CHAPTER-III

DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY IN INDIA

“Library is considered to be the heart of any educational institute; any institution without the library is just like a breakdown engine or the human body without blood.”

Dr. S.R. Ranganathan

Since the ancient times, it has been assured that libraries are the sources of knowledge and also the treasures of gentle culture. Their terminology is supposed to be the heart of a university and also in the form of soul and brain. There was also the occurrence of books by the Sardars during the Mughal period. They used to keep their private libraries for learning. The then Sultans and Mughal monarchs were also book lovers. With this, we come to know that libraries were in vogue during the Mughal period.

In fact, no genuine and standard (authorized/formal) information is available about the exact existence of libraries. But about Four Thousand years ago in Mesopotamia, people used to write something on clay article. Those articles used to be baked and collected together. Then, those pieces used to be displayed safely in temples or palaces.

This system can be considered to be the beginning of libraries. According to some scholars, it is believed that libraries had come in existence from a temple in Nirpur Babyleon. In the same way, Indians believe that ‘Veda’ is the most ancient of all the volumes in the world; and its
collection is the world’s first library. A library was available in East Mistra in Allage Jandria during 300 B.C. on Seven Lakh pieces of peparirus we find inscriptions on 120 different titles. In Rome, in the fourth century, there were such more than 25 libraries. Due to book agitation, libraries got enforcement. Those the padres used to create different books and keep them in a library. Gradually, people’s curiosity started increasing due to books of various kinds. In order to mollify this curiosity different types of books were written.¹

With the inventions of books in Germany, Italy, France etc, European countries, books were bought at a safe place and were protected by keeping them in chained lockers. In fact, it was arranged to read those book at that place only. The world’s biggest library was formed in Rome in Athens.

When the art of printing had come into existence in China, no difficulty was found in the case of making copies of books, some thousand years ago. According to this, so many books got printed. That’s why books on different subjects were being written and it produced libraries. The nature of books started changing in the wake of time. The world’s biggest library was established in Washington in the year 1800 and now here we find 14 crore, 35 lakh books. The Length of book cases, available is 478 Miles.²

The patrons of libraries believe that without the well-equipped library no University can get name and fame. The firm proof is available that before the existence of modern libraries, Nalanda, Mithila, Takshshila etc. in such Universities well-furnished libraries were available.

**Evolution and Development of Agriculture Libraries in India:**

The aim of the formation of Agricultural libraries is to develop the infrastructure of agricultural libraries and also to develop agricultural Universities, colleges and Agricultural Research centers in India.³
In India, the beginning of Agriculture Colleges took place in this century viz. since the year 1905. It began with Diploma in Five Agricultural Colleges. In the course of time, at these colleges, it started with the level of students. In veterinary science in India, we find its beginning in relation to agriculture colleges since the year 1905 with Five Agricultural colleges. In the course of time students was the centre of this science. In the year, with the recommendation of Royal Commission of Agriculture, Imperial College of Agriculture was formed in 1929 which was known as ‘The Indian Council of Agriculture Research’ after the post Independence period.

Through this, the most important contribution has been done in the field of Agricultural libraries in India is to make available new suggestions, organize them and also to distribute them in the field of agriculture.

In India, in the field of Agriculture, Agriculture University Colleges and research centers have developed. Veterinary Science is no exception to that. In the Agricultural and industrial libraries, we also find Fertilizers Corporation of India, IFFCO libraries. There are about 35 Agriculture University libraries. In 1975, throughout the country, there were 175 Agricultural libraries, 75 Agricultural College libraries, 22 veterinary college libraries and 34 Indian council of agriculture research had Research Libraries. This includes 14 Industrial cum government libraries. This also includes forest research centre, Dehradoon and National Rural Development centre libraries, Hyderabad. Here Agricultural textual infrastructure can be obtained.

Out of the Agricultural Universities, Govind Vallabhb Pant Agriculture University and Technical Orissa University, Bhubneshwar, and Agriculture Science University, Bangalore is the most prominent ones. Along with this, in some particular Agriculture research libraries, Indian Agriculture Research Institute, Delhi, Indian Veterinary Science Clinic Centre, Izzat Nagar, Indian
council of Agriculture library New Delhi etc. are included along with the National Dairy Research Institute Karnal. These are chief ones, In Pune the imperial bacteriological laboratory has been established.

We find an excellent collection of ancient books and cards related to Indian Veterinary Science; in the libraries of research centers. This is most useful for research training and extension works through National Dairy Research Institute. Punjab Agriculture University was founded in the year 1962. Initially, its three sections were in Ludhiana, Hissar and Palampur which got included in Punjab state, in the year, 1964, the Agricultural University Bangalore was founded. Through the Indian Agricultural Research Institutes library, 55000 publications and 7000 cards are demanded here. Here, by the year 2005, we had the collection of 6,85,000 books.\(^6\)

**Significance of Agriculture:**

After Independence, all-pervading development took place in the field of agriculture. In different Five-year Plans of the Indian Government agriculture was given an outstanding place. Agriculture plays a vital role in the economy of our country. We get fifty per cent income of our country from agriculture. In our country, nearly 70% of the people depend on agriculture. There is scarcity of money for the industrialization of our country. That's why, agriculture will also be considered to be the most prominent occupation of our country.\(^7\)

In the new era of 30 years, in 34 states, we find the formation of agricultural Universities in India. This can be considered to be the biggest achievement in the world. India is considered to be minority developed country. Some persons have achieved Ph.D in Agriculture Science. Many agricultural universities were founded after post-Independence period.
Different planning commissions had been formed in 1954 regarding speeding up agriculture field. It was recommended that a handbook should be created regarding the Indian Agriculture. This gigantic job was undertaken by Indian Agricultural Research conference.

Reorganization of Agricultural Education and Development of Universities:

In the year 1957, in Agricultural institutes there was availability of graduation in agriculture. New agriculture universities had been formed in the Five-year plan as per the demand of agriculture graduates. In the years 1951 to 1961 the number of Agricultural colleges trebled and it doubled in the case of veterinary science. In the years 1948-49, Dr. S.R. Radhakrishnan suggested the government to form Agricultural Universities. He recommended for them especially at the Education Commission of India. In this way, in 1950, Rural Universities were formed. In India, the education system of Land Grant College, America was modelled. The model which has been adopted has been scheduled as per local situations, means and local knowledge.⁸

In 1960, after the foundation of Agriculture University a guide was appointed for the development of model act according to Indian Agriculture Research and also suitable description had been done for the development of universities in the form of constitution. During this time, Agriculture education had become the part and parcel of national politics. In every state, the matter of formation of Agriculture University was recommended for. In the History of agriculture education, the people came to know about the attempts being done for the formation of agriculture universities in India. As a result of this, 34 Agriculture Universities had been formed throughout our country and
the students and the resource persons are also being trained. Opportunities have been given to them.⁹

By focussing on the history of Indian Agriculture, it comes to know that, due to the inclusion of Agricultural Commerce, it has been discussed due to its development. In order to create Agricultural literacy, efforts have been taken a scientific and experimental level.

List of the Agriculture Universities in India:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No.</th>
<th>Name of the University</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Acharya N.G.Ranga agricultural University, Hyderabad, (Andhra Pradesh)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Anand Agriculture University, Anand, (Gujarat)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Assam Agriculture University, Jorhat, (Assam)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Mohanpur, Nadia, (W.Bengal)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Birsa Agriculture University, Kanke, Ranchi, (Jharkhand)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Central Agricultural University, Imphal (Manipur)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Chandra Shekar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur (U.P.)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agriculture University, Hissar, (Haryana)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Palampur, Kangra (Himachal Pradesh)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapith, Dapoli, (Maharashtra)</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapith, Krishi Nagar, Akola (Maharashtra)</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Govind Vallabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, Udhamsingh Nagar (Uttarakhand)</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Krishi Nagar, Raipur (Chhattisgarh)</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Krishi Nagar, Jabalpur (Madhy Pradesh)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Junagadh Agriculture University, Moti Baug, Agril Campus, Junagadh (Gujarat)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Kerala Agriculture University, vellanikkara, Thrissur, (Kerala)</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur (Rajasthan)</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri (Maharashtra)</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Marathwada Agriculture University, Parbhani (Maharashtra)</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology, Kumarganj, Faizabad (Uttar Pradesh)</td>
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<td>Institution Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Navsari Agricultural University, Vijalpore, Navsari (Gujarat)</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Siripur, Bhubneshwar</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Punjab)</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner (Rajasthan)</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur (Bihar)</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology, Mjodipuram, Meerut (Uttar Pradesh)</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Sardar Krushnagar-Dantiwada Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar, Dantiwada, Banaskantha (Gujarat)</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Sher-E-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Railway Road, Jammu (J&amp;K)</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Sher-E-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Shalimar, Shrinagar (J&amp;K)</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, (Tamil Nadu)</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>University of Agricultural Science, Dharwad (Karnataka)</td>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>University of Agricultural Science, Bangalore (Karnataka)</td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Uttar Banga Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Pundibari, Cooch Behar.</td>
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Development of Agricultural Universities in Maharashtra:

Due to the formation of Agricultural Universities and the contribution of the libraries in them, progress has been done in Information Technology and Higher education. Through the books of libraries, the consumers have been given resources and instructions etc. The candidates deprived of education are given encouragement through agricultural field.

Knowledge is propagated through Agricultural Universities in Maharashtra state. Here agricultural things are collected and propagated. The librarians are given payments through University Grants Commission.\(^{10}\)

In Maharashtra, different Agricultural Universities like Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Agriculture University, Akola and Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Agriculture University, Dapoli, Marathawada Agriculture University, Parbhani and Mahatma Phule agriculture University, Rahuri etc. were formed.

Maharashtra State Agricultural Universities: An Introduction:

Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Agricultural University Akola, was established on 20\(^{th}\) October, 1969 with its head-quarter at Akola. This Agricultural University was named after illustrious son of Vidharbha, Dr. Panjabrao (alias Bhausaheb) Deshmukh, who was the Minister for Agriculture, Govt. of India. The jurisdiction of this University is spread over the eleven districts of Vidharbha. According to the University Act 1983 (of the Government of Maharashtra), the University is entrusted with the
responsibility of agricultural education, research and extension education along with breeder and foundation seed programme.

The University has its main campus at Akola. The instructional programmes at main campus are spread over five Colleges namely, College of Agriculture, College of Agriculture Engineering and Technology, College of Forestry, College of Horticulture and Post Graduate Institute. At this campus, four degree programmes namely B.Sc.(Agri.) B.Sc.(Hort.) B.Sc.(Forestry) and B.Tech.(Agri. Engg.), two Master’s Degree Programmes viz. M.Sc.(Agri.) and M.Tech.(Agri.Engg.) and Doctoral Degree Programmes in the faculties of Agriculture and Agri. Engineering are offered.\(^{11}\)

The University has its sub-campus at Nagpur with constituent College, College of Agriculture which offers B.Sc.(Agri.) and M.Sc.(Agri.) degree programmes. The Nagpur campus is accomplished with a grade, surrounded by its natural beauty and a well established Zoo which attract the general public and visitors to the city. A separate botanic Garden is being maintained on 22 hectares with a green house for the benefit of research workers.

In addition there are affiliated grant-in-aid colleges and 14 private non-grant-in-aid colleges under the auspices of this University. A Central Research Station is situated at the main campus which caters to the need of research projects undertaken by Crop Scientists of the principle crops of the region are Cotton, Sorghum, Oilseeds and Pulses.

Recent developments in agriculture and allied sciences have created new pressures on the libraries of Agricultural Universities. These serve the needs of agricultural education, research and extension education. An Agricultural University Library is necessary adjunct of the teacher’s aide and researcher’s tool without which he can not make the best use of his time or talent in an effective and efficient manner. An Agricultural University Library
being an integral part of University, it must be developed on sound lines. A well-equipped library run by an efficient organization is in fact the soul of an educational institution. Due to the application of Information Technology, the nature and functioning of in-house keeping operations of the Agricultural University Libraries have been totally changed and considering this, the University library of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Agricultural University, Akola is trying to provide various types of services and facilities of academic staff and students of the University.

It is said that University Library which is well-managed is a model or ideal library and considering this the efforts are being made to make this University Library more user oriented to that the maximum number of students, research scholars and academic community should take the advantage of the rich collection of books, theses, back volumes of periodicals, CD-ROM databases, On-Line databases and Journals etc. University authorities are also taking keen interest in the development of the University Library by providing adequate funds and other facilities.

Library information system of the university is partially automated. The University library provides membership to members of different authorities of the university, teaching staff of university, students of different under graduate and post graduate departments, research scholars, officers and employees of the university, teaching staff and students of constituent college university.

Library Services:

Library used to provide the following services to its users:

- Reference and Information Service.
- Lending Services.
- Reprographic Services.
- Bibliographical Services.
- Current Awareness Services.
- Selective Dissemination of Information Services.
- Newspaper Clipping Services.
- Inter-Library-Loan Services.
- Computerized Service.

**Periodicals Subscribed:**

To provide the latest information to the students, staff and research scholars and to abreast with the new developments taken place in their field of interest, University Library subscribes to various national and international level periodicals.

**Lending Facility:**

University Library provides the facility of issuing and returning of books for home reading and for reference in the reading room also. University Library has issued 12,184 books from home reading and 2340 books for reference in reading room during the year.

**Reading Room Facility:**

University library has provided reading facility in reading room as well as different sections also such as Periodicals Sections, Theses Section, Reference Section, Back Volumes of Periodicals Section. 200 students can be provided accommodation at a time. During the year under report 1935 students have used the reading room facility.
Reference Section:-

University Library is having rich reference collection, which includes Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, Handbooks, Manuscripts, Maps, Directories, Gazetteers, and Yearbooks etc.

Reprography Section:

User of the library are always in need of Xerox copies of articles published in peer received journals and other published materials from books, reports etc. To provide them efficient and effective service photocopying facility is made available. 39,358 Xerox copies have been provided to 3820 users during the year 2010-11.

Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Agricultural University, Dapoli:

Konkan is the part of Western Ghat of Maharashtra having favorable agricultural climate of tropics, geographically the hilly regions with a long coastal sea shore gifted with long rice culture, horticultural potential and the coastal agro-aqua farming. For the agricultural development of konkan region, Maharashtra Govt. established an independent Agriculture University on 18th May, 1972 named “Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth” with its head quarters at Dapoli, District Ratnagiri, Maharashtra state, India. On 12th February 2001, ‘Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth’ has been renamed as “Dr.Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth”.13

Dr.Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth is having jurisdiction of five district of Maharashtra viz. Brihan-Mumbai, Thane, Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts of Maharashtra state. The major objective of the university is agricultural education, research and extension education in an integrated way to attain the sustainable agricultural development.
Maharashtra is richly endowed with outstanding agricultural research and educational institutions both in the public and private sectors. It has diverse agro climatic and soil patterns. Given a proper synergy between technology and public policy, rapid progress can be made in improving the productivity, profitability, stability and sustainability of major farming systems of the state as evident from Maharashtra’s horticulture revolution.

The University Library is an important component of the Agricultural Technology Park. The library has started functioning at Central Campus in 1972. Since its inception, the library is developing steadily and has been playing a vital role in providing all types of technological information to the students, teachers and scientists from Faculty of Agriculture and Faculty of Agricultural Engineering at Central Campus as well as to the progressive farmers. The students appearing for MPSC (Maharashtra Public Service Commission) and other competitive examinations are greatly benefitted by the services of University Library. The library is situated at the heart of the University campus. It is on a hillock surrounded by beautiful greenery. The carpet area of library buildings is 1075 sq. meters. The building has a capacity of stacking three lakh volumes and can accommodate 250 readers.

Library is one of the most significant needs of the education. The students, professors and research workers use the relevant books, periodicals of national and international writers and publications. The library at Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Agricultural University is the home study for the education seekers and the professors. The University Library has 41260 books, 7885 Back Volumes and University regularly receives 67 Indian and 09 international periodicals.
Library Collections:

As on 31.03.2011, the University Library had a collection of 41,260 documents in the field of agriculture and allied subjects. All the library collections are shelved in an organized manner in their respective sections, Current Periodicals Section, Reference Section, etc.

Books Sections:

Books are classified and catalogued according to the Dewey Decimal Classification System and Anglo American Cataloguing Rules-II respectively. Three types of catalogues viz. author catalogue, title catalogue and classified (subject) catalogue are maintained in this section.

Back Volumes Section:

The University Library has 7885 Back Volumes of periodicals. All back volumes are arranged in alphabetical order. Their catalogue is available and displayed in this section in a card form and mimeographed form for the better use of documents. It is also available in CD and Floppy disk form.

Reference Section:

Valuable collection of reference books on agriculture and allied subjects is shelved in the reference section. Multi-volume titles of the following categories are available and can be used in this section only. Encyclopedias, Directories, Dictionaries, Hand Books, Year Books, Maps/Atlases and Statistical survey reports.

Current Periodicals Section:

The University Library subscribes 76 journals. The library is also receiving 13 journals on complimentary basis and 07 journals on exchange
basis. The journals are arranged department wise. The list of current journals is displayed in this section.

**Xerox Services:**

The University Library has three automatic Xerox machines. Xerox copies of research articles, etc are made available to the members at concessional rates. This section is kept open on all working days from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

**Inter Library Loan:**

Inter Library loan service is available to the members under which the books not available in the University Library are obtained from other libraries and made available to the members. Also the University Library makes available the books to other libraries when demanded.
REFERENCES


7. Report on Strategy for development of an Agriculture research information system, ARIS for ICAR in co-operation with ISNR.


