PREFACE

LIS over the world strive to develop their role and develop novel systems and services and are becoming very important in both tangible (infrastructure, equipment and traditional collection) and intangible (digital collections, automation systems and networking strategies. Public libraries do not remain unaffected by the changing environment. Today, public libraries can help to trigger the productivity and economic growth by giving opportunities to share a common platform to all people regardless of caste, creed, religion, rich and poor, and so on.

The present work is the study of the public libraries of Haryana State of India entitled as “Public Libraries in Haryana: A study of systems, services and future development plans”. The purpose of the study to assess the awareness and the needs of the users with a view to find out whether the system and the services rendered by these libraries are adequate or not and to find out the ways and means to make these more efficient and meaningful. The aims and objectives of the present study may be listed as follows:

1. To explore the current Public Libraries scenario in Haryana with special reference to their growth and development, contribution of various agencies and organizations, structure, functioning and services being provided.
2. To identify the needs of different categories of users of public libraries of Haryana.
3. To investigate the association among different types of users with regard to daily visit of the library.
4. To find out the difference of satisfaction among different type of users with regard to collection, Infrastructure, staff, facilities and services.
5. To find out the difference of satisfaction among users of different age groups regarding collection, Infrastructure, staff, facilities and services.
6. To find out the difference among the different type of users with regard to time spend per visit in the library.
7. To find out the expected future plans for the development of public libraries of Haryana.

To achieve the before mentioned objectives, investigator prepared two questionnaires; One for the Librarians to gather the information regarding status of public libraries in
Haryana and to know about the services being rendered to users. And second questionnaire used for getting the views of users regarding their satisfaction level with the resources and services of public library. The present study has been divided in five chapters are as follows:

Chapter 1. - introduces the research topic, objectives, hypotheses, statement of the problem, and rationale of the study. Besides this, it gives historical view of public libraries, and status of public libraries in Haryana;

Chapter 2. - discuss the related literature;

Chapter 3. - describes the methodology adopted;

Chapter 4. - comprises analysis of users’ survey; and

Chapter 5. - Provides findings of the study, conclusions and area for future research.