CHAPTER 2
Review of Literature

Introduction:

Libraries have been important institutions since time immemorial. India is one of the oldest civilizations of the world with a glorious past of higher learning institutions and libraries. In ancient and medieval period, libraries were part of the royal houses and monasteries and later they descended to public domain as a part of higher learning system. In independent India, libraries and information systems have been made an integral part of higher learning system. Information and knowledge plays a very vital role in overall development of societies and nation building. Information and knowledge are the products of society and these flows through various information resources, particularly peer reviewed R&D journals. Libraries no longer are the warehouse of information, but rather a gateway to information and knowledge. Availability of information and knowledge is key to success. Librarian is not merely a collector but rather a gatekeeper of information and knowledge. Traditionally, the libraries have been functioning as standalone entities building comprehensive duplicate collections, but now it is in a network of shared resources. Rapid technological advancements during past two decades, particularly for information handling, delivery and management have been resulting in paradigm shift of libraries.

Recently many libraries in the world are worse affected by shrinking library budgets. This problem is found mostly in developing and under-developed countries, due to the ever increasing cost of published material, library collections are shrinking. On the one hand there is an information explosion and on the other the user demands are increasing. Librarians are at their wits end to satisfy the needs of their clientele. The only viable solution to meet users' demands is to make optimum use of available literature. This is
being done through the pooling and sharing of resources. Inter-library co-operation is of utmost importance for this to succeed.

"Co-operation" is the word one most often encounters in library literature when reading about joint projects between the libraries. Occasionally the word "co-ordination" appears, and recently a few authors employed the word "collaboration". The 3 Co’s are very fairly connected with development of services in libraries. The co-operation as the name itself suggests made the libraries to come together for co-operation. It is seen in the joint venture of libraries in satisfying the user needs of both the libraries. Co-ordination comes into being when more libraries come together for services to their users as common object.

In researchers' view co-operation is the level with the least interaction between participating organizations. Essentially there is no formal common mission, structure, or planning effort. Participants share information as needed and retain all authority with virtually no risk. Thus "co-operation" should be the easiest level to achieve. However, the rewards to those involved are both variable and unpredictable. Further, there is little stability to such efforts and they tend to be of short duration.

Co-ordination is the middle level of activity. While authority remains with the participating institutions there are increased risks for all the participants because of the somewhat more formal structure. There may or may not be contributions of individual resources to the co-operative activity. Likewise there are some common rewards expected by each of the participants and that the rewards will be more or less equal.

Collaboration is the highest level of activity in which there is a very formal, often legal, structure created by the participants. The structure includes the assignment of some authority, planning and operational activities to the newly created entity based on a set of common missions and goals. A collaborative effort also involves participants contributing some of their resources money,
people, time, physical space, to the program. The expectation is the rewards of the activity will be jointly shared.

The review of the literature on the topic is covering the broad aspects in which the developments have taken place. For the purpose of comprehensive coverage the whole research topic is viewed in the following broad perspective:

1. Consortia: Historical Development,
2. Impact of IT and Internet on Consortia,
3. Consortia Movement in India,
4. Economics of Consortia Practice,

The published literature is almost all formats are included in the review. Care is taken to review such publications which have some important point of view and directions in the development of the subject field.

1. Consortia: Historical Development

Library co-operation has always been assumed to be a good thing, but much thinking has focused on the means of co-operation rather than on the ends that co-operation is intended to serve, neglecting to fully explore other means of attaining those ends in the view of Line, M.B. (1). Co-operative schemes have rarely been subjected to rigorous cost-effectiveness analysis; most have been national or sub-national rather than international; and some areas where co-operation could be useful have received little attention. Co-operation on a goodwill basis is already giving way to commercial arrangements between libraries as well as with private suppliers. The growths in the number of private providers of various services, together with the ability of information technology to transcend geographical boundaries, are among
factors that make a radical reappraisal of cooperation desirable. Bucknall (2) views in the angle those libraries working together can negotiate e-journal access agreements that go beyond benefiting a single institution the benefits can extend to library users throughout an entire state or region and may result in additional cooperative ventures that provide additional benefits to the community.

Wright, D.A. (3) gives a concise history of library cooperation varies significantly from state to state. State consortia have usually developed based on existing groups created for resource-sharing or other joint projects. Participation in library consortia is valuable and necessary for all libraries and will become more crucial in the future. Development of statewide multiple consortia is a mosaic of different structures and levels of involvement of various types of libraries. One state may have strong leadership from a central administrative agency. Another state may have groups of libraries active in the planning and development of consortia.

Evans, G.E. (4) specifies the terms associated with consortia coordination, co-operation and collaboration and identifies critical success factors for consortia. Provides four case studies based on the author's personal experience indicating the reasons for the success or failure of these collaborative ventures. The outcomes are discussed and conclusions are drawn. The evidence indicates that successful consortia require time to develop a high level of trust between partners and a willingness to contribute.

Fearon C et al (5) examine the relationship between cooperation and inter-organizational coordination in the supply chain. There is much literature debate over the nature of electronic trading enabled cooperation and coordination in the supply chain. The paper examines the major concepts associated with inter-organizational cooperation in social network literature such as collaboration and partnership and how this is affected by changing forms of coordination governance. A conceptual cooperation and coordination
matrix outlines four quadrant forms of cooperation relative to evolving electronic markets and hierarchy coordination contexts, namely; “collaboration”, “partnership”, “dominance” and “autonomous”. The matrix depicts and describes subtle differences in these forms of cooperation. Collaboration involves a low degree of vertical integration and a high number of trading partners transacting on short-term contracts. Partnering involves a higher degree of inter-firm linkage with fewer stable partners on a medium to long-term basis. Dominance is characterized as a traditional form of hierarchical inter-firm linkage with a high degree of vertical integration. The autonomous organization specializes in the production and delivery of major super brands which in the case of information-based products can be sold directly to the customer. The discussion analysis and new matrix framework depicting forms of cooperation relative to market and hierarchy coordination contexts in the supply chain. This is useful for understanding theoretical interplay between different forms of inter-firm cooperation and complex supply chain inter-dependencies that utilize information technology. Gorman, G. E. and Cullen, R. (6) have evolved the trends in library co-operation against the backdrop of practices in various Asian countries. Having first reviewed the rationale for co-operation and both barriers and positive factors, the authors then present an overview of various models for co-operation, a discussion of key features in successful co-operative ventures and viewpoints on how such ventures might be managed. Caidi, N., (7) examines how the various actors articulate their vision of what cooperation means to them and how it is being done in their country. How the four dimensions of cooperation inform the ways in which library policy-makers in the four Central and Eastern European countries reflect about the changing nature of cooperation in their countries and its impacts on library developments.

Majid, S.,(8) investigates resource sharing activities undertaken by agricultural libraries in Malaysia. It was found that resource sharing was basically limited to interlibrary lending and document delivery activities. On
the average, each scientist from the participating research institutions made 1.25 document delivery and interlibrary loan requests per annum. Nearly 74 percent of these requests were met from local libraries. The participating libraries preferred to make their overseas document delivery requests to the BLDSC. Only a limited resource sharing activity was observed between the participating libraries and libraries in the ASEAN region. Heads of the participating libraries were in favour of a "loose" resource sharing scheme where it should be at their discretion to decide with whom to share their resources and at what level. The study offers several suggestions for improving resource sharing activities among agricultural libraries in Malaysia.

Verzosa, F.M., (9) presents an overview of Philippine experience with library cooperation, their commonalities and variations, the significant contributions of different library consortia to the growth and development of libraries within and outside their sphere of influence, and the challenges these local models of consortia are facing in this digital age. Bernardini, E & Mangiaracina, S. (10) presents this article was to provide insights into the relationship between ILL or document supply and journal subscriptions. The first question answered is “Does ILL affects electronic or print journal subscriptions?” The results of this survey of 633 Italian academic and research libraries between 2005 and 2009 show that requests are generally spread over many titles and only a relatively small number of journals 5 percent are heavily used. The results of this paper show that publishers should support ILL in their electronic licenses, rather than attempt to obstruct it, since ILL guarantees diffusion of their published works to researchers in non-subscribing institutions.

Martey, A.K., (11) discusses the management issues involved in library networking, using GILLDDNET, the DANIDA/IFLA sponsored Ghana Interlibrary Lending and Document Delivery Trial Project as a reference point in the discussion. There is an attempt to apply the management principles that Urwick outlined decades ago in the Elements of Management to this project.
The challenges and the successes of the project are discussed. Hirshon, A. (12) states that the library consortia have grown substantially over the past ten years, both within North America and globally. As this resurgent consortia movement has begun to mature, and as publishers and vendors have begun to adapt to consortia purchasing models, consortia have expanded their agendas for action. The movement to globalize consortia is traced including the development and current work of the International Coalition of Library Consortia – ICOLC. A methodology is explored to classify library consortia by articulating the key factors that affect and distinguish consortia as organizations within three major areas: strategic, tactical, and practical concerns. McKee, A. E., (13) discusses the history of consortia as they relate to the library marketplace and examine the issues and trends facing consortia today. Negotiation tools which can help in obtaining fair and equitable content agreements will be highlighted. Although library consortia are thought to be relative newcomers to the library field, in actuality consortia have existed for several decades. As consortia have become much more complex multi type versus single; “buying club” focused versus those with a focus on impacting scholarly communication, it becomes a daunting process to effectively meld the needs of each member institution.

Jin, X & Maurer M.B (14) have complex experiences working within a variety of simultaneous library consortia agreements. Their librarians’-eye view of consortia allows for a discussion of the nature of that landscape, some perspectives on the benefits and advantages of consortia as well as thoughts on the challenges and limitations of consortia. They conclude that while consortia partnerships hold the key to greater efficiencies and strength in libraries, the overlapping layers of consortia agreements that connect libraries form almost a web that can be constricting. Libraries should continue to be creative about how they exploit the power of consortia relationships, but they also need to learn how to lower the administrative overhead created by these agreements, particularly in the areas of communication and the organizational flow of
information. Finally, they recommend that consortium committees spend more time on short and long-term strategic planning.

Collection development remains a major focus and concern of current interest for all types of libraries. Consortia began as a means of sharing resources and of leveraging purchasing power for its members. Kinner, L and Crosetto, A., (15) address how an academic library engages in collection development at the local and consortia levels, including the benefits and challenges of consortia memberships, and responds to its local patrons in light of its obligations and commitment to a consortium. How does a library balance its individual collection needs, both present and future, when it is a member of a consortium? Do the expectations of the consortium outweigh the needs of the individual library member? Cooperative collection development is and will be even more essential in the shrinking monetary world and the rapidly expanding information resources world. The best way to manage these shrinking funds is to be consortia partners. “Consortia partnerships hold the potential to really help libraries defend themselves against rising costs and shrinking budgets, and not just from a collection development perspective.

In his study Pisani, A., (16) explores issues related to library consortia and cooperation in an international context, with a particular focus on North American initiatives. This study provides a cursory history of consortia efforts in collection development and resource sharing in the traditional print-on-paper world and discusses the new parameters, advantages and problems of consortia today. Further discusses how the new, extra-consortia, national and regional initiatives for coordinating projects, sharing information about best practices, which help libraries to deliver new programs and meet new challenges, are the truly effective methods for cooperating in the digital arena.

Dong, X., & Zou, T.J., (17) outline of the history and development of library consortia in China from 1980 to the present as gleaned from selected websites and representative reports in the published literature. Anglada, L., & Comellas, N., (18) attempt to extend the viewpoints set down in the statement.
``Why some libraries and consortia are paying too much for e-information''. This increase has been quantitative in two senses. Firstly, more is published. Currently more than twice as many articles are published every year than 20 years ago. Secondly, the prices of the serials and books have risen more than the budgets available to libraries to purchase them. Wade, R., (19) draws on research funded by the Western Australian Group of University Librarians. It provides an analysis of 11 small to medium-sized consortia of primarily academic libraries in five countries. The aim is to canvass the range of different models that currently exist for library consortia and from that to identify the factors that determine when and how incorporation should be considered. The factors identified are the joint ownership of assets, payment for services, provision of joint services and protection under the law.

Cleary, A., and Rowe, C (20) have a new paradigm in explaining their views on library consortia drawn from Ireland. The MIS plan which they have surveyed needs all the encouragement to reach its users. They have also discussed the historical background of the project, the objectives, the implementation, working and the hardships that encounter in its progress. The common legislative framework has provided a potential for development of common approaches and policies. Hirshon, A., (21) deals with a consortium that leads to change in management principles and policies. He asserts that the services, the content management, organizational change technology demands need some kind of rejuvenation to cope with the new concept of paperless libraries in the name of e-journals consortia. According to him modern steps and techniques are; trigger situation, planning, communication, restructuring, training and cultural change. The urgent need of the hour for him is varied like: creation of standardized planning and service programs improving operational process, procurement of electronic content construction and management, resource sharing and digitization of libraries. Peters, T.A., (22) has displayed the discontents of consortia thinking. The most common discontents to him are many meetings, time consumption, inefficiency, in affection, complexity in
expression. His asserts that consortia collaboration involves a leap of trust. It is a unique type of leap. Jackson, M., and Preece, B.G., (23) have raised the issue like consortia though with many motives behind serving the user at large throughout the world being a desperate selection of electronic sources continues to be dubious of resource sharing. They have taken the examples of consortia like ICOLC, OCLC, BLC, which are the major consortia of America.

Reinhardt, W., and Boekhorst, P., (24) feel that library consortia in Germany have encountered many problems like inadequate infrastructure, and inefficient staff amidst the available abundant e resources which are in the form of e- journals and e- books. They have also taken into consideration prominent consortia like ABI, INSPEC, MLA, ISI, GASCO and others. Consortia are a temporary remedy in the context of journal crisis helping to relieve the pain but unable to disease forgotten.

Bostick, S.L., (25) gives an overview of academic library consortia, with special emphasis on the history and modern developments in the United States and provides a general introduction to the concept of library cooperation. Library consortia in the United States arose from a need for sharing when resources or funding for those resources were scarce. This is as true today as it was over 100 years ago when the first American consortia were formed. Consortia continue to be a growing and important part of the library profession. Moghaddam, G.G. & Talawar, V.G., (26) outlines consortia efforts in developing countries. “Library consortia” refers to co-operation, co-ordination and collaboration between, and among, libraries for the purpose of sharing information resources. Libraries in developing countries have been working on consortia at national, regional and international level. Miller, W., (27) discusses Libraries want to pay to maintain a group that maximizes value, and through its mediation makes it possible to do things that are uniquely the province of libraries to do with one another, thereby creating services that no other arm of government or private entity can or would provide. Consortia can do many things collectively that libraries cannot do individually, such as serving as
facilitators for sharing of materials, serving as a clearinghouse for available jobs, or providing experimental access to expensive new equipment or technologies. Consortia should function as the research and development arms of their membership and experiment with doing things that individual member would be hesitant to go out on a limb to try. Although the value of such things can be hard to quantify, it is nevertheless real. Mediating something like statewide borrowing raises visibility for all the libraries involved and gives you great cost avoidance as well as great public service.

2. **Impact of IT and Internet on Consortia**

   The study made by Ossai, N.B., (28) focuses in an effort to increase awareness and promote development of consortia. The successes and challenges of consortia development in Africa, with particular attention given to some of the challenges facing collaborative initiatives in Nigeria as perhaps typical of other regions on the continent. Admittedly, these challenges are daunting, but identifying and understanding them will hopefully support efforts in promoting and expanding library consortia in this part of the world. Scheffler, M., (29) brings to light the passive components integrated into a high-density substrate can be a tolerable way to overcome the size and manufacturing limits of SMD passives mounted on to the system board. Still, this technology is perceived as being "too risky" and not cost-effective. In this paper we propose a "passive optimized" solution combining the advantages from both SMD and integrated technology and avoiding the respective drawbacks. Exemplified by a GPS receiver front end, we present a methodology to assess the possible benefits when using the mixed technology.

   Ghosh, M., (30) in her paper asserts that the purpose is to review the state of libraries in India and summarise the strategic cooperative initiatives undertaken to improve user access to electronic information services. A variety of search terms were employed to gain a broad overview of the subject and then more targeted terms to examine key aspects of the area of study with
greater emphasis. She also examines the range of general environmental factors impacting on libraries and which must be taken into account to accelerate the pace of beneficial change. It also lists the significant achievements in this field to date. There are still significant potentials for further implementation of cooperative strategies to enhance networked, electronic information service delivery in India. Some of the underlying issues which are presumably delaying the establishment of consortia and which need to be resolved. This research gives an insight into how consortia strategies can help overcome the resource constraints which characterize library provision in many developing countries, providing a model for other library systems, which face similar problems. Guzzy, J.E., (31) observes that few libraries are strangers to the concept of library consortia -institutional groups that collaborate to purchase software, systems, electronic resources, or other information-sharing products and services. Most academic libraries are members of at least one consortium, and many belong to multiple consortia. However, consortia vary widely in the services they offer and in how they are structured. This project, carried out in the fall of 2009, focused on a review of academic library consortia that: included two-year colleges, either exclusively or as part of a joint consortium arrangement with four year colleges and universities; and purchased or licensed databases and/or electronic resources as part of their consortia services.

Tedd, L.A.,(32) gives an overview of cooperative and ICT-based projects in British libraries is provided. Many of the early projects of the 1970s and 1980s have ceased but some have developed into current working services. During the 1990s the UK government funded various initiatives to improve the learning opportunities for its citizens whether through formal education courses at colleges or universities or by ‘lifelong learning’. Descriptions are given of the Electronic Libraries Programme in Higher Education Institutions and the People’s Network in public libraries and current developments in these sectors as well as in the national libraries of Britain, Scotland and Wales are provided. Sources of further of information are also given. Mahalik, P., Swain, D. K., and
Jena, K.L., (33) attempts to present, in brief, how e-consortia are instrumental in redeeming the electronic information services. The rapid advancement of ICTs has brought a revolutionary change in the information scenario giving rise to a number of options to the user’s community to handle various information sources conveniently and effortlessly.

Ghosh, M., and Jambekar, A (34) explore the possibilities of establishing Management and Engineering library consortia of two western Indian states – Gujarat and Maharashtra. It gives an overview of the current status of management and Engineering libraries of the region and examines the possibilities of building up information sharing system, which is of great importance and central to the formation of any consortia. Proposals are made for a model of library consortia of the 21st Century in two western states of India. It focuses on the joint venture of purchase of the resources by IIT Mumbai and IIM Ahmedabad and other engineering and management institute libraries of this form of collaborative approach between management and engineering libraries. Borm, J.V., & Sokolova, N., (35) attempts to show Copeter is one of the few Tempus or Tacis projects about consortium building: bringing libraries together in a consortium in order to achieve common goals. This article will attempt to answer three main questions: 1. what factors create good library co-operation? 2. What are the conditions for success? 3. Is the Copeter consortium fulfilling these requirements?

Karasozen, B., (36) discussed the increase in the usage of electronically licensed databases by ANKOS (Anatolian University Libraries Consortium) is explained with reference to COUNTER compliant e-journal collections. The diversity of usage among the universities and the cost-effectiveness of electronically available databases with the consortium are explained, taking into account the special characteristics of Turkish university libraries, the rapid increase of students and newly established universities, as well as the growth of scientific publications. Walters, T.O., & Skinner, K., (37) aims to examine the emerging field of digital preservation and its economics. It seeks to consider in
detail the cooperative model and the path it provides toward sustainability as well as how it fosters participation by cultural memory organizations and their administrators, who are concerned about what digital preservation, will ultimately cost and who will pay. The authors describe one economically sustainable digital preservation model in practice, the Meta Archive Cooperative, a distributed digital preservation network that has been in operation since 2004. The Meta Archive has built its economic sustainability model and has experienced successes with it for over five years. This article provides that application and further articulates why cultural memory organizations should invest themselves and learn how to provide for the preservation of their own digital collections.

Kaur, S., and Satija, M.P., (38) describe various trends in collection development in digital environment. The changes that have occurred in acquisition, retrieval and storage of information due to technological developments have been 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.

Birdie, C., and Alladi, V., (39) discusses the various offers from different publishers for access to electronic journals and also attempt to analyze the suitability of these offers for the future of consortia arrangement in libraries in India based on the requirement and usage of digital information. Some of the challenges could be sorted out with the help of governments' participation in bridging the Digital Divide within the country more economically. The prohibitive cost of library material, especially foreign journals, pertaining to science and technology, has always been a bane of information centres, especially in the developing countries, taking away large chunk of their meager resources and therefore always a hindrance to provide better services to the users. Libraries tried to bridge this gap by borrowing and inter lending required
documents among themselves. Advances in information and communication technology have changed the publication scenario as well as the mode of resource sharing due to availability of e-journals and online resources. Rise in number of personal computers, Internet, and networks like LAN, MAN and WANs besides augmenting the availability of the material increased the speed with which the information is now accessible. ICT also facilitated the establishment of library consortia for maintaining information resources together. In India, during the last few years, many leading scientific and technical organisations have established consortia to share their human and electronic resources.

3. Consortia Movement in India,

The exact date for the introduction of the term “library consortium” is not clear but the concept of a consortium as being an association or partnership has long been a tenet of librarianship. The published literature indicates that the concept is not new, and it refers to co-operation, co-ordination and collaboration between, and amongst, libraries for the purpose of sharing information resources. However a library has not used it widely until about the 1980s. The main drive for co-operation has been the increase in the output of publications or the information explosion, the rise in the cost of publications coupled with stringent budget allocations, and growth in student enrolment. Increasing demand for service from customers together with the need to improve inter-lending services and the library collection are additional factors. From the perspective of preserving research collections, the Research Libraries Group of the USA was founded on the premise that: Some of the toughest challenges facing large research libraries might well benefit from collaborative action. The founding leaders admitted that the problems were too hard and too expensive for libraries to undertake alone. Both academic and public libraries have achieved great benefits from this form of co-operation. The benefits have been in gaining access to the large collection of different libraries put together.
However, library consortia differ since they depend on the objectives, mission, philosophy and geographical location of the participating libraries.

Tollefsen, S., & Gulliksen, M., (40) opines of new consortium agreements, find different players. Initiatives come from users within different disciplines. Old and new organisations wanting to sell their databases, journals, software and they create new alliances and take new roles. Consortia need more partners to reduce prices and cross-country initiatives. This brings up an important issue as already well-established consortia can threaten each other because of the total costs. Therefore think that it is important that new agreements build on documented needs and realistic expectations. And that the agreements are targeted towards different disciplines in the scholarly community. Arora, J., and Agrawal, P., (41) introduces the INDEST Consortium. its genesis, needs and benefits. It describes criteria used for selection of e- resources, and their evaluation. The article provides a detailed analysis of electronic resources being subscribed for various categories of institutions. It presents an analysis on expenditure according to category of institutions, types of resources, and ratio between list price vs consortium price. The article deliberates on important terms of license agreement for subscription to e–resources proposed by the consortium. The article describes the activities and services of consortium and its future plans.

Biswas, B.C., and Dasgupta S. K., (42) discusses briefly the concept and significance of resource sharing in Indian context with a view to justify on the basis of tremendous growth as well as diversity of explicit knowledge, increased users demands, diminished budgets, galloping prices for subscribing periodicals and purchasing books etc. Paper suggests that resource sharing is inevitable among libraries and mentions the concepts, the areas and modalities for cooperation through library consortia in the networked information environment. This paper also covers growth as well as point out merits and demerits of library consortia and the future prospect of consortia in Indian scenario. Kushwah, S.S Jambhekar, A., and Gautam, J.N.,
(43) gives a brief account of need of resources sharing through consortium has become a necessary for the libraries all over the world. Various factors contribute to this situation. Indian libraries are not exception to this fast changing compute environment. The major initiatives are taken during the last couple of years. An effort has been made in this to list the issues involved in consortia and also offers few valuable suggestions.

Kaul, S., (44) aims at examining the use of information resource sharing networking in the area of environmental studies in developing countries, the concept and rationale of information and resource sharing in the modern society. The author identifies linkages between the information and communication technology, information resource sharing and the networking models. The differences in the developing and developed countries in information resource sharing and networking. Deals with the networking in environmental studies in India, a developing country. Examines the building up of Information Sharing System which is vertically and horizontally integrated across institutions working in the area of Environmental Economics under the World Bank Capacity Building Project. It is our contention that this is an important component in the area of Environmental Economics. Vasanth, N and Mudhol, M.V., (45) elaborate upon services and characteristics of a successful consortium and how INDEST Consortium ensures optimal use of electronic resources provided to the member libraries. As a consortium of libraries, it would bring together various institutions receiving financial support. The present approach towards partnership, networking, consortia and resource sharing adopted by libraries need radical changes to evolve responsive partnerships in order to achieve best performance in service. Cooperation amongst institutions for sharing their library resources is being practiced for decades. The proliferation of electronic resources in the networked society has resulted in the development of “shared subscription” or “consortia-based subscription” to journals everywhere in the world. Shared-subscription to electronic
resources through consortia of libraries is a feasible strategy to meet the pressures such as diminishing budget, increased user’s demand and rising cost of journals.

Krishnamurthy, M., (46) discusses the implementation of a consortium of the Indian Statistical Institute libraries. Problems faced by the libraries in handling e-journals are also discussed. Experience shows that acquiring publications through consortia has brought great benefits and has equally favoured different sizes of libraries that would otherwise not been able to afford so many subscriptions, whether in paper or in electronic format. The ultimate goal of cooperation is to connect users with the documents and the information they need; establishing relationships among participating institutions as a means to that end. Consortia present the possibility to test alternatives to the traditional automated library. They represent the potential to offer the best library services to a wider number of users with all the resources they possess. Bhardwaj, R.K., (47) focused on current Indian scenario and extended facilities and benefits provided to the users under the consortia umbrella. This study reveals the promotion and development, present situation and future role, services and activities of library consortia in the field of science and technology, and their prospects. Dutta, N., (48) in her study has discussed Consortia approach to develop information resources in libraries is proving productive especially when budgetary constraints are alarmingly high. The advantages are high lightening with a case study from CGCRI. Consortia play important role leading to increase in productivity of scientific research output and also helps to meet the user’s growing and diversified needs.

Rao, S.S., (49) highlights the networking scenario in India by listing the general communication networks, viz. INDONET, NICNET, GPSS, RABMN, I-NET, and specialized information networks, viz. ERNET, INFLIBNET, BTISNET, DELNET, SIRNET, CALIBNET, MALIBNET, MYLIBNET, etc. She concludes that India has drawn up ambitious plans
and remains to see the benefits that could derive in employing these facilities in improving the socio-economic status of its citizens. Kanamadi, S., and Kumbar, B.D., (50) in their survey of select libraries examines in some detail the availability of e-resources, their utilization at the management institute libraries affiliated to the University of Mumbai, Mumbai. Further it also collected the librarians’ opinion about formation of Mumbai Management Libraries Consortia. Francis, A.T. (51) discusses utilisation of consortia-based digital information resources by the post graduate and doctoral students of the Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur. Results show that cent percent of the students were familiar with the use of digital information resources available online and 87.14 per cent of them used CeRA. Eighty two per cent students were acquainted with CeRA and learned the required skills for the access and use of digital information resources through curriculum-based courses like ‘library and information services’, ‘research methodology’, etc. The students in general would like to strengthen the CeRA services by adding more resources and facilities. Mishra, M., (52) presents the need and the development of consortium. Further she also extends her study to view mission, vision, objectives and goals of consortium. After listing the features of consortium she points out the advantages and disadvantages. In her case study she explores an idea that with the help of consortium a user can interact with consortium administrator through online and chat about the problems. She has tried to explain Consortium for E Resources in Agriculture.

In view of Rosalien Rout (53) library consortia are tools that help in exploiting the features of e resources and using them in effective savings. She has suggested that the government should attempt for providing necessary infrastructure to access e - resources. The training programs for librarians to equip them with the modern know how the implementation of library consortia would be highly appreciable. In her survey she has listed major consortia like INDEST, INFONET, CSIR,
ICMR, IIM, FORSA, MCB, HELINET, ICICI, ISRO, ISASE, VSSC, SHAR, SAC, LPSC, RRSSC and others.

Behera, S., and Satapathy, S., (54) deal with the role of INFLIBNET in e-resource building. Although library network started in India in the beginning of 20th century, the development is not at an alarming rate. They have discussed role of INFLIBNET in different stages like creating database of various types and they have also highlighted the objectives of INLIBNET and enlisted various databases and arrived at funding that all the academic libraries should come forward to take benefit from this library network and build their collections to satisfy their users.

Chand, P., and Nishy P., (55) examines the changing face of libraries particularly with regard to the journal subscription from print to electronic form through formation of consortia. The benefits accrued to the library and information system of CSIR laboratories owing to formation of a consortium to access e-resources. Concludes that the CSIR laboratories library and information systems have been strengthened following the widening of the journals base after the formation of the consortium. Sinha, M., and Sarkar, B., (56) deal with the concept of resource sharing with a brief account of information networks at different levels in different areas and institutions by giving the examples of major role played by INFLIBNET, DELNET, ADINET, MALIBNET, CALIBNET, MYLIBNET, PUNENET, BANET, NICENET, ERNET in information retrieval along with laying emphasis on role of public and rural libraries in bridging the gap between the digital divide and poor layman. They have also recommended the optimum utilization of resources and the need for imparting training for library personnel to face the challenge of adopting the modern method of information retrieval through paperless e-resources.

Joteen Singh R.K (57) presents the usage trends of UGC – INFONET by the academic community of Manipur University during 2007 to 2010. He
also attempts to determine the popularity of the publishers available under
the consortium. The study reveals that while there is an increase in the
usage of the resources of most of the publishers in spite of certain problems
of accessibility, resources of some of the publishers were underutilized.
Though the study does not investigate the usage of individual journal
covered by each publisher, yet an average of downloads of each publisher
based upon the coverage has been worked out and presented. The increase
in prices of the electronic resources and scarcity of resources has forced the
libraries to explore the alternative means of subscription. The revolution in
information technology in past few years has surpassed the ability of
individuals and institutions to cope with it. Expectations of the users from
the libraries have also increased rapidly. The phenomenon of consortia has
become very important in the last few years. The paper discusses the
meaning, need, advantages, disadvantages, consortia models and various
initiative in India. Joshi and Vinod Kumar (58) Moorthy, A.L. (59) discuss
the consortia initiatives taken at Defence Research and Development
Organisation, a premier research organisation of Ministry of Defence,
engaged in the indigenous development of cutting-edge defence

Libraries have experienced many transformations along with time.
Scenario has further changed with the information explosion and advent of
Internet and telecommunications technologies. Information seeking has
become much more complex due to ever increasing amount of data, in both
printed and electronic forms, and no single library is self-sufficient to
purchase all the books/e-books, journals/e-journals and other library
documents within their library budgets. Library consortium is one of the
solutions to overcome this problem. However, due to ever increasing prices
of journals, vendor dominated market, lack of competition, and for other
reasons, question of whether consortium approach, some of the experiences
in accessing e-journals through this approach, a viable alternative for
journal’s price hike or not? It is a case study of CSIR e-journal Consortium and discusses need for consortia, types, advantages and disadvantages of a consortium, problems faced by the consortiums and possible solutions for some of these problems Varaprasad, S.J.D. and Madhusudhan, S.(60)

Arora, J., and Trivedi, K., (61) outlines governing structures of the Consortium and their roles. It elaborates on strategies used for effective implementation of Consortia amongst member institutions. It briefly touches upon the economics of the Consortium and spells out it future endeavours. The INDEST-AICTE Consortium, launched in 2003, provides differential access to 12,000 electronic journals and six bibliographic databases from a number of publishers and aggregators to 48 centrally-funded technical institutions, 60 government and government-aided engineering colleges and 820 private engineering colleges, and other organisations. The article describes major functions, activities and services of the INDEST-AICTE Consortium. It briefly touches upon resources subscribed, terms of licenses, policies and practices for archival back-ups, membership programmes including core members, AICTE-supported institutions, and self-supported category of membership.

4. Economics of Consortia Practice

Evaluation has always been an important part of development. In fact many consider that a core mission of the library is the evaluation of its collections to meet the needs of the user and the educational mission of the institution. In this tight economic and budgetary times, it is becoming increasingly important to provide accountability for the way collections budgets are managed and spent. The changing landscape of collections makes it even more important to assess and understand our work. Improved understanding of these shifting sands will allow us to better capture the changes in our collections and to explain them to stakeholders. Assessment provides the best way to capture the important current trends and features.
Jokic, M., (62) gives the picture about Associating of libraries in order to more easily solve their problems from processing and interlibrary loan to acquisition, with the aim of being as much as possible available to their users is today simply a necessity. When the initiative on associating libraries into a consortium is a common acquisition of electronic resources, and one of the basic reasons is the cost of using, it is necessary, prior to reaching a decision, to conduct thorough research on users’ needs, using the existing information sources, work on the ways of library services marketing, organize user education and informing on the possibilities offered by certain services. If a secondary full-text information source is being bought, and its costs are fairly high, it is important for the members of the consortium to decide what they would do with print versions of journals to which they had been subscribed. Consortia could solve the problem of growing costs of electronic information resources at the level of consortium, under the condition of a more intensive cooperation of the Ministry of Science and Technology, as the main financier, with the National and University Library in Zagreb and with CARNet that provides technical support. In addition to the conditions mentioned for a good functioning of the consortium, with the aim of availability of key electronic information resources to users, a more intensive cooperation of scientific academic and institute libraries with formed programmes of development is necessary.

Savenije, B., (63) states mainly about commercial publishers. It analyses a number of aspects of the behaviour of these publishers, also taking into account the changes in the system. In the second section it deals with the publishers’ pricing policy. Many libraries suffer from the so-called serials crisis caused by the huge price increases for scholarly journals. What causes these price increases and are they justified? In the middle it goes into the market of scholarly publishing: is it really operating as a commercial market? Is there enough competition and how does the large number of acquisitions influence this? Again it is about licensing. The traditional library subscription model is
being replaced by site licenses for the electronic full text. Many are confronted with the so-called Big Deals, which are highly controversial among librarians. Lastly ‘Open access’: what does it mean and how do commercial publishers react to the open access movement. The article ends with some concluding remarks about possible scenarios for the academic community.

Jubb, M., (64) reports on a study overseen by representatives of the publishing, library and research funder communities in the UK investigating the drivers, costs and benefits of potential ways to increase access to scholarly journals. It identifies five different but realistic scenarios for moving towards that end over the next five years, including gold and green open access, moves towards national licensing, publisher led delayed open access, and transactional models. It then compares and evaluates the benefits as well as the costs and risks for the UK. The scenarios, the comparisons between them, and the modeling on which they are based, amount to a benefit-cost analysis to help in appraising policy options over the next five years. Conclusion is that policymakers who are seeking to promote increases in access should encourage the use of existing subject and institutional repositories, but avoid pushing for reductions in embargo periods, which might put at risk the sustainability of the underlying scholarly publishing system.

Malviya, R. N., and Anil Kumar (65) throws light on the concept of library consortia, networking and consortia management techniques and future of consortia efforts. Libraries are banding together to get maximum benefits for consortia purchase of such electronic publications. Various initiatives have been taken by different government agencies to facilitate group purchase activity. But networking programs must not over emphasise the buying power only and we must strive to ensure that a full-fledged networking environment settles in all dimensions. Consortia do not exist in air. Successful consortia exist to expand further the mission of member-institutions by strengthening them. With this objective, it is very relevant to have a look at the strategies and
techniques adopted by the networks elsewhere and the type of strategies that will be relevant to countries.

Bergstrom, C.T., and Bergstrom, T. C. (66) suggest that university libraries, acting in their collective interest, should agree to purchase a journal site only if the subscription price is close to the publishers average cost. Commercial publishers seeking to maximize their profits would then be faced with choice between selling site licenses at price close to the average cost or of selling subscription only to individuals. Although the farmer arrangement is more efficient than the latter, either of these outcomes, would result in greater net benefits for the scientific community than would a policy of purchasing electronic site licenses at price set by profit maximizing publishers. However, each individual library would better serve its patrons by purchasing a site license despite the cost. Some sort of coordinating mechanism among libraries could facilitate a collective response to this problem.

Park, Y., (67) investigate the Korean consortia models generally and discuss how the consortium governing body, Korea Education & Research Information Service, manages the e-book consortium effectively from the Korean perspective. Two types of e-book consortium models are presented. One is the subscription model and the other is the purchasing model. Both sharing and purchasing options are quite cost-effective for Korean universities since they try to balance the digital and paper collections. The consortium model for e-books in Korean universities was successful and fit into the conservative collection management in Korea for academic use. Also, perpetual access and purchase model is preferred rather than annual access and lease model. Online resources including e-books need a sustainable model for continuous access due to budget constraints. Considering the life-span of information we need to find the appropriate business and service models for all the resources available online. Various criteria for consortia have been presented.
However, some barriers such as poor technological and communication infrastructure, inadequate finances, culture and context, attitudes toward consortia and multiple efforts are reported to be limitations of consortia activities in developing countries.

Sloan, B. (68) Reports on the Illinois Library Computer Systems Organization assessment methodology task force’s work in determining their assessment formulae for the decade covering ten fiscal years, 1988-1999. The article includes the rationale ILCSO used for membership assessments, assessment totals by fiscal year, assessment methodologies by fiscal year, new member assessments and an appendix detailing the cost allocation methodologies used by 21 other consortia.

Wrech, T.L. (69) examines the financial, political, and technical factors that led to these changes and assesses the short and long-term impacts on resource sharing for users of the original consortium. Other similar resource sharing consortia models are examined and compared with the Illinois experience. Possible lessons and implications are discussed and possible outcomes listed. Darch, C., Rapp, J., and Underwood, P.G., (70) outline, for a mainly North American audience, the specifics which distinguish the developing consortia in a newly democratic and newly globalised South Africa from those in other more economically advantaged parts of the world. It remains to be seen whether the center will in fact hold. Letting go reluctantly of this literary conceit, for the time being at least, and describe the all-important social and political background in which our institutions must operate, moving on to an analysis of the impulse to cooperate and the obstacles that have emerged to stifle that impulse. In conclusion some predictions about where academic library consortia may be headed in African part of the world.

Nfila, R.B. and Darko-Ampem, K. (71) interprets the term "library consortium" as a form of co-operation among libraries. Focuses on reasons for forming consortia and types, ranging from highly decentralized to
highly centralized. Literature on consortia is mostly reported in four sources. Highlights the formation of the International Association of Library Consortia in 1997. The current trend is one of sharing integrated library systems and computer databases, collection development, purchasing of electronic journals, and staff development. What has been achieved is the provision of resources to patrons that did not have them before the consortia, as well as increased levels of services and convenience of patrons. By libraries banding together, cost savings come through reduced cost per unit as the group of libraries in the consortium shares the expenditure. Bartley, S. J., and Jennifer H. Golek,(72) provides a relatively concise and useful history of online learning, and a discussion of issues to be faced by the professional who intends to move the education and training environment online in response to the current academic and business environments. It presents a cost matrix tool by which the costs of online education and training can be tabulated and/or compared with the costs of the traditional education and training medium.

Wagner, D., & Gerber, K., (73) discusses the experience of these institutions as they chose content and the considerations made when settling on an option viable for a consortium. It elaborates on the shared cost considerations, hardware purchases, and the consortium’s experience as it purchased and implemented the software, formalized avenues of communication, and established collection standards. Conclude that opportunities, challenges, and rewards experienced by those involved. Saunders, E.S. (74) examines 88 academic member libraries of the Association of Research Libraries to determine their relative cost efficiency, using stochastic frontier regression and data envelopment analysis methods. Both methods give average Association of Research Libraries cost efficiencies of around 80 percent. This places academic Association of Research Libraries in the same range of efficiency as other institutions,
including for profit and non-profit institutions. Many libraries are above 80 percent efficiency.

Marsh, K., (75) read with the advent of library consortia he opines that the concepts like open access and freedom of the user are the old concepts whereas such themes are reiterated through library consortia. By making the survey of the users of Canadian libraries the author has finally dealt with the use of consortia and challenges before the librarians in meeting the changed demands of the users with his knowledge and well equipped library. Carbone, P., (76) gives the picture of libraries were facing a new challenge due to technological change: in the paper economics, providing materials and giving access to information are two distinct processes, in the online economics the two processes are merged. This revolution, that has not yet ended, gives a bigger place to the new materials online journals, databases, e-books, ...but it is not yet the end of paper materials, and the provision of online resources generate for the libraries budgets new costs which do not substitute to the former costs.

Pan, D., & Fong, Y., (77) describes the cost-benefits and the return on investment of one consortium comprised of five separately administered libraries in the University of Colorado System. With a long history of collaboration, the libraries have developed an ideal cooperative arrangement for acquiring electronic content that is accessible across all campuses. The size and flexibility of this institution-based consortium allows it to be responsive and successful in collaborating across four campuses despite different sized budgets and unique local and institutional constraints. To demonstrate the value of jointly leveraging library budgets to university administrators, the authors conducted a consortium level cost-benefit analysis and describe the methodology used to quantify return on the university’s investment. This paper addresses both qualitative and
quantitative outcomes and underscores how consortia participation has become an essential way of doing business.

Ohkusa, Y., (78) delineates cost-effectiveness analysis has not been committed and operated as an official rule for the method of policy evaluation for medicine or public health, yet. Thus authors examines ex-post or ex-ante policy evaluation using cost-effectiveness analysis. In other countries, some political decision making in medicine or public health is based on cost-effectiveness analysis. However, the pressure of the financial deficit will require more accountability about evidence. Therefore, cost-effectiveness analysis must be more important even in political decision making in medicine or public health.

Pye, J., & Ball, D., (79) recently libraries all over the world have been plagued by an uncertain financial environment in which resource buying has been restricted, causing them to look at ways of extending their purchasing capabilities to compensate for reduced budgets. In the UK the British Library Research & Innovation Centre has recently awarded a grant to Bournemouth University Library & Information services to investigate the activities of library purchasing consortia in four types of library higher education, further education, and public and health libraries. The Project remit also includes a study of library suppliers in the deregulated market place following the abolition of the UK net Book Agreement in autumn 1995. This paper has identified a number of LIS consortia, focuses on the context that has encouraged their formation and presents early findings that illuminate cooperative activities.

Library consortia are associations that have been established to develop and implement resource sharing among participating members. While many resources are purchased cooperatively, academic libraries in particular have increasingly relied on the greater buying power of consortia to purchase electronic journals. It is essential during an economic crisis to
try to negotiate such cost savings as inflationary caps, shared title access, and cancellation allowances. However, journal publishers are equally affected by difficult economic times and may approach consortia with more draconian business terms by lowering inflationary caps, taking away shared access and cancellation allowances, and requiring a minimum base spend. Both parties, then, are tasked with successfully negotiating these competing agendas Cryer, E., and Grigg K.S.(80).

Davies, B., (81) examines the latter issue, taking a brief look at the historical developments and exploring the reasons why libraries enter consortia. It then focuses on the effects upon collection development, models of consortia and describes the ASVIN experience. The principal aim was to develop better co-operation between nine UK libraries in the veterinary and animal health field. The project examined a number of library related areas, such as journal archiving, collection development policies, development of a common Z39.50 catalogue interface, grey literature, electronic journals and consortia purchasing. Verzosa, F.M., (82) aims to reawaken the spirit of cooperation among libraries within the region by promoting the development of sustainable projects that are do able and mutually beneficial. The promotion of library cooperation in the fields of documentation, bibliographic access, digitization, open access scholarly publishing and related activities would enhance today the networking and linkage capabilities among libraries in developing countries, particularly those in the disadvantaged regions, such as in Southeast Asia. The strategic development of libraries in this region through collaboration, partnering schemes, and networking can create an information-rich environment, and wide opportunities to benefit from shared information resources. A major part of the success of any library cooperation will largely depend on how well cooperating members can exploit these networking opportunities and contribute to the development and growth of knowledge on a global scale.
Evans, G.E., (83) discusses the issues that arise in the management of co-operative activities and consortia, and the different skill sets needed. It explores some of the theoretical and real challenges that managers encounter when establishing and maintaining successful co-operative projects and formal consortia programs. Friend, F.J., (84) deals about the relationship between the benefits from library consortia and the expectations raised about those benefits. The conclusion reached is that consortia are bringing benefits to libraries, to librarians and to library users, although those benefits may not be exactly what were expected. Perry, K.A., (85) early cooperation among libraries focused on catalogs, inter-library loan and cooperative acquisitions, and these three issues continue to be cornerstone issues for many consortia. But an international survey conducted in the spring of 2009 revealed that two new issues have become the highest priorities for most consortia for the immediate future: budget management and license renegotiations. Out of necessity, library consortia will be focusing a great deal of attention on managing their budgets in this time of economic uncertainty.

The spirit of library collaboration is an intriguing model that lies in plain sight; indeed, library collaboration is made more explicit during the digital era. Business leaders may do what they will, but the challenge for our profession is to leverage the growing consortia to push new services to users and to deliver cost savings for on operations. Already, journey is taken along that path, and the web scale environment has a way of shining a spotlight on successful ventures Huwe, T.K., (86). Burke, R., (87) Consortia can play an important role as promoters of new paradigms. Consortia excel at promoting collaboration, and the most effective library consortia will move beyond being buying clubs for electronic resources and provide significant value in other ways. They might help libraries create institutional repositories, and promote the aforementioned new models for new forms of publication that move beyond the old print model. Consortia
will also help libraries collaborate in other ways, including support for
digitization and preservation projects and union catalogs for patron-initiated
borrowing to reduce ILL costs and to create opportunities for cooperative
collection development.

Brooks, S., (88) discusses the role of consortia in academic libraries,
specifically the Illinois Digital Academic Library. Interviews were
conducted with several Illinois academic librarians representing a cross-
section of university libraries. The article focuses on a variety of issues
surrounding full text database research including content, searching
functionality, peer reviewed status, embargoes, publisher relations, etc. The
conclusion affirms the validity and benefit of Illinois Digital Academic
Library as experienced by member libraries. Kopp, J.J. (89), outlines the
important aspects of partnership agreements. This outline could also serve
as a structure for determining costs for a partnership venture: declaration of
purpose; terms of the agreement dates, etc.; purchase, ownership and
management; systems maintenance and support; service availability; rights
to data file; confidentiality; cost allocation/distribution; vendor contracts;
expansion; governance; insurance; withdrawal/dissolution. Not all of these
areas are direct cost centers, but it is not difficult to see how each one would
have direct bearing on the total cost of the partnership venture. This article
contains advice for cooperative agreements that can be found on the Web
and other articles that address controversy within partnerships. Thornton,
G.A (90) is dealt in at length by history of cooperative purchasing the
impact of electronic resources on library purchasing and provides a case
study of the experience at Cleveland State University with consortia
purchasing of electronic journals is explained. Because of rising costs, the
university decided not to carry both electronic and paper copies of journals
canceling the paper subscriptions for the journals they received
electronically. The cost apportionment for the service was based on a fixed
percentage, established at the outset of the agreement, so the rising costs of
electronic journals are carving out a larger and mandatory portion of the library's budget. Also, the consortia arrangement may limit the ability of academic departments to select and deselect journals as they might wish. However, the university's students are actively using the electronic journals, many of which they did not have access to them.

Mak, C., (91) described the drive to develop efficient, user-centered services provide an environment where interlibrary loan undergoes continual process improvement. He aims to identify the factors that have led the USA to be one of the few countries in the world that has seen interlending and document supply continues to increase. He found that the effectiveness of resource sharing facilitated by intra and inter-state cooperatives using OCLC as a framework is a major factor, others being the improvement in discovery tools, requesting processes and the more recent improvements in the delivery process. Finally, the widespread subsidizing of access and delivery enables cheap or even free use of document supply. Chadwell, F., (92) presents an exploratory investigation of how academic library consortia communicate their benefits—not only to their members but also to stakeholders such as, the general public, students, and faculty. In that vein, this article also has attempted to initiate a conversation about how more consortia can begin to embrace assessment measures so that the highest rewards of the consortium’s joint effort are supporting excellence within higher education and expanding the visibility of its members and itself. This article further takes a look at the literature of library and information science as well as the websites of 45 academic library consortia to understand how consortia communicate their benefits, especially in terms of financial value.

The initiatives of the LIS professionals as well as the participating institutions are very important. It is also to be noted that e-journal subscription itself is a complex and complicated process which need all time alert of LIS professionals. Saho, B., Sahu, S., Prusty, R., (93) find that the library consortium activities in ICMR set up is very helpful. The Consortium approach brings a numerous benefits to the participating libraries. Kembhavi, A., & Kumbar, T.S., (94) highlights the role of University Grants Commission in initiating the UGC-INFONET, which seeks to provide high speed internet connections and electronic access to professional literature, and the development of multimedia content to supplement conventional learning and teaching. Major organization like the CSIR, DAE, AICTE etc, have set up consortia involving institutes under the aegis of the respective department to have electronic access. The arrangements here involves incremental payments to be made to publishers to supplement an already large print subscription base. This arrangement is not possible for the universities since the present subscription base is very poor, and therefore arrangements which involve electronic subscriptions only are being made with publishers. Ambuja R (95) discusses the planning of library consortia among major campus libraries of university of Madras. University libraries with the dawn of Internet era are compelled to provide relevant information essential to its end users within a short span of time either from its in-house holdings or from resources available in other libraries. This could be made possible only by way of library consortia. She identifies the need, pre requisites, problems and solutions involved in consortia formation. Jena, P., (96) points out pricing is the most flexible, independent and controllable elements of the library management system, which plays an important role in international marketing management. It is based on the fact that, pricing changes appear to promote an immediate response in the environment. Despite the apparent simplicity of using pricing as a major marketing tool, many managers find pricing decisions difficult to make. So in this article internal,
external factors which affects the international pricing decisions, role that pricing plays in developing strategies to meet corporate objectives, and the relationship between the different activities of the libraries, developing comprehensive international pricing policy, specific problems have been discussed along with benefits.

Jaya Prakash A. (97) discusses the necessity increasing the information resources in electronic form to meet the current demand of academic libraries and institutions at affordable cost and also need and importance of E-journal consortium and resource sharing among libraries and information centers. Kohi, D., (98) starting from the assumption that significantly expanded resource sharing will be a dominant feature of all twenty-first century libraries. This article identifies five landmarks which can be used to identify key tasks. Joining a consortium, integrating intellectual access, providing for both physical and electronic delivery of materials, and integrating the collection development process are steps illustrated with primary reference to the OhioLINK experience. This work focuses on clearly identifying major issues in resource sharing and illustrating possible solutions with actual examples. The intent, however, is to educate and facilitate ongoing discussion rather than propose final answers. Hiremath, U.,(99) aims at gaining some insight into the maturing process of electronic consortia; by studying the needs that have given rise to consortia and reviewing some of the forms of consortia that have emerged in the past five years, both within and outside the USA. It is hoped that such an overview can suggest the course of future consortia developments, or at minimum, provide an overview to what is surely one of the most intriguing additions to the life of the modern library. The search for effective electronic resource sharing by libraries around the world is placed within a framework of commonly felt needs fomented by the digital age. Many forms of such consortia undertakings are described here. The existing challenges inherent in the consortia structure are also suggested.
Shachaf, P., (100) gives a comparative analysis of several nationwide consortia from Australia, Brazil, China, Israel, Italy, Micronesia, Spain and the U.K. using six criteria enables delineation of a developmental pattern. A four-stage life cycle sequence is outlined: embryonic, early development, development, and maturation. In addition, the ecological approach stresses founding and disbanding processes, suggesting disbanding as a fifth stage. The contribution of this paper to developmental theories at other levels of analysis individual, group, organization is in proposal of an inter-organizational life cycle model. Library consortia development processes were examined from an ecological approach, combining historical perspective, dynamic developmental approach, and social structure, stressing the issues of permeable boundaries in library consortia and the manifestation of inter-organization relationships.

Gulati, A., (101) discusses the status of information and communication technologies usage in Indian libraries with special reference to special libraries and the efforts made by various institutions to propagate e-information products and services. This paper highlights the consortia efforts in India like JCCC Consortium, INDEST Consortium, CSIR E-journal Consortia, and UGC Infonet. It further discusses digitisation efforts in India at NISCAIR, New Delhi, IIITM, Kerala, C-DAC Pune, and the Digital Library of India. In addition it incorporates details on major information systems in India such as NISSAT and major library networks in India such as INFLIBNET, DELNET, and CALIBNET etc. The paper concludes with challenges for library and information science professionals and an overview of initiatives taken by Government of India.

Ratnakar, K.V., Prerna and Satyanaryana. K. (102) provides an overview of the consortia initiated by the Indian Council of Medical Research to share the resources of its medical libraries among its 25 institutes. Financial crunch and ever rising cost of journals have constrained many scientific/research libraries, especially the medical libraries, to satiate the
demands of the users forcing them adapt to new technologies to overcome the challenge of ever rising information demands of the users. In the recent years, library consortium has emerged as a viable solution for resource sharing among libraries. Vasanth N. & Mudhol, M.V., (103) highlights the importance of consortia purchasing in this digital era stating its salient features and pricing models. This paper also discusses about the FORSA and INDEST Consortium. The present approach towards partnership, networking consortia and resource sharing adopted by Indian libraries need radical changes to evolve responsive partnership in order to achieve best performance in service. Due to the increase in cost of e journals, the library professionals have initiated the sharing resources in cooperative acquisitions, document delivery and inter library loans.

Kaul, S., (104) describe the work of DELNET, the successful resource sharing and information provider in India. The paper states that DELNET plays a vital role in facilitating resource sharing in India and is expanding its role rapidly. In fact it is an up-to-date resource sharing facility in India from the perspective of private agency. Madhusudhan, M., (105) focuses on the use of UGC-Infonet e-journals by research scholars and students. The main aim here is to identify the needs and the use of UGC-INFONET Library and Information Science e-journals in the University of Delhi by research scholars and students of DLIS. The study shows that e-journals play an increasingly important role in research at DLIS. In addition to current e-journals, research scholars and students need to be provided the use of significant electronic back runs as well. There is an ever increasing demand for subscriptions of more e-journal titles in LIS. There appears to be some need for academics to be provided with training in using e-journals. The area where the greatest need for training is in managing references.

Salgar S. M. and Murthy TAV (106) discuss the initiatives launched by the University Grants Commission of India in the last few years, through the
INFLIBNET Centre, to provide services through electronic means by computerizing university libraries, establishing a network and setting up document delivery centres. Owing to diminishing library budgets, coupled with the information explosion, academic librarians in India are finding it difficult to meet the insatiable demands of their clientele. For a vast country like India, having many universities located in remote places, this problem is compounded. Efforts were made in the past to provide document delivery services through a few documentation centres, set up by the Government in different disciplines.

Desale et al (107) describes and evaluates JCCC@UGC-INFONET and the document supply service at the University of Pune. The approach takes the form of a brief overview of JCCC@UGC-INFONET problems encountered while using the JCCC@UGC-INFONET user interface and the administrative interface in providing ILL service are identified and some recommendations made. The document supply service provided by Pune University library is satisfactory but the overall objective of INFLIBNET for starting this service is far from satisfactory. The JCCC@UGC-INFONET database and software have some very good features but also some deficiencies that needs to be rectified. The paper provides details of the new service initiated by INFLIBNET and also evaluates the JCCC software from both the user’s and the administrative point-of-view. These inputs will be useful for the development and improvement of both the service and the software.

Chand, P., (108) explains in detail the initiative of the University Grants Commission of India in setting up the Infonet Digital Library Consortium in order to provide access to scholarly communication to the academic community. The context of higher education and establishment of universities under the five-year plan is given along with provision of e-resources to the librarians is presented. The usage trends of e-resources from various publishers during 2004-2007 are detailed. The study provides evidence of increased use of
Chandrakar, P., (109) has touched on several major barriers which are holding back Indian libraries in their quest for automation. They are not the only ones: in addition, managerial and technical problems are also found in some institutes and lack of cooperation between the universities staff are also one of the problems inherent in Indian universities. Mishra, S., (110) presents the results of a survey on factors affecting the development of local library networks. Participating libraries in four networks were administered a structured questionnaire. The study reveals that organizational factors such as planning, governance, funding communication and delivery, and administration are related to each other. Moreover, many factors are highly dependent on each other. Therefore, the library networks should try to raise the levels of awareness among participating libraries to develop the local library networks successfully.

Rao, S.S., (111) focuses on the status of the existing communication networks, libraries and information networks and challenges for networking in India. It discusses the various Governmental policies that led to the development of national information infrastructure, the inadequacies of the infrastructure, the status of IT application in Government, and the challenges in converting library contents into computer readable form. It concludes that, although India has drawn up ambitious plans, it has not seen the benefits that could come from employing these facilities to improve the socio-economic conditions of its citizens or help it emerge as an economic superpower. Kaul, H. K (112) describes the development of the Delhi Library Network and its various services. DELNET is a growing resource sharing service in the Delhi region, offering a range of products and services to facilitate the exchange of information among libraries. Chauhan, S. K., (113) states that all those universities who are under the purview of UGC have been provided UGC-INFONET connectivity and access to scholarly e-Journals and Databases. More than 2,000 scholarly journals and databases were made
available during 2004 and this number has increased to more than 4,500 full text e-journals since January 2005. As of May 2006, 122 universities are accessing resources from the programme. The access is based on IP range. This effort has had a noticeable impact on the research and academic community. Passive components integrated into a high-density substrate can be a tolerable way to overcome the size and manufacturing limits of SMD passives mounted on to the system board. Still, this technology is perceived as being "too risky" and not cost-effective.

Chandrasekharan H., Sarita Patle, Pandey, P. S. Mishra A. K. Jain, A. K Shikha Goyal, Amit Pandey, Usha Khemchandani and Rajkumari Kasrija (114) describe the background, main features, advantages and use of e-journals subscribed by CeRA by the users of NARS institutes/universities. Besides covering the use of e-journals, the article also examines the utilization and satisfaction levels of users accessing e-journals. Lastly, some cost avoidance analysis and research productivity analysis are also highlighted. Bhatt R.K. (115) focuses on the use of UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium Resources by research scholars and faculty members of University of Delhi in History and Political Science. The main aim is to determine the needs of research scholars and faculty members of University of Delhi in the discipline of history and political science and to find out how far their information needs are fulfilled by the information resources available through UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium. The paper attempts to define this consortium, its objectives, scope, e-resources subscribed and the government initiative to provide current information in various disciplines for research and teaching excellence. The study tangibly explains the genesis, e-resources facilities and usage of e-resources available through UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium a University Grants Commission of India sponsored consortium to provide e-resources and current information in various disciplines. The paper reflects the users’ awareness regarding the consortium resources available in the respective fields, information about important databases and e-journals,
search techniques, recurring usage for information and knowledge, help and support in research output and teaching activities, benefits accrued such as saving of time, effort and the problems faced.

Goudar I.R.N. & Sangam, S.L. (116) presents new mode of journal publication i.e., e- Journals as a revolutionary factor in scholarly communication. The paper discusses various obstacles that deter libraries formulating advantage of this new technological development and suggests library consortia as the best option for resolving these issues. Further the author classifies consortia into different models and lists price influencing factors and publishers’ issues in e - journal environment. The paper presents a detail account of pricing and charging strategies and models that can be followed by consortia while dealing with e - journal subscription. The paper concludes with a brief account of consortia constraints of Indian libraries. Arora, J., and Trivedi, K., (117) briefly touches upon the economics of the UGC – INFONET Digital Library Consortium and outlines model for implementation of college consortium. The article elaborates on future endeavours of the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium

**Conclusion**

“Resurgence of library consortia” involving the libraries worldwide have characterized for the past 10 years progress in the fast access to information (118) has characterized the last 10 years, involving the libraries worldwide. The development of library consortia happens in a very complex phase of the academic library life, as: “the decisions libraries face are becoming more complex, the risks are greater, and the resources – both human and fiscal – are becoming more scarce” (119) Today libraries have to face change management, and they are seeking tools to cope with it, developing strategic alliances with other libraries (120). Cooperation seems to be the key ‘mantra’ for libraries to survive. Cooperation efforts vary, depending on geographic areas and on different cultural traditions, but they seem present
throughout the world: on one side, nations with libraries used to strong practice in cooperation and sharing have seen a flourishing of new cooperative initiatives and formal consortia; on the other side, nations where this collaborative practice was not within its culture have received a boost towards it.

The development of library consortia has reinforced in academic libraries the spirit of cooperation that is essential in all the library activities, particularly in this period of challenges due to information explosion and application of new technologies. This spirit involves for the first time all the stakeholders, who are all concerned with the change, understand the potentials of the new context, and are trying together to find new models to work together. Disadvantages and difficulties emerge from the different worlds, but the consortia form chosen by academic libraries will help all parts to face the new challenges.
References


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