CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTION

*Concept and Definition of Public Library.*

*Objectives of Public Library.*

*Role of Public Library.*

*Statement of the Problem.*

*Need for the study.*

*Objective of the study.*

*Methodology and Study Population.*

*Chapterization*
01. INTRODUCTION:

11. Concept and definition of Public Library:

The culture of the world is contained in its libraries. If that culture is to have its fullest significance for humanity in guiding them to plan for peace and prosperity of the future, libraries must be considered an integral part of community life.

Development of the community as well as the nation largely depends on wide and extensive spread of education. Education is an important tool to eradicate ignorance and to enhance knowledge. Education is the acquisition of the art of the utilisation of knowledge. The aim of Education is to build character, increase strength of mind and expand intellect. Therefore, Plato has rightly said, Education has to produce a perfect man, sound in character, active in mind and strong in body and prepare him for some ideal future".

Education can be acquired either in a formal manner by attending a regular educational agency like school, college, University, or in an informal manner through self education or by correspondence. But in both forms of education the media are books, periodicals, pamphlets and other printed and non-book materials.

In this connection it may not be exaggeration to say that education is Library and Library is education.
Libraries occupy an important place in the modern education system. Its aim is to educate the illiterate, display their ignorance and to provide opportunities for continuing education to the educated. A Library is an institution charged with the function of providing education and information to the masses. It is an integral part of public education in the economically advanced countries. It is an indispensable agency for imparting education to the people to learn more and continue to learn through life. So, without the aid and assistance of Library, education remains incomplete and under-developed. Owing to lack of due library services, the education suffers seriously and fails to yield well-nourished and desired result. Therefore, the contribution of libraries to the human society as a whole can, in no way, be underestimated. It is a social institution but educational in character. It is the centre of learning which provides intellectual food to the community for its mental development.

The famous dictum of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, "Library is the heart of the academic institution" is nothing less than the truth. And it is more so in the case of a University. The Hon'ble President of India, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, while inaugurating the Eight World Book Fair on 5th February, 1988 in New Delhi. Said "a Library is more important than a University because a Library can function without a University whereas a University cannot function without a Library".
The modern library, which aims at making books available an efficient library service and integrated system of libraries academic, public and special has, in fact, been playing a vital role in the social life of the community.

As a social institution, the library's function is not only to satisfy the need for books but also to promote the desire for books. As soon as one learns to read and write, he is able to make use of the library. The library will have to provide for the neo-literate also. It is the library's duty to inspire the people with new ideas and for better living. Library encourages group reading, facilitates group discussion, and helps in exchanging ideas. As once Bernard Shaw said, "of two men, if each gives one another an apple, they still each have only one apple. But if each of them gives the other an idea, they each have the two ideas". It is also said that the poorest man in the world is the man limited to his own experience, the man who does not read. The library's relationship with man is cyclic; it feeds his mind with information much of which is reprocessed and returned to the library in form of new documents. So man and library get benefit from each other in symbiotic manner. Moreover, in the words of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, "Libraries are not mere store-houses, they are rich springs from which knowledge flows out to irrigate the wide field of education and culture". So library as a real centre of culture, propagating human knowledge and dispensing delight serves as a channel for the spread of ideas and enables the community to spend leisure time more intelligently. A modern library is a social institution. It consists of recorded knowledge in the shape of books, periodicals, newspapers, manuscripts, maps, charts, film-strips, micro-films, phonogr
aphs, records etc. for the benefit of the readers & welfare of people irrespective of class, sex and religion. It can also be better defined as "a collection of books assembled for use as against for sale, display, for the pride of possession or for any of the purposes for which books may be assembled". Again it is defined by Pierce Butler as a social organisation and a necessary unit of transmitting the accumulated knowledge of society to individual members through books and other graphic and acoustic materials. So a Library is a reservoir of records of human thoughts and experiences preserved for use by present and future generation.

UNESCO's public library manifesto proclaims, "Public Library is a living force for education, culture and information and as an essential agent for the fostering of peace and understanding between people and between nations".

Public library is the place where the records of human thoughts and expression of his creative imagination are made freely available to all. It is concerned with provision of books for profit and pleasure and up-to-date information to the people in its area. So a public library by ordinary sense may be defined as any library which allows the members of the public to utilise its resources for reference or borrowing on payment of fees or subscription. In this sense a number of libraries such as colleges, schools, Universities, National and subscription Libraries etc. are considered public libraries. But a true modern public library is a product of democracy and now it is truly open
to every person irrespective of caste, colour, creed, age or sex.

Public libraries are established under a clear mandate of law to ensure nation-wide library service. Their doors should be open to all the members of the community for full and free use. It should be termed "People's University" for its universal character. It is an institution for diffusion of knowledge, creating equal and ample opportunities for everyone to take his course in the most suitable way. It is the secret of success of several self-made personalities.

Libraries in general and public libraries in particular have a very important part to play in future development of the social, cultural and educational life and progress in a country. Library service to all classes of people such as children, adolescents and young, adults, the aged and the handicapped is a social necessity for a co-operative life of culture and for the steady development of the social being. The Library in a society should be the heart from which every development in the community radiates and gets irradiated. A local public Library should be the social nerve and blood of the locality.

According to the report of the Advisory committee for libraries of India the internationally accepted definition of a public Library is that it is Library:-

(a) Which is financed for the most part out of public funds;
(b) Which charges no fees from readers, and it is open for full use by the public without distinction of caste, creed or sex;

(c) Which is intended as an auxiliary educational institution providing a means of self-education which is endless;

(d) Which houses learning materials giving reliable information freely without partiality or prejudice on as wide a variety of subjects as will satisfy the interest of readers.

Dr. S.R. Ranganathan's Public Library Act as follows:

a) State-service library established or declared to be state service library for the purpose of this Act.

(b) Any library established or maintained by a local library authority including the travelling libraries and service station.

(c) Any library open to the public free of charge and maintained and managed by the Government or by any local body.

(d) An aided library receiving grant-in-aid from the Government according to prescribed rules, and

(e) Any other library notified by the Government for the purpose of this act.

Again a public library is "Provided by the local authority (The town or country council) and entirely or mostly on its own expenses, governed and administered by the authority or a committee wholly or largely appointed by
itself, available free of any charge to all who live in its area (and often others as well), and offering a wide selection of materials chosen to embrace as completely as possible the varied interests of the individual and the community, free from bias or religious, political, or other motives". Thus, a modern public library is established by law and maintained at public expense out of local rates for proving expense out of local rates for proving free access to its holdings and free service to all irrespective of pace, colour, nationality, age, sex, religion, caste, language, status or educational attainments. So a public library is open to all. It is founded by the people, supported by the people and enjoyed by the people. In other words it can be defined as a Public Library is by the people, for the people and of the people.

According to L.R. Molavin the public library system should be based on the following principles -

(1) The provision of public library services should be the responsibility of appropriate public governing authorities and not that of any private or sectional groups.

(2) They should be administered, governed and financed by these authorities.

(3) They should be freely available for the use of all the people in the community served.

(4) They should as far as they can embrace all the needs and interests of their people.
They should be free not only financially, but also intellectually.

12. OBJECTIVES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY:

Concept of public library service arose from the assumption that the different categories of users, viz.-illiterates, nearly literate, intelligent and highly educated, rich and poor alike need an institution to serve their educational, international, and recreational needs. Thus it may be rightly called an important social institution. Its active and dynamic working offers information, entertainment, creative and intelligent use of the leisure time of all members of the community. "The public library is maintained to provide books that meet human wants, needs and tastes; that develop capacities of mind and body; that give practical aid to workers in every field; that equalize opportunities and enrich life for all". The growing needs of users and the dynamic role played by the public library fulfil their expectations that are bound to enhance its character and value as a potent force for the generations to come who will be influenced by its vitality, quality and agent.

Public library Research group of library Association, London has recently advocated and adopted a resolution defining the objectives and principles of public libraries. "To contribute to sustaining the quality of life in all its aspects - educational, economical, industrial, scientific and cultural and to promote the concept of democratic
society in which equal opportunity exists for all to develop into true citizens or with while or balanced personalities leading to an increase in the sum total of man's happiness and awareness of himself, his fellow men and environment. This contribution is effected through public libraries as a multipurpose information education-culture agency. It should make freely available the records of man's experience in the form of books and related materials to all and thus promote and foster the free flow of information ideas".

So the basic objective of public library is to give justice to one and all without any charges. It's primary aim is to offer equal opportunity of education and providing books and other reading materials for all by an efficient library service. Thus the important objectives of a public library can be categorised as follows:

(a) To provide books, periodicals etc. for home reading and creative use of leisure hours.

(b) To extend reading guidance to individuals about how to use books and other documents.

(c) To provide information through its reference service.

(d) To provide service in problems of child care, food and nutrition, health, recreation etc. to home makers.

(e) To extend assistance to civic, culture and educational organisations in locating and using materials for programme planning.

(f) To create a life-long habit of reading various
needs through well-stocked books for catering facilities.

(g) To tender organised service directed towards stimulating children's reading interests.

(h) To stimulate the use of materials through publicity, display, exhibition, reading lists, story hours, debates, discussion, lectures etc.

(i) To promote cultural and spiritual development of all the people and to prepare them for co-operative living in a democratic society.

According to Dr. S.R. Ranganathan a library is a social institution it has to serve several purposes such as:

(i) It should help the life-long self-education for one and all;

(ii) It should furnish up-to-date facts and information on all subjects to one and all;

(iii) It should distribute in unbiased and balanced way all sets of recorded views and thoughts to one and all, as a help in the picture of the political function in respect of local, national, and international affairs;

(iv) It should provide to one and all a harmless and elevating use of leisure;

(v) It should preserve the literary remains of humanity for posterity as vehicles of culture and as source material for antiquarian research in general;

(vi) It should work for continual social well being as the agency in charge of all socialised recorded thought.
13. ROLE OF PUBLIC LIBRARY:

UNESCO manifesto recently revised by the public library section of IFLA has defined the functions of the public library as mentioned below:

a) **Education:** "Education is the acquisition of the art of the utilization of knowledge". The aim of Education is to build character, increase strength of mind and expand intellect. Plato has rightly remarked that "education has to produce a perfect man, sound in character, active in mind and strong in body and prepare him for some ideal future".

The purpose of education, thus, is to bring all purpose to every man and give him the capacity and training to use them not only for his personal benefit but also for the benefit of the community and the humanity. Education leads to progress and prosperity. Truly, the human race would have become static and dormant without education.

Libraries occupy an important place in the modern education system. Education can be acquired either in a formal way by attending a regular educational agency or in an informal way through self education. But for both forms of education the media such as books, periodicals, pamphlets and other printed and non-printed materials are important. In this situation public library is an indispensable agency for imparting education to the people and capable of helping the neoliterate to learn more and continue to learn through life. Libraries also help the educated to continue their education by making available to them full and free use of
books after they have helped the schools, colleges or Universities. Their aims are to educate the illiterate, dispel their ignorance and to provide opportunities for continuing education. Again public library is a medium of formal education to learn environment artfully designed to have a stimulating and enriching effect upon students. Moreover, it occupies a place of prominence in higher education, self education, and adult education.

(b) **Information:** Public Library helps the individual or group with accurate information quickly and in depth particularly on topics of current concern.

(c) **Culture and Communication:** Culture is closely related to social life. It is passed from generation either through personal contacts or through recorded knowledge. Thus the culture of the ages is treasured and conserved in recorded documents in the shape of books, periodicals etc. which are stored in public libraries.

In the cultural revolution communication is indispensable. Books and libraries are the most powerful means of communication. They record the achievements of life, experiences and thoughts of the saints and scholars, scientists, educationalists, artists, poets and philosophers.

(d) **Political Life:** The public Library has an important role in the political life of the community, since it provides all sorts of information of political activities through the documents, which influence the political life of the people. Public Library now is acting as a common agency.
of all these political bulletin or news or information by which people are now more conscious about the present political system.

(e) **Industrial & Economic Life**: Industries are now the lifeblood of modern civilization, without which there is no progress of economic structure, standard of living and age of progress. When a worker is well educated and disciplined, his technical know-how will be increased and the overall production will be much higher, which is beneficial for our country's economical development. As the country progresses, there becomes the clean society, and people are inclined towards social life. Hence, for educational and economic development education is essential which can be provided through the public libraries.

(f) **Occupation of Leisure**: Public libraries play the part in encouraging the positive use of leisure and provide materials for change and relaxation.

14. **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**: "PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM IN ORISSA: A DEVELOPMENTAL PLAN"

15. **NEED FOR THE STUDY**: The purpose of a library may be a Public Academic is to provide the right information to the right type of reader at the right time in the right way. This implies that the libraries have to plan, develop and organise their resources and services in such a way that it should facilitate easy retrieval of the desired information in quick time and with a minimum effort. For this purpose, a library
has to depend upon two things:

1. The type of library and its collection,
2. The type of users and their status.

Orisa is a developing state having a rich tradition of its culture. The first libraries were named as Bhagabat Tungi in Orissa served as the village library which was the centre of religious learning. Princely states pioneered the library movement in Orissa, of these the Ram Chandra Library of Baripada established in 1893 need to be mentioned. Subsequently by the public interest Raghunandan Library, Puri, Library of Utkal Samaj, Gopabandhu Library, Ram Krishna Mission Library, Padhiary Library, Cuttack and Integral Library, Udayapur were established.

The Public Relation Department of Government of Orissa has established a good number of Public Libraries and Information Centres in District headquarters. The 28 public libraries are now only controlled by the department of Cultural Affairs, Government of Orissa. The State Library at Bhubaneswar established in 1967 is a gift of Government of India. In addition to the State Library at Bhubaneswar, there are 13 district Libraries established in all the 13 districts (Now total 30 districts) of the state during the period 1976-1978. Also at the sub-divisional level public libraries were established during 1984-1985. The Department of Cultural Affairs, Government of Orissa besides the above state, district and sub-divisional libraries organises and manages the Ex-District Board Libraries. Other than these
there are some Village Libraries mostly financed by the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Fund.

In the present study the researcher has established a network of public libraries at different levels basing on the geomorphology of the state. Also the study is based on population density, the actual location of the different public libraries at the districts, sub-divisions and Panchayat levels. The management of public library system including its funding, Library Act, Historical review of public libraries, organisation & resources of public libraries are also given in details.

16. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

Public libraries are established under a clear mandate of law to ensure nation-wide library service. Organised co-operation between the public essential so that total national resources can be fully used and be placed at the service of all users. Its doors should be open to all the members of the community for full and free use regardless of race, colour, nationality, age, sex, religion, caste, language, status, or educational attainments. Public library is often termed "People's University" for its universal character -(Aluin Johnson).

As a social institution the public library's function is not only to satisfy the need of books, but also to promote the desire for books. In promoting the reading habit of the people the library has to make them library-minded, which means it has to draw more and more people towards the library.
The public library has to perform multifarious functions to achieve the above objectives. The important functions of the public library are as follows:

(i) To acquire a good collection of books, periodicals and other documents basing on the present and real needs of the reading community;

(ii) To make proper book selection in accordance with the educational level, occupations, interests and requirements of the people;

(iii) To organise the collection of books and other reading documents for the convenient use by the readers and staff through technical processes like classification, cataloguing and shelf arrangement;

(iv) To provide services free of charge and extend facilities to utilise all its resources freely without any interference from political or religious body;

(v) To attract and persuade most of the people of the locality to make the best use of the library for self education, information, recreation and culture;

(vi) To provide reference and bibliographical services through standard encyclopaedias, bibliographies, and other reference tools; etc. to any readers or groups of readers, or research scholars;

(vii) To enrich and further develop the subject on which individuals are undertaking formal education;

(viii) To support the educational, civic and cultural activities of groups and organisation;
(ix) To lend books and other material for home reading to any reader relating to his business or profession or subject of research;

(x) To take up extension services through library publicity and display activities such as cultural exhibitions, group discussions, lectures, book fairs etc.

(ix) To extend library services through mobile libraries and book deposit stations in the remote areas, and

(xii) To join hands with local literacy drives and adult education programmes.

So, public library is the only institution which gives children, young and grown-up adults the opportunity to keep in touch with their time in every sphere of activity. Every library is a centre of international understanding. By its very existence free from propaganda and prejudice, the public library serves peace as well as democracy.

Public library has got an important role to play in the modern society especially in the age of science and technology. The initial role the public library can play in the country is programme for development and national reconstruction particularly in areas such as:

(i) Spread of education;

(ii) Dissemination of information;

(iii) Utilization of leisure time;

(iv) Socio-economic developments etc.

The library system of a country includes the different types of libraries established according to the needs of
various communities such as the general public, students, research scholars, businessmen, specialists and others. The public libraries are of different types such as National Library, State Central Library, Regional Library, District Library, Block Library, Village Library, City Library, Town Library and Municipal Library. These libraries are established, organised and managed by city, town district, state and national library Authorities or governments.
17. METHODOLOGY AND STUDY POPULATION:

Methodology

There are various techniques/methods employed in the collection of data required for study. Generally, the questionnaire method, interview method, observation method, case study method, critical incident technique, diffusion study techniques etc. are used in one or the other context. Any of these methods as a combination of two or more methods can be used in studying the users of information.

The scope of this study is to assess the present situation of all the public libraries functioning under the Department of Culture, Government of Orissa and to suggest the developmental plan of the Public Libraries. Keeping in view of the present study, the questionnaire method, interview method and observation method are used for the collection of data.

Questionnaire Method/Study Population

All the aided public libraries including twenty eight government public libraries in Orissa are taken into account for the present study. Hence it is a census type of study. Regarding collection of materials the technique like questionnaire method has been adopted. To analyse the materials so collected necessary steps have been taken on wide areas as covered in the questionnaires (A copy of the questionnaire is available in the Appendix).

The study population covered has been categorised into two groups:

1. Readers/Users of different Public Libraries.
2. Librarians, Asst. Librarians, etc. of the above libraries.

In all 1000 questionnaires on random sample basis are distributed directly to all the aided public libraries of Orissa including twenty eight Government Public Libraries functioning under the department of Culture, Government of Orissa. The investigator visited maximum libraries of Sundargarh district for a on the spot study of the libraries at Block, Panchayat and Village level.

**Interview and Discussion Method**:

The Investigator visited most of the public libraries at village, panchayat, district and state level and interviewed selected users. The Investigator interviewed/discussed with librarians and Asst. Librarians of State Central Library at Bhubaneswar to collect information about the actual state of total book and non-book materials collection, staffing patterns, classification, cataloguing system, services offered etc. of the State Central Library as well as other libraries of the State. The secondary data which helped very much at the time of analysis are also collected from the record maintained by the public libraries and office of the Asst. Director Library, of the Department of Cultural Affairs, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar. Necessary bibliographical references are also added in the discussion of the study.

**Observation Method**:

In order to have a observe physically and study the actual scenario of the book and the non-book materials and their use in the libraries, the investigator visited personally almost all
the public libraries in Orissa and studied the existing functioning of each library covered under the study and data collected thereby. The materials collected both from primary and secondary sources are tagged together for inclusion in the tables neatly presented in the respective chapters.

18. **CHAPTERIZATION/STRUCTURE OF THE THESIS** :

The results of this study are presented in nine chapters as follows:

**Chapter - I** :

This chapter sets the background for the study. Discusses the need, objectives, scope, limitations and the methodology.

**Chapter - II** :

Deals with morphological study like land, area, climate, physiography, communication, population, linguistic aspects of Orissa.

**Chapter - III** :

In this chapter various aspects like history of public libraries in India and Orissa, their organisation, the dissemination of library services, the physical features of public library system, furniture and fittings, the budget system, the staff position and administrative set up have been carried out.

**Chapter - IV** :

In this chapter an attempt is made to discuss the role of public libraries in Orissa and their services to promote education, culture and information to the people of Orissa.
Chapter - V:

This chapter deals with the present scene of the existing public libraries of Orissa in order to develop a model public library system in the state.

Chapter - VI:

This chapter goes into further details concerning the library Legislation in different states of India in order to provide free library service to the people.

Chapter - VII:

A model Public Library Bill of Orissa has been presented in this chapter for the promulgation of Public Library Act.

Chapter - VIII:

An attempt has been made to analyse and interpret the data collected and testing of the stated hypothesis. Three stages of developmental plan are given to adopt a new structural arrangement based on comprehensive planning with a model public library planning of Sundargarh District of Orissa.

Chapter - IX:

Consolidates the findings reported in the earlier chapters and gives the conclusion of the study. Suggestions for possible improvements in the existing situation are also given.

19. LIMITATIONS:

In the area of Social Science research, the researchers, generally face certain problems particularly in the area of collecting data for this type of studies. In the present case also the researcher has faced certain limitations while collecting data for the study, such as -
i) At the time of primary data collection mainly due to the nature of respondents who remained silent in the responses, were observed.

To overcome the situation, the researcher has made personal interaction.

ii) As regards to secondary data, the researcher has also managed to overcome the limitations by necessary liaison with different authorities and persons connected with the public library affairs of the state.

iii) Lastly, it is also pertinent to point out that, time and money particularly to meet the frequent interviews and contacts raised some difficulties. However, this was managed keeping in view the very object of this humble study.

***************
PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM IN ORISSA
A DEVELOPMENTAL PLAN

CONTENTS

CHAPTER - I : INTRODUCTION
CHAPTER - II : GEOMORPHOLOGY OF ORISSA
CHAPTER - III : PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN ORISSA
CHAPTER - IV : ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY
CHAPTER - V : PRESENT SCENE
CHAPTER - VI : LIBRARY LEGISLATION IN INDIA: A COMPARATIVE STUDY
CHAPTER - VII : ORISSA PUBLIC LIBRARY BILL: A MODEL
CHAPTER - VIII : DEVELOPMENTAL PLAN OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM IN ORISSA AND USEFUL SUGGESTIONS.
CHAPTER - IX : CONCLUSION (USEFUL SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS)
BIBLIOGRAPHY
APPENDIX
QUESTIONNAIRE
REFERENCES


06. Nayeem, M.A. Public Library in a developing society. 28th ILA All India Library Conference. 1982; p. 36-42.


