CHAPTER VI

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FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

6.1. INTRODUCTION

The legal profession is known in this country for its glorious past. Starting from the Vedic period down up to the present, India has contributed in a distinct manner to the development of law and justice system. Personalities such as Yudhishtira of Mahabharata and Rama of Ramayana, two great epics, stand as personification of the concept of justice in the process administration of justice even up to the present times. Religious manifestations of law and justice in Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism and Veerashaivism point to the contribution this country has made to the global jurisprudence. Manu, Yajnavalkya and many other Smritikaras have made substantial contribution to the development of law and legal system in India. Vijnaneshwara’s Mitakshara written in the 11th century A.D. is not only referred by the Privy Council in its judgments before independence of India but also by the Supreme Court in post-independence era, highlighting the relevance and importance of this magnum opus even in modern times. Contribution of Chanakya to the administration of justice is noteworthy.

Education generally is receiving generous financial support from governments today and the private sector will not be lacking behind as everyone now realizes the importance of good education to sustain growth in a knowledge economy. The idea of public-private partnership is nowhere more relevant than in the field of higher education.
6.2 SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS

The major findings of the study are:

- Highest numbers of law colleges have been established during 2001-2013 i.e. 26 amounting to 31.32% of total colleges.
- 05 (06.02%) law colleges were run by university/ Government, 02 (02.42%) colleges are aided and the remaining 76 (91.56%) colleges are unaided private self-financing law colleges.
- 06 (07.22%) respondents are ‘Chief Librarians’, followed by 59 (71.08%) ‘Librarians’ and 18 (21.68%) ‘Assistant Librarians’. Most of the law libraries are maintained and headed by the single Librarian only.
- Out of 83 Library Professionals, 64 (77.10%) are ‘male’ and the remaining 19 (22.89%) are ‘female’.
- The majority of 31 (37.34%) of respondents have educational qualification of M.L.I.Sc. and the majority of 29 (34.93%) respondents have “06-10 years” of professional experience.
- 55 (66.26%) law college libraries are kept open for 8-10 hours during week days for their users, followed by 25 (30.12%) colleges libraries being kept open for 11-14 hours in day for the benefits of the users community. The remaining 03 (03.62%) college libraries are kept open for 24 hours.
- 60 (72.28%) law college libraries are kept open for 5-8 hours in a day during holidays, followed by 22 (26.50%) college libraries are functioning 9-12 hours in holidays. The remaining 01 (01.22%) college library is kept open for 24 hours.
- It about 10 (12.04%) college libraries an average of “1-50” users visit the library per day, followed by 25 (30.12%) colleges here the average number of
users visiting the library is “51-100”. In 41 (49.39%) law libraries the average of “101-150” users visit the library per day, In 05 (06.02%) colleges an average of “151-200” users visit library per day and only 02 (02.43%) law libraries have an average number of “Above 200” users visiting library per day.

- The majority of 50 (43.37%) law colleges are having their own buildings and 05 colleges (09.63%) are having libraries in a rented building. It is interesting to note that 16 of them (13.26%) have independent buildings and the remaining 12 (33.74%) are part of main building.

- 25 (30.12%) law libraries have one reading room for the library users, followed by 39 (45.98%) law libraries having two reading halls, 17 (20.48%) libraries having three reading halls and only 02 (02.40%) libraries having two reading halls.

- 23 (27.71%) law colleges under the study have made networking provision in the library building as a future plan in library networking for the resource sharing and the remaining 60 (72.29%) colleges are not yet planned and no provision has been made in the library building towards networking.

- 50 (60.24%) law college libraries are having library committee for smooth running of their libraries. Whereas the remaining 33 (39.76%) law college libraries did not have library committee.

- In majority of 55 (66.27%) law colleges the librarians are working as member secretary in the committee, whereas in 28 (33.73%) law college libraries they are working as convener of the committee.

- 11 (13.25%) law libraries have Book Selection Committee and 72 (86.74%) libraries have not constituted the Book Selection Committee.
• Out of 83 law colleges, 25 law college libraries (30.12%) are acquiring books upto 500 only by direct purchase method and another 33 (39.77%) are acquiring books upto 1000. Whereas the remaining 15 law college libraries (18.07%) are purchasing books 10000 and 10 law college libraries (12.04%) are Purchasing books 20000.

• 39 law college libraries (46.98%) have got donation and exchange upto 500 Books only and 19 (22.89%) will get exchange of books and donations up to 1000. Whereas the remaining 22 (26.52%) law college libraries are getting exchange and donation of books between 10000 and 03 (03.61%) and 20000 books per year and lastly some of colleges libraries are not getting books from donations and exchange.

• 31 (37.34%) law colleges received grants from “”Management” followed by 23 (27.71%) institution libraries received grants from the ‘State Government’, 14 (16.86%) receive grants from “University Grant Commission”, 09 (10.84%) law colleges receive grants in the form of Donations/ Endowments and 06 (07.22%) institution libraries receive grants from all the above mentioned financial sources.

• All the 83 law college libraries (100.00%) are subscribing to the periodicals in there libraries.

• About 64 (77.10%) law college libraries are subscribing Indian periodicals only, followed by 09 (10.84%) foreign periodicals and 10 (12.04%) of law libraries subscribing both Indian and foreign periodicals and all the 83 (100.00%) law college libraries place the Journal purchase order directly to the publishers.
20 (24.09%) law colleges are having periodical collection of upto 100 bound periodicals, followed by 32 (38.55%) libraries having “100-1000” bound periodicals in there libraries, 19 (22.89%) libraries having bound periodicals in between “1000-5000” and 12 (14.45%) law libraries are having “5000-10000” bound periodicals.

25 (30.12%) law college libraries are acquiring non-book materials annually and 58 (69.87%) are not acquiring non-book materials annually. Among the libraries acquiring non-book materials, 19 (76.00%) libraries acquire non-book materials up to 20 and remaining 06 (24.00%) of libraries acquire 20-50 non-book materials.


35 (42.16%) law libraries are having less than 1-500 back volumes followed by 10 (12.04%) libraries having 501-1000 back volumes, 05 (06.02%) libraries are having 1001-1500 back volumes, 25 (30.12%) libraries having 1501-2000 back volumes, 05 (06.02%) libraries having 2001-2500 back volumes and there were more than 2500 back volumes in 03 (03.62%) college libraries under the study.

In case of reports, 10 (12.04%) law college libraries are having less than 500 reports, followed by 05 (06.02%) law college libraries having 501-1000, 01 (01.22%) law college library having 1001-1500 reports, 42 (50.60%) law
college libraries having 1501-2000 reports, 25 (30.12%) law college libraries having 2001-2500 reports respectively. Whereas on the other hand 10 (12.04%) law college libraries under the study having less than 500 standards, followed by 38 (45.79%) law colleges are having 501-1000 standards, and 05 (06.02%) law colleges having 1001-1500 and 1501-2000 standards, 25 (30.12%) law colleges having 2001-2500 standards in these libraries.

- 03 (03.62%) law college libraries are procuring and accessing less than 50 electronic resources, followed by 05 (06.02%) law colleges procure and access 51-100 e-resources, 15 (18.09%) law colleges access 101-150 e-resources, 12 (14.45%) law colleges access 151-200 e-resources, 20 (24.09%) law colleges procure and access 201-250 e-resources, 25 (30.12%) law colleges procure and access 251-300 and 03 (03.62%) law colleges procure and access above 300.

- Among the majority of law college libraries 80 (96.38%) are subscribing e-books, whereas 03 (03.62%) law college libraries are not subscribing e-books.

- 75 (90.37%) of law college libraries are subscribing e-journals, whereas 08 (09.63%) law college libraries are not subscribing e-journals.

- Out of 83 law colleges 53(63.85%) law colleges are receiving grants from management, followed by 20 (24.09%) law colleges receiving grants from state government and 10 law colleges under the study receiving grants from the central government.

- 20 (24.09%) law college libraries were made budgetary provision of less than 2 lakhs, followed by 2-4 lakhs in 25 (30.12%) law college libraries, 5-6 lakhs in 15 (18.07%) law college libraries, 7-8 lakhs in 10 (12.04%) law college
libraries, 9-10 and Above 10 lakhs in 5 (6.02%) law colleges the budgetary provision is more than 10 lakhs of rupees. 03 (03.61%) law college libraries did not provide any information as far as budget is concerned.

- 82 (98.79%) law college libraries have classified their documents, and the remaining 01 (01.20%) law college library has are not classified the documents.
- 40 (48.78%) law college libraries are following DDC classification scheme, followed by 41 (50.00%) law college libraries following Colon Classification scheme to classify their documents and 01 (01.21%) library uses its own classification scheme for organization of library resources.
- 80 (96.38%) law college libraries are prepared catalogue cards in their libraries. The remaining 03 (03.62%) law colleges are yet to prepare catalogues.
- 70 (84.34%) law colleges are adopted AACR-II for preparing catalogue cards.
- 72 (86.74%) law college libraries are having separate circulation sections, whereas on 11 (13.26%) law college libraries do not have separate circulation section.
- 40 (48.19%) law college libraries the circulation section is managed by professionals, followed by semi-professionals in 30 (36.15%) law colleges and non-professionals maintaining in 10 (12.04%) law colleges. Information is not furnished in 03 (03.62%) law colleges.
- 50 (60.24%) of law college libraries, books are issued to users through borrowers card/tickets. In 25 (30.12%) law college libraries they are lent out through ledger system. Barcode method is used in 05 (06.02%) law colleges;
other system is followed in 03 law college libraries (other system is not specified by the respondents).

- 37 (44.57%) law college libraries the teachers and students are using the library catalogue /OPAC, followed by 18 (21.08%) teachers and students are consulting cibrarian / library staff for locating and accessing resources, 15 (18.09%) of teachers and students are consulting current awareness bulletins of library, in about 10 (12.04%) law colleges the teachers and students are consulting their colleagues and follow professionals to locate their needed resources and the remaining 03 (03.62%) law college authorities have not furnished any information in this regard.

- Reference service is provided in all the law college libraries. About 80 libraries are providing CD ROM Bibliographic data base search service, About 50 libraries are providing internet service to the teachers, representing 40.00% and 62.22% respectively. 81 (97.59%) libraries are providing inter-library loan facility. Current awareness service and SDI service are not provided in a large number of libraries and they represent 39 (46.98%) and 35(42.16%) respectively. 23 (27.71%) libraries are providing reprographic services and 40 (48.19%) libraries are providing newspaper-clipping service to the teachers.

- Only 21 (25.34%) law college libraries compile bibliography of document whereas the remaining 62 law college libraries are not compiling bibliography of documents.

- 41(49.40%) law college libraries were arranging exhibitions of books and other reading materials on special occasion.
All the 83 law college libraries (100%) are satisfied with the existing services. 42 of law college library (50.60%) users are fully satisfied. The remaining 41 law college library users were satisfied with the existing library services.

66 (79.51%) law college’s libraries having reference section in their libraries, constituent college and the remaining 17 (20.49%) libraries are not having reference section in their libraries.

64 (77.11%) law college libraries are issuing reference books for home reading and the remaining 19 (22.89%) law college libraries are not issuing reference books for home reading.

Most of the 31 (48.43%) of libraries issue reference books for ‘Two Days’.

All the 83 law college libraries (100%) are having legal dictionaries and legal encyclopedias in their reference section, 69 (83.14%) law college libraries are having legal digests and only 14 (16.86%) libraries are not having any legal digests in their reference collection.

71 (85.54%) law college libraries are having legal directories and the remaining only 12 (14.46%) libraries are not having legal directories in their reference collection.

18 (21.68%) are having Bibliographical sources in their reference section. Whereas the remaining 63 libraries (75.90%) are not having any Biographical Sources in their library. 42 law college libraries (50.61%) are having in their reference collection and the remaining 41 (49.39%) libraries are not having “Atlases and Maps” in their reference collection.

19 (22.90%) law college libraries are having statistical sources in their reference collection. Whereas remaining 64 (77.10%) law college libraries are not having any statistical sources in their reference collection.
- About 30 law college libraries (36.14%) are subscription online legal database. Whereas the remaining 53 (63.87%) of the law colleges libraries not subscribing online legal database.

- The Manupatra for online legal database is subscribed by 32 (38.55%) law college libraries. The remaining 51 (61.44%) of the libraries not subscribed online legal database.

- 28 (33.73%) law college libraries have subscription for lexis online legal database. The remaining 55 (66.26%) of the libraries have not subscription of online legal database. All 83 law college libraries (100.00%) are not having any subscription for west online legal database.

- 80 (96.38%) law college libraries are having subscription of offline legal database. The remaining 03 (03.62%) of libraries are not having any subscription of offline legal database.

- 39 (46.98%) law college libraries have subscription periodicity of updating of legal database. The remaining 44 (53.01%) of the libraries do not have subscription periodicity of updating of legal database.

- 15 (38.46%) of libraries subscribe updated online legal database ‘Monthly’, followed by 11 (12.82%) subscribing ‘Quarterly’, 06 (15.38%) subscribing ‘Bi-Monthly’, 05 (12.82%) subscribing ‘Half Yearly’ and 02 (05.12%) of libraries subscribing ‘Yearly’.

- 41 (49.40%) law college libraries are having Non Book Materials in library collection and the remaining 42 (50.60%) are not having library collection. Among them all the 41 (100.00%) of law college libraries are having CD-ROMs /DVD of non-book materials their library collection, followed by 28 (68.29%) of the libraries are having audio-visual tapes in there library
collection and only 02 (04.87%) of law libraries are having microfiches in their libraries.

- 41 (49.40%) law college libraries are automated, whereas the remaining 42 (50.60%) law college libraries are not automated.

- 42 (50.60%) law college libraries have automated their acquisition section related module, followed by 39 (46.98%) have automated cataloging section related modules and 09 (10.84%) libraries have activated the OPAC module and no law libraries has automated their serial control activities/modules.

- 30 (36.14%) law college libraries have adopted UNESCO based freely circulated CDS/ISIS, WINISIS Software, followed by UGC INFLIBNET circulated software for law libraries SOUL is being used in 35 (42.17%) and 18 (21.69%) of law libraries are using commercial automation software LibSys.

- Among 83 law college Libraries surveyed, all the 83 libraries (100%) have the personnel computer, followed by 01 (01.20%) has server in the library, 03 (03.61%) of libraries have laptops, 31 (37.34%) of libraries have printers, 16 (19.27%) scanners, 29 (34.93%) and photocopier, 02 (02.40%) LCD projectors, 08 (09.63%) UPS, 11 (13.25%) VCD Player, 04 (04.81%) OHP, 12 (14.45%) Web Cameras, 03 (03.61%) Telephone and 04(04.81%) libraries have Television.

- 35 (38.55%) of libraries have “01-02”systems in the library, followed by 24 (28.91) of libraries with “03-04”systems, 19 (22.89%) of libraries have “05-06”systems, 07 (08.43%) of libraries have 7-08”systems and 01 (01.04%) of library has Above 09 systems.
39 (45.98%) of libraries have internet connection and 44 (53.01%) of libraries do not have it.

03 (07.69%) institutions have bandwidth of ‘0-2 Mbps’, followed by 05 (12.82%) colleges with bandwidth of ‘3-5 Mbps’, 12 (30.76%) colleges have ‘06-10 Mbps’ of bandwidth, 08 (20.51%) institutions have ‘11-15 Mbps’ of bandwidth and 11 (28.20%) institutions has bandwidth of ‘Above 16 Mbps’.

The most preferred transmission medium is UTF which amounts to 29 (74.35%), followed by Optical Fibre Cable used by 03 (07.69%) and Wireless Medium which amounts to 07 (17.94%).

Most of the Law colleges under the study prefer ‘BSNL’ which amounts 17 (43.58%), followed by 08 (20.51%) Airtel, 05 (12.82%) Yashtel. 07 (17.94%) TATA Docomo and 02 (05.12%) Idea.

34 (40.96%) libraries have browsing centers in the library and 49 (59.03%) of libraries do not have it. The “1-10” users use the browsing center in 08 (23.52%) law libraries per day, followed by “11-20” users using the library 14 (41.17%), “21-30” users use the library are 10 (29.41%) and “Above 31” users use the library are 02 (05.88%).

All the law college libraries are using MS-Windows. Another most popular operating system is Disk Operating System (DOS) which is being used in majority of 61 (73.49%) libraries. 53 (63.85%) libraries using Linux, 19 (22.89%) libraries use WINNT and Use of the Multi user UNIX operating system is only 10 (12.04%) law college libraries are using operating system.

56 (67.46%) institutions library staff attend orientation and training programme for providing various library services and for doing development in the library and 27 (32.53%) of libraries staff do not.
• 61 (73.49%) libraries opine that they organise orientation and training programme for better utilisation of information resources and services and 22 (26.50%) of libraries do not.

• 26 (42.62%) of libraries organise user-orientation and training program ‘Once in a year’, followed by 17 (27.86%) ‘Whenever Required, 13 (21.31%) ‘Half Yearly’ and 05 (08.19%) ‘Quarterly’.

• 51 (91.10%) of libraries provide user education by personnel communication with the users, followed by 37 (66.07%) libraries providing user education by demonstrations/ site visits, 22 (39.28%) libraries organizing special lectures, 09 (16.07%) libraries organizing workshop and training programs and 06 (10.71%) libraries providing user education by circulating library handbooks, user manuals, brochures, tutorials etc in print format.

6.3. SUGGESTIONS

The present study has initiated to suggest some of the important suggestions for the purpose of implementation at the earliest possible. So that the libraries can develop and serve the cause of legal profession. The following are the few suggestions:

1. All the law college libraries should have independent library building;

2. Full-fledged library staff, according to the existing standards be appointed;

3. Initiation to a fresh student who enters to the portals of the college is a must to make him know all about the college library, hence effective orientation programmes for beginners should be conducted regularly;

4. Instruction book or library guide should be brought out from time to time;
5. Every law library must have the library committees. Because committees are constituted to improve procedures, make it more democratic and give an opportunity to each and every one in the decision making process;

6. To create attractive and peaceful atmosphere, library interior should be pleasing and inviting comfortable sitting arrangements should be made available;

7. Librarian and his staff should make it a point to suggest useful books and journals to promote the legal professionals;

8. Facilities for reprography service should be provided at a top priority;

9. Library staff should be deputed to participate in seminars and conferences held elsewhere in the country, on library and Information Science, so that the latest developments on the subject would be known to help them to serve the community.

10. The students must be made aware about various reference services provided by the library in order to increase the utility of library. The authority can also appoint the fresh library science graduates as trainees in order to support the library staff and also to provide better services to the users.

11. A display rack must be maintained for the ‘new arrivals’ of documents to the library, in order to attract the student’s attention.

12. User orientation programs must be organized for proper utilization of the library resources.

13. The information technology related infrastructure should be improved.

14. The speed of internet access should be increased. Each library should have a browsing center in the library.

15. The college libraries should procure electronic resources and databases for providing updated information to the legal professionals.
6.4. FUTURE PLAN OF LAW LIBRARIES

Every library has its own objectives and definite set of goals. These objectives or goals are very essential not only for libraries but for every organization.

Every library and information centre is having vision to achieve their aims and objectives. So that some policies and guidelines must be frame by every organization and they are followed by organizations. Planning is the most crucial aspect so that every library should plan for their own development for their future and hence future plan is very important for any library and information center.

For the last question i.e. about future plan for the development of the library, all the 83 law college libraries (100%) were responded and they express their views about their future plan of their library.

- The first priority of all the law college libraries is to fully automate their library and all the sections of a library.
- All the law college libraries were planning to subscribe electronic journals, through UGC Infonet Consortium and also subscribe online and offline legal databases.
- All the law college libraries were planning for overall development of library i.e. to purchase more number of books, periodicals, journals and directories etc.
- Improve the library equipments like furniture, natural lighting and ventilation etc.
- All the law libraries were planning to provide various type of services as well as providing OPAC facility using the different library automation softwares and databases.
- And also all the law college libraries were planning to conduct more numbers of workshops, seminar, conferences, special lectures etc.
• All the law college libraries were planning to provide access to various online information sources.

• E-journals, electronic databases etc and also providing orientation and user’s awareness programmes for their users.

• And also proving specialized services like Selective Dissemination of Information (SBI), Current Awareness Services (CAS), document delivery services, library extension activities and also proving Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

• Large numbers of libraries are planning for Inter Library Loan for resource sharing among them. A few are also planning of networked consortium approach of resource sharing.

6.5. CONCLUSION

Law librarianship is one branch of librarianship which has strong historical roots in its subject, the law. The educational model for law librarianship is strongly influenced even today by this history. Our profession has agreed on the competencies needed, as expressed in the guidelines, but has been unable to agree on how those competencies can best be acquired. Law librarianship today is primarily a profession of people who consider themselves librarians, even if they possess a law degree. This transformation is not complete but is broadly based. Library schools will need to work to reform their educational offerings to meet the needs in the management, technological, and marketing aspects of private sector law librarianship. More law schools should consider offering a degree of Master in Legal Studies, and employers must recognize the value of this alternative in meeting the educational competencies in law. Library schools will need to continue to exist and must have our support, for
without library science graduates, the private sector may look elsewhere for the law librarians of the future.

The court of law is a temple of justice, but a law library is a temple of learning and such the library service is playing and has to play an effective and efficient role in legal profession. As law as developing a fact has social impact on every aspect, the changing society needs a bridge between the multiplication of legal literature and legal professionals by the effective means of documentation techniques and standards.

A law library should be like a mirror reflecting the standard, the methods and objectives of legal education in a country. Library facilities to support the writers’ contention are a necessary feature of any education. This facilitates a law student or a lawyer as the case may be to find the law at a glance, to find past decisions which have a bearing on his case, etc.

To conclude that the total outcome of the survey indicates that there are some good points to be considered for the development of law college libraries in its various policy formulations which is acquisition, processing, maintenance, automation, information technology, reference and periodical subscription in promoting legal education and law library networking of law libraries with special reference. All necessary steps should be taken to improve the conditions of law college libraries. Hence it is left to the domain of the library authorities to provide good and independent building, reading materials, manpower and required facilities with healthy atmosphere in the library.