Act, 1967
- West Bengal Public Libraries Act, 1979
- Manipur Public Libraries Act, 1988
- Haryana Public Libraries Act, 1989
- Kerala Public Libraries Act, 1989
- Goa Public Libraries Act, 1993
- Mizoram Public Libraries Act, 1993
- Gujarat Public Libraries Act, 2001
- Orissa Public Libraries Act, 2001
- Uttar Pradesh Public Libraries Act, 2005
- Uttarakhand (Uttaranchal) Public Libraries Act, 2005
- Rajasthan Public Libraries Act, 2006
- Bihar Public Libraries Act, 2007
1. Constitution of State Library Committee for the purpose of advising the government on such matters relating to libraries.

2. Provision for appointment of Director of Public Libraries to control, direct and supervise public libraries.

3. Constitution of Local Library Authorities, one for the City of Madras and one for each district.

4. Every Local Library Authority shall levy in the area a library cess in the form of a surcharge on property tax or house tax at the rate of six paise per rupee.

5. The Government shall contribute Library Fund to each of the Local Library Authority, except the City of Madras, to the amount of library cess collected.

6. The Act amended Sec.9 of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, Central Act XXV of 1867 to the effect that every printer shall deliver five copies of each book to the State Government out of which four will be deposited in the State Central Library, Madras.
Tamil Nadu was very rich in public libraries. The Connemara Public Library was opened for the public in 1896 and became the State Central Library from 1st April 1950. There is a tremendous growth and development of public libraries since an enactment of Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act 1948 being the first state in India with Library Legislation. As on March 1998, the state has public library service units, as – 1st State Central Library, 29 District Central Libraries, 1548 Branch Libraries, 506 Village Libraries, 649 Part-time Libraries, and 8 Mobile Libraries. The Department of Public Libraries has been offering extension services, like — Mobile Library Service, Home Delivery Service, Library Service for Children, Library Service for Police Personnel, Library Service for state workers and remote settlers in the hills, Hospital Library Service, Rural Library Service, Part-time Library Service, Library Service for Students, Library Service for research scholars and Library Service for competitions for various civil services.

1.4.5.1.1. Features of Public Library System in Tamilnadu:

1. There is a Library Training Institute run by the Department.

2. Mobile library service.

3. Centralised supply of Tamil books to the value of 20% of the Matching grant up to 12 ½ % of the income can be spent to cater the needs of minorities.

4. Students are engaged in organising home delivery service under 'Earn while you learn' scheme.

1.4.5.2. Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh is one of the leading states in India for the promotion of library services in India. It is the second state in India with Public Libraries Act in 1960. It received the Governor assent on 18th February 1960. Andhra Pradesh is the second state that has enacted Public Libraries Act in independent India. Its Preamble reads that, "An Act to consolidate and amend the laws relating to the establishment and maintenance of Public Libraries in the State of Andhra Pradesh and matters connected therewith."
It has seven chapters. Important features of this Act are as below:


2. Constitution of Directorate of Public Libraries to direct, supervise and control Public Library System.

3. Constitution of Zilla Granthalaya Samastha, one for the City of Hyderabad, one for the district of Hyderabad and one for each district.

4. Provision to collect library cess by every Zilla Granthalaya Samstha in its area as surcharge on property tax or house tax up to eight paise per rupee.

5. The accounts of Zilla Granthalaya Samstha shall be open to inspection.


The structure of public library services can be classified into three categories consisting of:

- **Government Libraries**
  1 State Central Library, 6 Regional Libraries, and 1 Mobile Library,
  
  a. **Zila Grandhalaya Samstha Libraries**
  23 District/City Central Libraries, 1448 Branch Libraries, 355 Village Libraries, 3 Mobile Libraries, and 576 Book Deposit Centers,
  
  b. **Aided Libraries**
1.4.5.3. Karnataka

Karnataka is the third state in India that enacted Public Library Bill in 1965. The Belgaum Native General Library, established in 1848 by M.J.D. Invararity, was regarded as the first library started in Karnataka state. The objective of this Act can be seen in its Preamble that reads, "An Act to provide for the establishment and maintenance of Public Libraries and the organization of a comprehensive rural and urban library service in the State of Karnataka (Mysore)."

Important features of this Act are given below:

1. Constitution of State Library Authority to meet twice in a year, Minister of Public Libraries as its Chairman and State Librarian as ex-officio Secretary.

2. Provision for creation of an independent Department of Public Libraries with a profession as its head, to supervise, direct and control library services.

3. Provision for the establishment of State Library as apex of public library system in the state.

4. Constitution of Local Library Authority, City Library Authority and District Library Authority.

5. Provision for setting up of the Advisory Library Committee for Branch and Village Library Services.


7. Additional sections in State Central Library
   - State Bureau of Copyright Collection
   - State Library for the Blind
   - State Bureau of Inter Library Loan
   - State Bibliographical Bureau
   - State Bureau of Technical Service.
The existing public libraries in Karnataka are - 1 State Central Library, 1 Indira Priyadarshini Childen’s Library, 1 Public Technical Library, 27 District Central Library, 19 City Central Library, 14 Mobile Libraries (District & City), 490 Branch Libraries (District & City), 107 Service Station (District & City), 31 Reading Room, 5766 Gram Panchayat Libraries, 21 Aided Libraries (District & City), 200 Slum Libraries and 600 Reading Rooms in Slum Areas.

1.4.5.4. Maharashtra

The Maharashtra Public Libraries Act was enacted in 1967; the public library system was developed through voluntary organizations with grants from the government. The fourth state in an independent India that has enacted Public Libraries Act is Maharashtra state. The preamble of the Act reads that, “To provide for the establishment, maintenance, organization and development of public libraries in the state of Maharashtra.” The Maharashtra Public Libraries Act, 1967 succeeds Kolhapur Public Libraries Act 1945.

Important features of this Act are:

1. Constitution of State Library Council Minister for Education shall be the ex-officio President of the Council. The Council will advise the State Government on all matters connected with the administration of this Act.

2. Constitution of a separate department of Libraries and the appointment of a professional Director;

3. Establishment of Maharashtra State Library Service;

4. Establishment of State Central library and a Divisional Library for each Division;

5. Constitution of District Library Committee in each of the district. Chairman of the Education Committee of a Zilla Parishad in the district shall be ex-officio President of the Committee.
6. Constitution of Library Fund by the State Government for carrying out the purpose of this Act. The State Government will contribute not less than a sum of twenty-five lakhs to the Library Fund every year.

Maharashtra has different categories of public libraries as – 1 State Central Library, 6 Divisional Libraries, 31 District Libraries, 63 Taluka Grade A Libraries, 144 Taluka Grade B Libraries, 58 Taluka Grade C Libraries, and 3842 Recognized Libraries.

1.4.5.5. West Bengal

The West Bengal Legislature passed this Act and assent of the President was first published in the Calcutta Gazette, Extraordinary on the 7th January 1980. West Bengal enacted the Public Libraries Act in 1979 to become the fifth state of India with library legislation. Its preamble stated that, "An Act to provide for the establishment of Public libraries in the State of West Bengal and to regulate, guide, central, supervise and to grant recognition to the existing libraries in the State as also to provide for a comprehensive rural and urban library service in the State of West Bengal."

Some of the important salient features of this Act are:

1. Constitution of State Library Council for the purpose of advising the Government on the matters of public library services. Minister-in-Charge of Library Services shall be the Chairman of the Council;

2. Constitution of the Department of Libraries to supervise and direct the maintenance of Public Libraries;

3. Constitution of Local Library Authority for each district. The District Magistrate shall be the Chairman of the Local Library Authority. Provision for constitution of Executive Committee for Local Library Authority;

4. The Government is empowered to appoint District Library Officers and District Librarians in districts. The Government, in consultation with the Local Library
authority may place a person in charge of a District Library to be called as "District Librarian;"

5. Financial management of local libraries rests upon the Local Library Authority. Means of augmenting funds are:

- Contributions, gifts and income from endowments;
- Grants from the government
- Collection of Local Library Authority under the Act.

The state government took up a seven tier library development scheme, which envisaged setting up of public libraries at different levels- State Central Library; District Library; Sub-Division/Area Library; Rural Library; Village Library; and Delivery Stations/Book Deposit Centers. By 1996, West Bengal has one State Central Library, 22 District Libraries, 120 Sub-Divisional/Town Libraries, and 2276 Rural/Area/Primary Unit Libraries. There are also around 3000 non-governmental/non-sponsored public libraries.

1.4.5.6. Manipur

Manipur is the sixth state in an independent India that has enacted Public Libraries Act in 1988. The preamble stated the objectives of this act as, "An Act to provide the establishment and maintenance of Public Libraries in the State of Manipur and matters connected therewith."

The salient features of this Act are given hereunder:

1. Constitution of a State Library Committee, to advise the State Government on all matters arising under this Act and to exercise and perform such other powers and duties as may be prescribed.

2. Constitution of a separate Department of Public Libraries under the Director, as its head.
3. Constitution of District Library Authority for each district to supervise library services in the area of its jurisdiction.

4. Provision to constitute an Executive Committee and Sub-Committees of District Library Authority to inquire into and report or advice on any matters, which it may refer to them.

5. Constitution of the Library fund formed mainly with the contribution of the State Government.

There are 9 District Libraries, 1 State Central Library, and 215 Libraries organized by Voluntary Organizations.

1.4.5.7. Kerala

Kerala Public Libraries Act, 1989 is also known as “Kerala Granthasala Sanghom,” 1989. Kerala enacted its pubic Libraries Act in 1989 to become the seventh state in India with library legislation. Preamble of this Act stated its objectives as, “An Act to consolidate and unify the library laws in the State and to provide for the recognition in the entire library system in the State of Kerala with a view to the development and maintenance of comprehensive rural and urban library service and for matters connected therewith or incidental hereto.”

**Important features of the Act are:**

1. Constitution of Kerala State Library Council with Executive Committee to advise the government on all matters connected with this Act and to supervise and direct all matters relating to library service in the state;

2. Secretary of the State Library Council shall be the Chief Executive Authority of the State Library Council;

3. Constitution of District Library Council to supervise, co-ordinate and control the Library service under its jurisdiction and to promote co-operation between libraries and cultural and educational institutions in the country;
4. Constitution of Taluk Library Union, with the power to supervise, coordinate and control the library services in the Taluk and to give directions and advice to affiliated libraries in regard to their day to day function and management;

5. The Government may make every year a grant to the State library council with a maximum of one percent of the education budget of the State.

6. The State Library Council shall maintain a fund called State Library fund. Library cess collected and grants of State and Central Government will be credited to the State Library fund.

7. Transfer of Kerala *Granthaala Sangham* with its staff, assets, and liabilities of the State Library Council.

8. Collection of Library Cess in the form of a surcharge on the building tax or the property tax at the rate of 5 paise for the whole rupee.

The Christian missionaries started libraries in Kerala during the 19th century. The history of the public library movement in Kerala started in 1829 with the establishment of the Trivandrum Public Library. There are more than 5000 public libraries in Kerala now, one in every 8 square kilometers.

Public libraries can be grouped into four categories as follows: Libraries directly run by the Government, Libraries run by the local bodies, Grant-in-Aid libraries affiliated to the Kerala Grandhasala Sangham, and Libraries run by the Local Library Authorities.

1.4.5.8. Haryana

Haryana is the eighth state in India with library legislation. The preamble stated its objectives as, "*An Act to provide for the establishment, maintenance and development of Public Libraries in the State of Haryana and for matters ancillary thereto.*"
Some of the important features of this Act are:

1. Constitution of State Library Authority to advise the Government on all matters for the promotion of library services in the State. Minister-in-charge of libraries will be the Chairman;

2. Establishment of State Library Directorate to execute the programmes approved by the State Library Authority;

3. Establishment of State Central library;

4. Constitution of District Library in each district and Municipal/City/Town library; Block library; Village library; and Smaller book deposit centers;

5. Provision for three types of library funds, such as State Library Fund, District Library Fund, and City/Town/Block/Village Library Fund;

6. Levy of Library cess in the form of a surcharge on property tax and house tax as decided by the government from time to time;

7. Provision to recognize state library associations, and co-operative institutions by the State Library Authority.

Besides the establishment, it has started 12 District Libraries, 11 Sub-Divisional Libraries and 11 Municipal Libraries. The Haryana Library Association founded in 1967. Mobile library services to reach the interior of the remote villages with reading facilities were started.

1.4.5.9. Mizoram

Mizoram is the ninth state of India to have library legislation. Preamble of this Act stated its objective as, "An Act to provide for the establishment, maintenance and development of a comprehensive public libraries system in the State of Mizoram."
Important features of this Act are:

1. Constitution of State Library Council to advise the Government on all matters relating to libraries and also in regard to the promotion and development of libraries in the State;

2. Constitution of the Department of Public Libraries to control and supervise the public library system in the State;

3. Constitution of State Library, District Library, Sub-Divisional Library and Village Libraries;

4. Provision of grant-in-aid of recognized libraries;

5. No library cess. All expenses shall be made from the Government funds.

1.4.5.10. Goa

Goa is the tenth state to have library legislation in India. Preamble of this Act stated that, "An Act to provide for the establishment, maintenance and development of Public Libraries in the State of Goa and for the matters ancillary hereto."

Important salient features of this Act are:

1. Constitution of State Library Council with the Minister-in-charge at the Chairman to advise the Government on all matters arising under the Act;

2. Constitution of State Library Directorate for controlling and directing the public library system in the State;

3. Organization of State Library, District Library, Taluk Library, and Village library;

4. Creation of Public Library employees similar to the employees of State Government;

5. Recognition of one State Library Association as co-operating institution;
6. State library fund from different sources, viz. Government contribution, Government Grants, and any other contribution from the public;

7. Levy of Library Cess in the form of a surcharge on Indian Made Foreign Liquor at the rate of 50 paise per bulk litre of beer.

The public libraries of Goa can be categorized into five levels, as the State Library, Taluka Libraries, Village Libraries, Government Aided Libraries, and Municipal Libraries. Goa is the tenth state in India with Public Library Act in 1993.

1.4.5.11. Orissa (Odissa)

The establishment of Diamond Jubilee Library at Kendrapara in 1897 and at Baripada in 1898 started the development of public library and followed by the establishment of other libraries in the state. There is one State Library, 13 District Libraries, 4 Sub-Divisional libraries, 6 Ex.District Board Libraries, and 4 Memorial Hall Libraries.

1.4.5.12. Gujarat

The first considered public library in Gujarat was called, “Himabhai Institute of Library” established in 1849 in Ahmadabad.

**Important features of this act are:**

1. Constitution of State Library Council with Minister in-charge of Libraries as its Chairman;

2. Establishment of Public Library Department with Director as its head of office;

3. Establishment of District and Taluka Libraries at the headquarters of taluka;

4. Constitution of District and Taluka Library Advisory Committee;

5. Formation of State Library Development Fund;

There are 2 State Central libraries, 18 District Libraries in all the districts, 45 Taluka Libraries, 129 Mahila Libraries run by voluntary organizations, more than 300 Book Service Centers and Mobile Library service.

1.4.5.13. Uttarakhand

The state government is very much interested to serve the people through public libraries and the Uttarakhand Public Libraries Bill was enacted in 2005 to become the thirteenth state in India with Library legislation. Some of the well established libraries of the state government of Uttar Pradesh were taken over while coming up into existence.

1.4.5.14. Rajasthan

Libraries were established in Rajasthan as early as 14th Century and maintained in the form of Pothi-Khanas consisting rich collections of manuscripts on different disciplines. Rana Kumbha’s Saraswati Bhandar Library was established in 1448. Raja Man Singh established library, Pothi-Khana in 1592 by keeping rare and important manuscripts. There are 5 Divisional libraries, 24 District Libraries, and 8 Tehsil Libraries with 600 Book Deposit Centers on 15 August 1956. Mobile van was also provided to Division Libraries to supervise library services in the state.

1.5. Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF)

The year 1972 was a significant year in the history of the library movement in India. The country was celebrating the silver jubilee of its independence from the British Administration in 1972. Coincidentally it was an International Book Year with the slogan of ‘Books for all’ emphasizing promotion of reading habits among the masses. Not only that, it was the auspicious occasion of the bicentennial birth anniversary of an Indian social reformer, who stressed the need of modern education for the development of the nation. In this august year, Raja Rammohun Roy Library (RRRLF) came into being in May 1972.
It is the nodal agency of the Government of India to support public library services and systems and promote public library movement in the country. Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation is an autonomous organization, established and sponsored by the Department of Culture, Government of India. It was registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961. Its headquarters is located at Kolkata. In view of the expanding activities, the Foundation has opened zonal offices under the Assistant Field Officers for monitoring the impact and implementation of the assistance rendered by the Foundation such as Eastern Zonal Office in Calcutta; Northern Zonal Office in New Delhi; Southern Zonal Office at Chennai and Western Zonal Office at Mumbai.

1.5.1. Objectives of the RRRLF

Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation is a national agency for the promotion of library services in general and public library services in particular. The main objective of the foundation is to promote and support public library movement in the country by providing adequate library services and by developing reading habits all over the country with the active cooperation of State Government and Union Territories and of Voluntary Organizations operating in the field of library services, cultural activities, adult education and the like.

Objectives of the Foundation may be listed as below:

- To promote library movement in the country;
- To enunciate a national library policy and to help build up a national library system;
- To provide financial and technical assistance to libraries;
- To provide financial assistance to organizations, regional or national engaged in the promotion of library development;
- To publish appropriate literature and to act as a clearing house of ideas and information on library development in India and abroad;
- To promote research in problems of library development;
❖ To advise the government on all matters pertaining to the library development in the country; and

❖ To propagate the adoption of library legislation in the country.

1.5.2. **Assistance Programme**

The Foundation promotes public library service rendering book and financial assistance to the public libraries under different schemes of assistance. The scheme of assistance is of two types, viz., Matching and Non-Matching schemes.

1.5.2.1. **Matching Schemes**

Assistance under Matching Scheme is given from the resources shared on a matching basis with the States/Union Territory Administrations on the basis of developed states 50:50; developing and lagging states 60:40 and North-Eastern States 90:10. This revised matching scheme is effective from 2005.

The Matching assistance can be given to achieve its main objectives are:

❖ Assistance towards building up of adequate stocks of books and reading materials.

❖ Assistance towards development of rural book deposit centers and mobile library services.

❖ Assistance towards organization of seminars, workshops, training courses (orientation/refresher) and book exhibition.

❖ Assistance towards storage and display of books including reading room furniture.

❖ Assistance to public libraries below district level for increasing accommodation.
 Assistance to public libraries below State Central Libraries to acquire TV cum-VCP sets for educational purposes/Computer for library application (networking of Public Libraries below State Central Libraries).

 Assistance towards Networking of Public Libraries.

1.5.2.2. Non-Matching Schemes

The Foundation fully renders assistance under this scheme from his own resources to implement its objectives for:

 Assistance towards building up of adequate stocks of books through central selection.

 Assistance to voluntary organizations (NGOs) providing public library services

 Assistance to children’s libraries or children’s section of general public libraries including women’s section and senior citizen section.

 Assistance to public libraries toward celebration of 50 years, 100 years and 125 years.

 Assistance towards collection and compilation of library statistics through official and non-official agencies.

 Assistance to centrally sponsored libraries.

 Assistance towards organization of seminars/conferences by national level library organizations.

 Assistance towards establishment of children’s corner

1.5.3. Promotion of District Youth Resource Centres (DYRCs)

The development of DYRCs is being made commensurate with the decision of the inter Ministerial Steering Committee constituted for the purpose with the
representative from the Ministry of Sports & Youth Affairs, Ministry of Culture, Raja Rammohun Roy Library foundation and Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sanghatana.

The DYRCs are assisted for the following purpose:

- Towards building up adequate stock of books.
- Towards acquiring storage materials and library furniture.
- Towards construction of library building.
- Towards acquisition of computers with accessories.

1.5.4. Promotional Activities

RRRLF has undertaken a number of promotional activities for qualitative improvement of library services. It is associated and interacts with different national and international library professional associations like IFLA, ILA, IASLIC and different state level library associations. Some of the promotional activities taken up by the foundation for the qualitative improvement of library services may be given as below:

- It organizes seminars and conferences on the topics related to the development of public libraries in India.
- It plays a major role in the preparation of National Policy on Library & Information Systems and also issued guidelines on public library systems and services.
- It instituted ‘RRRLF Fellowship’ to eminent men and women in the field of library services who have contributed significantly to the library movement particularly, public library movement in the country through active involvement in the movement, organizational initiative, intellectual leadership or are dedicated to the propagation of the reading habit among the mass. The fellowship carries a cash award of Rs.25,000/- besides a plaque and a citation detailing the services rendered by the Fellow in the country.
‘RRRLF Best Library Award’ for the Best State Central Library in India. The award carries a Citation and a cash incentive of Rs. 1 lakh.

‘RRRLF Best District Library Award’ in each of the six regions. The award carries a citation and a cash incentive of Rs.50,000/-. 

The foundation instituted ‘RRRLF Best Rural Library Awards’ one for each state since 2005.

‘Raja Rammohun Roy Award’ was introduced annually to the best contributor of an article covering the area of development of Public Library Systems and Services or suggesting measures for the promotion of reading habits.

1.5.5. Research Cell and Special Library

A research cell along with a special library on Library & Information Science and statistics unit supported by a computer unit are providing necessary input to its various activities. About 5000 important books and journals in Library & Information Science and allied fields have been acquired by the library. Besides carrying on Research Projects on public library or allied subjects, the Research Cell renders advisory and consultancy services whenever required. It has prepared and published a report on loss of books in libraries for the Government of India.

1.5.6. Publications

The Foundation has brought out many useful publications for the promotion and development of public library services in the country.

Some of its significant publications are:

- Indian Libraries; Trends and Perspectives
- Raja Rammohun Roy and the New Learning
- Directory of Indian Public Libraries
- RRRLF Newsletter (quarterly)
Grantana- Indian Journal of Library Studies (Bi-annual)

Annual Report

Books for the Millions at their Doorsteps (Information Manual).

1.5.7. Modernization Programme

The Foundation is taking steps to meet the new technologies of information for the promotion of library services. It has a Computer Section for building-up data bank of public libraries in the country. This section is planned to give information storage, retrieval and data processing support for all the application areas. It has a keen interest with enthusiasm to computerize state libraries in India. It gave computers to the state and district libraries to carry out Foundations’ zeal to computerize such libraries. The work is going on to be computerized shortly.

1.5.8. Achievement

The Foundation has taken pains in promoting and developing library services in the country since its inception. Central Government’s grant allotment is increasing over the last years and state contributions for matching scheme is also increasing as well. This increase shows that the works carried out by the Foundation is growing and the State Government gives emphasis for the promotion of public libraries through the foundation. During the VIII Five Year Plan period (1992-1997) the total plan grant from the Government of India was Rs.1175.50 lakhs with an average annual plan grant of Rs.235.10 lakhs and contribution of States under matching scheme reaches Rs.645.97 lakhs.

The Government of India has allotted an amount of Rs.3233 lakhs as plan grant during IX Five Year Plan period (1997-2002). The annual average plan grant was Rs.646.60 lakhs and the state contribution reaches Rs.1977 lakhs. During the last three years of the X Five Year Plan period (2002-2005), the plan grant stepped up to Rs.1150.21 lakhs including a special grant of Rs.150.21 lakhs for North-Eastern States and contributions received from various state governments also reaches Rs.769.59 lakhs.
1.6. National Policy on Library and Information System (NAPLIS)

John Martin said, “Policy is a statement of a specific goal or goals which are to be achieved, or to be pursued; a statement of the means by which realization of the goals will be brought about; an assignment of the responsibilities for implementation of the means, and a set of rules or guidelines regulating the activity.” According to P.B. Mangla, National Policy on Library and Information Science is to “provide a framework for properly planned and co-coordinated development of library and information structure in a country, resulting thereby in an enhanced and user-oriented information service to its user population.”

The dire need for the formulation of National Policy on Library and Information Systems (NAPLIS) was brought to the notice of the Government of India by Indian library profession since 1950s by Dr. S. R. Ranganathan and on the recommendations of the Library Advisory Committee Report, 1958. Afterwards, professional organizations, like RRRLF, NISSAT and National Library urged upon the Government the necessity of enunciating such policy. The matter was discussed at the annual conference of IASLIC in 1979 at Roorkee and ILA in 1984 at Jaipur. Consequently, Indian Library Association submitted a draft policy statement to the Government in 1985.

The Planning Commission Working Group in its report Modernization of Library Services and Informatics for the 7th Five-Year Plan (1985-1990) emphasized the need of such policy. The Raja Rammohun Roy Foundation, after nine years of its inception, took up the task in 1981 and after careful deliberations submitted a Draft National policy on Library and Information Systems to the government in July 1984. On the basis of the draft policy submitted by the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation and Indian Library Association, the Government of India, Ministry of Human resources Development, Department of Culture, set up a Committee in October 1985 under the Chairmanship of Professor D.P. Chattopadhyaya for the formulation of a National Policy on Library and Information Systems and the final report was submitted in May 1986 which includes:

- The Public Library System;
- The Academic Library System;
- Special Libraries and Information Systems;
The National Library System and the Bibliographical Services;

Manpower Development and Professional Status; and

Modernization of Library and Information Systems.

The following five libraries were regarded as national importance and may be stated in a very brief manner:

1.6.1. **National Library, Kolkata** was established in 1836 in the name of the Calcutta Public Library. It was not a Government institution running on a proprietary basis. The then Governor General, Lord Metcalf transferred 4,675 volumes from the library of the College of Fort William to the Calcutta Public Library. This and the donations of books from individuals formed the nucleus of the library. Prince Dwarkanath Tagore was the first proprietor of the Calcutta Public Library. Both the Indian and foreign books, especially from Britain, were purchased for the library. In the report of 1850 we find that the library started collecting books in Gujarati, Marathi, Pali, Ceylonese and Punjabi. The Government of Bengal and North Western Provinces regularly made by individuals as well as donations. The Calcutta Public Library had a unique position as the first public library in this part of the country. Such a well-organized and efficiently run library was rare even in Europe during the first half of the 19th century. Because of the efforts of the Calcutta Public Library, the National Library has developed rare books and journals in its collection.

The Imperial Library was formed in 1891 by combining a number of Secretariat libraries. Of these, the most important and interesting was the library of the Home Department, which contained many books formerly belonging to the library of the East India College, Fort William and the library of the East India Board in London. But the use of the library was restricted to the superior officers of the Government. Lord Curzon, the Governor General of India, was the person who conceived the idea of opening a library for the use of the public. He noticed both the libraries, Imperial Library and Calcutta Public Library, were under-utilized for the want of facilities or restrictions. So, he decided to amalgamate the rich collection of both of these libraries. He was successful in effecting the amalgamation of the Calcutta
Public Library with the then Imperial Library under certain terms. The library, called Imperial Library, was formally opened to the public on 30th January 1903 at Metcalf Hall, Kolkata.

The aims and objectives of the Imperial Library, well defined in a Notification in the 'Gazette of India' as "It is intended that it should be a library of reference, a working place for students and a repository of material for the future historians of India, in which, so far as possible, every work written about India, at any time, can be seen and read."

After the independence the Government of India changed the name of the Imperial Library at the National Library, with an enactment of the Imperial Library (change of name) Act 1948 and the collection was shifted from the Esplanade to the present Belvedere Estate. On 1st February 1953 the National Library was opened to the public, inaugurated by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. Sri B.S. Kesavan was appointed as the first librarian of the National Library. The reviewing Committee in its report of 1969 suggested that the following should be the basic features of the National Library; Acquisition and conservation of all significant printed materials produced in the country to the exclusion of ephemera:

- Collection of printed materials concerning the country wherever published and also the acquisition of photographic record of such materials that are not available within the country;
- Acquisition and conservation of manuscripts having national importance;
- Planned acquisition of foreign materials required by the country;
- Rendering of bibliographical and documentation service of retrospective materials, both general and specialized;
- Acting as a referral centre purveying full and accurate knowledge of all sources of bibliographical activities;
- Provision of photocopying and reprographic services; and
- Acting as the centre for international book exchange and international loan.
1.6.2. Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna was open to the public in October 1891 with 4000 Oriental manuscripts. Maulvi Khuda Bakhsh donated his entire collection to the nation by a deed of trust. Acknowledging the immense historical and intellectual value of its rich and valued collection, the Government of India declared the Library as Institution of National Importance by an act of Parliament in 1969. The Library is now fully funded by the Ministry of Culture (Govt. of India). This autonomous institution is being governed by a Board with the Governor of Bihar as its ex-officio Chairman and Director is carrying the responsibility of day-to-day management of Library affairs.

1.6.3. Rampur Raza Library, Rampur was founded by Nawab Faizullah Khan in A.D 1774. It was brought under the management of a Trust till the Government of India took over the library on 1 July 1975 under the Act of Parliament, which declared it as an institution of National importance. It contains very rare and valuable collection of manuscripts, historical documents, and specimens of Islamic calligraphy, miniature paintings, astronomical instruments and rare illustrated works in Arabic and Persian languages besides 80,000 printed books. Nawab Faizullah Khan who ruled the state of Rampur, from 1774 to 1794, established the library with his personal modest collection kept in the Tosha Khana of his Palace. Now the Library occupies the position of an autonomous institution of national importance under the Department of Culture, Government of India and is fully funded by Central Government. The Library has now attained an International status of higher studies.

1.6.4. Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library, Thanjavur is one among a few medieval libraries existing throughout the world. It contains very rare and valuable collections of manuscripts, books, maps and paintings on all aspects of Art, Culture and Literature. The Encyclopedia Britannica in its survey of the Libraries of the world mentions this as "the most remarkable Library in India". The Library houses a rich and rare collection of manuscripts on art, culture and literature. It conceived and christened as the Royal Palace Library by the Nayak Kings of Thanjavur (1535-1675 A.D.). And the Maratha rulers (1676-1855 A.D.) nourished it for intellectual enrichment. In 1918 this Library was made as a public Library. A body constituted by the Government and financed by the Central and
State Governments now administers the library. During the reign of the Nayaks of Thanjavur (1535-1675 A.D.), "Saraswati Bhandar" (Collection place of Manuscripts) was formed and developed. The Maratha rulers who captured Thanjavur in 1675 A.D. patronized the culture of Thanjavur and developed the Royal Palace Library until 1855 A.D. The Saraswati Bhandar was situated within the Palace campus and the Manuscripts used for the purpose of reading by the Royal personages. Among the Maratha Kings, King Serfoji II (1798-1832), was an eminent scholar in many branches of learning and with great enthusiasm he took special steps for the enrichment of the Library. It is a fitting tribute to the great collector Serfoji that the Library is named after him. Until the survival of the last Maratha Queen, the Library was the Palace property. After that, the Library together with the Palace properties formed the subject of litigation in Civil Courts. The Royal Family members voluntarily came forward to delete this Library from the suit properties formed an Endowment and dedicated this Library to the public with one lakh rupees for its maintenance and upkeep. Accordingly, the Government of Madras in their G.O. Ms. No.1306 Home (Education) dated 5th October 1918, took possession of the Library under the Charitable Endowment Act and framed scheme for the Library management.

In 1983, the Library was declared as an Institution of National Importance. The Government of Tamil Nadu abolished the Five-Member Committee of administration and made it as a Registered Society as per G.O. 209 (EST) dated 1-2-83. The Society was constituted and got registration on 9-7-1986 under the Tamil Nadu Registered Societies Act of 1975. The Society consists of ex-officio members of Central and State Governments, nominated Scholars, Member of the Royal family and the Director of the Library. The Hon'ble Education Minister of the Government of Tamil Nadu is the ex-officio Chairman of this society.

1.6.5. Harekrushna Mahtab State Library, Bhubaneswar was conceived during 1st Five Year Plan under the advice of the Government of India and was completed in 1959, enshrined within a beautiful land of 3 acres in a prime location of the Capital City of Bhubaneswar. In 1967, it was named as Gandhi Bhawan commemorating the birth centenary of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation. In 1987 it was renovated and the entire space of the four storied building was utilized for the
functioning of two Libraries i.e. State Library for the entire State of Orissa and another Public Library for Bhubaneswar City.

In 1987, the Government decided to rename the State Library and the Public Library as Harekrushna Mahtab State Library (in memory of Dr.Harekrushna Mahtab, the builder of modern Orissa) and the Bhubaneswar Public Library respectively.

The former is a Reference Library and lending of books is not permitted whereas the latter is a Lending Library for the public of Bhubaneswar City. These two Libraries have managed to function over the limited space. Total reader seats available are about 350 against the present demands of 600-700 readers per day.

1.7. **Objectives of Public Libraries**

- To promote the use of Public Libraries as education agencies for the individual.
- To promote the creation of specialized resources.
- To promote the use of Public Libraries as referral points to specialized sources of information.
- To promote and encourage the use of Public Libraries as centers where individuals can take part in the arts in a positive way.
- To encourage the Public Librarian to assume the role of initiator and organizer of cultural organization, fostering the creative use of leisure in the field of the arts.
- To promote and encourage the use of Public Libraries, as cultural information centers.
- To promote the provision of general leisure material for the individuals.

1.8. **Purpose of Public Libraries**

1. Serve as a centre of culture and information in the community
2. Provide services for all sections of the community
3. Encourage and promote the use of books and information

4. Facilitate Continuing Education and Life-long Learning

1.9. The Mission of Public Libraries

There are eight possible roles or functions for public libraries to adopt or to develop into their own specific mission.

**These possible roles are the following:**

1. Community activities center
2. Community information center
3. Formal education support center
4. Independent learning center
5. Popular materials library
6. Pre schooler’s door to learn
7. Reference library
8. Reference Centre

1.10. Services of the Public Libraries:

- Public libraries support preschool, elementary, and high school education through a variety of complementary services and providing access to resources.
- Public libraries support self-directed educational and skill development.
- It provides literacy services from preschool to adult age individuals.
- Public libraries support job-seekers by offering information and pertinent resources.
- Public libraries work with employment services.
It provides access to computers and the Internet.

Public libraries support small businesses and self-employed people.

It presents basic information technology training.

It provides out-of-school activities for young people.

Public libraries offer meeting places and educational resources for children.

Public libraries provide access to health information and services.

Public libraries provide access to information about private and public social services.

Public libraries are often used by people with low income.

Public libraries contribute to the quality of life through leisure opportunities.

Public libraries provide services appealing to older people.

Public libraries assist in community development.

Public libraries provide services to isolated people.

Public libraries offer outreach services to minority populations.

Public libraries provide a sense of place within a community.

Public libraries facilitate people's involvement in local, state and national democracy.

1.11. Types of Services offered by the Public Libraries in Tamilnadu

The following types of services are provided by the public libraries:

- Mobile library service
- Home delivery service
- Library services for children
Home for prisoners in Jail

Library service for police personnel

Library service for estate workers and remote scatters on the hills

Hospital library service

Rural library service

Library service for the blind

Library service to educational institutions through Institution membership

Outreach or part-time library service

1.12. Organisation of Public Libraries in Tamilnadu

C. W. Herbert in his book entitled "Personnel Administration in Public Libraries" has suggested the following guiding principles to ensure co-ordination and efficiency of library work.

1. The organisation should be as simple as possible; it should not be over organised with unnecessary overheads or under organised so that too many conflicting duties are placed on too few officers.

2. Authority must always go with responsibility, and these lines should be so clear as to be reading and generally understood.

3. Executives are of two types those who like responsibility for the execution of work and those who like planning. While the two qualities have to be combined to a certain extent in each executive, a large library needs to provide for both types with the corresponding separation of duties.

4. The organisation should be built upon the basis of community needs and be sufficiently flexible to adapt itself to changing demands and conditions.

5. Personnel should be appointed to fit the requirements of the organisation than the other way round. This is one of the difficulties or reorganisation since libraries must
naturally make the most of the capacities of the present members of the staff. Yet too great a consideration of these personal factors makes for an unbalanced development of the service as a whole.

6. The best organisation is the one gives the larger number of its member’s individual responsibility and opportunity for creative work and professional growth.

The State Library Committee at the top and the Local library Authorities (LLAs) at the middle level and the Branch Units and Part-Time Libraries at the bottom level constitute the public library organisation in Tamil Nadu. The objectives of the organisation is to provide comprehensive rural and urban library services including (i) mobile library service; (ii) home delivery service; (iii) children and women library service; (iv) prison library service; (v) library service for the police personnel; (vi) library service for the tribal; (vii) hospital library service; (viii) part-time library service; (ix) library services for the Researchers.

While the state central library and the district central libraries are responsible for providing library services to most areas stated above, the branch libraries are aimed to serve the local population with the active support from the state central library and their respective district central libraries.

In the year 1990-91, the Government of Tamil Nadu has given an Eight point programmes with the view to build a broader public base and to make the library as an attractive and vital component of the local community.

The eight point programmes are the following:-

- To acquire a free site for every library in Tamil Nadu;
- To enroll every educated person as a member of the library;
- To fulfill the basic requirements of the libraries such as furniture, utensils and electrical fittings through public donations;
- To open part-time libraries at the rate of two for each library;
- To get books, dailies and periodicals through public donations to every library;
To enroll patrons to every library, by the end of the 20th century;

To house every library in its own building by the end of the 20th century; and

To give every library for adoption by bank of business house or industrial house for sustained development.

Hence, the intended and stated objectives of the Directorate of Public Libraries are to provide library services to the various sections of the public with the active support of the people.

1.12.1. Organisation at the State level

The Directorate of Public Libraries is under the Department of Education, Government of Tamil Nadu. The Minister for Education is the head of the Directorate and he is assisted by the secretary to Government, Department of Education.

The Director of Public Libraries is under the immediate control of the Education Secretary. The Director of Public Libraries addresses the Education Secretary for the activities of the directorate. There is also one State Library Committee constituted for the purpose of the Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act, 1948.

The Minister for Education is the Chairman of the committee and the Minister for Local Administration is the member of the committee along with other ex-officio members including the Secretary of Education Department and the Director of Public Libraries.

The State Library committee is the only advisory body to advise the government on all matters with regard to library development in the state. Below the Director, the public libraries are organised into two distinct parts viz., the Connemara Public Library and Local Library Authorities (LLA) in the districts.

Under the LLA, the branch libraries, delivery stations, part-time libraries organized at the grassroots level. The various part of the public organisation in the State of Tamil Nadu is dealt with in detail in the following paragraphs.
1.12.2. Organisation Chart

FIGURE 1.1: ORGANISATION CHART

Organization Chart – Public Library in Tamil Nadu

Ministry of School Education

Secretariat of School Education

Directorate of Public Libraries

Administration
Local Library Authority
State Central Library

District Central Library

Circle Library

Branch Library

Village Library

Part Time Library
1.12.3. Administration Chart

**FIGURE 1.2.: ADMINISTRATION CHART**

![Administration Chart - Public Library In Tamil Nadu]

1.12.4. State Library Committee

The State Library Committee is constituted under the requirements of the Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act, 1947. It consists of ten members of whom seven members are appointed by the Government and remaining three members representing state legislature, Madras Library Association and one prominent literary personality. The Minister for Education, Government of Tamil Nadu is the chairman of the committee and the Deputy Director of Public Library acts as the member Secretary.
The specific functions assigned to the State Library Committee are:

- The Constitution of the Central Library and its branches or the recognition of an existing Government library together with its branches;
- Laying down of the policy for the management of the central library including its branches;
- Framing of rules and regulations for the constitution of the local library authorities in the districts;
- Encouraging of the employment of trained professional staff of different grades for the library system of the state;
- Maintenance of a register of approved members of the library profession of different grades from among whom the professional staff of the libraries of the state may be appointed;
- Prescription of qualifications, academic and professional, need for the different grades of professional staff for inclusion in the register of approved librarians;
- The suggestion of standard scales of salary and other conditions of service for the different grades of professional staff in libraries;
- The publication of the copy-right list of the state bibliography and book selection lists for the benefit of the libraries of the state;
- The promotion of co-operative classification and cataloguing and other forms of co-operation and co-ordination among the libraries of the state and of India as a whole;
- The promotion of standards for library buildings, fittings and furniture and for library techniques;
- The promotion of production of reference books, adults' books and children's books suitable for use in libraries;
- The promotion of production and use of books for the blind
The consideration of the schemes submitted by the local library Authorities;

and

the consideration of the stages in which libraries in different areas are to be established.

1.12.5. The Function of Library Committee

1. To formulate library policies and objectives.

2. To make the proper selection of books and periodicals.

3. To compile and revise rules and regulations for the best use of library resources including the hours of opening admission to the libraries, condition of borrowing books and fines.

4. To check the statistics and annual reports submitted by the librarians.

5. To keep a watch over the implementation of library policies by the library staff.

6. To check library accounts and expenditure, prepare estimates of anticipated expenditure and apportion of the library budget.

7. To approve the recommendation of the librarian regarding selection of library staff and making the formal appointment.

8. To plan overall-library development programmes and activities.

9. To appoint Sub-Committees on book purchase, staff recruitment, staff welfare and financial provision, etc. for carrying on committee's business more expendiously.

10. To receive gifts, donations for the library.

11. To act as a liaison between the library and the publication

12. To evaluate progress and performance.
The State Library Committee has met only once in 1993 since the Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948 came into force. The public libraries are administered only through the office of the Directorate of public libraries and also by Executive directions from time to time from the higher level i.e., from Secretary, Education.

1.13. Directorate of Public Libraries

When the Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948 was brought into force on 1st April 1950, the Directorate of Public Instruction was appointed to act as Director of Public Libraries as a temporary arrangement under section 4 of the Act of 1948. Similarly, the District School Education officers who were primarily responsible for school education in the districts were entrusted with the responsibility of looking after the District Central Libraries. By 1st August, 1972, following the creation of separate Directorate for Public Libraries, District Library Officers were appointed in Districts to run the District central libraries.

According to the Section 4 of the Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948, the responsibilities entrusted to the Director of Public Libraries:-

- Manage the Central Library, together with its branches;
- Superintend and direct all matters relating to public libraries;
- Declaring, what libraries are eligible for aid from the Government in accordance with the rules made under the Act of 1948 and direct all matters relating to such libraries;
- Superintend and control the work of all local library authorities; and
- Submitting report on the working of the libraries in the previous year to the Government.

The important function of the Director of Public Libraries is to examine the schemes submitted by the local library authority and to approve it. In turn, the Director has to report to the State Library Committee of his approved schemes of the Local Library Authorities. The Director is the kingpin of the Public Library system in the state. Public
Libraries are being opened in Tamil Nadu as per the "Tamil Nadu Public Libraries Act, 1948" with an aim to provide best reading for the greatest number at the least cost.


a. Opening of New Libraries: With the support of the local public, part time libraries are opened wherever the population is less than 1000 and village libraries are opened where the population is between 1000 – 6000. The Branch libraries are opened in places where the population is above 5000. Each district is having a central library.

b. Mobile Libraries: In areas not served by libraries, mobile library service has been provided and such service is effectively functioning in the districts of Coimbatore, Madurai, Thiruchirapalli, Thirunelveli, Thanjavur, Salem and Kancheepuram Districts.

c. Libraries in Tamil Nadu: There are 4042 libraries functioning in the State under the administrative control of the Directorate of Public Libraries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Libraries</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>District Central Libraries</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Branch Libraries</td>
<td>1664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mobile Libraries</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Village Libraries</td>
<td>1795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Part – Time Libraries</td>
<td>539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Connemara (State Central) Public Library</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Anna Centenary Library</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4042</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The pride of the state is the Connemara Public Library situated in the heart of the Chennai city. Apart from being the State Central Library, it is one among the four National Repository Libraries in India. Also, the State has three famous old libraries viz. Thanjavur
Maharaja Serfoji Sarasvati Mahal Library, Thanjavur, Dr. U.Ve. Swaminatha Iyer Library, Chennai and Maraimalai Adigal Library, Chennai.

d. Connemara Public Library: Connemara Public Library at Chennai is the State Central Library. This library is one of the 4 National depository libraries which are receiving a copy of all books, newspapers and periodicals published in India free of cost. This library is also functioning as the Information Centre for UNESCO since 1958. Connemara Public Library is rendered useful service by having separate divisions for Reference, Textbooks, Periodicals, Bibliography, Indian Language and English Books.

e. Local Library Authorities: To provide library service effectively, Local Library Authorities are functioning in each district. Collection of library cess from the local bodies has been entrusted with Local Library Authorities. Library cess is collected with the property tax collected by the local bodies at the rate of 30 paise per rupee.

f. Purchase of Books: In order to provide good and useful reading materials and to fulfill the requirements of the reading community, the quality books in Tamil and English are being purchased every year and distributed to the libraries. About 25% of the cess collection is utilized for the purchase of books.

The details of books purchased during the last 5 years are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>Published Year</th>
<th>Tamil Books</th>
<th>English Books</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No. of Titles</td>
<td>Rupees in Crores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>2006-2007</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>1.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>2007-2008</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>5180</td>
<td>15.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>2008-2009</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2998</td>
<td>14.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>3240</td>
<td>13.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>3178</td>
<td>13.41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Book Section, Directorate of Public Libraries, Tamilnadu.)

g. Linkage with schools: In order to improve the reading habit of students, the public library department has launched a scheme named “Linkage with Schools”. Covering 2818 schools by which an employee from the libraries goes to the attached schools once in 15 days to inculcate the reading habit among school children.
**h. Civil Services Study Circle:** In order to facilitate the youth hailing from the downtrodden and weaker sections of the society to complete in IAS, IPS, Banking services, Railway Services and the competitive examinations conducted by Union Public Service Commission and Tamil Nadu Public Service commission, Civil Service Study Circles have been functioning in Connemara Public Library, District Central Libraries and libraries located in municipal areas.

**i. Newsletter:** On behalf of the Public Libraries Department, a quarterly magazine “Pothu Noolaga Saithi Madal” is being published. The magazine covers the news of development activities of Public Libraries Department and the library movement and is enthusiastically welcomed by the public.

**j. Readers Forum (Vasakar Vattam):** In order to make the library movement a public movement and to develop the reading habit, a forum called “Vasakar Vattam” has been formed for each and every library comprising of educationists, library members and local residents and they conduct literary meetings, introduction of new books etc. periodically.

**1.15. Book Selection Committee**

**Guidelines for Central Selection of Books are:**

- The object of the Non-Matching Scheme of Central Selection of Books is to support the State Central Libraries, District Libraries and such other public libraries as may be decided by the Foundation from time to time with suitable reading materials in English and Hindi that are not ordinarily procured by them.

- Books are being selected keeping in view the annual budget provision under the scheme.

- Since books in Hindi and regional languages are selected by the state authorities under another Matching scheme of the Foundation and Books in English seldom find place in the lists prepared by the State governments, the Foundation will select books in English and Hindi under this scheme subject to the availability of funds.
The following categories of books shall not ordinarily be selected: i) foreign publication; ii) text books; iii) a book costing above Rs.500/-

Selection should normally be restricted to the books published within the last three years. However, in case of the classics or books of exceptional merit this may be relaxed after consultation with the Chairman and other members of the Book Selection Committee.

Books written, edited or published by the members or officials connected with the Foundation may not be ordinarily selected during their tenure. Under no circumstances a member or a subject expert of the Foundation shall participate in the discussion while considering a book in which he/she is interested as author, editor or publisher.

Costly books and books of high level will be selected for State Central Libraries and selected libraries only. Books of general interest will be selected for District Libraries. However, a book may be selected for a special group of libraries.

There will be Book Selection Committee set up by the Foundation for selection of books. Members of the Committee may select the books from amongst the specimen copies after judging the suitability to cater to the needs of the diverse reading clientele.

No advertisement inviting books will be issued by the Foundation. However in order to give a wider choice of publication if foundation desires it may publish advertisements on submission of books in national dailies including regional language dailies once in a year. However, books will be received for consideration round the year.

Books will be normally selected from amongst the specimen copies. Recommending authorities may, however, recommend books, for consideration by the Book Selection Committee. In that case they are expected to furnish the full particulars of the book viz. (a) name of the title (b) author (c) name and address of publisher (d) year of publication (e) edition (paper back/hard cover) (f) pages (g)
price. The office may also get a copy of the book from the publisher for the purpose of selection.

Private publisher(s) may submit as many as titles as they want provided the books are published within the last three (3) years. Specimen copies of the selected books will be retained by the Foundation. Specimen copies of non selected books may be returned on request.

Books retained by the Foundation shall either be taken into stock of the office library or be donated to some public libraries.

The price of the book is not stamped/chipped/hand written or changed by pasting or label or super-imposition of papers or by changing page/cover/jacket. (In case the price is not printed on the book a printed catalogue may be enclosed).

Books should not be in damaged condition.

A copy of the title(s) submitted to the Foundation is/are to be deposited in the 4 designated libraries (National Library, Kolkata; Delhi Public Library, Delhi; Connemara Public Library, Chennai; State Central Library, Mumbai; in compliance with the provision of The Delivery of Books Act, 1954.

Author addresses are to be submitted with the books submitted to the foundation for maintaining an author’s database in the Foundation.

A book not selected in one meeting will not normally be considered again.

As far as practicable books will be selected from various broad groups of subjects as given below:

I. Art and Literature

II. Social Science, History and Law

III. Philosophy and Religion

IV. Science including technology, medicine, agriculture, computer
V. General and Reference Books

VI. Books on Feminism, North Eastern States, Minorities, Biography & Writings, Management, Economics etc.

VII. Children Literature

1.16. Collection Development

1.16.1. Collection

Collection development is an important activity of a librarian. When we say collection, it involves several kinds of documents such as Books, Periodicals and Serials, Government Publications, Academic Thesis and Dissertations; Research Reports, Annual Reviews, Conference Proceedings, Pamphlets, Standards and Specifications, Patents, Trade Literature, Maps, Atlases and Globes, Photographs, Illustrations, Paintings, Microforms, Audio-Visual aids, etc.

In addition, we have other non-conventional documents like floppies, computer tapes, compact-discs, DVD and met documents like instrument recorded one.

1.16.2. Collection Development - Meaning

Collection development indicates the selection and acquisition of library materials for developing. The holdings of the library within the framework of collection development policy considering the various aspects of existing holding according to the needs and requirements of the user both present and future.

Collection development should be based on certain policies and principles. The process of collection development should take into consideration of certain important factors like analysis of community of users and their needs; evolving document selection policies; acquisition of relevant documents; weeding out less relevant or irrelevant documents basing on the changing needs of the users; and periodic evaluation.
1.16.3. Collection Development Vs. Collection Management

It is probably fair to say that the term 'collection management' is still establishing itself within the profession. There has been a tendency for practitioners to use 'collection development' and 'collection management' synonymously, although increasingly a distinction is being made between them, and a change of emphasis can be seen in the (mostly American) professional literature away from a former concentration on collection development activities towards collection management.

Collection management is a more demanding concept, which goes beyond a policy of acquiring materials, to policies on the housing, preservation and storage, weeding and discard of stock.

1.17. Category of Public Libraries in Chennai District

1.17.1. Branch Library

It is a shift basis library, not a full time library. Branch library functions from 8.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and from 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. regularly. These kinds of libraries are located at each and every zone in Chennai. There are 124 Branch Libraries in Chennai District.

1.17.2. Full Time Branch Library

Based on the user statistics Branch Library timings is extended and functions from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. In Chennai District 7 Full time Branch Library serve the library users.

1.17.3. Circle Library

These are the full time Library functioning from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. There are 5 Circle Libraries in Chennai District.

The Chennai District Public Libraries have totally 22 numbers of Government holidays per year, and every Fridays and Second Saturdays have been weekly holidays.
In this introduction chapter, the researcher has briefly given about the origin and development of Public Library and its gradual improvement in the society. Here, we have known about the various State Public Libraries Act and Legislation, RRRLF, Organization and Administration, Collection Development and Statistical data about Public Libraries situated in Chennai District. In the next chapter, the researcher mapping out the related literature regarding this study.