CHAPTER- III

IMPORTANCE OF COLLEGE LIBRARY

3. Introduction:

College library is the vital system of higher education. It is only through libraries that the students can be properly prepared to face the challenges of present information age, in order to cope up with the present educational structure and pressure of competition. As such, it acts as a dynamic instrument of the teaching learning process of higher education. It really has a distinct contribution to make to the attainment of general education in order to assist the learners in the acquisition of attitudes, skills, paradigms and techniques that will be bestowed to the human betterment. Obviously,

Libraries the “Power House” of generating information are regarded as the heart of any institute. Libraries are not merely storehouse of reading material collected for preservation but it functions as a dynamic instrument of education to feed the intellect of the students, encourage the researchers of the faculty and invite all who enter its house to partake fully of its intellectual and cultural contents. Library is the backbone of any research organization which is quite important for research and other programmes in which information is the most important aspect. Research and technical libraries are recognized as repository of knowledge and very important aspect of education, society and research. The frontiers of knowledge are ever increasing. It is more so in various branches of science and technology, Social-Sciences and Humanities in which researchers are going on throughout the world in quest of new knowledge. It is quite significant that the scholars and educationists should keep their knowledge update on order to know recent developments in their subjects. To meet the information needs of the scientists and researchers comprehensively, the libraries are required to acquire suitable and sufficient quantity of collection in their areas of interest.

“A Good Book Requires One Good Eye, One Good Light Source, and One GoodFinger.”¹
3.1. Progress of Indian Libraries in Recent Time:

India is a vast country, rich in technical libraries which may be divided into three categories, Government and Semi-Government, technical libraries in Universities and other teaching institutions and those attached to Research Institutions and Societies. The development of specialist institutions started with the development of the learned societies came into existence with the initiative of Sir William Jones who visited India in 1783. He was a judge in the High court. Apart from his judicial duties he used to take interest in scholarly activities such as organization of special books at local centre, seminars and setting up of learned Societies. In 1784 Asiatic Society of Bombay.

In the 19th century Calcutta became the earliest active centre for scientific research. Further, other society’s namely mathematical society of India, Chemical Society of India, Astronomical Society of India etc. Come into existence. Further some organization came into existence such as Zoological Survey of India, Botanical Survey of India, Geological Survey of India, etc. These organizations were founded with the donations given by the rich people.

Several Indian Scientists such as J. C. Bose, C. V. Raman, Mahenderpal Sarkar, Raja Ram Mohan Roy etc. made efforts to develop these societies and organizations. Latter on three major Research Institutes- the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Indian Council of Medical Research, and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, each possessing its own library comes into existence. While ICAR and ICMR are devoted to Agriculture and medicine respectively, the CSIR is mainly concerned with the promotion of science, technology and industry of the country.

To serve the information needs of the 1.5 million scientific and technical personnel in the country, over 800 scientific and technical libraries exist with a collection of more than 10,000 volumes. Among them, the following are specifically worth noting:-

- National Science Library of NISCAIR
- National medical library of Ministry of Health.
• Defence Science library of DESIDOC.
• National Medical library, Delhi.

Some of the research organizations which are well developed to serve the information requirements of the users are as under:-

3.1.1- ISALIC (Indian Association of special library and information Centers):

The ISALIC was formed in 1955 at Calcutta. Its main objective is to encourage and promote the systematic acquisition, organization and dissemination of knowledge. It acts as a center for research for special libraries and deals with documentation techniques, reprography and translation services in scientific, technical and other fields for researchers. It also publishes a directory of special and research libraries.

3.1.2- NISCAIR (National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resource):

The NISCARI formerly known as INSDOC was established in 1952 at New Delhi. NISCAIR is a premier organization serving the information needs of scientific community by providing high quality information services based on recorded human knowledge of world. Its main purpose is to give information and provide service for the documentation through several activities. NISCARI’s National Science library (NSL) acts as a major information resource center in the country in the area of S&T. There are more than 2,00,000 volumes which consist of monographs and volumes of journal most of the fields of Science & Technology. It also publishes Indian science Abstract.

3.1.3- DESIDOC (Defense Science Information Documentation Center):

Realizing the importance of special library set-up for the information needs of the defence science, the DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organization) created a Scientific Information Bureau (SIB) in 1958 in Delhi. In 1967, SIB was reorganized and renamed as Defense Scientific Information and Documentation. DESIDOC provide, information services to India’s defense establishments, among these services are collection
publication of various science journals, prepares bibliographies, translation of defense articles published in foreign languages, reprographic services, and CAS and SDI services. Defense Science Library (DSL) is one of the largest libraries having a unique collection of publication in various subjects such as S&T including aerospace, missiles, explosives, physical and life-sciences etc. DLS has a rich collection of 2,62,000 books and gives information to the reader within a short period of time. More than 500 DRDO Scientist and few others are provided fortnightly and monthly current awareness services.

3.1.4- NISSAT (National Information System for Science and Technology):

The NISSAT started its function in the year 1997. Its main objective is to give information to readers who are mainly concerned with research and academic activities. It also covers the entire field of science and technology. The sub-centers of NISSAT keep the maintenance of published and unpublished books, periodicals, and several kinds of reports. It has also started information centers in various subjects at the national level.

3.1.5- ICSSR (Indian Council of Social Science Research):

It was established in 1960 at New Delhi a view to develop research in social science. ICSSR conduct surveys from time to time to know the areas covered under research. It provides financial support to increase the quality and quantity of research project in social science. ICSSR maintains data of research project Submitted to ICSSR to provide the information to the social scientists. The data is also converted in machine readable data base. It also organizes various conferences and seminars from time to time at national and international level. ICSSR has six regional centre’s in different regions were the researchers can use the library facility including documents supply services, translation facility etc.

3.1.6- BARC (Bhabha Atomic Research Center):

The department of Atomic Energy is one of the major scientific institutions in India. The BARC has a sophisticated library and information services division, which houses a large collection of Nuclear Literature including 3 lakh research reports.
3.1.7- GSI (Geological Survey of India):

Being a government organization, it was established in 1951 in India with the main objective of making surveys and studies in geologic. Its main activity is to study the earth sciences of India.

3.1.8- Zoological Survey of India:

It was established in 1916 with a view to develop research of animals of the area. Apart from the above organizations National Medical Library in Delhi, collects medical literature from all over the world and publishes the Index to Indian Medical Periodicals. The Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) Library in Delhi has excellent reprographic facilities and publishes the Indian Bibliography of Agriculture.

3.2. Library:

The word “library” is derived from the Latin word “Libra” meaning “a book”. In regard to the changing environment of contemporary age the concept of the library is also changed from its nature of depository to repository to be proved at the end of users as educational social and culture organization.

Library is a product of our cultural maturation. It is essentially a response to the total communication patterns of modern society. The advent and advance of democracy, the extension of the horizon of education, the intensification of research and the virtual explosion of knowledge have necessitated the services of a stocked, well staff, well organized up-to-date library.

3.2.1- Definition of Library:

1. S. R. Ranganathan:

Library is a kind of special power station where the minds of this member of the community are energized thoughts. The energy lies locked up in a potential state in a kinetic state which can stimulate the minds of readers in to helpful activity. The libraries represented transformation energy.

3.3. Importance Of Library:

1) Libraries have played an importance part in the social, political and
cultural development of the society.

2) Library has been essential part of civilized society. These came into being to serve the needs of society libraries provide lifelong self-education.

3) Libraries are the connecting node of information generation and communication.

4) Library is a source of providing knowledge. The knowledge has become increasingly complex and at the same time, means of communication of knowledge equally complex. A library has connected with communication of knowledge repacked information through user friendly devices.

5) Main function of library is to provide information. They are indispensable maintaining and dominating the information to these who need of it librarians support learning, teaching, research and other educational functions appropriate to their parent institutions. They are living force for education, culture and information.

6) Library provides unlimited information’s. Libraries preserve our rich heritage in all available forms and sources with the patent emerging information technologies.

7) At a time library performed multifunction. The library is the only agency devoted solely for the purpose of collection making available and securing the widest and the society use of record of civilization by the society of which it is part.

8) Library has a noble mission to impart education to the public or in broader sense to its ‘patrons’. It is mission is to provide a link between ‘past’ and ‘Present’ and with that shapes our future society.

Libraries are as important as schools and colleges. It keeps all kinds of books. Similarly it also subscribes all newspapers, journals and magazines. As individual cannot purchase all newspapers and periodicals. So he has to take help of the library. Library consists of several books. It is formed to provide access to its readers by providing intellectual and bibliographic information. It has a trained staff whose duty is to serve its readers and to conduct programs
concerned with their needs.

Generally the library does not charge for the reading of newspapers by the reader or charges minimum fee for membership. There are different kinds of readers whose requirements are varied and so the library must keep all kinds of books related to every branch of knowledge. A good library is quite beneficial for the readers. It has worth atmosphere for reading there. It is also more useful for researchers who want to do research in their concerned fields.

A library is a good source of knowledge. A well equipped library is an asset of schools and colleges. The librarian in the library guides the readers properly. If the books are kept in a proper manner, it becomes easy for the readers to find out a book necessary for him. In the library the reader can borrow all kinds of books, journals, magazines, encyclopedia for his detailed study and reference.

3.4. Functions of College Library:

The ideal college library has following functions:

1) It makes available to the students books and allied reading material relevant to the courses offered in the college.

2) It makes available the books and documents required by faculty members in preparation of their instructional courses.

3) It provides supplementary books and reading material to help study and teaching at the college.

4) It provides comprehensive selection of authoritative books and documents needed by the faculty members to pursue their research programmers.

5) It promotes the proper use of the reading material available in the stock.

6) It trains the students in making use of the library property and derives full advantage out of it integrating the library with the education all courses.

3.5. Librarian : An Ambassador:

3.5.1. The Library:

Library and information centre is a living social institution made by the people and for the service of the people. It is a nucleus of all social activities. Library and Information Service is a
social service which aims at self-development and improvement of skill and efficiency of the people of all interest. A librarian is an ambassador who provides the precise and reliable information service at the right time, to the right person in a form most conveniently usable by the users. In the ever growing ocean of information, users cannot locate the particular information, in time, without the guidance and proper service of the librarian.

3.5.2. Librarianship:

Dr. S. R. Ranganathan Stated, "Librarianship is a noble profession. A librarian derives his joy by seeing the dawn of joy in the face of the readers, helped by him to find the right book at the right time. " The concept of librarianship has changed with the changes of time. The early recognition of the librarian as a keeper, curator or caretaker of the books fell into disrepute during this modern age and librarians became the information officers.

Dr. Shera stated, "Librarianship extends to all things knowledge to all kinds of knowers, to all the modes of knowledge and all the methods of knowing!" if the librarianship is taken as a means of communication between knowledge as contained in the books and other reading materials on one band, and the readers on the other, the work of the librarian is termed very technical and essential.

3.5.3. Role of Librarian in the Society as a Teacher:

To start a piece of research without the assistance or guidance of the Librarian is like venturing into unknown territory without a map. The purpose of education is to bring all powers 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. Librarians can fulfill this purpose by providing the user education service to the users of the society as a teacher. A librarian as a teacher occupies an important place in the modern educational system. His aim is to educate the illiterate, dispel their ignorance and to provide opportunities for continuing education to the educated by providing them the proper information services through the reading materials and the modern technologies available in the library. He is an indispensable agent for imparting education to the people, and capable of helping the neoliterate to learn more and continue to learn through life.

3.5.4. User Education in Libraries:

The instructional programme based upon the use of books and the other library resource will bring the users in contact with the experience of the past and the present. Libraries occupy a
place of prominence in higher education and librarians are instructing the students to use the library confidential in his research programmes. Libraries are the appropriate agencies which provide suitable grounds for self education and librarians are the teachers in initiating the users to utilize the library facilities and the resources effectively.

There are two types of user education programmes taught by librarians:

1. Library Orientation Course:
   It lays emphasis on familiarizing the user community with a particular collection and inform them of the service available with the objective of promoting better use of the collection and the services of the library and the information centers.

2. User Education Courses:
   It involves bibliographic instruction with emphasis on the exposition of the nature and structure of the literature of a subject, the varieties of bibliographic tools and their characteristics with the objective of enhancing the ability of the users to assess their information needs and make best use of the information resources and services.

3.5.5. Role of Librarian in Society as Public Relation Officer:

   A library is a social institution and a librarian is an ambassador who acts as a public relation officer in providing the different kinds of services to the people and enabling them to get the information in the right time. Apart from the personal assistance to the users and other services within the library campus librarian providing off-campus library services like inter library loan, campus document delivery services, postal loan services etc.

   A library is an active medium of communication and the librarian is a communicator or a public with the following activities:

   1. Collecting the information materials appropriate for libraries and for the people or users.
   2. Preserving the materials for the future.
   3. Organizing the collection of materials in a systematic way for effective usage of the people.
   4. Disseminating the information through different kinds of services. A librarian is a mediator between the man and his graphic recored. Librarians do not only provide recreation but also information and inspiration required by the users of the library in perfecting their skills, promoting the vocation and establishing and enriching contacts with the people of other parts of the world.
3.5.6. Role of Librarian in Cultural Development:

The history of mankind is the history of man's cultural development through the ages. Culture is closely related to development through the ages. Culture is closely related to social life. It is passed from generation to generation either through personal contact or through recorded knowledge. In the Cultural Revolution, communication is indispensable. Libraries and the information centers are the most powerful means of communication and the librarians are the communicators between the books and men. The society as a whole or region of it are found embodied in the pages of the documents. These valuable cultural kits are transmitted from one generation to another through the information services rendered by the librarians. Progress in science and technology has considerable change and deterioration in the traditional cultural values. At this juncture librarians may help in creating consciousness and right thinking to adjust with the dynamics forces of progressive culture through the new technological information services. The success of libraries as cultural agencies depends upon the degree of enlightenment of the community, and the quality of resources and services offered by the librarians. Library and information centers are the cultural institutions. To benefit the society to educate the people and make them aware of their role in national reconstruction and its cultural heritage, establishment of a network throughout the country is essential.

3.5.7. Role of Librarians in Science and Technological Development:

During the present century, there has been an exponential increase in the volume of recorded knowledge, and a revolution in the control and transfer of information by means of modern electronic technologies like computers, telecommunications, etc. Nowadays, librarians have equipped themselves with the skills of handling the new technologies like the usage of computers for the storage and retrieval of information and the use of telecommunication networks like INFLIBNET, NICNET, ERNET, etc. which offer exciting possibilities to improve information services.

The computers and the telecommunications improved new means of communications and storages such as electronic mail (E-mail.), electronic journal, video-tex, teletex, facsimile service (FAX), etc and the mass storage mediums like CD-ROM, microfilm, micro card, microfiche etc.

3.5.8. Manpower Development and Human Relations Management in the Context of Librarianship:
The modern information technology has brought a revolution the various operations of library and information centers. Now the library and information centers are being acclimatized in computer environment for acquisition of documents, serials control, circulation control, indexing, abstracting, etc. so there is an urgent need for effective manpower development and a smooth human relationship between the personal to achieve the goals and objectives of a library and information centre. Among the three constituents of a library, namely books, reader and staff, it is the staff that occupies the basic position upon which the structure of the library stands and so it is very essential to develop the manpower of the library professionals to face the needs of the twenty-first century end users.

3.5.9. Human Relations to Librarianship:

Library staff holds a vital role in the matter of providing effective automated services to the users. No library can render desirable service without adequate and competent, qualified and skilled staff.

Human relations is the essence of productivity in librarianship. It forms the basis of interaction between the user and the staff, senior librarian and subordinates, and professionals and library systems. The senior librarians should develop the basics as smiling at people, calling them by their names, and listening to them patiently and attentively. They should append leisurely talking to the subordinates about their families, their background and their attitude to society to know their strength, weakness, success, failure etc.

Human relation development is a personality factor. A senior librarian should understand a subordinates individual potential and try to take the best out of him. He should come out to shoulder the blame of his subordinates and comfort them when theory admit their mistakes. He should train and promote the new generation and colleagues by providing adequate motivation training, opportunities for carrier progression commensurate with demonstrated merit and potential for advancement in organizational behavior.

3.5.10. Types of Library Staff and Workforce Management:

Basically there are two types of library staff (i) clerical or non-professional (II)technical or professional. It is the professional staff of the library who manage the service part. The profession requires specialized knowledge and skills to provide effective information service with modern technologies and machines. Among the technical staff, technical and computer specialist staff are needed to handle the computerized information services.
In librarianship workforce management is a concern of top level management. For managing the workforce towards the desired goal, the library managers should assume a positive role of influencing the attitudes and behaviors of junior librarians towards enhanced production. A healthy information climate should be created by library managers where every professional believes that his economic and social interest is safe and he is being best cared for by the management.

3.5.11. Manpower Development and Human Interface to Technology:

The efficiency and effectiveness of the library and information systems and services depend on the competence of the staff and their knowledge and skills to interact with the computers and other modern machines. Unless it is made clear to all staff affected by the new system, that the goal is better service or more assistance to them in their works, resistance is almost inevitable.

Manpower development can be done in two ways:
1. As a short term measure by training the existing personnel through continuing education programmes, summer/winter schools, refresher courses etc.
2. As a long-term measure by training the fresh students joining different library schools by reorienting their course curriculum.

Since library and information centre is a living social institution made by the people and for the service of people, acquiring the services of the personnel, developing their skills, motivating them for good performance and ensuring them to continue to maintain their commitment to the library are essential to achieve the goal of the library and information centers.

3.5.12. Need for Manpower Development:

Human beings are the most important component of the computer systems. For the success of computerized library and information system, knowledge, skills and attitudes of the existing library personnel are essential. The computers have pointed the way to an automated information society through local, regional, national and international communication networks. The modern storage Medias like CD-ROM, microfilms, micro-texts, optical laser discs, floppy discs, magnetic tapes and discs, etc., play in vital role in the ever-growing information world. Also nowadays our daily routines and functions of the library have been impacted and influenced very much by the modern communication medias like email, electronic journal, fax, telex,
So it is very essential to provide appropriate training to the library personnel and proper education to the fresh students to develop their manpower by which theory can provide better and relevant information service to the users in time. To handle and utilize the modern facilities, librarians must have the knowledge and skills about the technologies and communication channels and should provide proper training to the staff through the summer / winter schools, refresher courses, workshops, etc., conducted by the various institutions like CSIR, ISTE, INSDOC, DRTC, INFLIBNET, etc.

3.5.13. Communication factors in Manpower Development:

Communication system is an essentials factor of human power development. It is the process of coordination among the people of a library. For qualitative development of manpower, the senior librarian must involve and identify himself in the work process. Communication of ideas, sharing of knowledge and experience through the modern devices like telephone, fax, e-mail, telex, computer and satellite communication are very essential to achieve the high level of performance. The vital part of communication is credibility, sincerity of purpose and acceptance. Library management should create a common ground of consensus. They should realize that the purpose of effective communication is to produce a participative spirit through information dissemination. To sum up, librarianship is a noble profession and no one can deny the importance of library and information centers in the educational, cultural scientific and technological programme of the of country. The human power should be so competent and trained that theory can anticipate the day-to-day changes in the modern information technologies and respond to them to provide better information service to the expectations of the twenty-first century users. They must possess flexibility of attitude to attain the goal of the library and information centers.

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3.6. Types of Libraries:

A library consists of several books which are sources of knowledge and it also provides various services to its readers. It is useful for the public. It is run by educational institutions, public organizations as well as private. The system of Library in any country covers the different types of libraries that come into
existence in response of social needs. Modern libraries are organized and maintained for catering to the requirements of different communities the general public, academicians and students, research workers, businessmen, specialists and others. The major types of libraries that are normally found in a library system of a country can be enumerated as Public, Academic, Special and National libraries.

3.6.1- **National Libraries:**

The National library of a country is distinct from other types of libraries. It is financed and maintained out of government funds of a country and exists to serve the whole nation. The books in such libraries are meant for reference purpose only and are usually copyright libraries. The national library is normally very large one having millions of books and other materials. A national library is therefore the biggest and best power-house for generating knowledge for the nation. Its main function is to acquire and preserve everything concerning the country whether they are published or produced locally or abroad and also serves as a permanent depository for the countries outstanding and most complete collection of the national libraries, e.g. The British Library of United Kingdom, the National Library of India, and Kolkata etc.

3.6.2- **Public Libraries:**

Public library is a People’s University for those who laid stress on educative aspect; it is a common man’s cultural centre for those who had in mind its recreational role, for some it is a centre to provide authentic information for various aspects of life. Thus, a public library simply means ‘a library meant for public use’. It is lifelong learning institute. Public libraries cover all fields of knowledge which are meant for public use. It is a library for all irrespective of age, profession, race, sex, color or creed, nationality, language or social status. The main functions of a public library is to serve as a centre for information, self-education, cultural, local cultural materials, development of understanding democratic spirit and being an impartial services agency.

3.6.3- **Academic Libraries:**

Academic libraries are libraries of school, college and similar educational
institutions which are primarily intended for the dissemination of information and knowledge. The school libraries serve many ends that is enrichment of teaching by provision of illustrative background material suitable for classroom use and display, instruction and practice in the use of books and of a library, development of pupils personal interest’, creating of reading habits in the children etc. The college libraries are generally intended for the use of academic staffs and undergraduates. The primary function of the college library is to help the college in carrying out its programme. The university library forms the apex of academic libraries. A university is the highest institution for teaching and research and makes direct contribution to the advancement of knowledge. It is a scholastic library and good library is therefore a necessity.

3.6.4- Special Libraries:

Special libraries and information centers are a natural outcome of the need for information support to research and development, business and industry, expanded functions of governments and similar other organizations. Special libraries are primarily intended for limited clientele with special field of interest. The term special libraries denote specialist libraries. These Libraries are also restricted to specific professional or academic group of users whose information needs are defined by a particular subject or activity. Special libraries are formed in research and development establishments, government departments, directorates, industrial and business undertakings, learned societies and professional associations, trade and business associations, hospitals and health services, social and welfare organizations, museums, national gallery of arts etc.

L. M. Harrod in his “Librarian’s Glossary of Terms” defined that a “Special Library is a collection of books and other printed, graphic or recorded material dealing with a limited field of knowledge and provided by a learned society research organization, industrial or commercial undertaking, government department or even and educational institution. It may also be a special branch of a public library serving certain interests or occupational groups such as a technical library or a Special subject library, meeting the needs of all
enquiries on that given subject such as a music library”.

D.J. Foskett defines a special library as “one serving a group, having an extra-library, existence, whose members direct at least some of their activities towards a common purpose. This excludes academic libraries as their users pursue their individual ends and are in no sense united by a common purpose.”

Broadfield defines special library as a “library that is neither academic, commercial national or public but it intends to serve the needs of a portion of a community requiring detailed information on a limited subject field.” 9

3.7. College Library in Providing Various Library Services:

The college library education and library services are the two faces of the same coin. The library is the backbone of all the academic activities and it is the heart of the educational institution. As the dissemination of knowledge and information, library is the senquenoon of the entire gamut of the educational system. Its main objective is to help teaching and learning activities, research programmes. It is a reservoir of knowledge and information without which the academic world never flourishes. The library activities involve the collection, storage, retrieval and dissemination of information. Library helps the people to inform themselves, create their own path and establish their own understanding. In this way the library is a research-learning support entity in an academic environment. It is a very important aspect an academic teaching and learning process. There are various types of information services provided by library which help user get information on various subjects.

Library is not only a storehouse of books, periodicals and journals, but also a centre of useful information. Libraries help to enlighten the personality of an individual. Visit to a library helps the readers to think clearly, to be having fresher with new thoughts to be happy and joyful at the time of mental stock taking of what he has read. The classroom teaching and learning becomes complete only when they are supported by libraries.

3.7.1-Facilities in Academic Libraries (Types of Information Services):

01. Library Building:
The library has independent functional building designed for its efficient working. Spacious and well ventilated good furniture, pointing inside the buildings are provided. It provides adequate reading facilities to the students and staff.

02. Library Automation:
Most of the library activities and services have been computerized for easy access to information and for the efficient working of library. It helps the library staff and users, reduces mistakes, produce quality work, easy and accurate functioning of the library.

03. OPAC (Online Public Access Cataloging):
Computer search facility is provided at the entrance of the library. The search can be made on different parameters as per the needs of the learners. This will help in the maximum utilization of the sources of the library.

04. Current Awareness Services (CAS):
Current awareness services is a system for-
A) Reviewing publication immediately upon receipt.
B) Selecting the items of relevance the programmes of institution.
C) Notifying the item to the users to whom they are related.
We are providing following type of current awareness services.
a) List of current periodicals.
b) Title announcement services.
c) Forthcoming exams.
d) Newspaper clipping service: -
To create awareness among the readers about current happening in various fields new arrivals display to give publicity to new arrival of resources.

05. Lending Book Service:
It is an important and precious service provided by the circulation section. The Basic features of a computer based circulation system are changing, discharging, and overdue control reserves and associated file maintenances activities.

A) It provides information about the books to be circulated.
B) It gives identification of books to the reader.
C) It keeps records of books for the reader to reserve books for his personal use.
D) Printing recall notices for items in long term Trans.
E) Renewal of loans.
F) Provision for handling special categories of browser and special type of materials.

06. Reference Service:
The library also provides special services to the reader in order to have proper use of resources. The number of reference books in the library is unlimited and varied. All users are free to use the books from the reference section to satisfy their thirst and appetite of knowledge. All reference material such as books, Journals, magazines and previous years question papers are issued in reference counter on production of the Identity cards of the student.

All Newspapers, Periodicals and journals are kept in the library in order to have a quick glance at them.

07. Referral Service:
If we do not provide the user with the documents we refer them to the source from where they can get the data or documents. Usually we are guiding them to resources, institutes, libraries where that document is likely to be found. We are also maintaining the periodical lists of the following institutes.
1) Jayakar library, University of Pune.
2) Inter-University centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics.
3) National centre for cell science Pune.
4) North Maharashtra University Jalgaon.

08. Inter Library Loan/Resource Sharing:
Co-operation and Co-ordination have been established between the academic libraries of local and other institution to increase the use of library resources. However, rich a library can be, it is impossible to acquire and store all documents within its four walls. In order to satisfy the needs of its users; it may have to depend on other libraries. Secondly, of late there has been specialization in the collection of libraries. Once has to approach such special collections to meet the
special need to its users. Thirdly the library budgets are decreasing and carts of documents are increasing with the result the number of documents being added to the libraries is decreasing. Fourthly some of the tools like union categories, location lists including databases made it easy to resort to resource sharing. Areas of resource sharing- A) Expertise and experience of library. B) Material- Books, Periodicals, Computer, Floppies, Audio Cassettes, CD’s etc.

09. Book Bank Scheme:

Under this scheme we are providing books to the poor students at the minimum charge. Books are issued for a period of academic year.

10. Electronic Collection and Audio-Video:

The Academic libraries started procuring electronic collection, CD ROMs on Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, Geographical Sources, Bibliographies, Year Books, Directories, Hand Books etc. and Audio-videos to help the users of the library.

11. Internet:

Owing to the growth of Information Communication Technology the academic libraries provide internet facilities to their stakeholders. With the help of University Grants Commission and College Management these amenities are available in majority of academic libraries.

12. Suggestion/Complaint Box:

Suggestion and complaint box is kept in the library with a view of seeking the suggestions of the students for further improvement of the library system. Feed back and suggestion received from the students are taken into consideration for improvement of facilities and services of the library.

13. Library Committee:

The academic libraries have an advisory committee consisting of the Principal as its President and a senior person from the teaching faculty as its Chairman and a few selected members of teaching as its members with Students’ representatives. The prime purpose of the library committee is to guide and help in smooth functioning of the library. The committee supports for improving its services and facilities. The Librarian is a member secretary of the
committee.

14. Career Guidance and Placement Information:

The stakeholders are given information on career guidance and placement opportunities with a view to enable the students for competitive examinations. And Personality development a separate section with relevant books, journals periodicals is established in the library. These facilities should be an integral part of every library.

15. Rare Books:

In this section, rare books and valuable reading materials of the library are preserved and will be issued to the needy.

16. Library Rules and Regulations:

The rules, regulations and facilities are notified on the notice board to the users of the library.

17. Read Book And Get a Pen:

Read book and get a pen scheme has been introduced to motivate the students for general reading. As per scheme, a student gets an opportunity to read a book of his or her choice apart from the text or reference books, so as to get valuable information and fulfill his/her thirst for knowledge.

The students of the day have to read the books other than their textbooks to develop their all-round personality. Through reading, they can understand their surroundings in a better way and prove themselves better citizens. This can be achieved only by developing the reading habit in various ways.

3.8. College Library in Academic Research:

“A library attached or associated with a college and used by teachers, students and staff of the college is known as college library”.11

Research is one of the most important objectives of universities and the libraries are the tools of research. There is a close interrelationship between the research and the library. Its main function is to collect, process, and store, evaluate and disseminate / communicate the world’s recorded knowledge.

Every research needs to depend on the past knowledge, which is available from the libraries in various forms of documents. The need for the
library is felt most in the present century, because of the ever increasing tide of information / knowledge explosion in various forms, languages and also from various parts of the world. Further, there is a continuous growth in the number of universities and the research activities in the universities in various disciplines like Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities. More particularly because of multidisciplinary researches and ‘seepage’ of literature into various other subject publications there is an increasing demand on the libraries to support and encourage research. It has been well recognized that no research can be carried out without information. It is also a well known fact that information is available in the libraries.

No research activity begins without the help of subject bibliographies. In fact, it has become essential to study the literature of the subject through subject bibliographies. It has been aptly quoted by George Sartor that ‘Every investigation must begin with a bibliography and end with a better bibliography’.

Therefore, the compilation and provision of subject bibliographies, required by the researchers, is one of the essential academic library services in initiating the research. Besides bibliographies, the review articles and the abstracting and indexing journals indicate the earlier accomplishments and also the future direction of the research in various subjects.

The researcher can depend on the library in avoiding the duplication of research. The library can save the researcher from the problem by verifying certain bibliographical tools like ‘Dissertation Abstract international,’ Bibliography of Dissertations accepted by Indianuniversities and also certain national and international abstracting and indexing journals of the subjects concerned.

Every research culminates in a research report. The research report or thesis is useful in communicating the research findings and solutions to the problems investigated by the researcher. This document needs to be written in a suitable manner. Library help the researcher at this stage by providing advice on standard methods of report writing, citation, footnotes, references, etc.

The university library offers various services required by its researcher
right from conception and analysis of the topic stage of research to the report writing stage.

3.9. Role of College Library in User Education:

There is always a need for user education in every library, because libraries follow their own conventions for organizing the collection. There will also be variations with regard to the organization functions, practices and services from library to library. And the sources of information also might differ from library to library and some of the sources will have their own peculiarities with regard to the organization of their contents. Unless and until one is well versed with all these intricacies he / she will not be in a position to make better use of the library collection and services. User education proves to be indispensable in this regard.

The old Chinese proverb is “if you give a man a fish he will have a single meal. If you teach him how to fishing he will eat his life”. Fjallbrant and Malley highlighted the need for user education.14

Well planned and thought out user education programmes are very much essential in Indian university libraries. Because of lack of effective user education programmes, there is high rate of non use and misuse of university libraries. Further, the inadequate or absence of library exposure to the students at the schooling and under-graduate levels is the cause for the aggravation of the situation. This forms itself one of the reasons for the lack of skills on the part of the university library users for effective use of the libraries. The problem is not merely ineffective use of the university libraries, in certain cases there is no rationale on the part of some of the users who go to the extent of indiscriminately causing considerable damage to the books by mutilating them. A study of collection maintenance revealed fairly high rate of mutilation of documents in university libraries. It reveals that there is no awareness on the part of such users that a “good book is the precious life-blood of a Master spirit …” (Milton). And that they are mutilating the spirit of the master.15

Books are the living spirits of the author through which the author
communicates his ideas to his readers. In fact, in the libraries the authors will be waiting to meet and converse with their readers, on the shelves in the form of books. Further, unalike a personal book a library book is a social worker intended to serve many by enlightening, inspiring and recreating. Therefore, the security of a library book must be the primary responsibility of all the connected. Unmindful of all these, a section of readers commit inexcusable time of theft and mutilation of books in the libraries. The prevalence of high rate of such damage to the university library collections is a matter of real concern. Therefore, user education in Indian university libraries is quite essential for the promotion of optimum, effective and proper use of the collections. 

3.10. Role of College Library in Distance Education:

Education at your doorstep is the prime motto of the distance teaching institutions. Reacting the learners the institutions use various methods of teaching—print, audio-visual and occasional face-to-face contact. When print-mode occupies major portion, the other modes either supplement or integrate with it. Teaching content of the courses is crystallized and packed as a capsule in each of these teaching modes and offered to the learners at each level of the programme. It is presumed that it will be more convenient and works according to the learners pace and time. Hence, the libraries located at the places of face-to-face contact (i.e. Study centers) occupy less importance.

Basically, distance teaching institution establishes a central library at the head-quarters of the institution mainly for the faculty members and setup a small library at each of the study centre’s for students. In some countries, instead of establishing study centre libraries, the institutions depend either on the public libraries or on the school libraries. A small core collection of books and non-book material maintained at these libraries is aimed to support the learners.

A study centre is managed by a co-coordinator and one or two clerical and ministerial staff. Most of the students attached to the centre visit the place only on the day of contact sessions. When the staff is busy with organizing the
sessions and hardly anytime is left to look after the library. Besides, no lending service, space is yet another constraint for reading room facility. Hence, students need not find any excuse for themselves for not using the library facility. The situation leads to library resources being unexposed for much of the time. This does not mean that students are not interested in libraries to support their learning pursuits. If the library has to justify its existence, it has to study user needs and satisfy their needs for information.

As a first step the libraries need a professionally qualified person to organize the library and its services. Further the library need to be developed as multimedia centre with effective collection and adequate space. User education programmes are very much essential besides improving the library facilities and information services in these centers. It helps learners to realize the value of information and motivate them to make the best use of the libraries.

Bibliographic instructions can be imparted sometime after the admission and library orientation. This will help learners to make use of the information available in the library or outside the library on specific discipline. Hence, orientation and bibliographic instructions are necessary for distance learners according to a phased programme for the effective utilization of the library resources.17

3.11. Role of College Library in Quality Improvement of Teacher:

As we know educative gives knowledge to an individual for his personal development. Library plays a significant role in giving knowledge to him. The role of a librarian is to provide all necessary things as per his demand. Without librarians informal learning shall not be possible for masses, and formal learning would not be effective.

A growing or successful teacher must need help of librarians, with mixed feelings, sometimes happily and at times perhaps unhappily. Usually nobody can justify becoming and succeed as a faculty, member without associating with librarian (S). Invariably, all good books published and most of the ‘thesis written must contain acknowledgement and thanks to library and
librarian. Librarians help and guide the teachers in their scholarly pursuits both qualitatively and quantitatively. Through various surveys and studies it should be accepted that teachers require librarian’s help in their own academic growth in one way or another. For providing current awareness service, the librarian keeps the exact academic interest profile of each individual or scholar and scans various micro-documents to match new articles and papers and finally inform the users concerned about the details. This service merely saves the time of the users and does in all way higher that the academic personality of the teacher as it is just a routine service of the librarian.

In modern era without the services of library and information, the research and learning cannot survive in the whole world. The global education is totally dependent on the shoulders of librarians and information managers, who periodically compile the abstracts of new knowledge in various subjects and disseminate them to the users. But, for the librarians, work of the current contents and global learning shall get paralyzed. It is true that the teaching community is in its n generation and the library and information are a brand new profession. But in the present stage, the librarian and information people play a vital role by exploring the world of learning through networks of various types with the help of modern technology. Now, modern learning, scholarship, research etc, has to stand on the shoulders of “librarian and information managers” and teaching has converted into resource based learning, supported by libraries and librarians.

3.12. Role of College Library in Self Education:

The stock of knowledge has to be continuously increasing through research and dissemination through education. Libraries are basic to both education and research. Education is not just formal education in schools, and universities, it also includes self education and self education is a continuous life-long process. Libraries are places for self education. A person can educate himself by studying in a library or he can use the library as a supplement to education in the classroom. Class instructions can never be
adequate and have to be supplemented by library reading. However, the students often don’t realize it. The process of education never ends. It continues after formal education. It is mark of educated person to own his own library in his house. If that is not possible he should be a member of a library in his neighborhood or of bigger libraries available to him.  

3.13. Role of College Library in New Age:

The new information revolution has doubtless created a new concept of library and the time has come for the librarian to redefine the concept and the role of the library and librarians. For example, today information can be stored in compact disc which has made it unnecessary for the libraries to acquire all books and journals and provide space for their storage. A small single compact disc can contain lakhs of items of printed material. It can also dispense with the need for every library to subscribe to all the journals since in journals relevant material could be obtained from the network. When libraries are facing the financial crunch, this access can be a great source of saving. Rather than spending five lakhs on “chemicals abstract”, information could be had through the communication network.

The library has, therefore, to develop his library as a centre for information rather than a mere collection of books. This can be done by introducing rapid computerization of libraries. The task is so urgent that it cannot be delayed at all. Networking has to be established amongst libraries, research libraries, public libraries and private libraries.

Two things are considered essential for the development of computerization of the library viz hardware and software. But, there is a third one namely, or ware. It has been pointed out that what is holding up the advent of information age in the country is not the absence of hardware and software as the absence of or ware. The organization and persons working therein have to be geared to the techniques which are needed in the information age. The people who work in it tend to be obsolete. They are reluctant and unwilling to change their methods of working. This can be disastrous and leave the country far behind. Everyone working in the library has to be retrained for working in the
library suited to the information age.

It is this task to which the conference has to address itself. Today we have no choice, but to join the information revolution.

The librarians have to rapidly prepare themselves to be the librarians of the 21st century.

3.14. Library Administration Functions and Principles:

The first function of an administrator is to plan and forecast i.e. determining the goals and ideals and ideals of an institution. The ways and means to achieve these objectives are thought out on a plenary basis. These outlines are given concrete shape and a regular framework of authority is established in such a manner that maximum work of best quality is ensured at a minimum cost with minimum efforts. Planning presupposes the stock-taking of the existing condition and the relevant causes. The solutions are suggested for removing the defects by a phased systematic programming. The economic planning is concerned with the production of maximum output with minimum input. In planning, entire wastage is avoided and every constituent factor is made to contribute its own share. The efforts are made to remove the basic defects and their future implications are taken care of. In library planning, the locality, its make-up as regards its physical features, is linguistic division, its cultural diversities and educational needs etc. are taken into account before providing a service. The pros and cons are properly studied so that the service is effective and long enduring.

2. Organizing:

Planning to be fruitful needs a sound organization which means that such a structure of authority is established which is capable of achieving the set goals. Through this structure, work subdivisions are arranged, defined and co-ordinate for the set goal. This structure is needed to bring together all the staff members in such a scientific way that the work is done most efficiently and smoothly. In library organization, the decision is taken as to what kind of authority is to be provided for an area of service. Should the authority be autonomous or part and parcel of the Local Government machinery? If it is to be autonomous of the Local Authority, it is to be found out as to whether this autonomous body would be capable of raising and
collecting enough finances for running the library.

3. Staffing:

An Organization for its efficient working is totally dependents upon proper staffing and recruiting policies. The staff employed should have special aptitudes and capabilities for performing a particular kind of job. For example. The Chief Librarian of a public library should be sympathetic towards readers and should be capable of understanding the varied tastes of the public; besides advanced learning, he should be able to command respect by his qualities of leadership. He should be a competent person to serve as a Public Relation Officer. i.e. to serve as a liaison officer between the readers and the books. The common people consider him a guide and the librarian should come up to their expectations.

4. Directing:

The harmony and efficiency of the staff depends upon personal qualities of the chief Librarian. He should be capable performing his duties as a leader. It implies that besides possessing knowledge, he should be able to boost up their morale. He should words, he should not be frustrated with his job. Rather he should do his job with zeal. He should be ready to sacrifice his person comforts for the sake of library work and library staff. He should prove an ideal leader by dint of his hard work and sincerity for staff welfare. ' Directing ' includes continuous decision making and embodying them in general and specific orders and instructions.

5. Co-ordinating:

Leadership will be successful only if the leader can properly inter-relate various parts of an organization in a harmonious way. The co-ordination can be achieved if the head knows well all the feels practically no necessity to interfere. It depends upon the kind. He introduces Line type or Line and staff Type of structure or Functional type of organization. In other words, there should be delegation of powers but the staff members in whom the powers are should vested should also be made responsible for their jobs. They should be answerable to the chief. An automatic apparatus should be effected by means of introducing a practice of getting periodical report from the various section Heads. He should allow these Heads to se their initiative whenever there is some difficulty or misunderstanding the chief
should thrash out the problem in periodical staff meeting.

6. Reporting:

'Reporting' means keeping authorities, to whom the executive head of an organization is responsible, informed about the progress or regress of his work. To perform this duty efficiently, the executive head has to keep himself and his subordinates informed about their jobs and performances through research, records and inspection. It is a sound principle of organization that a periodical report is asked from a head of an enterprise. Such a report should be factual one based upon actual and faithful statistical data. The chief of a library has to submit an annual report to the executive authority concerned. This practice keeps the chief vigilant about his own activities since he knows that somebody else above him is keeping a watch upon him.

7. Budgeting:

'Budgeting' includes fiscal planning, accounting and control. No organization can function properly without adequate finances. But it is difficult to obtain enough funds for all kinds of organizations, especially libraries, which are dependent and sending bodies. Libraries do not earn any revenues in the physical sense. Their services, though essential for the well-being of the individual, the society and the government, are not considered apparently indispensable. Consequently, the legislators and bureaucrats alike reject the demands of libraries on one or the other pretext. The libraries have been given almost the lowest priority in matter of allocation of funds. So the librarian has to muster strength and acquire necessary skill and tact for securing adequate funds. He has to convince the authorities about the usefulness of the service rendered by libraries. This can be achieved only if he advances tangible and plausible reasons for each of his demands. The authorities can be convinced easily by statistical data. So the librarian should maintain proper statistics of income and expenditure of his library.

8. Control:

The Chief or the supervisor will have to be ever vigilant about the rate of progress of the work.

9. Motivation:
The Chief can achieve his aim of maximum production only if he instills enthusiasm and team-work amongst his workers. The workers must be motivated by providing congenial service condition and environments. They must be made to realize that if they work more, they will get rewards for the same.

3.15. College Librarian Stress:

Librarians are traditionally working as acquisition, cataloguing, bibliographies, Classification, adopted transaction systems, dissemination, storage of documents, bindings, daily facing staff management, theory have lack of organization support, economic problems, they follow better security systems, this huge work also completed by librarian and they have urge to adopt modern technology. Modern technological inventions impact on social changes, these day today social changes yielding huge information or documents. Therefore, librarians also must need to use. Modern technologies to save time retrieve information from huge storage. New era also requires providing modern services as internet service, browsing service, digital information, e-journals to the user, it is not possible without using computer or modern technologies. The modern librarians has a very important role to play in the process of communication of information in today's world by using modern technologies / computers and digital tools. The concept and role of librarian is changed to information manager. In this context the role of librarian of much suffer from already workload and managing all these works ? When should they go to trainings of new technologies / computer hardware and software ? Librarians not only facing new urge of technological changes and use of computers. Today's librarian are suffering from stress.

Today's librarian are suffering from stress. Currently the library services students, staff and research fellows with text and other modern resources. This condition has over-stretched the usage of the facilities and also poses high stress implications on the staff. This can be noticed from the library per day, the level of usage of the materials consulted and the number of slips for outside users counted per day.

Today's everyone has in burden or streeful life due to faster life style,
technological changes and use of computer also affected to each and every field. Employee has various problems to use these technologies. These problems are budget availability, trained staff members. Software's, technician, technological durability, illiteracy of technology. These all technological changes are increased stress and Burdon on librarians and other professionals at workplace.  

3.16. Ahmednagar District:

Talukas-14
Area- 17,034 sq.Km.
Population-  40,41 lakh (2001)

Map of Ahmednagar District

3.16.1.Historical Background of Ahmednagar District:-

This capital city of Nijamshahi established in 1418 by Malik Ahmed was further know after his name, ' Ahmednagar ' Since it is the main place of the district, the district was also given the same name.  

The fort of Ahmednagar surrounded by huge trenches on all the sides has historical importance. Leaders like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Malana Azad were kept under arrest by the British government in this fort
during freedom fight. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru wrote his famous book, 'Discovery of India' in the same fort, when he was under arrest.

The state of Maharashtra is leading Co-Operative movement and the district of Ahmednagar is leading co-operative movement in the state. The first sugar factory run on co-operative basis was founded with the efforts taken by Padmashri Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil in Pravara Nagagr (Loni). This sugar factory is known as 'Padmashri Vitthalrao Vikhe-Patil co-operative sugar factory'.

Considering the number of sugar factories in Kopargaon, it is regarded as 'Bhartachi Sakhapeth' (market yard of sugar in India).

Maximum co-operative sugar factories of the state are in the same district. 'Ahmednagar District Central co-operative Bank' is the largest co-operative Bank in Asia.

Location:

The district has got the location, which can be called as central part of the state. The districts of Nashik and Aurangabad are in the north, Beed district is in the east, Osmanabad district is in the east, rather in the South-east, Solapur district is in the south and slightly in the south-east of Ahmednagar district. Pune district is in the south, south-west and mostly in the west of this district. The district of Thane is spread in the west of the district.

This district occupies nearly 5.54% of the total geographical area of the state. As for area is concerned it stands first.

Talukas:

1) Ahmednagar 2) Rahuri 3) Shrirampur 4) Newasa 5) Shevgaon
6) Pathardi 7) Jamkhed 8) Karjat 9) Shrigonde 10) Parner
11) Akole 12) Sangamner 13) Kopargaon 14) Rahata

Out of above mentioned talukas Rahata has come into existence on 26th June 1999 under Re-organization of talukas.

'Chondi' in Jamkhed taluka is famous as a birth place of saintly woman Ahilyabai Holkar.

Geographical Features:

Hilly portion of Sahyadri range of many ranges and sub-range of Sahyadri mountain ranges are spread in the western part of the district, especially in Akole and Sangamner talukas.
The height of these ranges is comparatively more in Akole taluka. Some of the ranges of Sahyadri are spread in south-north direction, while others are in west-east direction in the district. The highest peak in the state, 'Kalsubai', is in the extremely northern ranges in Akole taluka (rather, it is on the border between the districts of Ahmednagar and Nashik). The height of this peak is approximately 1646 meters. The mountain ranges known as Adula, Baleshwar and Harichandragad are in the same area.

The central part of the district is plateau area and this area is called as 'Plateau of Balaghat'. Southern part of Sangamner, Parner and Ahmednagar taluka and northern parts of Shrigonde and Karjat lie in this area. The northern part of the district is drive area of Godavari, Pravara and and their tributaries. This plain region includes the talukas like Shrirampur, Kopargaon, Shevgaon and Nevase and some portion of pathardi and Rahuri talukas.

The southern part of Ahmednagar is known as the basins of Ghod, Bhima and Sina rivers. Most of the talukas like Shrigonde, Karjat and Jamkhed and Southern part of Parner are included in this area.

**Soil:**

This district of the Deccan Plateau is made up of Volcanic rocks. Black, red gravel like soil is found on the slopes of the hills of the district. The soil in the basins of Pravara river and in Sangamner taluka is deep, silt and fertile. Water holding capacity of this soil is more. The soil in the basins of Godavari river is made up of basalt and volcanic rocks and it is proved to useful for the crop of cotton. Muddy whitish soil is found on the banks of the rivers. Red soil is found in the hilly region of the district. Especially in the western part of Akole taluka.

**Climate:**

Since this district is quite far from the seashore, the climate of the district is hot and dry. Climate of the western hilly region is comparatively cold 'Bhandardara', a hill station in Akole is situated in the hilly area.

There is vast difference in daily and annual temperatures of this district. The highest temperature is recorded in the month of May, while the lowest one is recorded in the month of January. Generally temperature in the month of May reaches up to 40 Ansh C. whereas that it falls down to 12 ansh C in the month of January. Most of the areas in the east of Sahyadri ranges are included in rain – Shadow region. The district receives rains from June to September because of south-west monsoon. Annual rainfall in the district is 68 cm. the amount of rainfall decreases
from west to east. Akole taluka receives comparatively more rainfall.

As per Sukhatankar Committee report ten talukas of this district are included in drought prone talukas, these talukas are Ahmednagar, Akole Jamkhed, Parner , Pathardi, Sangamner, Shevgaon, Shrigonde, Newase and Karjat. Drought prone area development programmes are implemented in these talukas since 1974-75.

**Rivers:**

Godavari is the main river in the district. It flows from Nashik district and enters in Ahmednagar district via Kopargaon taluka. Her journey in the district is generally eastwards. Initially it flows in the central part of Kopargaon, and then it flows on the borders of Shrirampur, Newase and Shevgaon and becomes the boundary between Ahmednagar and Aurangabad districts. While flowing on the northern border of the district it sometimes enters in Aurangabad district and then it comes back to border area of Ahmednagar district.

The length of the flow of Godavari River in the district is 150 km. its tributaries, Pravara and Dhora also flow in the district. Pravara River originates in western hilly region of Akole taluka, its eastward journey in the district is via Akole, Sangamner, Shrirampur and Newasa talukas. It merges in Godavari with the northern border, north of Newasa taluka. This place is known as 'Pravarasangam'. Adula, Mahalungi and Mula rivers, which are tributaries of Pravara river also flow in the district. The journey of Pravara River in the district is 175 km. long. The important places like Akole and Newasa are situated on the bank of Pravara river. Mula river flows from Akole, Sangamner and Rahuri talukas and merges with Pravara river near Newase. Bhima river flows from north – west to south-east on the border of Shrigonde and Karjat talukas. It has served as a natural border between Ahmednagar and Pune districts for some time. Ghod river flows on the border of Parner and Shrigonde from north-west to south-east. Kukdi, a tributary of Ghod river flows in Parner taluka. Pot Holes of Kukdi river near Nighoj village in Parner taluka are worth seeing. Sina, a tributary of Bhima river originates in Ahmednagar taluka and flows from north-west to south-east and further enters in Solapur district. The journey of Sina river in the district is 100 km.

**Dams:**

A big dam has been built on Pravara river at Bhandardara in Akole taluka. The talukas like Shrirampur, Rahuri and Sangamner are benefited by this dam. Mula River at Bargao-Nandur is Rahuri taluka. The talukas like Rahuri, Newase and Shevgaon are benefited by this
project. Ahmednagar district is also benefited by Dimbhe dam at Ambegaon (Pune) under the kukdi project. Apart from these projects, there are dams on Adhala river in Deothans in Akole taluka, on sina river in Nimgaon in Karjat taluka, Raveri dam on Raveri river in Jamkhed taluka, Mandohol dam is Parner taluka and in Pargaon-Ghatshil in Pathardi taluka. There are many lakes in the district like, in Visapur, Bhatodi, Gunvadi and Musalvadi.

**Crops:**

Bajra, groundnut are the main kharif crops, while Kardai (a kind of oil see), wheat and gram are main rabi crops of the district. It is produced in both of the seasons.

The talukas like Sangamner, Pathardi, Parner and Shevgaon are important from bajra production point of view, while the talukas like Shrirampur, Kopargaon, Rahata, and Rahuri are important from the point of view of Kharif Jawar production and rabi jawar is produced mainly in Shrigonda, Parner, Karjat, and Ahmednagar.

As far as wheat production is concerned Ahmednagar district is important and wheat is produced on large scale in the talukas like Kopargaon, Rahuri, Shrirampur, Newase, Rahata, and Ahmednagar.

**Minerals:**

Major minerals are not found in the district. Minor minerals like stones, clay, and gravel are found on large scale in this district and these are used in construction works.

**Forests:**

The forests occupy 10% of the total land of the district. Considering the fact that forests should occupy 33% of the total land so as to maintain ecological balance, the land under forests in the districts is very less. The forests in the district are sparsely found and these are especially found in the hilly regions and in the valleys of the district. The trees like Teak wood, babhul, Dhavda, Haldu, Neem, Mango, Tamarind, Amla, and Jujube. The animals like Wolf, Rabbit, and deer as well as birds like peacock, Bulbul, and Khandya are found in these forests. Maldhok birds like are found Karjat, Newase, and Shrigonde talukas. A sanctuary in Rehekuri in Karjat taluka has been created for antelopes.

**Industries:**

The district can be described as, 'developing district'. As far as sugar production is concerned this district is very important and it stands first in the state.

**3.16.2. Important Places:**
Ahmednagar:

It is a district place and industrially developing city. The historical places of this city are a fort in the city and 'Chandbibi Place' near the city. A military cantonment is in Bhingar, which is nearby. A Military Transport Research and Development Division is in Ahmednagar. War tanks training centre is also in the city.

Akole:

It is taluka place located on the bank of Pravara river. Ashram of Agastirishi of here is famous.

Pravara Nagar:

It is a major centre of the states co-operative movement. The first co-operative sugar factory of India started here. Pravaranagar is developing as an educational centre also in the recent times.

Newase:

It is a taluka place, situated on the bank of Pravara river. It is the place, where Saint Dnyaneshwar narrated his Dnyaneshwari. The pillar of which he had taken support while narrating Dnyaneshwari is called as, 'Paise'. Saint Dnyaneshwar temple was built around the same pillar. Newase is also famous for an ancient temple of Mohiniraja.

Shani-Shingnapur:

This place is on Ahmednagar- Aurangabad highway, 50km. away from Ahmednagar in Newase taluka. Shani-temple of this place is famous. Self-existent idol of Lord Shani in the form of a stone is out of the temple. A big fair is organized here on every Shani-Amavasya (no moon day). The peculiarity of this village is that there are no doors and bolts in any of the houses.

Rahuri:

It is a place, located on the bank of Mula river. Rahuri Co-Operative Sugar factory is in Shrishvajinagar, which is nearby. Paper mill in Rahuri is famous. Rahuri is also known as Head Quarter of Mahatma Phule Agricultural University. Many breeds of crops invented by this university after carrying out research are famous in the state.

Ralegan-Siddhi:

This place was earlier known as, 'Ralegan-Shindi'. It is in Parner taluka. This absolutely undeveloped village was transformed into a totally new village by untiring efforts of Great Social Worker Anna Hazare. Believing that man is the centre point of village development, Anna
Hazare transformed this undeveloped village into an ideal village not only in India but also in Asia. This village is absolutely free from any addiction and it is leading in the fields like social Forestation, family welfare and education etc.

**Parner:**

It is taluka place and known for birth place of Senapati Bapat. A sugar factory run on co-operative basis is in nearby Devi-Bhyare.

**Puntambe:**

It is located on the bank of Godavari river in Kopargaon taluka. Samadhi of Changdeo is here.

**Shirdi:**

This place is in newly formed taluka, Rahata. It is the place which many followers of Saint Saibaba have faith and millions of people come to this place to have vision of Saint Saibaba.

**Sidhatek:**

This place is considered as one of the Ashtavinayakas, It is in Karjat taluka. Lord Ganesh fo this place is called as, ' Shrisiddhi-Vinayaka '.

**Bhandardara:**

It is in Akole taluka. ' Bhandardara Dam ' has been built on Pravara river in between Kalsubai and Balkeshwar hills. Earlier this dam was known as ' Wilson Dam ' and the reservoir was known as, ' Arthur Lake ' This dam is the highest dam in the district. Because of natural scenery, this hill station is attracting many tourists. ' Randha Fall ' which is formed because of water released from the dam, 9 km. east of Bhandardara is famous. Water of Pravara river fall 60 meters down in this fall.

**3.16.3. Transportation:**

Pune – Nashik, National Highway No.50 enters the district via Sangamner taluka. Ghargaon, Dolasne and Sangamne are important places on this highway. Pune – Aurangabad, a state highway passes through Parner, Ahmednagar and Newase talukas. One road beginning at Ahmednagar goes to Manmad via Rahuri, Kolhar, Babhaleshwar, Rahata, Shirdi and Kopargaon.

Ahmednagar-Paithan road goes to Paithan via Tisgaon and Shevgaon. One more road starting from Ahmednagar goes via Mirajgaon to Karmala in Solapur district and further to Solapur.
Daund-Manmad is an important railway line passing through the district. The major railway stations on this line are Shriogonde, Visapur, Ahmednagar, Shrirampur and Puntambe

References:


09. ibid (2) p. 02-04.

11. ibid (8)


15. Ibid (12) p 1-4.


