CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The national development of a vast, multilingual and multicultural country like India mainly depends upon the accessibility of higher education opportunities to its citizens. Higher education provides personnel to man the higher level positions in a society. Without them the resources of a nation will be wasted.

The progress of the society is closely associated with the quality of the people forming it. Investment in human capital helps in the qualitative improvement of the individual. Literacy is the prime factor which shapes the individual as an active partner in the development process of society.

Libraries in general and University Libraries in particular are important agents for the development of the society. Any investment on these agencies is to be treated as human capital. Such an investment substantially contributes for laying the foundations of economic development and for paving the way for higher returns in terms of national income. According to T.W. Schultz: "It is essential to view investment
in education including Libraries as investment in human capital which assures higher returns in terms of national output over a long period of time than investments which are strictly limited to material means of production".1

Higher education requires the assimilation of vast amounts of knowledge and its further development. Library is the embodiment of knowledge and a well established Library with useful collection of books and service oriented staff is a sine qua non for modern higher education. Our learned president, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, has rightly stated that "a Library is more important than a University because a Library can function without a University whereas a University can not do without a Library"2, (World Book Fair, 1988).

University Libraries have proved to be significant partners in the development of scholarship


2. Quoted in Har Swarup Singh: "Some Thoughts on Ideal University", University Mews, AIU, New Delhi, p.15.
throughout the world. They have enriched higher education with all its diversities and it has been described as 'the heart of a University'. Each University has a Library attached to it to support its objectives and programmes. Hence, it is quite necessary to understand the objectives of higher education to arrive at a role of library in its proper perspective.

1.1: OBJECTIVES OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The Kothari Commission very clearly mentions the objectives of higher education as under:

- to seek and cultivate new knowledge, to engage vigorously and fearlessly in the pursuit of truth, and to interpret old knowledge and beliefs in the light of new needs and discoveries;

- to provide the right kind of leadership in all walks of life, to identify gifted youth and help them develop their potential to the full by cultivating physical fitness, developing the powers of mind and cultivating right interests, attitudes and moral and intellectual values;
- to provide society with competent men and women trained in agriculture, arts, medicine, science and technology and various other professions who will also be cultivated individuals, imbued with a sense of social purpose;

- to strive to promote equality and social justice and to reduce social and cultural differences through diffusion of education; and

- to foster in the teachers and students, and through them in society generally, the attitudes, and values needed for developing the good life in individuals and society.  

1.2: ROLE OF A UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Keeping in view the objectives of higher education in the country, the University Library has to shoulder onerous responsibilities. The Library

exists not merely to help the instructional functions of a University, it does also a good deal in aid of research which is another major function of the University. The role of a University Library in higher education is important and it is emphasised in different reports brought out by various Library and Education Commissions in India and abroad at different times.

The role of a Library in a University system is stressed by the University Grants Committee (United Kingdom) in its report (1921) thus: "The character and efficiency of a University may be gauged by its treatment of its central organ the Library. We regard the fullest provision for Library maintenance as the primary and most vital need in the equipment of a University."

Realising the efficacy of Libraries in the higher educational programmes, the University Education Commission (1948-49) headed by Dr. S. Radhakrishnan recognised the importance of Libraries and said: "Teaching is a co-operative enterprise.

Teachers must have the necessary tools for teaching purposes in the shape of Libraries and laboratories as also the right type of students. The Library is the heart of all the University's work; directly so, as regards its educational work, which derives its life from research work. Scientific research needs a Library as well as its laboratories, while for humanistic research the Library is both Library and laboratory in one. Training in higher branches of learning and research is mainly a question of learning how to use the tools and if the Library tools are not there, how can the student learn to use them? But for humanistic and scientific studies, a first class Library is essential to a University.\[5\]

The importance given by the Kothari Commission report (1964-66) on education to the role of Libraries in higher education is reflected in these words: "No new University, College or Department should be set up without taking into account its Library needs in terms of staff, books, journals,

\[5\] India, University Education Commission (1948-49), (Chairman: S. Radhakrishnan), Report, Vol.1, Delhi, MOP, 1951, pp.111-112.
space etc. Nothing could be more damaging to a growing department than to neglect its Library or to give it a low priority. On the contrary, the Library should be an important centre of attraction on the College or University campus.  

The role of University Library in higher education is further emphasised in the Atkinson Commission Report (1976) in the following words: "The Library is the core of a University. As a resource it occupies the central and primary place, because it serves all the functions of a University, teaching and research, the creation of new knowledge and the transmission to posterity of the learning and culture of the present and past.".

According to Gelfand, the fundamental role of the Library is educational. It should not be operated as a mere store house of books attached to a reading-room, but as a dynamic instrument of education. It should feed intellect of the student,


encourage the researches of the faculty, and invite all who enter its house to partake fully of its intellectual and cultural fare". To quote S.R. Dongerkery, "A well stocked and up-to-date Library is a sine qua non for every modern University." 

Laying stress on the role and utility of a University Library, Paul Buck has given the following credo:

a) The Library is the heart of education;
b) Methods and fashions in education change from generation to generation, but each generation uses the Library as a means of realising its aims; hence the Library remains a great conservator of learning;
c) A quality education is impossible without a quality Library;
d) You can not have a quality faculty without a quality Library;
e) A Library is a vital to proper exploitation of our intellectual resources; and


f) The Library is essential to maintenance of free access to ideas, and to the functioning of untrammelled mind.

1.3: FACTORS AND PROBLEMS IN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

There are a number of factors affecting the normal development of a University Library. In the opinion of Wilson and Tauber the essentials that are basic to successful operation of the University Library and the co-ordination of its programmes with the teaching and research programmes of the University are:

a) resources for instruction, research and extension;

b) a competent Library staff;

c) organisation of materials for use;

d) adequate space and equipment;

e) integration of the Library with administrative and educational policies;

f) integration of the Library with community,
   State, regional, national and international
   Library resources;
g) adequate financial support; and
h) a workable policy of Library Government.11

University Libraries in India and other
third world countries are confronted with several
problems as obstacles in course of their development.
M.A. Gelfand has pointed out a number of obstacles
faced by the University Libraries in developing countries.
They are:

1. Lack of clearly defined University
   and Library objectives, of co-operation
   and understanding from University
   authorities and faculties, of trained
   personnel and adequate clerical staff,
   of Library resources in the University
   and in the country at large;

2. Severe import and currency restrictions;

3. Inadequate financial support;

11. Wilson, L.R., and Tauber, M.E.: 'The University
Library', Ed.2., New York, Columbia University
4. Inadequate physical facilities;

5. Failure to appoint a competent University Librarian, to give him authority commensurate with his important responsibilities, and to recognise the educational and professional qualifications of Librarians;

6. Unduly complex purchasing and other administrative regulations; and

7. The inhibiting enforcement of strict personal accountability for book losses....

Of all the obstacles and factors listed above, inadequate financial support is most crucial one in case of Indian Universities.

1.4: IMPORTANCE OF FINANCE

Finances are essential for running any institution properly. The authorities should guarantee stable and adequate financial support to the various

institutions created by them. This becomes all the more important if the institutions are to render satisfactory and efficient service to the community. Money plays a vital role in all walks of life. No scheme or plan can meet any appreciable success in the absence of adequate funds. "Finances are the sine qua non of every organised human endeavour, and successs in all planned public projects is often proportionate as much to the amount of finances made available as to the wise manner in which they are put to use. Education, of all public projects, is one which vitally, although indirectly, affects the growth and continuity of community life. No study of such an important public activity as education can be complete and fruitful unless it also covers its financial aspect."

1.4.1: Importance of University Library Finances

Finance plays a significant role in the organisation and administration of a Library. A Library has to purchase books and periodicals, get modern furniture, erect and maintain the building and employ

trained and experienced staff. All this requires funds for the collection of which a number of sources have to be tapped. A Library should be assured of regular and adequate finance. Otherwise, it cannot discharge its obligations and guarantee the continuity of proper service to the users. The quantum of funds made available towards Library resources and personnel determines to a large extent the quality of a Library and the services provided by it. The educational system of any country will be reflected negatively if the fiscal allocations are inadequate. To-day librarians and information managers are faced with a number of problems like quantitative growth of documents, increase in the number of Library users, diversified nature of user's requirements, escalating cost of documents, inelastic budget provision, etc. But the University authorities seldom take the above factors into account while considering the University Library budget.

Regarding the nature of finance in the University Libraries in the developing countries,
Carl M White has observed "No great University Library comes to mind which cannot point to stable financial support as a corner-stone of its success. The reason is quite simple. High standards in work of this kind can not possible be achieved, when funds for maintaining a competent staff, occupied by a steady flow of work, are provided by jerky fits and starts. If the Library is to rid itself of a formidable menace to normal development, the University will be obliged to join with the University Grants Commission in establishing Library financing on a footing which increases dependence on regular maintenance of funds and reduces dependence on non-recurring grants".14

James D Hart has emphasised the necessity of adequate finance for various University programmes. "Adequate financial support is basic to the maintenance of any programmes of Library development service that is to be significantly effective. To supply the necessary funds for the acquisition of materials for study and research for the staff to administer the resources, and for building to house the materials

is a responsibility of the University administration which is cognisant of the role played by the Library in the academic programme".  

1.5: UNIVERSITY LIBRARY FINANCES IN INDIA

Indian University Libraries have not been provided with adequate finances. The University Education Commission as early as 1948-49 had opined "there is no doubt that in most of our Universities the annual grants for Libraries are very inadequate". Even the best Libraries were spending from 2.7 per cent to 6.5 per cent of their total budget. This Commission had suggested that the University should spend 6.25 per cent of its total budget on its Library.

The Kothari Commission Report (1964-66) on Education has observed that "there is no formula for estimating with precision how much money a University should invest in its Libraries. It has been found that the expenditure on Library in relation

to total educational expenditure of the University, has gone up from 1.88 per cent in 1951-52 to 4.04 per cent in 1960-61, by which time the grants provided by the UGC had begun to make an impact. The University Education Commission had suggested about 6.5 per cent of educational budget as reasonable expenditure on Libraries. But this could vary say from 6.5 per cent to 10 per cent depending on the stage of development of each University Library. It may also be suggested that, as a norm, a University should spend each year about Rs.25/- for each student registered and Rs.300/- per teacher." 17

Despite the specific recommendations of the Education commissions, the situation did not improve much. In the allocation and release of funds, there is neither a uniform policy nor formula both for the State Governments and UGC. They never adhered to the recommendations of various Commissions and Committees in allocating funds to the University Libraries.

There are wide variations in the allocation of funds. This is clearly evident from the table given below.

**TABLE 1**

**FISCAL ALLOCATION IN THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN INDIA (1985-86)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of University Libraries</th>
<th>Percentage of Library allocation to total University budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>0 - 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>1 - 2</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>3 - 4</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>6 - 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>8 - 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Over 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.6: IMPORTANCE OF THE PRESENT STUDY

In a democratic country like India, higher education plays an important part for the upliftment of the people, for the development of its economy and for the advancement of the technology. The University Library is a dynamic instrument of higher education. Many research studies have been conducted on different aspects of University Libraries in India. But studies conducted on fiscal aspects are few in number. In Andhra Pradesh, this study is the pioneer attempt in the field. The researcher inspired to do the research on this topic is to know the reasons for lopsided growth of University Libraries. Further, the authorities, teachers, researchers and the students are often blaming the Librarians for not providing proper and effective Library service in the Universities without understanding the financial resources of the University Library.

As is evident from the review of literature on this topic, the dearth of funds is one of the major obstacles for the effective functioning of a University
Library. Often there is cuts in budget provisions of the University Library. Apart from this there is heavy impact of inflation on the purchase of reading material. In order to meet the increasing needs of the readers, the University should also allocate funds proportionate to the spiralling growth in the price of books and periodicals.

An attempt is made by the researcher to investigate the financial pattern of Sri Venkateswara and Sri Krishnadevaraya University Libraries. This study will be made to offer some useful suggestions for the improvement of Sri Venkateshwara University and Sri Krishnadevaraya University Libraries. Further, it is hoped that the present study will be of great use to the University Authorities and policy makers in providing funds to University Libraries. Also this study will help the working University Librarians and the teaching staff of Library Science to know current trends in revenue and expenditure pattern of University Libraries.
1.7: OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the study is to examine the state of financing of Sri Venkateswara University and Sri Krishnadevaraya University Libraries in Andhra Pradesh during 1980-81 to 1989-90. More specifically, the study keeps in mind the following objectives:

1. To study the role of University Libraries in higher education;
2. To review the origin and growth of Sri Venkateswara and Sri Krishnadevaraya University Libraries;
3. To examine the different sources of finance, their magnitude and trend;
4. To examine the trend and pattern of expenditure on salary, books and periodicals, contingencies, building, furniture and equipment in relation to University Library expenditure; and
5. To estimate the Library expenditure in relation to the total University expenditure.
1.8: HYPOTHESES

The study starts with the following hypotheses:

(a) The finances of Sri Venkateswara and Sri Krishnadevaraya University Libraries are inadequate and far below the minimum as per the standards recommended by the Library and Education Commissions.

(b) There is no proper planning with regard to expenditure in the two Universities.

1.9: METHODOLOGY;

The study is descriptive and analytical. It is based on both primary and secondary data. The important secondary sources are University Annual Reports, University Budget Papers, University Library Reports, UGC Reports, State and Central Government Budget Papers, Five Year Plan proposals and Annual Plans, other published literature, both primary and secondary in the field of study was also used extensively.
The data collected from all these sources were used to analyse and compare the sources of finance, fiscal allocation and utilisation of the same in the University Libraries of Sri Venkateswara University and Sri Krishnadevaraya University. Personal interviews were also conducted with the staff of Sri Venkateswara University and Sri Krishnadevaraya University to elicit their views on the financial allocation on various items.

1.9.1: Scope of the Study

There are 13 State Universities in Andhra Pradesh. The present study is limited to only two University Libraries namely, Sri Venkateswara and Sri Krishnadevaraya University Libraries. It seeks to consider the growth and development from the point of view of old and young Universities so as to draw proper comparison in allocation and utilisation of funds. The two Universities situated in Rayalaseema region and in this study, Sri Venkateswara University is taken to represent the old University (established in 1954) and Sri Krishnadevaraya University, the
young university (established in 1981). Further, the study is limited to a period of ten years extending from 1980-81 to 1989-90.

1.9.2: Plan of Study

The study is divided into five chapters. Following the introductory chapter, the second one deals with the review of literature. The information in the third chapter provides the necessary background for this study. The fourth chapter deals with the revenue and expenditure pattern of two University Libraries under study. Financial estimate of expenditure is also given in this chapter. The last chapter is devoted to the important findings of the study and makes a few recommendations for adequate fiscal investment and scientific fiscal management in Sri Venkateswara and Sri Krishnadevaraya University Libraries.