CHAPTER – IV

PROFILE OF THE UNIVERSITIES UNDERTAKEN FOR THIS STUDY

The chapter presents an overview of the different Universities in Kerala with particular emphasis on its library resources. They are:

- University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram,1937
- University of Calicut .Tenhipalam,1968
- Kannur University ,Wayanadu,1996
- University of Cochin,1971
- Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.1983

4.1 DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

The Department of Higher Education is headed by the Principal Secretary to Government. Under this department come Collegiate Education and Technical Education. While the responsibility of starting new Government colleges, new courses and for payment of salary to the staff of aided colleges rests with the Directorate of Collegiate Education , the Government agency, the charge of various institutions imparting technical education in the state including Engineering colleges, Polytechnics, College of Fine arts, Food craft institutes, Commercial Institutes, Technical high schools, Vocational Training Centres etc. is vested with the Directorate of Technical Education.

4.1.2 A brief history of the University of Kerala

The University of Kerala is one among the first 16 Universities in India .It was founded as the University of Travancore in 1937. The earliest origins of the

University may be traced back to University College, Thiruvananthapuram and the Trivandrum Observatory. The University College was initially founded as the Maharaja's Free School by Maharaja Swathi Thirunal in 1834, with Mr John Roberts. The Trivandrum Observatory founded in 1838 became a part of the Travancore University, is now the oldest institution under the Kerala University.

The University of Travancore was established in 1937 by a promulgation of the Maharajah of Travancore, Sri Chithira Thirunal Balarama Varma who was also the first Chancellor of the University. Sir C. P Ramaswamy Ayyar, the then Diwan (Prime minister) of the State was an eminent scholar and an able administrator became the first Vice-Chancellor. The University was modelled after the best Universities of the United Kingdom, and even today retains some of these features. The affiliating system of the University however evolved to be different from the college system in British Universities.

4.1.3 Campuses

Ten colleges within the State of Travancore, affiliated to the Madras University, became the affiliated colleges of the University of Travancore. The unified state of Kerala came into being In 1954 with most of Travancore and whole of state of Cochin and Malabar area of Madras presidency becoming part of it. The Kerala University Act (Act 14 of 1957) was brought into force and the University of Travancore was renamed University of Kerala. The University had three campuses located in three different parts of the State viz. Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Kozhikode. The number of affiliated colleges grew phenomenally. However, in 1968, the University Centre at Kozhikode became a full-fledged University, the University of Calicut, affiliating the colleges located in Thrissur, Palakkad, Kozhikode and Kannur districts of Kerala and transforming the Kozhikkode Centre into University Departments. The Cochin University of Science and Technology – CUSAT -- (1971), Kerala Agricultural University (1971) and Mahatma Gandhi University (1983) were subsequently established, with CUSAT taking over the University's centre at Cochin. These developments have shrunk the jurisdiction of the University of Kerala to Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha Districts and some parts of Pathanamthitta District.

The University also has established the Institute of Distance Education offering a number of under-graduate and post graduate programmes which cater to more than 7000 students, all over the country and abroad. The University has also a number of study centres in specialized and evolving areas such as Nano-technology, Kerala Studies, Bioinformatics, Womens Studies, Learning Difficulties, Sree Narayana Studies, Gandhian Studies etc. Besides, the University has also established

10 University College of Teacher Education (UTEC) and 8 University Institute of Technologies (UIT) both of which offer under-graduate programmes (BEd in UTECs and BSc Computer Science/IT, Electronics/BBA in UITs), although masters programmes are available in select UITs. The University College of Engineering at Karyavattom offers Engineering Education at Undergraduate level. The University prescribes courses of study and conducts examinations and also issues certificates whereas the day-to-day administration of these institutions does not come under the purview of the University.

For all post-graduate (masters) programmes the University follows the Choice based credit and semester system and is in the process of introducing this at under-graduate (bachelors) level too. Semesters typically fall during the months of Aug-January and February-July.

The Main Library is situated in the heart of the city; the facility can be used by the students, staff and public members. In addition to this, Karyavattom campus has a Campus Library. Department libraries and College libraries complete the information service to students.

In addition to Depts, Centres and Affiliated colleges, the University has a number of other institutions under it. The Academic Staff College set up with aid of the University Grants Commission, offers in-service courses to teachers in higher education and has trained over 15,000 teachers all over the country. It has been repeatedly rated as the best in the country.

4.1.4 Some unique facts about the University of Kerala:

❖ The University has been publishing since 1946 the Journal of Indian History, a prominent publication in the area. The International Journal of Kerala Studies is also similarly an established Journal.

❖ The Manuscript Library of the University is a treasure trove of Indian culture. The library has over 65,000 works in 30,000 copies mainly of palm leaf manuscripts. In addition, some paper manuscripts, a few copper plates, writings on Bhurjapatra (birch bark), Agarutvak (the bark of Amyris agallocha) and textiles are also found in the collection. The manuscript collection also includes those belonging to other different Indian states and nations such as Burma, Malaysia, Indonesia, Nepal etc. About eighty per cent of the collections are in Sanskrit. The initial moulds of scripts of modern Indian languages like Bengali, Marathi, Gujarati, Kannada, Telugu, Oriya, Assamese and Burmese are also found.

❖ The Centre for Adult & Continuing Education (CACEE) received the UNESCO- NLM award for literacy in 2005.

❖ The first world Malayalam Conference was organised by the University of Kerala in 1977.

❖ The University has honoured many scholars, scientists and technologists, artists and thought leaders with honorary degrees. Amartya Sen, K. J. Yesudas, Laurie Baker, Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai, Bharatha Rathna M S Subbalakshmi, Semmangudi Sreenivasa Iyer, Harikesanallur Muthaiha Bhagavathar, O N V Kurup, G Madhavan Nair, Chief Justice K G Balakrishnan, Ilya Prigogine are among the recepients.

❖ The University Grants Commission has identified the University as one of the 26 institutions selected for promotion of India Studies by foreign students.

❖ The University Degree Certificates with Hologram and over 112 security features to prevent counter-feiting.

❖ The National Assessment and Accreditation Committee have placed the University at the B++ grade.

❖ University's supreme bodies – Senate and Academic Council and the executive body of the University, the Syndicate, also has student representation in it (for the first time in Indian Universities, in 1977). The University Union is an active presence in the University life since 1939.

4.1.5 Kerala University library

The Kerala University Library (KUL), established in 1942, is the oldest and biggest university library in Kerala and is situated adjacent to the University Senate Hall campus in the Thiruvananthapuram city. It stocks over 3,50,000 books (growing at 5000 titles annually) and subscribes to nearly 500 journals/ periodicals/ magazines. It also offers digital information services such as UGC Infonet. Among its special collections, the Kerala Studies is a unique one. The special collections also include Women's Studies, Government Publications, General Biographies, UN and World Bank Publications, bound volumes of newspapers and journals and rare books. It is the only library in Kerala which serves as a depository of UN and World Bank publications. The library is currently in the process of digitizing its rare collections.

The University in Travancore, founded in 1937 had at its disposal the Trivandrum Public Library until a separate library was started in the present Arts College building. This was soon shifted to the eastern side of the University College (which was then under direct control of the University), in 1946. The present building was constructed with UGC assistance of 10 lakhs and started functioning in September 1962. Prof. K. A. Isaac, a student of Prof. S. R. Ranganathan, was appointed as the Full time librarian in 1959. He continued to lead the library until 1980 when Sri K.C. John succeeded him. Prof Ranganathan's influence on the Kerala University Library is still extant in the form of usage of colon system of cataloging devised by him. The Kerala University Library is complemented with a number of specialised Department Libraries and also Campus Library at Karyavattom and Study Centre Libraries at Alappuzha, Kollam and Pandalam. The University Institutes of Technology (UITs), University Teacher Education Centres (UTECs), and University College of Engineering (UCE) also have specialized libraries.

4.2 University of Calicut

The largest University in Kerala, established in the year 1968, is the University of Calicut .It is the second university to be set up in Kerala. The University aims to nurture excellence in education and research in its catchment areas of Northern Kerala,. The University lays its emphasis on fostering quality human resource and promoting productive research that benefit both local communities and wider humanity.

With *'Nirmaya Karmana Sree'* as it motto, the University has been able to surmount all challenges and emerge as the largest residential cum affiliating University in Kerala. With 30 post graduate departments and 373 affiliated colleges it has become a beacon of hope and enlightenment for hundreds of thousands of young men and women in North Kerala.

The University campus, located at Tenhipalam, is the main hub of academic activities. Situated here besides the 28 postgraduate teaching and research departments are: the Vice-Chancellor's Office, the Administration Block, Pareeksha Bhavan, School of Distance Education, Academic Staff College, Educational and Multimedia Research Centre, Computer Centre, and the University Library

The University has set up extension centres in Thrissur, Calicut and Vatakara. The University Students' Centre too is located in Calicut.

To facilitate better access to students, the University has set up Teacher Education Centres and Information Centres in all the five districts under its jurisdiction.

Besides restructuring the graduate and post-graduate courses, the University has introduced integrated M.Phil/Ph.D programmes from 2004-05 academic year. To meet the demand for trained personnel in emerging areas, the University has launched new programmes in computer application & information technology, health sciences, fashion design, social work, printing technology, computer hardware and automobile engineering.

Administration through E-Governance and computerisation of University examination, Calicut University has become the first digital University in Kerala. It has also established smart class rooms and adopted modernization of laboratories, frontier lectures by renowned scholars and scientists.

As many as 373 colleges are affiliated to the University. Of these, 102 are located in Kozhikode district, 83 in Thrissur, 106 in Malappuram, 68 in Palakkad and 14 in Wayanad.

The rapid spurt in the number of colleges owes much to the enthusiasm of private educational agencies, which own over 279 colleges. The remaining ones are run by the Government.

4.2.1 CH Mohammed Koya Library

Established in the year 1971, the Calicut university Library is renamed as CH Mohammed Koya library where it is primarily concerned with the conservation and dissemination of knowledge.

It has a collection of about ninety five thousand books and subscribes to 218 Journals and 16 Newspapers.The Library follows the Anglo American cataloguing Rules II for Cataloguing and Dewey Decimal Scheme of Classification for the classification of books. It has the distinction of being the first fully automated University Library in the state of Kerala.

The library provides the following services:2

- ❖ Book Lending Services
- ❖ Reference Services
- ❖ Internet Services
- ❖ Information Services
- ❖ Reprography Services
- ❖ The seven sections of the library are assigned different tasks too :3
- ❖ Acquisition Section
- ❖ Technical Section
- ❖ Maintenance Section
- ❖ Circulation Section
- ❖ Reference Section
- ❖ Periodical Section
- ❖ Computer and Internet Section

In total, the libraray has housed 25.000 books and 2500 journals

4.3 KANNUR UNIVERSITY

Known by the name "Malabar University, Kannur University was established by the Act 22 of 1996 of Kerala Legislative Assembly. The objective of the Kannur University Act 1996 is to establish in the state of Kerala a teaching, residential and affiliating University, promoting the development of higher education in Kasargod and Kannur revenue districts and the Mananthavady Taluk of Wayanad District.

Kannur University is unique in the sense that it is a multi-campus university with campuses spread over at various locations under its jurisdiction.

4.3.1 THE CENTRAL LIBRARY

Kannur University central Library started functioning in 1998.The University Central Library plays the pivotal role in supplementing and complementing the teaching and learning process and also research activities. It has a crucial role in the excellence of higher education.

The Library is also a recognized research Centre of the University in the subjects of History, Sanskrit, Statistics, Philosophy, English, Sociology, Economics, Malayalam, Urdu and Music. It is fully automated, using the library software SOUL, developed by the INFLIBNET, Ahmedabad. The Library provides the services of DELNET and UGC-INFONET e-journal consortium.

In addition to the Central Library, campus libraries are functioning in the different campuses at Kasaragod, Nileshwaram, Payyannur, Mangattuparamba, Thalassery and Mananthavady.

Goals

- To provide an information rich environment that supports and encourages excellence in research and scholarship
- To provide value added services to the library members
- To meet the customer needs in time
- To ensure continuous improvement in library services and products
- To offer effective, responsive, and friendly staff-user interface.

Collection:

Books	32101
Journal –Current Subscription	164
Journals-Back Volumes	1240

E-Journals	37
CD ROMs	1130
Theses	189

4.4 Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT)

With the specific purpose of "development of higher education with particular emphasis on post-graduate studies and research in applied science, technology, industry and commerce" emerged the University of Cochin later reorganized as Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) in February 1986.

Syndicate, being the chief Executive body, Academic Council, Senate and the Boards of Studies in different Faculties are the Principal Authorities of the University. The UGC has selected cusat as a centre for Excellence in the field of Lasers and Opto-electronic sciences for which a new Centre, CELOS has been established. The Union Ministry of HRD has acknowledged School of Legal Studies as a Depository of Intellectual Property Rights and an IPR chair has been introduced. Another prestigious chair instituted by the Ministry of HRD is Rajiv Gandhi Chair on

Sustainable Development. By giving recognition to several well-established premier research institutions in the country and the Southern Naval Command of Indian Navy, the University has brought within its reach the resources available in these institutions for the use of the academic community. Specialisations are available in almost all Faculties/Departments for higher studies and research. The Ministry of Human Resources Development, Govt. of India has adjudged CUSAT as an institution to be upgraded to the level of IIT.

4.4.1 University Library

The Cochin University Library was established in 1977 as a central agency for meeting the information requirements of the academic community of the University and for collection, organization and dissemination of information. The University Library is fully automated and is one of the best scientific and technical libraries in the country. Being the information centre of the Technological University in the state, the library has built up a balanced and rich collection on all branches of sciences and technology. The KOHA FOSS package, a user-friendly library management software that supports all in-house activities of the library is installed here. The bibliographic records of books, journals and theses in the Library can be accessed

globally through Web OPAC (http://opac.cusat.ac.in.). The Library provides campus-wide IP-enabled access to online journals under the UGC- INFONET DIGITAL Library Consortia and INDEST Consortia, under which electronic full text access is provided to scholarly literature of all major areas of learning like IEEE digital library, Science Direct, ACS, RSC, Nature, IOP, Springer etc. It also subscribes to online databases like Manupatra, Emerald, Proquest, CMIE Prowess and SciFinder. Members can avail inter-library loan service and document delivery service from DELNET for books and journal articles not available in the library. An Institutional Repository "Dyuthi" where research publications and Ph.D. theses of the University are available online to the public is also housed in library.

The library has a 'Special Collections Section' which is one of the best in India. Truly a treasure house of doctoral theses, patents, WHO and other UNO documents, census Reports, art books, Vikasana Rekha (Development Reports) and books on library and Information science.

The bibliographic records of books, journals and theses in the Library can now be accessed globally through WebOPAC (http://opac.cusat.ac.in). The Library offers Loan service, Inter-Library Loan, Literature Search, Reference Search, Compilation of Bibliographies, Reprographic Service, Reprint Service, Conference Alert Service, New Addition Alert Service, Patent Information and Consultancy Service.

CUSAT Library has campus wide IP enabled access to online journals under the UGC-INFONET DIGITAL Library Consortia and INDEST Consortia. The UGC initiated UGC-INFONET project provides access to electronic journals and database over the internet executed by INFLIBNET. Under this project electronic full text

access is provided to scholarly literature of all major areas of learning like Science Direct, ACS, IOP, Taylor & Francis, RSC, Wiley publications, Nature, Project Muse, Project Euclid, Web of Science...etc. Members can avail the service of UGC-INFONET, JCCC portal (an e-journals gateway to Indian Universities & Colleges) which also provides ILL between various Universities in India. Access to Online journal archives to Science Direct (4 subject), RSC, AIP are also included.

Library Collection:

Books	95000
E-Database	690
E-Journals	1040

4.5 MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY

Mahatma Gandhi university stands tall as a premier centre of learning by catering to the higher education needs of the people of Central Kerala.It occupies Priyadarshini Hills,a 110 acre campus at Athirampuzha.Besides, the University also has seven satellite centres.The University conducts a range of undergraduate ,postgraduate, M.Phil and doctoral level programmes.

The University imparts education in the conventional disciplines of science, social science and the humanities as well as in the professional disciplines of medicine, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, engineering, technology, pedagogy and legal studies. The University also maintains off –campus Centres of the School of Distance Education and maintains its presence felt outside its territorial jurisdiction.

4.5.1 University Library

The University Library in the campus started in 1989, occupies purpose - built accommodation, and provides a variety learning environment. These include individual work spaces, room for group study and teaching, audio - visual access and online information retrieval system.

MGU Library and Information System consist of University Central Library, more than 30 libraries of the departments/schools and 4 Study Centres situated in different campuses.

The library is a member of the INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad (Information and Library Network), an Inter-University Centre of the University Grants

Commission. The University Library is a fully automated system using the library automation package SOUL developed by the INFLIBNET Centre. It is also a member of the DELNET (Developing Library Network). As a member of these networks, the library provides access to the resources of other major libraries of the country to its users.

Mahatma Gandhi University was one of the first fifty Universities to come under the UGC-Infonet Programme. Through UGC-Infonet E-journals Consortium, the Library has access to more than 7500 e-journals and databases including SciFinder Scholar and Web of Science. The Library also has access to major online databases, such as EBSCO, Pro Quest Dissertations and Theses, Oxford Scholarship Online, IEEE All Society Periodicals Package etc.

Mahatma Gandhi University has won the State IT Award during the year 2009 in the e-learning category for its University Online Theses Digital Library. With the launching of the Mahatma Gandhi University Online Theses Digital Library, it has become the first Indian University to adopt Open Access of its doctoral research theses to the academics worldwide through www.mgutheses.org. UNESCO Libraraies Portal, an international gateway to information for librarian and libraray users has included the website of MG University Libraryalong with academic and Research libraries of Asia pacific.

Services
Document Delivery Services

Provides full text articles either as photocopy or reprint.

CD-ROM Information Retrieval Service

Services are provided from the CD ROM collections of the library and from the sources of other institutions.

Internet Services

Provides all internet services using a 1 mbps Leased line Internet connectivity

On-line Information Retrieval Service

Access to STN Databases, DELNET Databases and full text/bibliographical databases under the E-journal consortium of the UGC-Infonet Programme.

Reprographic Services

Provides photocopy, printing, scanning, CD Writing, fax etc.

Inter Library Loan Services

Through the DELNET and INFLIBNET

Library collections

Books	46742
E-journals	12300
Journals	700
CD Rom	70
E-Database	20
E-Journals	4500