CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.0. Introduction

This chapter provides various kinds of inter-related literatures, which may guide a perception to the present study. The basic requirement of any research is the units of theory, which should be defined with sufficient clarity to enable the researcher to proceed. A comprehensive view of literature is a necessary integral part of any research endeavour, as it helps to identify the gap in research and aids the investigator in designing and analyzing research work. It also provides a basis for interpretation and discussion of findings. Further, an acquaintance with earlier related studies is necessary to formulate an appropriate research methodology. Keeping in mind the objectives set forth in the study, an attempt has been made in this chapter to review the available literature, which has meaningful relevance to the research.

There are more than 117 relevant publications that focus on the collection development, public libraries in India and user studies on public libraries and its related publications, published between 1974 and 2012. The literature reviewed for the study is not projected to cover all the investigations done in this field. Rather, it focuses on the portion of world literature public libraries in particular.

2.1. Growth and Development of Public Libraries

Preedip Balaji, B (2012) explains the current developments in Indian libraries, information services and cultural sector. They both highlight recent trends and developments as India increasingly takes centre stage in the area of libraries and information literacy development. The book also provides a critical analysis of library and information science education in India and highlights the need for government strategies and policies related to public libraries. Some 17 federal states and union territories of the Republic of India have no public library legislation and therefore low literacy rates recovered. India needs public awareness campaigns, civic engagement and community developments including the grass-roots empowerment of public libraries. Financial
reforms, modernization and federal funding strategies for public libraries are also required to energize cultural organizations and national libraries. A recent major development is the establishment of a National Commission on Libraries following recommendations by the National Knowledge Commission. However, Indian public libraries do not cater sufficiently for the growing youth population or other strata's of Indian society. The growing Indian higher education sector also necessitates information policies for open access, digital preservation and repository development.

**Saini Surbhi (2011)** deals with the Public libraries in India as well as tries to highlight the public library system in the North East Region. The study deals with Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation's (RRRLF) role in the development of public libraries. As the library legislation is widely recognized as a helpful means for the establishment and development of public libraries as it provides the smooth financial support for the proper functioning of the libraries. The paper deals with the present status of public libraries in internet environment. The public library services should be re-engineered to meet the changing electronic environment. The paper also discusses about the dire need of re-engineering public library services, and present scenario of public libraries in Mizoram and role of Young Mizo Association in public library development.

**Meghna Dhar (2010)** explained in the article starting with the historical background of education in Jammu and Kashmir State, the article gives an overview of growth, development, functions and services of Public Libraries in Jammu and Kashmir State covering both pre and post-independence period. Also highlights the current scenario of public libraries in the state.

**Nema Nitin (2010)** analysis in his report as, India is a multi-lingual national country containing 25 states and 7 union territories (UT). Each state and UT are divided into districts and sub-districts. This paper tells about the stages of the development of public libraries. It also specifies the current states, where public libraries are situated in different areas of India. The Act, which was passed by library legislation, is also specified in this paper. It also tells about the plans of the central government, which is especially concerned with the financial expenditure during the Five Year Plans, important developments, and their impact on the establishment of the public library system, after the independence. This paper suggests the possible remedies to transform the situation of the
public libraries in rural India to the best possible level. It details the new technological developments and the practical result, which would assist in the establishment of digital library services in rural India.

**Satpute, B.B (2009)** Studies the development of public libraries in Goa. The study presents an exhaustive picture of movement for library legislation in Goa State. He enumerates the advantages and disadvantages of Goa Public Libraries Act. It describes the intricacies of Goa Public Libraries Act, its impact on development of Public Libraries and highlights the need for the Directorate of Public Libraries and Director of libraries. The study highlights the need of maximum support from the Government. The necessity of establishing and spreading a network of rural public libraries in each and every village to take knowledge to the doorstep of the rural community to educate them. The necessity of public libraries as a potential instrument of smoother and faster development of Goa State. The necessity of the provision for strong and efficient administrative set up to build and maintain public library services of high order to spread network of village libraries in Goa State. He brings out the importance of library facility as the medium for sustaining the increasing rate of literacy in Goa.

**Thanuskodi, S (2009)** studied the growth and development of Public library systems in Tamil Nadu. The study discusses the evolution of Library development in India since 1808. It also explores the modernization of the Public Library System in the changing environment in the Post Independence era Plan-wise. The Statutory provisions, enhancement of Public Library Acts by different states, Public Obligatory to the establishment and governance of the Public Library System and also with the main objectives.

**Jones, David J (2005)** has traced the genesis and growth of the public library movement in New South Wales (Australia). The study pointed out that the first move into free public library services was made with the opening of the Melbourne Public Library. He has also highlighted the impact of the Public Library Act in the development of public libraries in New South Wales. By the end of 1946, a quarter of the three million inhabitants of New South Wales were being served by free public library. In 1950s and 1960s many local authorities adopted the Library Act and set up free library services.
According to Hennen, Thomas J (2005) survey report on the American public libraries has indicated that the State Plains there were 1655 public libraries, the highest in U.S. and in Far West there were only 476 public libraries, the lowest in the country; and totally there were 9211 public libraries in U.S. The study stated that an average of 1.2 square footage per capita buildings was constructed in U.S. for public libraries; 95% of the libraries spent less than $10.52 per item circulated; The study also finds that on an average, libraries spent per capita of $0.66 on electronic materials, while the spending per print item use averaged per capita of $0.81; and an average of six computer terminals for every 10,000 residents was provided.

Maitrayee Ghosh (2005) studied the challenges and opportunities of the public library system in India. The current situation of Indian public libraries has been viewed by some recent scholars as follows: The public library system in India is condemned to remain peripheral to the actual information needs of the masses; that it is in a deplorable state, and serves as little more than a warehouse of recreational reading materials, a majority of which are in regional languages. This paper suggests possible remedies on how to transform the situation, and details new technological developments which are already showing the potential to change public libraries in rural India for the better service. A descriptive account of the contemporary situation in India with regard to public libraries, digital technologies and development possibilities, using official statistics and the LIS literature. The challenges that public libraries face in India are listed and a vision for their future based on the concept of “ICT for development” is sketched out. It is difficult to get an overall view of this topic.

An authorized statistics on public libraries in India as a whole are not collected, because these libraries hold the responsibility of a variety of agencies who, for various reasons, never disclose such information on a national scale. The author details new technological developments, the practical outcome of which would in particular facilitate the establishment of digital library services in rural India. This paper provides a useful overview of a library scenario on which aggregated statistical data are hard to find; and, from this summary of the present situation, goes on to suggest possible ways to transform the “digital divide” into “digital opportunities.”
Stauffer, Suzanne M (2005) has traced the growth of public libraries in Utah, a State in West America and has described their role in the establishment of a recognized social order in the State by stressing the eradication of the social evil, “polygamy.” Major events in the development of public libraries and their important role as social stabiliser are listed as follows: The establishment of libraries in Utah was influenced by social and cultural factors unique to Utah, in particular, the practice of polygamy. The several women’s organisations striving hard to eradicate social ills including polygamy, and established many public libraries. The first public library in Utah has been founded in Nauvoo, Illinois in 1845. Ten of the city’s prominent Mormon and non-Mormon women founded the Ladies Public Library Aid Society in 1890. In 1904, Zoe Faddis, a librarian requested funds from Carnegie, U.S. Industrialist. The author’s strongest argument for the use of money for the eradication of polygamy; and the first public library law in Utah came in to effect in 1898.

Laxman Rao, N and Ratna Rao, N (1997) has conducted a study on the role of public libraries in various national and social movements in Andhra Pradesh during the pre independence period. The social movements were against caste system, evils of drinking, widow marriages, women’s education etc. The various national movements were independence movement, Swedish movement, non-cooperation, Salt Satyagraha, national awakening and such others. The findings of the study indicated that the role played by the libraries in these movements helped to redefine the purpose and function of libraries.

Bouri, Elizabeth N (1994) has described the development and current decline of public libraries in Egypt. Egyptian public libraries have been in decline since the late 1960s because of an overall policy which directed the Egyptian government to shift the developmental priorities from education for development towards a new development priority referred to as “information for development”. The new priority has subsequently oriented the Egyptian government towards building national information infrastructures for decision-making, overshadowing the earlier assumption that public libraries were central to development.

Pasilithil, A (1992) has evaluated the history of public libraries in Kerala during the pre and post Granthasala Sanghom period. He has traced out the origin and development of the mass movement and assessed its contribution in the sociocultural
fields. In order to study the socio-cultural relations of the libraries with the society, a survey has been conducted. The study indicated that Sanghom enabled rural populace to form their opinions on the social, political, and economic problems of the society and it contributed much to the elegance of the social fabric of Kerala.

Sewa Singh (1991) has traced the historical development of libraries in Punjab during the 19th century and early 20th century. There is also an attempt to analyse the role of libraries in the society. The study critically looked at the facilities such as building, collection, services and finance. It mentioned the role played by the voluntary organisations and the Punjab Library Association in the library development. It revealed that the development of library services was lop-sided because of its greater emphasis on cities and towns than on villages. The study offered various suggestions for improvement of the library services in Punjab.

Singh, R.S.P (1991) has assessed the current status of public libraries in Bihar. He discusses in detail the position of public libraries in different levels of State, divisional, district, sub-divisional, block, and village. He also deals briefly with the activities of library associations in Bihar, training in librarianship, the library services, and the administrative structure of the libraries. This analytical report states that the reason for poor performance in this sector seems to be the low literacy rate and dearth of fund.

Wiele, Nic Van De (1991) has described the historical development of public libraries in France since 1789. The study states that the landmark in the public library development after the Second World War was the creation of the Directorate for Libraries and the setting up of reading club in the public libraries from the fifties onwards. Different types of public libraries such as city libraries, rural public libraries are mentioned and their collection, user services, finance, and membership have been discussed in detail. It is pointed out that the libraries in urban and rural libraries are very modest and there exists an effective structured network.

Job, M. M (1990) has surveyed the historical development of public libraries in Ethiopia. The survey states that the libraries in the modern sense started to appear in Ethiopia only in 1930. The study describes the activities of the National Library, branch libraries, City Council Library, and the British Council Library and says that 16 branch libraries were established between 1967 and 1986. It outlines the Addis Ababa
Municipality Plan for the development of public libraries in municipal area which visualises to establish one central library and five zonal libraries within a period of three years, and to establish 25 libraries within a period of 10 years. It also states that 9, 457 reading rooms were established mainly intended for the benefit of neo literates in the locality. The general set up of and the role played by the Ethiopian Library Association in bringing the various aspects pertaining to the libraries to the notice of the authorities concerned has also been described.

**Abraham, Deborah V. H (1986)** compared two libraries in South India. She explains the growth of public libraries in India has paralleled the directions of national interest. Libraries received great attention and support during the social movements which accompanied independence. Today, libraries ought to struggle for funds, space and trained staff to serve the multilingual and multicultural needs of their communities effectively. Successful examples of two types of public libraries are examined and described. The Connemara Public Library of Chennai is a government-supported library in a large city with responsibilities for regional support and depository status. The Kottayam Public Library is a subscription library in a medium-sized commercial center and college town.

**Ramachandra Rao, P (1981)** has mentioned that the national factors such as the advent of English education, the emergence of the educated elite, the Swedish movement and the spread of liberal and democratic ideas were the roots of the library movement in Andhra. The events such as the passing of the Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948; the role of the Hyderabad Library Association led to the enactment of Hyderabad Public Libraries Act, 1955 and Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act, 1960.

**John, P. A. and Nair, V. K. G (1979)** have given an account of the public library movement in Kerala and their study has documented the following events such as public library movement in Kerala started in 1829 with the establishment of Trivandrum public library. The establishment of Malabar Vayanasala Sanghom (1937) and Granthasala Sanghom (1945) has contributed much to the growth of public libraries, under local library authorities in several libraries were established in Malabar, and in 1979 there were nearly 4000 libraries in Kerala.
Menon, V. K. N (1974) has traced the early history of the Trivandrum Public library. He gives an account of the different opinions about the year of its establishment, its founders, its different locations, recognition of it by the State, conversion of it into people’s library before 1878, transfer of it to the government in 1898 and construction of the new building in 1902 in commemoration of the diamond jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1897. It has been reported that the most important event in the early history of the Trivandrum Public Library is the take over of the library by the government in 1898 and the opening of its membership to the public.

Ramanujan Nair, P (1974) has traced the history of library movement in Kerala. He describes its beginning, organisational movement, the objectives and programmes of the Kerala Granthasala Sanghom, and its administrative set up. He has also examined the several attempts at public library legislation. His study revealed the fact that the Trivandrum Public Library, established in 1829 is the first public library in Kerala. The organised movement arose in Kerala with the establishment of Malabar Vayanasala Sanghom in Malabar in 1937. Travancore Granthasala Sanghom, which was established in 1945, was converted into Kerala Granthasala Sanghom and its services were extended in Kerala. It stressed the need for library legislation as it would facilitate collection of finance, standard and adequate library service, and also administrative efficiency.

2.2. Library Collection Development

Negahban Mohamad Bagher (2011) reports empirical findings on the user adequacy and services of library collections among research scholars of university of Mysore. A total of 68 research scholars pursuing their Ph.D degree in various social and biological sciences were randomly selected of which 57 were male research scholars and 11 were female research scholars. A pre-determined structured questionnaire on user adequacy and services of library collection was administered to the selected respondents. The data analysis was done using chi-square. Results revealed that in the case of library collections majority opined that only news papers and magazines are adequate. Reference books, text books, journals, thesis and dissertations were found to be moderately adequate as perceived by research scholars. Maps, atlases and charts, and electronic resources were found to be inadequate by the research scholars. In the case of library services, reference services, referral services, newspaper clippings, reprographic services and internet services
were found to be good. Selective dissemination of information, current awareness service, indexing and abstracting services were found to be poor.

Seifi Leili (2011) gives a brief introduction to the heritage collection in India and Iran and notes the ongoing digital preservation in both countries. It investigates access and management of digital preservation of cultural heritage and some current projects in both nations. It discusses the problems faced by the libraries and museums in archiving and managing, preserving, and providing continuing access to these digital assets for their long-term management. The book also discusses about technical, economic, language, technological issues in digital preservation with focus on both countries.

Mallaiah, T. Y and Gowda M Purusothama (2009) studied the collection development in the Mangalore University Library. He examines the usefulness of collection development in a university library. Different activities are involved in developing need-based, up-to-date, and balanced collection to meet the document and information needs of the users. It is appropriate to know whether the existing collection of the library resources is adequate for readers to meet the information requirements in their academic, teaching, research and publication work. The study identifies whether the required document/information is available or not to meet the user needs, examines the periodicals and other publications are on time at the library. The study also makes an attempt to know if the UGC-INFONET E-journals meet the user requirements.


Lawrence, Mary A and Sankar, A (2008) analyses the collection evaluation in the two engineering colleges in the Tamil Nadu. He did attempt to describe the various techniques available for evaluating a document collection in an academic library. The study is made with two engineering college libraries to establish the need for such evaluation.

Nagaraju, S (2008) discussed the role of internet in the collection development activities. The Internet is growing so rapidly that it should become increasingly helpful for collection development. As more libraries put their catalogs online and as technology
improves, it should become easier to compare the holdings of two libraries or to search only for items not in your own library. Yet with the development of new technologies, the possibilities of innovative interlibrary cooperation projects emerge: libraries combining their efforts through various consortia are trying to get access to electronic information sources more economically. The intent of this paper is to provide guidance in using the Internet to extend the techniques to use in the area of collection development.

Kumbar, B. D and Hadagali Gururaj, S (2007) has made an attempt to discuss about collection development in a changed environment in academic libraries. It touches upon formulating collection development policy, budget, selection procedures, evaluation criteria for electronic information resources and license agreements including problems and prospects. Further, the author concludes that the electronic publishing has certain advantages, to be used as complementing technology collect but not as replacement technology.

Rupsing Naik, N (2007) stated that the AICTE policy on collection development in the engineering college libraries. This paper describes the Concept and Functions of Collection Development in the Engineering College Libraries. It also reviews the brief introduction of AICTE policy on resource sharing.

Sarbrinder Kaur and Satija, M. P (2007) describes various trends in collection development in a digital environment. The changes that have occurred in acquisition, retrieval and storage of information are due to technological developments being discussed. Limitations, restrictions and problems being faced by librarians and readers due to the same have also been discussed. The way these developments have affected the academic environment and changed the role of librarian has also been portrayed.

Valsayya, G (2007) explains the importance of collection development in all types of libraries as it is said, “The heart of the library.” The study analyses the book selection policies and programmes and the role of the book selection committee subject experts for maintaining balanced collection development, to meet the needs of the Users. He suggests various steps involved in collection development and it is to be considered as a continuous process for any type of library. It emphasizes the necessity of collection development in the public library, which is considered as ‘people's university’. The author describes the
Melvil Dewey principle “The best reading for the largest number at the least cost which is a clue to the book selection procedure as well as collection development policy.” He further explains the present situation in a public library system in Srikakulam district and presents the existing collection development in the district central library at Srikakulam and 42 branch libraries as well. The study highlights the “Competitive examination and reference units” (CERU). In each district library system a sum of Rs. 5, 20,000 for the purchasing of books which was introduced in the year 2005, in each district library system for the benefit of youth who are going to appear for competitive examinations. He suggests these types of units are very useful for collection development and fulfill the needs of the users and also uplifts the reputation of the public library.

Serebnick, Judith and Quinn, Frank (1995) has conducted a study to develop a method for measuring diversity of opinion in public library collections in OCLC (Online Computer Library Centre). For this purpose four potentially controversial subject areas were investigated viz. abortion, capital punishment, disarmament or arms control, and euthanasia. Testing the method included analysing the questionnaires, the library holdings of books and the audiovisual materials, publishing and reviewing patterns, and the checklists from Special Interest Groups (SIGs). The important findings of this study are: 1) 78.3% of respondents considered the diversity of public library collections as “very important”, 2) Librarians have difficulties in selecting and acquiring diverse materials on certain subjects, and 3) The librarians were more willing than the general public to include potentially controversial materials in subjects. According to this study, Special Interest Groups (SIG) serve as useful resources of selection aids for potentially controversial titles and it was broad in scope and not subject to investigator bias.

Doll, Carol A (1984) studied of overlap and duplication among children’s collections in selected public and elementary school libraries was conducted in four Illinois communities with populations between 25,000 and 40,000. One public library and two elementary school libraries have been surveyed in each community. Two hundred book titles have randomly been selected from the shelf lists of the libraries and the lists were compiled of magazines, science filmstrips, and fiction sound recordings. Analysis of the data indicated that overlap is linearly and positively correlated to collection size, but there is no apparent relationship between collection size and duplicate titles. The demand is the criterion used to purchase duplicate copies. No library subscribed to duplicate copies
of magazines. The study indicated that co-operation would be more practical than merging the libraries.

**Spiller, David (1980)** has studied the provision of fiction for public libraries. For this purpose a survey was conducted at four service points in British public libraries. The findings stated as readers like to read recreational novels rather than serious novels; it also stated that most of the borrowers borrow novels for self use and a very few of them borrow novels for others, around 54% of the novels had been chosen on an author basis, 46% by browsing. Most of the respondents found Booklists in the library useful in choosing the novels. A majority of the respondents does not reserve novels; and the majority of the readers borrow from 1-2 to 16-20 novels a month. The study was intended to provide information of practical value to librarians in the selection and promotion of fiction in public libraries.

### 2.3. Public Library Systems

**Anis Khurshid (1998)** has traced the history of the library movement in the city of Karachi (Pakistan) with emphasis on Karachi Library Board which designated the library system in the city. The salient features of the Education Policy (1972-80) and its impact on public libraries have been described. He draws attention to the findings of the survey public libraries in respect of their resources, services, and physical facilities were poor and the use of the public libraries was diminishing. The study traces the three phases of Karachi municipal library development, the first phase from 1947-1970, the second phase from 1970-78 and the third phase from 1979-87; and also examines the position of municipal libraries in Karachi in 1994.

**Kalai, D. R (1998)** has enlisted seven different public library systems in India. The first system is the Local Bodies System, under which the British government in India entrusted public libraries to the local bodies with the expenditure on public libraries being met from the consolidated fund of the local body concerned. The second system is termed as the Library Cess System with Local Library Authorities. In this system, library cess is levied on property tax which has to be collected by the local bodies in their areas and then passed on to the Local Library Authorities (LLAs). LLAs are the provision of the Madras Public Libraries Act (1948). The third system is called the system of the State Library
Autonomous Board with, in which statutory State councils are empowered to select and buy books. The Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act belongs to this system. In the fourth system, there are subscriptions libraries in which an annual subscription and a deposit to finance are charged. Employees of the subscription libraries are paid by the government. Public libraries of Maharashtra and West Bengal belong to this system. In the fifth system, public libraries are entrusted to the local bodies by authorising each one of them to levy library cess with the approval of the government, collect the same and disburse it. Public libraries of Haryana belong to this system. The Kerala Public Libraries Act belongs to the sixth system. This Act creates a three-tier system, namely the State Library Council, District Library Council for each district and a Taluk Library Union for each taluk. All grants to individual libraries are routed through the council at a pre-determined rate. Public libraries run as governmental institutions belong to the seventh system. A majority of them has directorates of public libraries under a director or a superintendent as in Bihar. The entire expenditure is met by the governments. It is suggested that a model bill, which can offer one system which should have constitutional and legal support might be adopted by the State governments.

Saiful Islam, K. M (1990) has carried out a research on the current status and structure of public library systems and services in Great Britain and Bangladesh. It evaluates the British public library systems, passage of various Acts, various library authorities, and total number of public libraries, constituent libraries, computerized acquisition, cataloguing, classification, literature search, and library finance. Major differences in library services between the two countries were brought out and recommendations for developing an effective public library service in Bangladesh were made.

2.4. Library Patrons

Sudarshan Rao, S (2011) discusses readers, reading habits and explains the importance of reading habits. Particularly for the emerging knowledge society. Public libraries are the local gateways to knowledge and play a vital role in developing reading habits. It enumerates various methods of inculcating reading habits in libraries. Reading habits inculcated at a young age will continue for life-long in making better citizens. The
responsibility of developing reading habits among children rests with the parents, schools and public libraries. The role of librarians of public libraries in promoting reading habits is discussed. Moreover, public libraries have to carefully plan various programmes’ activities regularly to create awareness to motivate the LIS services by motivating children to develop reading habits.

Kala, D (2010) seeks to explore the role of public libraries in Bangalore using structured questionnaire with an objective to study the user’s perception towards public libraries in Bangalore with respect to the services offered.

Maya Verma and Santoshi Patel (2010) analyses as the public library can act as catalyst to socio-economic changes as it provides lifelong means of self-education. It also functions as an alternative to formal education, keeping users well informed and supplying a food exercise. The present study examines the finding of a survey of users of public library in Raipur City (C.G.). It identified the demographic characteristics of the users of the public libraries. This study demonstrates and elaborates the types of sources used in public libraries and the library location is one of the factors of public library uses.

Parvathamma, N and Shanker Reddy (2010) discussed the information resources and services in the public libraries of Gulbarga district. The researcher used survey of information resources and services in Public Libraries in Gulbarga district was undertaken with questionnaire as a data collection tool. Nine branch libraries located in the Taluk headquarters in Gulbarga district, Karnataka State were selected and 50 questionnaires were distributed in each library under study. Out of 450 questionnaires distributed, 259 users responded (57.7%). The main purpose of the study was to evaluate the effectiveness of public libraries from users’ point of view. The findings include that majority of the users are men and between 11 – 30 years of age. Students, Job holders in private/public undertakings were the regular visitors to the library, who visited the library daily or at least once in two days, mainly to read newspapers and magazines. Users from lower and middle income group use public library services very frequently (either daily or once in two days). Most of them have completed 12 years of schooling or undergraduate degree. Newspapers, Magazine and Reading Room Service are the most frequently used information resources and services respectively. The majority of the users are fairly satisfied with information resources. Only two women (0.77%) and 04 men above 60
years of age (1.54%) visited the library during study period. The majority of the respondents is either neutral or not satisfied with Book Lending and Reference Service. The results clearly indicate the dire need for public libraries to strengthen their document collection and create a better ambience to attract more users from all age groups and gender. More trained personnel are necessary to manage the document collection efficiently and offer innovative library services.

Rodger, Eleanor Jo (2005) has examined collaborations among public institutions providing informal lifelong learning opportunities to children and adults in the United States, through a survey of chief executive officers and staff of the public libraries, museums, public television stations, and public radio stations. He has investigated the extent of collaborations between and among these institutions, the influence of the size of institutions on the incidence of collaborations, the forces driving collaboration and the impact of collaborations on the institutions. The study finds that public libraries were collaborating primarily with art museums and other kinds of museums (78.3%) and, secondarily with public broadcasters (17.7%) and other public libraries (4.1%). Public libraries that were engaged in collaboration had significantly higher operating revenues, had significantly larger staff, and were located in metropolitan areas with significantly higher population ranks. The most important forces driving collaboration were as follows: To expand educational opportunities, to meet community needs, to expand-diversify an audience or user base, to enhance the institutions’ stature, to enhance use of collections and programmes, to be a good civic player in the community; and 78.8 % of the respondents rated the impacts of collaboration on their organizations as positive.

Salma, Joel H and Idris Mohammed Yelwa (2004) both of them investigated the students’ attitudes towards public library services and resources of the central library in Borno State of Nigeria and has provided the following information: A majority of the students (64%) who patronise the library have not registered with the library. 36% of the students visit the library for examination purposes, 20% visit the library to study using library books, 20% came to the library to borrow and return books and 12% used the library to read newspapers and magazines around 40% of the students describe the resources and services as inadequate for their needs, 28% said they were adequate for their needs, while 12% gave a rating of highly inadequate. The study also indicated that 64% of the students responded "very good" on the conduciveness of the environment, 28% said it
is "excellent", and equal responses of 4% each for "good" and "fairly good" were also registered.

Nikam, Khaiser and Rajashekhar, N (2003) have analysed the reading habits of public library users in two public libraries of Mysore city of Karnataka State. The result of the study revealed that more than half of the public library users (51%) are between 16-25 years age group and 79% of the users are male and only 21% are female. It is noticed from the study that 45% of users are degree holders, users with masters degree (16%), and others form minority. The study indicates that nearly half of the users (47%) are students; and a majority of the users (71.5%) visit the public library for reading.

Bandy, Alan (2002) made a survey in the year 2001 to find out the level of interaction between the school and public libraries in Australia. One page questionnaire with 5 questions were distributed to all 1496 public library branches and 115 schools in Australia. The results of this survey are given under two headings. The study indicates that nearly half of the public librarians (49%) responded that the level of interaction with local school librarians is low. The highest percentage of the public librarians (46%) stated that lack of time is the factor that determined the current level of interaction. The study indicates that more than half of the school library staff (55%) did not visit the library, and the highest percentage of them (44%) reported that knowledge of school library issues and developments was “low”. The important school library responses are from the study nearly half of the teacher librarians (46%) indicated that the current level of interaction with the local public library is “very low”. The majority of the teacher librarians responded that interactions with the local public library during the last five years are “stable”. It is noticed that the majority of them reported that lack of time is the factor that determines the current level of interaction, one out of two of the respondents reported that public library staff did not visit the school. From the study it indicated that half of them stated that knowledge of public library issues and developments is “low”, and half of them are not regular public library users.

Padmamma, S (2001) has assessed children’s views on public library through a survey of child users of the Chickmangalore City Central library, Karnataka. The study revealed the perceptions of child users of the existing facilities, services, and resources as: almost all of the respondents feel good about a collection of books, magazine and
newspapers; but they said that the library does not provide the user services like new arrival services, inter-library loan, paper clipping service, reference service, over night issue, and book exhibition and computer facility. The study offers suggestions for the proper library services to the children and concludes with the statement that the user satisfaction should be the ultimate objective of the library.

Kar, P. K (1996) has analyzed the reading habit and satisfaction of the users in public libraries. This study was conducted in nine public libraries of Cuttack, Balasore, and Bhadrak. The study indicates that most of the users of the public library are from poor or middle class families and most of the users belong to unemployed or underemployed category, followed by the student category.

Satyanarayana, M (1996) conducted a survey to identify the usage pattern, reading behavior and other characteristics of deposit holders of the District Central Library of Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The analysis of the data showed that there is an active participation of youth in using the library and persons with advanced academic education constitute the core users among the deposit-holders. It is observed that the majority of deposit holders visited the library once a week and they did not prefer to spend more time in the library.

Ramaraj Urs, R (1984) has surveyed the reading habits of the clientele of the public libraries in the rural district of Bangalore. The distribution of population, occupations, membership pattern, extent of utilisation of library services, and reading habits of users in terms of subjects and type of books read were discussed. The survey revealed that the development of infrastructures for library and information system for Bangalore rural district indicated a steady growth. It also indicated that there was a steady increase in membership during the five years.

D’ Elia, George (1980) conducted a study with the primary objective of the development and testing of a conceptual model for adult use of the public library. This study proposed a definition of library use, which recognises three distinct dimensions of use such as non-use and use, frequency of use, and intensity of use. The study was based on variables such as library use, characteristics and behavior of individuals, and individuals’ relationship to the library. In order to test this model, data were collected from 202 residents of the Syracuse metropolitan area (U.S.A.) by means of a telephone
interview survey. The study finds that the individual characteristics have associated with library use. Secondly, users of the public library found the library more accessible than did non-users, there was no difference between non users and users in their degree of awareness of library services, and frequency and intensity of use was related to awareness of special library programmes.

2.5. Public Library Legislation

Shiva Kanaujia and Rochna Srivasthava (2003) have pointed out the dire need of legislation for efficient functioning of public libraries and the following major suggestions were made in this regard. The Legislature should have provision for better financial support. It can be recommended to authorise local board/authority to levy a special tax for the library service. It should carry norms and procedures to provide grant-in-aid to public libraries. Legislation would allow district library to use tax money as collateral for the improvement of public libraries. Legislation can be recommended to appoint full time district library officers to manage the library at district level. Legislation must include ideas to give clear account of different levels of authorities and their responsibilities. In conclusion, they observed that the Library Acts of the different States must be brought up to a common platform for comparison, so as to include better/specific laws in rest.

2.6. Library Management

Cole, Natalie (2000) has examined the influence of librarians and the attitudes of elected members and library users about the availability of materials in public libraries in the United Kingdom. The study was carried out in six British Library Authorities. The primary method of data collection was an in-depth interview with 76 persons including 24 librarians, 10 elected council members and 42 library users. The interview data were supplemented by data generated by a questionnaire. The study finds that majority of the respondents agreed that stock management should be conducted according to a philosophy of intellectual freedom and majority of the respondents stated that stock management decisions should relate to local council policy. The study states that in all six library authorities, librarians restrict access to materials that they believe, it might stimulate negative or unfavourable actions or attitudes. It is understood from the study that
seventeen librarians working in all authorities surveyed and said that they had restricted access to materials if their presence on the open shelves caused problems for them, or if materials of similar type had previously been problematic and five librarians observed that their stock management decision was influenced by their desire to avoid potentially negative media coverage, and finally twelve librarians cited lack of money as a barrier to conducting stock management in accordance with the principle of intellectual freedom.

Odini, Cephas (1990) has pointed out the need for and the role of the public libraries, and the planning cycle that could be applied in the management of public library development. He has stressed the importance of assessment of the needs of library users and the evaluation of current library services and resources in the planning process.

Hamsath, K (1979) sketches out the public library movement in the union territory of Lakshadweep and the important events highlighted that at first Lakshadweep Central Library was located in Calicut, where the Lakshadweep secretariat was situated initially. At present, besides the State Central Library, there is one rural library in each island. All the libraries have trained librarians. Libraries are administrated by the Social Welfare Wing, and the Social Welfare Officer, Lakshadweep; and sole source of income of the public libraries is the government grant.

2.7. Information Literacy

Shalini Singh (2012) explains the role of information literacy in the Indian perspective. Information and Knowledge are critical for realizing all the human aspirations. In the knowledge society in which we live today, the acquisition of information and knowledge and its application have an intense and pervasive impact in the processes of exercising their political, economic and legal rights. In the present era, India is on the uppermost belt of all developing countries. To enhance this ‘Technology boom’, Government of India has enforced the Right to Information Act. This paper discusses, the concept of the Right to Information & Information Literacy, the initiatives taken to promote information literacy in India, the issue of how to promote information literacy to make good use of information, so that they can effectively use RTI and can participate in the process of development.
Sule, Nathaniel N (2003) has discussed the functions, problems, and prospects of rural library services and examined their role in the development of literacy in Nigeria. The study revealed that major problems faced by the libraries are lack of qualified library staff, Financial constraints, Scarcity of reading materials, Scattered settlement pattern, and Attitudinal problems of government. The prospects of the libraries are listed as follows: Rural libraries can sustain the level of literacy of the rural populace; they can check rural-urban migration, which has negative consequences on development; they can be the centers of independent study; and they can serve as centers of recreation and culture.

Sahib Singh Verma (2001) in his survey of the existing conditions of public libraries in Delhi, Haryana, and Rajasthan examines the effect of the library legislation in the development of public libraries and the role of public libraries in literacy movement. The study revealed that the role of public libraries has not been realised much in the rural areas as compared to the urban areas, public libraries have contributed more in fulfilling the recreational/cultural rather than the information/educational requirements of the society. The study indicates that the majority of the public libraries is not associated with literacy programmes, only big libraries have got their own buildings and Public library reading materials and services are not based on the needs of the community.

Khan, H. A (1991) has described the role of public libraries in India in literacy and adult education in terms of information services, educational, and cultural functions. Information services to be provided are creating awareness of literacy and adult education among rural people, Information regarding literacy/adult education agencies in respect of their location, objectives, persons to be contacted, their activities/operations and such others; and dissemination of current information on vital issues related to population education, environmental education, health, hygiene, nutrition, and such others. Educational role such as providing adequate instructional material to these programmes, Changing/modifying attitudes towards learning, and providing a positive learning environment, providing library space to conduct literacy/adult education programmes. The study also said an assisting in framing of suitable curricula, and Assisting in all possible ways in promoting social education. The author also insisted the importance of public libraries to be a centre of socio-cultural activities.
Smith, Ester Gottlieb (1984) has reviewed the involvement of the public libraries in literacy education. The public libraries in the U.S.A. were selected for this study. The important findings of the study revealed that public libraries in urban and suburban communities are involved more in literacy education than libraries in rural communities. The study stated that the public libraries located in large communities and serving demographically heterogeneous areas provide more literacy education services than libraries are smaller and homogeneous communities. The study indicated that larger libraries have more literacy education programmes than smaller libraries. It is noticed that public libraries that have a wide range of non-print materials and equipment are more active in literacy education than libraries with limited non-print resources. The study stated that more libraries that involved in literacy education provide in-service training to their staff than libraries which do not provide these services and the main barriers to the literacy education are the low profile of public libraries in the community, staffing patterns, and lack of staff expertise.

2.8. Library Professionals in Public Libraries

Pratapa Reddy, B (2010) deals with the quality of work life of professionals in public libraries in Andhra Pradesh. Quality of Work Life (QWL) is a sub-system of Human Resource Management. Quality of work life is nothing but the Quality of life that an employee experiences in his or her workplace. This study is confined to Professionals working in State Central Library, Regional Libraries and Libraries under Zilla Grandhalaya Samsthas. Walton's Eight Point Criteria with a few additions has been taken to measure QWL in public libraries. This paper covers economic, social and psychological and organizational aspects of work life. Primary data are collected through questionnaires. Likerts Five Point Scale is used to measure the opinions of respondents on each factor of QWL. Based on the findings of the study, some suggestions are given to improve the Quality of work life of professionals in a public library system of Andhra Pradesh.

Amanze, Unagha O (2009) focuses IMO public library services in the Owerri, Nigeria. The study focuses on the personal characteristics of reference librarians and users’ ability to retrieve information in IMO State Public Library Services (IMSPLS), Owerri, Nigeria. The survey method adopted as their research design. A total of 337 copies of questionnaires was administered to users in the library studies, out of which 298
(88.4%) responded. A stratified proportionate sampling technique was used to select 30% from each of the groups of respondents, after which the simple random sampling was used in selecting the respondents for the study. Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) revealed that the personal characteristics of reference librarians in terms of educational qualification, experience, creativity, behaviour, and search strategies greatly enhance their information retrieval in IMO State Public Library Services, Owerri. The result shows that user's ability to retrieve information in IMSPLS, Owerri had 78.9% dependence on personal characteristics of reference librarians. Recommendations were made on how to improve the personal characteristics of the reference librarians.

Anupama Shivalingappa and Tadasad, P. G (2009) discussed the gram Panchayat library systems in Hyderabad. He explores the concept of rural librarianship emphasizing the relations between rural developments of the country that is directly proportional to the development of rural based Gram Panchayat Libraries for human empowerment to build an information rich society. Reviews the literature on rural libraries with reference to Karnataka State and provides glimpse of Gram Panchayat libraries in Hyderabad Karnataka region and thereby shows significance of rural librarians in making the visibility of library system and the initiation on the part of Department of Public Libraries for a functional and active Gram Panchayat Libraries.

2.9. Role of Public Libraries in Education

Jeevan, V. K. J (2008) studied the developing the science awareness through public libraries. The study identifies the important activities public libraries must initiate to sustain the science communication initiatives. Some of the problems in spreading science awareness in the country are also identified. He concludes that in addition to the science awareness initiatives from government institutions, NGOs, science clubs, by involving public libraries in the people's science information dissemination network will enhance the science awareness activities.

2.10. Public Libraries and Distance Education

Mcharazo Alli, A. S (2000) research report has highlighted the issues and dilemmas facing public libraries and distance learners in Tanzania. The author used a case
study approach. A total of 56 students of the Open University of Tanzania and librarians of 6 distance learning institutions were interviewed. Both participatory observation and direct observation methods were also used to ascertain the students’ usage behaviors. The study revealed that the main issue of public libraries in the provision of effective distance education service is the inadequacy of reading materials to the students. From the study it states that 50% of the participants, the reading space in the public libraries is enough while to another 50%, the space for reading was inadequate, reference and readers’ advisory desk was being staffed by library attendants and untrained library assistants and they failed to satisfy the users’ needs; and students are not in favour of being charged by the public libraries for the service. The study recognised the need to embark on new approaches in public libraries to support the distant learners.

2.11. Information and Communication Technologies in Public Libraries

Jeevan, V. K. J (2008) studied the digital initiatives and their interventions in the public libraries. Public libraries are considered to be more as institutions for light reading or watching TV and the collection predominantly in book form caused the absence of any concrete mechanisms for either automating or networking them. Some estimate of the number of public libraries is made and also tried to list few constraints in modernizing public libraries in the country. There are many digital initiatives happening in the country to improve the social status of citizens and the traditional mindset of public libraries need to be changed to take advantage of the new technologies. The paper explores the possibility of considering IT as a valuable cost-effective tool for spreading, improving and enlarging public library system and services for disseminating community, health and educational information in the backdrop of various digital initiatives in different fields by private and government institutions.

Satyanarayana, M and Vijayakumar, J (2008) studied the usage of computer and communication technology in the public libraries. Information explosion and an ever increasing needs of users with their change in character for access to information forces the libraries to accept the use of computer and communication technologies for management of information process to provide the right information to the right user in right time. He tells about the information management and explains the functions of public libraries. He states the advantages to use computer and communication technologies to
computerize the activities of the information management process for speedy and easy access to information.

Suchismita Majumdar and Swapna Banerjee (2008) explained the role of public libraries in creating the science awareness. The study stated the science awareness is vital for every individual in a society and every category of people in a community. Public Library has ample scope, multi-dimensional modes and approaches, aids and tools at its end to ensure science awareness. It plays a leading role in taking up various sociological issues at all strata of society and community. The nature and extent of science awareness vary from an urban to a rural one, molding its services accordingly. Technological advancement and IT mobilization provide wider perspective, giving a thrust towards fulfillment of its goal. However, lacunae still exist which needs to be traced out and possible efforts are to be applied for making the public libraries a pivotal centre in the science awareness programme of a country.

Ramesh Babu, B and Asok Kumar, S. K (2007) studied the networking of public libraries in India and developed a Prototype design of the Public Library networking “PUBLIBNET” linking the State Central Librarians, District Central Libraries and other branches is presented.

Ram Kumar Matoria (2007) analyses the automation and networking of public libraries in India. The author describes the development of the library management system, e-Granthalaya, for public libraries in India. This is an initiative of the Indian government's National Informatics Centre (NIC). The paper outlines the challenges and the potential of a full-scale deployment of this software at a national level. The project is being implemented in various phases depending on the funds, infrastructure and willingness of the various state governments and library authorities. This case study provides an understanding of the challenges confronted by the NIC in the scale and scope of the deployment of e-Granthalaya. The national effort towards a “single window access” is constructively undertaken with an infrastructure deployment phase followed by a services integration phase: both of these are undertaken in tandem with local conditions and technological developments. The proposed end-product is a web-based online library service connecting public libraries in India and integrating library services in a “Single window access”. The author concludes that there is a dire need for greater orchestration of
funding provision, acquisitions of systems, data entry of catalogues, hosting and so on. The project will be useful as a model for the automation, networking and federating of resources for other groups of libraries in India. The paper is a case study of design, development and implementation of the e-Granthalaya software in India's public libraries.

Ongus, Raymond Wafula and Kemparaju, T. D (2007) studied the opportunities and challenges of providing the electronic based information services through public libraries in India. The public demand for library services has not only grown enormously but is also becoming more diversified. This is owing to the widespread acceptance of libraries as central to education and research, community development and nation building programmes. Libraries are expected to face this critical challenge by providing adequate and effective services to the public. This paper examines the concept of public libraries in general, as well as the state of public libraries in India in the light of the new and emerging technological dispensation. It proceeds to give a detailed account of recommended steps for introducing and maintaining electronic information services for public use. Some fledgling real cases involving impressive attempts of delivering much needed information services in rural areas, using electronic or “digital” media, are mentioned. Conceivable suggestions for the way forward affecting public libraries are given, wherever applicable.

Aabe, Svanhild (2005) discusses the public libraries’ role and value in the age of digital technologies. Reassessments of their role due to technological development and widespread public use of the Internet are analysed. Central challenges of the digital society, including an increased digital divide and a weakening of local community identity, have resulted in lower social participation and involvement in community issues. Previous research has demonstrated that public libraries have a wide social impact on both individuals and local communities. This article focuses on the special characteristics of public libraries to assess their potentially enhanced role and value, as a public room and social and physical meeting place in the digitised age. The article identifies a need to strengthen the public libraries’ democratic role in the information society in furthering social inclusiveness and citizenship.

Dutch, Martin and Muddiman, Dave (2001) have assessed the impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) on the development of public libraries in the U.K., and examined national and local information policy, community networking
and public library policy. The findings are stated as the government recognised the central role of public libraries in the information age and stated that every public library should be connected to the National Grid for Learning by 2002. The study indicates that an important recent report commissioned by U.K. Government’s Social Exclusion Unit recommended that by April 2002 deprived neighborhoods should have at least one publicly accessible community based ICT facility. It envisages a network of local ICT resource centers based in schools, libraries, community centers and other public locations, the department of Trade and Industry (2000) estimated that a total of approximately 6500 public ICT access points could eventually be expanded to a network including 19,000 post offices and 4716 public libraries and the important aim of the research project on Public Libraries and Social Exclusion.

Thomas, V. K (2001) has studied the state of the application of IT in the public library field in India, their future plans and the problems they face in this process. The findings of the study revealed that 8% of the libraries computerised are two State central libraries, two district libraries and a voluntary organisation library. They are T.S. Central State Library, Chandigarh; H. K. M. State Library, Bhubaneswar; District Central Library, Coimbatore; City Central Library, South zone, Bangalore; and Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Library, Bhubaneswar. Only 28% libraries were planning to automate. The major problem the library encountered was with regard to updating of databases and correctness of entries.

Barber, Elsa (2000) has reviewed in detail the case of new technologies to provide high value added services in the context of public libraries in Buenos Aires city and surrounding areas. The study focused to find that the percentage of automated functions of libraries surveyed are; Acquisition (31.50%), cataloguing (65.80%), serial control (21.90%), circulation (28.8%), Reference (34.20%), and OPAC (26%). The study indicates that one third of units surveyed do not belong to library network; Half of the population of units have an Internet connection and 15.1% of libraries have their own website, one fourth of libraries use e-mail for reference service; and one third of them provide online library catalogue with in-home access, 11% provide online library catalogue with Internet access, 17.8% have other catalogues and databases on CD-ROM. The study concluded with the remarks that the main deficiencies observed in IT services in the public libraries are lack of adoption of standards for information exchange and
processing, use of database administrators instead of integrated library systems, lack of information quality control, and less use of information and communication technologies for service provisions.

Eve, Juliet and Brophy, Peter (2000) in their study on ICT (Information and Communication Technology) based services offered by public libraries in U.K. the study indicated that only one fifth of respondents use the ICT facilities in the library; 2) 96% rated ICT as very or quite important; one out of two of the respondents remarked that the main reason for non-use of ICT facilities is having access elsewhere, 26% indicated that they had no Internet in using this facility, 18% said they didn’t know how to use, 2% indicated that no help was available to use this facility and 11% have other reasons; and 29% of the respondents indicated that their main use of the facilities is for leisure, 26% replied that it was for research, 20% used this facility for study and 10% for other reasons. The study illustrated that libraries are increasingly becoming important locations for accessing ICT to support a range of activities, from formal study to job seeking, to building and maintaining a social network using the Internet.

Larkin-Lieffers, Patricia A (2000) carried out a study on the older users’ attitudes, experience, and issues concerning public library computer technology in Canada. Six adults with the age restriction of 65 years or more, and in-person users of the public library participated in the study. Interviews were chosen as the research method. The study indicates that three of the participants were able to use computers and three participants used computers on an average of once a week for email, word processing, and financial spreadsheets. It is understood from the study that all participants opinioned that computers are highly useful and were impressed with their capabilities and two of the six participants frequently used OPAC, two other participants tried the OPAC but found them difficult to use and the remaining two had never tried the OPAC. It is noteworthy that the following reasons for not using the OPAC were: OPAC user interface was too different from the home computer; OPAC interface was difficult to use and the results were disappointing particularly in subject searches; librarians gave instructions too quickly; confusing or absent written instructions in the OPAC, and OPAC was in constant demand.
Turner, Katherine and Kendall, Margaret (2000) have analysed the use of the Internet facilities at Chester Library between August 1998 and May 1999. The study indicates that the most numerous group of Internet users was full time employed users (38%) and the next largest group was unemployed people (22%) student users made up about 20% of total sample, the remaining groups constituted 20% of the total sample including 9% part-time workers and 5% retired users. The overall average of total users split almost in half with 51% male and 49% female. More than 80% of the entire sample constituted persons aged between 16 and 35 years; and one third of total users stated that web-based e-mail was their sole reason for using the Internet in Chester Library, they used it for searching information on a specific subject (36%), 27% of total users were using Internet for visiting specific websites; majority of the users (75%) had not received any formal training in Internet use.

Karisdappka, C. R (1999) has discussed the growth of technology from Stone Age to the information age, possible areas of technology application in public libraries in library operations like online bibliographical services, creation of computerized bibliographic database, networking with the regional and national networks, and the creation of non-bibliographic databases. It described the role of different satellite based nationwide computer communication network such as NICNET, GISTNIC, and DISNIC to meet the growing information needs of the public at large. The need for providing an Internet facility in public libraries and also the trained staff who have the necessary skills in this facility are emphasized.

Venkata Ramana, V and Vinod Kumar, E. A (1997) have emphasized the importance of a need-based planning for public library automation in their study report and indicated the following important facts to develop and execute effective plans to implement the library information storage and retrieval process in public libraries. It requires the financial support from funding agencies, talent, education, creativity, determination, management and above all vision on the part of the library professional and other support staff and the professionals should get themselves trained and take the lead in operating the systems.
2.12. Financial Factors in Public Libraries

Pratapa Reddy, B (2008) the paper deals with the revenue and expenditure pattern of public libraries in Anantapur district. It examines the different sources of revenue and its adequacy and also the pattern of expenditure on different items. This study estimates the public library expenditure in relation to the standards. Some suggestions are set forth to improve the financial position of public libraries in Anantapur district.

Merrifield, Mark (1995) has discussed two funding sources for the rural libraries in the USA which are Federal and State. He discussed the first federal public library grant-in-aid programme, the Library Services Act and its amended act called the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) and their funding levels of the rural libraries in USA from fiscal year 1964 to fiscal year 1992. The study discussed three types of State aid to meet required standards, to support the operation of multi type library systems or networks, and to assist in the construction of public library buildings. The comparison of State funding shows that in 1989, per capita State funding for larger urban libraries is nearly five times than for the smallest libraries. It also traced the historical background of State role in aiding public libraries in the U.S. which goes back to 1835, in which year New York adopted a law authority for each district to levy taxes for the establishment of a public library collection. It revealed that all funding sources are critical to the survival of rural libraries.

Ramaiah, L. S (1993) in his critical perspective on public library finance in India has stressed that public libraries required mandate of law and adequate finance for their efficient functioning, growth, and sustenance. Various aspects of the financial provisions were discussed. It was suggested that a proportional method of providing a certain percentage either of the education budget or the regular State budget for the public library development is advisable.

Guruswamy Naidu, N (1990) has critically analysed the trend and pattern of financing of public libraries in Andhra Pradesh. The study indicated that no district in the State spends optimum time on reading materials and the expenditure on the staff is not optimum level. It is understood from the study that though cess is a major source of
revenue, the yield has been unsatisfactory; and the per-capita revenue does not provide an encouraging picture.

**Goudy, Frank William (1982)** has provided an overview of the history of General Revenue Sharing (GRS) and focused on the contribution of the funds to public libraries in the U.S.A. The first objective of the study was to determine the allocation of GRS funds to public libraries during the fiscal years 1973 through 1977. The second objective was to estimate the fiscal impact of these funds on public libraries. The study indicates that the libraries received $374.55 million during the five year period under consideration. The also study reveals that the libraries acquired a greater proportion of revenue sharing funds relative to their normal share of total government expenditures, and nearly two-thirds of the GRS funds were used for development, maintenance of programmes and services.

### 2.13. Community Development in Public Libraries

**Md. Anwarul Islam and Mezbah-Ul-Islam Muhammad (2008)** studied the Community Information Centers. Information is power and a driving force for all the activities in the society. Information has a value only when it becomes accessible. Community needs information to make the best use of resources available to them and get direct or indirect help in solving their day to day problems. In Bangladesh, majority of the population lives in villages. It is experienced that many government programmes and services do not reach to common people who is living in villages. Sometimes, community people get information through the traditional library system. On the contrary rural communities do not get the ICT facilities due to absence of ICT features in the traditional library system. This study focuses the problems associated with the provision of community information services through public libraries and need the establishment of ICT based community information centre. An attempt has been made to assess how the community information Centres are giving modern information facilities and explores how CIC (Community Information Centre) can be strapped up to promote the development of rural communities in Bangladesh. It believes that establishment of the CIC will make community peoples' life easier to enter the information arena through ICT and ensure overall development of Bangladesh. The finding also advocates making a sound
coordination with CIC and rural libraries and suggests some effective measures for the improvement of community information services in Bangladesh.

Rajarathnam Chetty, P (2007) studied public libraries in the cause of community development. The word ‘community’ has several meanings. It can be applied to a place made up of a number of communities defined by race, culture, social class or income group, employment, leisure interest, religion. It may also mean a number of people who share the same ideas, beliefs, or professional interests. According to Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Sociology, “A community is a concentrated settlement of people in a limited territorial area within which they satisfy many of their daily needs through a system of interdependent relationships. Thus, a community is a self conscious social unit and a focus group of identification.” Community always means a group of people who share a common concern and who contribute something to the common concern.

Maitrayee Ghosh (2006) stated the role of public libraries in India to increase the awareness of community on HIV/AIDS. Today Indian society is at high risk. AIDS, the most devastating disease humankind has ever faced, has become a conflagration on the Indian subcontinent and nearly 5.134 million people in the country are estimated to be HIV-positive. There is a perceived need for public libraries to provide necessary information to make the community aware of the threat of HIV/AIDS. Today's challenge is to reinvent the public libraries to respond to community needs. This paper explores the avenues created by ICT-enabled networking processes in providing HIV/AIDS information to the unprivileged population in India. It concludes with a number of recommendations that are intended to address the core problems and thereby improve the overall situation.

Sunil Kumar, R (2005) has undertaken a research project to assess the information needs of rural communities and this study aimed at the development of a model for a Rural Library and Community Resource Centre. For the survey, the researcher selected a sample of 375 persons from the village ‘Bohar’ of Rohtak district in Haryana. The model for a well functioning Rural Library and Community Resource Centers (RLCRCs) has the proposals of well developed infrastructure for the smooth flow of information. He proposed that the rural Book Trust should be established for encouraging the publication of books on local contents. NGOs should be encouraged to take part in the
integrated rural library programmes. A strong government policy in this regard trained library personnel should be appointed for managing and running the activities of RLCRC, and the curriculum of Library Science course should need to be revised to accommodate rural information services as a part of the study.

**Vang, Vang (2005)** has provided an insight into the public service to Hmong-American community. Hmong are the immigrants to the U.S. and many of them still remain illiterate. The study observed that majority of Hmong students and Hmong adults do not read or write in their native tongue, some major public libraries in the United States where there is a large community of Hmong, collect Hmong language materials. It highlighted the public libraries provided services like story time for children, literacy programmes, and computer classes but they are never publicised among the Hmong community; and 90% of Hmong people never goes to the libraries to meet their information needs; they either rely on family or friends for necessary information or they go to the agencies, organisations, and centers in their community. The author opines that the public libraries should take a proactive role in providing services to the Hmong. He also adds that the library’s story time programme would be a great catalyst for librarians to introduce the library and literacy among people.

**Malarvele Ilangovan and Higgins, Susan E (2003)** has explored the provision of public library services to the Tamil community through the National Library Board of Singapore’s system of public libraries. The methodology employed in this study was the focus group interview technique comprising of 12 participants aged between 14 and 65. The study find outs that all twelve participants visited the library at least once a month, among them, eight participants proposed that all magazines should be placed in the lending section, within the group four participants felt that library could develop non-print materials for children in Tamil, eight participants said that the reference collection in Tamil did not meet their intellectual needs, and all participants were not satisfied with the collection as a whole including the classification and location of these materials in the library. They all suggested that home delivery services for Tamil books, internet services in Tamil, one regional centre for Tamil studies should be provided to the Tamil community.
Aslam, M (1998) recognised the importance of rural libraries to be reshaped as Community Information Centers. A retrospect of rural libraries in India is traced back from 1910 when free public libraries were established in Baroda; discusses the present scenario in selected States such as Karnataka and Kerala. He further emphasizes the need for strengthening the rural libraries to shoulder new responsibilities for the socioeconomic development. He also identifies the objectives of Community Information Centers (CIS): such as to provide easy access to necessary information to enable rural people to effectively participate in the process of development, to serve as centre for educational and cultural activities, to provide access to non-print media such as radio, TV, audio-video tapes particularly for those who lack study skill, and to develop the effective communication strategy with appropriate media mix such as print material, charts and graphics, posters, non-print media to educate the rural populace.

Mallinath Kumbar and Biradar, B. S (1997) have studied the use pattern and extent of utilisation of mass media particularly the newspaper, radio, television and public library by the people of the Singanamane Grama panchayath area of Shimoga district in Karnataka. The findings related to the public libraries are: A majority of the respondents (73.57%) felt the need of a public library, 82.69% visited the public library for reading newspapers and magazines, 44.23% respondents visited library daily, and 36.45% of them spent less than 30 minutes for reading in the library. 24.29% opined that library collection was adequate, whereas 69.29% were of negative opinion about it and 6.42% did not mention anything. The findings indicated that if the proper initiative and care are taken, public libraries could compete with the other media.

2.14. Services in Public Libraries

Anita Brown (2004) has studied the reference service for children in public libraries in Australia. The study revealed that the reference needs of children are primarily the requirement of information to enable them to complete a given school assignment; It also indicated for the successful reference transaction, the librarian needs to be conscious of children’s wants and needs. It is important to create an environment in which children and their questions are taken seriously; it facilitates the delivery of quality reference and information services to children, it is important to have accepted guidelines or standards;
and the need for specific evaluation methods for children’s reference services will increase the quality of the reference service.

Ng’ang’a, S. K (2004) has presented in detail the different services offered to the visually impaired through public libraries in Kenya, their impact, challenges faced by them, and has suggested a way forward. The KNLS (Kenya National Library Service) established library and information service to the visually impaired in Kenya in 1996. The services offered in all 34 KNLS branches countrywide are as follows: Lending of books; reading of stories and newspapers to the Visually challenged document delivery to the homebound, elderly and such others; production of Braille materials; provision of talking books; inter library lending; and transcription of popular local information materials. The objectives of the services are stated as Integrate the visually impaired persons among the sighted population, Sustain Braille literacy and support continuing education, Empower the visually impaired persons with information and knowledge, and Inculcate a reading culture among the visually impaired. The following challenges faced by KNLS Society. The perception of the visually impaired, which are viewed as people who require sympathy and alms rather than being empowered. Inadequate information materials in Braille and equipment for providing services; and Limited mobility of visually impaired persons. The way forward suggested by the author meet the challenges mentioned above are to create awareness through sensitization of society to visual impairment and through the acceptance and appreciation of their role in national development. To seed more copyright agreements from publishers and authors for transcription of their titles into Braille, to Acquire vans for transporting visually impaired persons to the library, and Construction of a purposely-built national resource centre for visually impaired persons.

Leong, Ivan Chew Boon and Higgins, Susan E (2002) has conducted an exploratory study of public library services in Singapore for teenagers between thirteen and nineteen years of age who are wheelchair bound. Three main researches aim for the study the information needs of wheelchair-bound young people, their perceptions of libraries and library services and the problem they face in using library facilities and services. The study indicates the following findings that the most participants enjoyed reading books but did not read newspapers, the computer was used primarily as a recreational tool and the convenience of the internet appealed to them. The study also
indicates that their use of public libraries was infrequent and they were unaware of the full range of library facilities and services. The study also indicated that the current library promotions were inadequate in stimulating or sustaining their awareness and interest, and the problems faced in using libraries were mainly related to architectural and physical access to library facilities and services.

**Myhill, Christine E (2002)** has made a case study on the different information services offered by the Gateshead Library (UK) to the disabled and has highlighted the following findings. The provision of national and regional talking newspaper services offered. Transcription service, Offering Braille, Provision of large print, audio tape and digital formats to organisations and individuals, products of CD-i (Compact Disc interactive) were also rendered. They also availed the provision of cable television information services, Networked Internet access, and Gateshead grid for learning through online educational programme.

**Padmamma, S (2001)** has conducted a study of the public library service for women in the Chickmangalore City Central library, Karnataka. The necessary data for this study were collected through interviews and questionnaires to the women users of the Chickmangalore City Central Library. The study finds that almost all respondents were satisfied with the collection of books, magazines, and newspapers and 58.33% were satisfied with the borrowing facility and the library did not provide the user services such as new arrivals display, inter library loan, paper clipping service, reference service, over night issue, and book exhibition.

**Deshpande, K. S (2000)** has studied the importance of public libraries in developing countries and has pointed out the salient characteristics of a public library and grass root services. The services which can be offered to the public are detailed in the study, which are educating the illiterates, providing information services for women, giving children’s service, conducting adult education classes, providing information on social evils, giving information service to the farmers, creating scientific temper, and providing information services to the disadvantaged.

**Griebel, Rosemary (1995)** has discussed the development and implementation of an innovative, cooperative model of library service for blind and print disabled Canadians through the ‘Visunet: Canada’. As it is described, it is the partnership between the
Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) Library, a private, charitable funded organisation; and the local libraries. The study revealed that technology and library consortia are essential for the successful implementation of this service. The partnership is expressed in terms of the programmes such as virtual library; online catalogue; delivery of full-text newspapers, magazines, and publications through a computer or telephone.

Ottensmann, John R (1995) has examined the patterns of circulation of adult books in the public library branches and the distribution of circulation across subject categories for the Indianapolis Marion County Public Library. The analysis of the data revealed that the distribution and circulation across various categories of adult books were very similar among the various branches, and were weakly related to the social and economic characteristics of the populations served by the branches. Adult fiction accounted for the largest share of the circulation over one quarter of the total. The findings also indicated that at least some of the differences in circulation patterns between branch libraries might be due to the variations in the interests of individual patrons of those branches rather than to systematic variations in the broader interests of the community using the branches. The study led to the conclusion that people who read and borrow books from the public libraries seem to share a broad common set of interests. This study had important implications for materials selection and materials acquisition budgeting.

Wigg, Ristina (1995) has examined rural library services to young people in New York State. These services include collection of quality materials, providing culturally diverse materials, working with preschoolers, assisting students, conducting summer reading clubs, and giving computer literacy. The study concludes with the suggestion that a rural library action plan is needed to overcome the barriers which prevent rural librarian from making use of existing resources.

Chandraiah, I (1993) has conducted a survey of the circulation libraries in Thirupathi, Andhra Pradesh and made an attempt to understand their nature, utility, the kind of users and their profitability. The study finds that the libraries were generally kept open from 8am to 8pm with a break of two hours in the noon. The average stock of circulation libraries ranged between 120 and 800 titles. The study indicates that books were arranged by author and the collection of security deposit was compulsory. The study states that the demand for novels of romance, sex, suspense, and adventure was observed
to be overwhelming. Under the heading users are the readers in the age group of 21-25 constituted the highest stratum. The study noticed that the customers with family income between Rs.15,001–20,000 constituted the largest user group, users with educational background of intermediates figured as the highest stratum, and 42% users borrowed books once a week and 32% twice a week. The study states that 34% of readers spent two hours per day and 26% an hour a day, and two reasons for the non-use of the public libraries are they were not accessible (64%) and books of their choice were not available (20%).

**Raju, A. A. N (1990)** has attempted an evaluative study of the working of Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act, 1960 and its contribution towards the development of public services in the State. The evaluation of this Act and public library services in Andhra Pradesh revealed that the State Public Library System failed to provide an effective public library service. The library cess is not effectively collected and remitted by the local administrator and thus planning and phasing of services are in the face of uncertainty. Financial constraints remain the major bottleneck in universalizing free public library service in the State. The government gives no due importance to the improvement of library system in the State. The study led to the conclusion that only an imaginative leadership in the State can save the situation from ending in a catastrophe.

**Selma, K. Richardson (1987)** has surveyed children’s services of public libraries in Illinois in 1977 and 1987. The study indicates that the children’s room is open for an average of 41 hours per week and expenditure for children’s books and magazines represents an average of 28% of the total expenditure for books and magazines of the libraries. It is understood from the study that children’s books represent 33% of the total book collection of the libraries and the average number of children’s books in the collection is about 10000. It is observed from the study that children’s materials account for 37% of the total circulation of the libraries, and 85% of the libraries in the State have at least one story hour for children. The study indicated the ranges in the extent and quality of public library services in the U.S.

### 2.15. Rural Libraries

**Ranjith, K. S (2004)** has conducted a study on the rural libraries in Kerala. Data were collected on books and periodicals collection, membership, working hours,
circulation of books, daily average attendance of members, grade, yearly grant, other assistance received, and reading habits of the public. The study finds out that a majority of the libraries (60%) have book strength in the range of 1001-5000, around 90% of the libraries have own land and building. It also stated that a majority of the libraries (75%) has women membership of less than 30%. Regarding the working hours of the library, 45% of the libraries work 9 hours or more, 30% of the libraries work 4 to 9 hours, and 25% work less than 4 hours; The study finds that majority of the libraries (62%) have the membership 500 or below and 45% of the libraries have a distribution of 500–1000 books at an average per month, 40% until 500, and 15% 1000 and above. It stated that the average daily reading time was the longest among the youngest age groups of 15-30 years of both male and female; the highest in degree holders; and 60% of the members are satisfied with the collection of the libraries.

Md. Hanif Uddin (1999) has emphasised the importance of establishing rural libraries in each and every village of Bangladesh. The study aims to sensitise the people to better health, water supply and sanitation, and to find out government policy. It also aims to provide better crops and prevent and control environmental pollution. The study helps to provide textbooks and teaching aids, sport facilities, and to prevent and control social problems. The study explored the inter linkages between libraries and rural development and highlighted some rural aspects of the country.

Sarada, K (1986) has conducted an intensive study of Branch Library in Pendurthi village in Visakhapatnam taluk and district (Andhra Pradesh). This study also analysed the information needs of the village community and examined the nature of the policy of the government towards the public library. For this purpose three sets of structured questionnaires were distributed, one for the deposit holders of the library, the other for the visitors-cum-readers of the library, and yet another for the non-users of the library.

The study finds that the Telugu fiction occupies a larger portion of the collections, more than 80% of the loaned books are novels, short stories and other forms of fiction, It is noticed that a stationary group uses the library frequently for reading newspapers and magazines and a large percentage of the people (79.79%) who belong to the middle class in term of social and economic status use the library. The educational, social, informational and cultural functions of the library have been almost completely neglected;
and since the library functions as a government agency, it provides information about citizens and the programmes of the government.

2.16. Barriers in Public Library Development

Ikoja-Odongo, J. R (2004) has surveyed the attitudes of politicians, civil servants, and leaders of Uganda library associations towards public library services in Uganda. The following major problems were realised in the survey that the Uganda lacks a policy for public libraries, their development and maintenance. Ugandan public libraries do not cover the whole country, the libraries are starved of grants from central government, and Information materials are inadequate, mostly out of date and sometimes irrelevant. Literacy levels and illiteracy are the major problems affecting the use of public libraries, and the reading habits of the people are very low.

Jones, David J (2004) has outlined in detail the critical issues in public library building planning in New South Wales. The study recommends that the variety of user needs should be taken into account while planning the library buildings and growth areas of the public library building should include a group study, training, volunteers, meetings and seminars, exhibitions and other public programmes. The study revealed that there are 392 public library buildings in New South Wales ranging in size from under a hundred square meters over 5500 square meters and funding new library building has never been easy in New South Wales.

Vijayakumar, M and Kumar, N (2001) have made quantitative study on the different aspects of rural libraries such as functions, staff, finance, collections, services and facilities in Shimoga district of Karnataka. The important research finds that none of the rural libraries under study had any permanent, professional or semi professional library staff. The study indicates that four libraries had a library committee and other 11 rural libraries did not have library committee and all rural libraries under the study got financial support from the district central library, five libraries received funding through Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation and only one rural library enjoyed financial source from the Grama panchayath. It is observed from the study that maximum collection was of novels, and maximum reference collection of biographies and all the rural libraries had adopted their own system of classification, no library maintained any library catalogue.
The study states that none of the rural libraries had mass media like Radio, TV, Projectors or computers; and none of the libraries had its own building and was in good condition. The investigators have suggested that the Department of Public Libraries should have more concern for upgrading the rural libraries.

**Khaiser Jahan Begum and Ramesh, C. P (1991)** have assessed the reading interest; factors inimical to the use of the City Central Library, Mysore; and the necessary improvements suggested by the users to the existing condition of this library. The major finding of the survey is the lack of books; noisy environment, inadequate seating arrangements, distance, and improper location are the key factors affecting the use. The desired improvements indicated by the respondents such as: more books in different subject areas, additional space with chairs and tables, modern photocopying units, more reference books, and provision of carrels and computerisation.

**Nasirudheen, T. P. O (1989)** has evaluated Kerala Public Libraries Act, 1989, its objectives, constitution of the library authorities, library finance, in the light of UNESCO principles for public library legislation, Model Public Libraries Bill (1963) of the Ministry of Education, Government of India, the Model Public Libraries Act (1972) of Ranganathan and the ten State public libraries Acts in India. The study indicates that the preamble of the Kerala Public Libraries Act does not include the statement of the objectives. The Act aims at bringing about uniform and comprehensive public library law applicable to all the existing library authorities and organisations in the State; The public library Act provides very typical provisions with respect to the constitution of library authorities at State, district, and taluk levels; library services; affiliation of libraries etc; It also stated that Act provides for a democratically elected State Library Council with the representatives of bonafied users of the grant - in- aid libraries in the State; The study stated that the Act provides a token representation to library professionals in the State Library Council; and the legislation provides for the library cess for mobilising the State library fund maintained by the State Library Council.

### 2.17. The Study of Public Libraries

**Van House, Nancy A (1986)** has conducted a study on public library effectiveness in terms of theory, measures and determinants. This study has taken two kinds of
empirical approach. The first is "outcome studies" which seek to define the organisational effectiveness and to develop indicators of it. The second is "determinant studies" which attempt to identify the determination of organizational effectiveness. The data were collected from the Baltimore Public Library (U.S.A). The investigation was on four output measures namely title and subject/author fill rates and reference and circulation per capita. The fill rate is the materials available in the library. A model of the relationships among user characteristics, library resources and effectiveness was also developed. The study indicates that the success of the transaction depends on both the library and the user. The users' success in the library depends on his ability to use information generally and the library specifically, which depends in part on user characteristics such as education. The success of the transaction is measured by the output measures; and the search success may affect the users' perceptions of the library.

**D' Elia, George and Walsh, Sandra (1985)** made an evaluative study of public library performance. Questionnaires were distributed in of the four branches of the Ramsey County Public Library (U.S.A.) to the patrons. A number of measurements are done in evaluating library performances. The study measurement of library use made on the following: circulation of materials, number of services used, duration of visits, and frequency of visiting the library. The study indicated that measurement of evaluation of services: quality of collections, availability of collections, satisfaction with the physical facilities and library staff, and convenience of hours and measurement of overall evaluations of and satisfaction with library services; and measurement of individual characteristics: Importance of use, style of use and purpose of use. The analysis of the data has revealed that there was no statistically significant relationship between the number of non-fiction borrowed and the libraries used. It stated that there was statistically significant relationship between the number of activities in which the patrons engaged and the use of the library and there were statistically significant relationships between patrons' evaluations of the quality of collections, the availability of collections, the staff, the overall evaluation of the library and the general satisfaction with the library; and one or more of the different libraries used by the patrons. Finally, it concluded that there were statistically significant relationships between the patrons' evaluations of the physical facilities and the convenience of hours and one or more of the different libraries used by the patrons.
Shantaram, G. M (1985) in the historical study of public libraries in Western Maharashtra, from 1805 to 1921. The study has highlighted that all the libraries established up to 1805 were manuscript libraries mostly in Sanskrit and Marathi language. In 1830, Bombay General Library was established; in 1838, Ahmednagar Native Library and in 1845, Bombay Native General Library were established. The study stated that by the end of 1880, about 100 libraries were established in 7824 towns, with the encouragement of Government of Bombay; and by 1921 the number of libraries was increased to 227.

Keenan, Stella (1981) has given a report of the details of the research project on Bibliographic Information Retrieval On-line services (BIROS). It was carried out jointly by Manchester Polytechnic and Lancashire County Library. The objectives of this project were to look at the impact of the services on the library service generally, on the staff and on the users, to gather information about the motivations of users and their reactions to the services, and finally to evaluate the overall success of the services. To complement this project the British Library assisted the experimental development of on-line information services in four other public libraries of Birmingham, Liverpool, Lancashire, and Sheffield.

The project resulted in the introduction of a set of guidelines for the introduction of on-line services. This study stated the following: An on-line service increases the demand for books and increases inter-library loans, much time has to be spent by the staff for training, updating knowledge, for practicing search skills, and for actually carrying out searches; and the type of end-users attracted to this service depended on the nature of the services offered.

2.18. Conclusion

It is felt that most of the reviews provided the outcomes in general and specific terms. In the review of related literature in the field of Public Libraries, nearly 117 papers comprising journal papers, reports, conference proceedings, and case studies on different facets such as studies related to public libraries. Therefore, the research proposes a further
study to bridge the gap between the outcome of reviews and current need for conducting studies on collection development of public libraries in Tamil Nadu and to design a model based on the findings of the study.