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CONCLUSION
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6.0. The backdrop

In the concluding part of the work, a generalisation of the findings is made to draw negations and recommendations so that the libraries of Manipur can be managed and their services improved in a more effective and efficient way. The findings of the present study have revealed that the state has a number of libraries of various types and categories:

- School libraries of the state government, private organization and centrally sponsored ones.
- College libraries belonging to colleges of – State Government, Aided and Private colleges.
- University libraries such as Manipur university and Central agricultural university (College of Agriculture)
- Special libraries attached with different organisations having specific characteristics. They are either technical or professional in nature. Some of them are centrally sponsored institutions.
- Different types of public libraries such as State Central Library, District Libraries, and other such libraries run by Non-Governmental Organisations.
The findings of the present study also have disclosed the following facts about the libraries:

- The libraries are run in separately housed or attached buildings manned by full time professionally qualified staff or in-charges without professional skills.

- Understaffing is a common phenomenon of the libraries.

- The libraries are run with central fund / state fund as well as funds collected through Fees/Fines/Donations/Gifts.

- They use different budgetary techniques.

- Different kinds of collections are available in the library – Books, Journals, Audio-Visual materials, Newspapers etc.

- The libraries are visited by various groups of users belonging different age groups.

- There is a tendency on the part of the majority of the library authorities to avoid disclosure of their financial aspects/matters.

- Adoption of new ICTs in the libraries is still lagging behind.

- There is a need for enhancement of the library services.

- CC, DDC, CCC and AARC-II are commonly used as tools for organization of library resources.

- Majority of the libraries are following Open Access System.

- Majority of them are facing economic difficulties but are continuing
preparation of developmental plans.

6.1 General Findings

The general findings of the present study as understood from the above descriptions can be described in the following manner.

- All the types of library systems are in existence in Manipur comprising of Academic, Special and Public libraries at different levels. Of them 68.29% is found to be housed separately while the remaining 31.71% is attached to the parent institute building.

- Among the various libraries, 75.61% is manned by the full time librarians while 13.41% of them is run by In-charge or look after personnals.

- The minimum qualifications of the working staff are graduate (69.51%). On the other hand 40.24% of the professionals has BLISc degree. The MLISc. degree holders are 29.27% only.

- All the college and special libraries in Manipur are organised by professionals whose number range from 1 to 5. The situation is different in case of other libraries. It is understaffing of the libraries. Concerning non-professional category, 36.59% of the libraries is managed with 1-5 staff only.
• The different types of libraries have different sources of income. In respect of the school libraries in Manipur, 43.48% of them receive funds from Central Government, while 30.43% receive funds from state government and 26.09% of them are collecting fees/fines/donations/gifts. Most of the college libraries (62.86%) enjoy state funding and 14.29% from fees/fines/donations/gifts while 22.86% of them are getting Central funds.

• For the two universities the major source of income is from State and Central government.

Situation is different in case of special libraries set up in the state as 50% of them receive funds from central government while 25% of them enjoy state funding and again 25% collect fees/fines/donations/gifts.

However, all the public libraries of the state are using state funds and also collecting fees/fines/donations/gifts.

• 60.98% of the libraries of Manipur adopt Lump-Sum budgetary technique while 17.07 of them follow per Capita technique. Differences are also found among the libraries in this regard.

• Books constitute the major holdings of the libraries collections. Bigger libraries i.e. University and some college libraries subscribe to many journal titles. Availability of other materials is below the desired level.
It has been established that 13.04% and 17.39% of the school libraries received state government grants amounting upto 1,00000 during the period of 1997-1998 to 2001-2002. During the period, 21.74% of them also enjoyed funds from Central governments. But, the amount received during the period was only below Rs.1,00000/-

Less than 40% of the college libraries received state grants/ funds during 1997-2002. But only 2.86% of them received above 1 lakh rupees during the said period. During the same period more than 40% of the college libraries enjoyed grants ranging from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1.00000 from the central government also some libraries (less than 10%) collected up to rupees 1 lakh through fees/fines/donations/gifts.

The situation is different in case of special libraries. 18.75 % of special libraries enjoyed state government grants up to Rs. 50,000 followed by 6.25% in 1997-1998 while 6.25% received up to Rupees 1,00000 in the year 1998-1999 and 2000-2001. Funding from central government was less (6.25% received up to Rs. 50,000 and 12.5% Rs.50, 000-100000). During 1999-2000 and 2001-2002 nearly 20 % of libraries could collect more than 1 lakh rupees through fees/fines/gifts/donations.

Both the income and amount in the head of account are less in respect of school libraries of the state. In case of college libraries, maximum
expenditure is being made on salaries and wages of the staff. In the year no special library of the state spends more than Rs.1 lakh to procure books and journals. The State Central Library, Imphal spend maximum amount on salary & wages during 1999-2000 followed by 2001-2002, 2000-2001 and 1998-1999. Expenditure made by the library for books, journals, furniture and equipments etc. during 1997-2002 is more than Rs.2 lakhs.

- The scenario of library computerisation is not very encouraging. Only 13.41% of the total libraries have started the process of computerisation.

- Inter-library loan has a number of advantages not only from the service point of view but also from the economic point of view. However in Manipur only 4.88% of the libraries have this facility.

  Majority of the libraries (90.24%) provide issue and return service while other services are found to be very low (below 40%).

- Students constitute the most important component of the readership community of the libraries of various types (100%). It is also observed that all working people (100%) use public libraries.

- More than half of the libraries (53.66%) irrespective of their type do not charge delay fine from the users.

- 87.80% of libraries issue up to 50 books per day.
• Less than 35% of libraries are found to be using DDC, CC and AACR-II and CCC for classification and cataloguing purpose.

• Majority of the libraries (67.07%) in Manipur follow open access system.

• The working hours of the majority of the libraries (85.37%) are 6-8 hours on the working days.

• The assistance on the part of the staff to the users is an important service aspect of the library. In this respect; more than half of the libraries (65.85%) extend their assistance to a great extent.

• Around 80% of the libraries in Manipur have economic difficulties in the overall management and more than 70% of them prepare Developmental Plans for the all round development of the libraries.

6.2 Achieving the objectives of the study

The findings of the present study have enabled the investigator to achieve the set objectives of the studies that

- to know the source of finance in different types of libraries;
- to find out possible means of increasing financial resources of libraries in Manipur;
- to identify techniques adopted for allocation of library funds;
- to find out whether these libraries have fully and properly utilized the government grants;
- to evaluate the unavoidable role of library economy in the existing library system in Manipur,

- to translate the theory of library service into action in the state of Manipur,

- to nourish the rich cultural heritage of Manipur in the true sense of the term,

- to achieve the maximum standard of the latest modern mass media and information technology in Manipur, the economically backward state of India, and

to find out the ways and means for the development of library system in Manipur.

6.3. Testing the Hypothesis

The findings of the study have also confirmed the truth of the hypothesis formulated at the beginning of the study that

1. The libraries are playing a great role in widening the knowledge of the readers.

2. The smooth functioning of an institution is based on the satisfactory running of its library since the library is just like the backbone of the institution.

3. The limited financial resources of the state government towards the
library development are supplemented by the grants of State and Central government within the plan period (1997-2002).

4. The financial resources are properly utilized for the smooth functioning and other activities of the libraries.

5. Progress and improvement are being made using the grants of State and Central governments towards the development of libraries.

6. The infrastructures of libraries in Manipur are not well equipped compared to other libraries outside Manipur.

7. The benefit to the users is directly proportional to the available library facilities available.

8. In spite of these facilities, the libraries in Manipur are not however reaching the national status in the true sense of the term.

9. It is very commonly seen in Manipur that there is a lack of awareness of the importance of libraries.

6.4. Drawbacks

There are various types of libraries existing in the state but all those libraries are functioning in isolation due to the lack of sufficient finance among themselves.

During the survey of the libraries in Manipur a lot of problems have been faced and those problems are given below:
1. Most of the schools, colleges and universities have their own libraries. But these libraries are not functioning properly due to lack of finance.

2. There are no separate library building and reading room and other infrastructures in most of the libraries. The available infrastructures are also insufficient.

3. The lack of trained staff i.e. professional librarian is another factor contributing to the slow growth of library services in Manipur.

4. Library budget is not adequate in view of its needs. It has been observed that, most of the libraries have been facing a lot of economical problems.

5. In some libraries, librarians are not willing even to fill up the questionnaires.

6. Library facilities in the state are inadequate and disorganised. Inter library facilities in the libraries of Manipur are still a dream.

7. Regarding the nature of access, almost all the libraries of Manipur have open access.

8. In some libraries, library visit is not a compulsory component of library service to the users or readers.

9. Time for opening the library is not uniform among all the libraries of Manipur.

10. In public libraries, collection of materials is very limited. Audio Visual materials and CDs are also surprisingly poor.

11. There is no provision to purchase sufficient number of library material because of limited budget.

12. In some school libraries of Manipur, the teachers are taking the role of a librarian without knowing ABC of library services. The findings have confirmed that the libraries of Manipur have not been able to function
properly and also to organize better services due to lack of financial resources. The outputs of the services are not up to the mark Readers/users are not well aware about the role of library services, in widening the universe of knowledge. Librarians are not satisfied with financial resources at the time of preparing budget, purchasing of books and library services etc.

6.5. Strategic plans for library development

A plan is a well thought out scheme or programme made in advance and complete in all aspects, that sets the objectives of the group and the way it is to be achieved by marshalling the financial, material and manpower resources. In an organization Planning is the first function to be performed by a manager, which begins with the setting of objectives of the organization. The ways and means to achieve these objectives are thought out on a plenary basis. These outlines are given a concrete shape and a regular framework of authority is established in such a manner that maximum quality is ensured at a minimum work of cost with minimum efforts. Planning presupposes the stock taking of the existing conditions and relevant causes. It aims at overcoming any uncertainty imposed by fluctuation; emphasizes objectives; aids control; and helps in attaining economical objectives according to a schedule. Successful planning consist of setting objective and promises, choosing the course of action and making
sub-ordinate plans and budget. Planning does not end with overall scenario building, but proceeds to determine the inter and intra relationship of various factors both internal and external. But planning is the decision in advance of what will be done at a certain time and how it is to be achieved. It is related with the availability of funds and resources. When no fund is allotted in the budget and available from any source, planning will be meaningless. And without planning the role of libraries to support information for rural development is not feasible. A right type of planning is vital for the efficient working of a library. Planning of a library to support information for rural development requires a thorough understanding of the needs of the users, objectives and function of a library. Planning process are however, inconceivable without careful community profiling strictly in accordance with the actual and realizable needs of the user community. Finally the whole strategy needs to be drawn in the form of a written statement to meet the objectives.

In the light of the analysis and findings of the survey to meet the requirements of the librarians and to improve the functions and services of the system, the following strategic plans and suggestions should be taken up.


2. Steps may be taken up to organize the National Library Week, Library
Awareness, Orientation Training Course, and Book Fair etc.

3. Departments concerned should introduce Mobile Library service.

4. At rural level "Village Information Centre" should be opened.

5. Lectures/Seminars/Workshops at the village level should be organized.

6. Soliciting of public contribution towards the improvement of Library fund for better services should be encouraged.

7. Use of Information technology to facilitate networking in the libraries.

8. Lump sum grant may be allocated every year to manage all types of libraries in Manipur.

9. Librarians should be allowed to involve actively in the library management.

6.6. Conclusion

The revolutionary changes in the field of library service have greatly increased the importance of financial management of libraries. But before the 20th century, there was no concept like financial management. In earlier times separate finance section would project financial procedure and activities. Its work was to raise the funds needed to purchase the reading materials, equipments etc. At present there is no separate unit for financial management. Librarian or the Directorate takes the prime responsibility and it has caused a setback to finance.
Finance is a motive power and essential factor for the management of a library of any kind. It is an instrument of planning; formation and implementation of financial policies are essential features of library finance.

Recently the Manipur public libraries bill 1988 has been enacted. The then President of India signed the Bill on 9th June 1993. But all these acts and provisions remain in paper only and far away from implementation. It is still unclear when and in what form the people of Manipur will benefit from the library movement in Manipur. It is right time to begin "Revolution" for the development and improvement of libraries in Manipur Financial controls over the library without grasping the implication of the plans and budget of the library departments and its different branches would be meaningless. Financial management continues to be treated as media of financial control merely for limiting expenditure and for watching progress. It serves as a guide to the executive and library personal. It must be based on well thought out and realistic plans for the period under consideration.

Our aim is to plan for the growth and development of library profession not only for hundred years but also for all ages to come; we must carefully plan and educate our children and those of future generations.

The amount of library fee in most of the state is paltry and many of the libraries are ill equipped with documents. It should be the duty of the
fund donating agencies to make known, to the extent possible, the total amount available for utilization on books and journals at the beginning of the year so that the library may be able to formulate a plan for collection, development and spreading out of the purchase uniformly over the whole year.

The value of financial plan has been drastically eroded as a result of high inflation and the failure of the government to provide adequate supplementary allowances. Because of inadequate funding by the government, the majority of the libraries are not in a position to ensure even the minimum infrastructure.