CHAPTER-6

SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

6.0 Introduction

The computer and telecommunication technologies have revolutionized the field of library and information science. They are being utilized for collecting data, storage, organization, processing, analysis and dissemination of data or information to the users. With the introduction of new technology, libraries are expected to use modern technology. It has great relevance in the context of the fourth law of library science “save the time of readers and staff” in which Dr. S.R.Ranganathan provided the objectives relating to internal efficiency of library.

There is a visible impact of information technology on the functioning of library and information centers. During the last decades, library and information centers’ in India have started making use of the state-of-art of new information and communication technologies in a big way.

In this research study the researcher has taken into consideration all relevant resources and services of college libraries and examined them in detail to understand the impact of library resource sharing and networking of college libraries upon them. Inferences were drawn from the analysis of the data. Subsequently findings have been recorded and presented.

6.1 Findings of the study:

The systematic efforts in data collection and its scientific analysis lead to the following important findings:
1. The steady growth in the number of degree colleges established after independence it is observed, reached the highest peak during 2001-2010.

2. Among the degree colleges affiliated to Gulbarga university under study majority of colleges numbering 85 (53.79%) belongs to the private un-aided colleges. The remaining 41 (25.95%) colleges are the government and 32 (20.25%) colleges are private aided colleges.

3. The majority of colleges offer B.A. degree courses 98 (62.02%), followed by 64 (40.50%) colleges offer B.Sc. degrees and 61 (38.60%) colleges offer B.Com courses.

4. The study of the postgraduate courses show of 11(6.96%) PG courses offered in the M.Sc degree and 9 (5.70%) colleges offered M.A. courses, 8 (5.06%) colleges offered MSW course and 6 (3.80%) colleges offered M.Ed programmes.

5. It is clearly noticed that there is a proportional increase in the addition of newer and newer disciplines at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, leading to the provision of research programmes in some of the established degree colleges.

6. The majority of the degree colleges have got NAAC status.

7. The college libraries under study possess a large collection of print materials like books and periodicals. The collection of audio visuals, storage media and electronic resources is very meager.

8. The potential users of degree college libraries are the faculty and students.

9. The major source of finance to degree colleges are UGC, State Government and Management of the respective colleges. By all measures, it seems, the funds are inadequate to meet the requirements.

10. Major expenditure is concentrated on print materials, and the expenditure on electronic resources is slowly picking up.
11. Though the libraries are headed by qualified professionals, the number of qualified supporting staff is very meager.

12. Majority of colleges libraries are housed in the main administrative block of the college and the 15 colleges have independent buildings with provision for future expansion.

13. Information technology application is slow but steady. However equipments such as Computers, OHP, Photocopier, TV, DVD and LCD Projectors are moderately provided in the all colleges.

14. In most of the libraries, the automation is an ongoing process, using indigenously developed software is also used. LAN facilities are found to be satisfactory.

15. There is a strong inclination towards resource sharing activities.

16. Enough assistance to manage network facility is available in the all colleges.

17. There is a considerable interest shown by the librarians in going for designing and creating bibliographical databases of their resources.

18. This study univocally advocates the common network for all the degree colleges.

19. In the light of the emerging consortia movement in all fields, the strong feeling among the professionals is to formulate a state wide college libraries consortium.

6.2 Suggestions:

Keeping in view the data analysis and interpretation, the following suggestions made;

1. In view of the heavy demand and the need to sustain the onslaught of electronic and digital information resources, adequate funds be made available to the libraries.

2. Generous funds are to be made available for the up gradation of technology so as to face future consequences.
3. There should be professionally qualified and technologically exposed skilled supporting staff who provides the technology related library and information services.

4. Provision is made to use the standard library softwares’ which can sustain the possible changes from time to time and which can offer back-up services as and when required.

5. As a prerequisite, there should be a union catalogue of library resources of all the degree colleges’ libraries.

6. Looking into the national efforts in the formation of consortia in some groups of subjects, there seems to be an immediate need for joining UGC- INFONET like national consortia so as to exploit the resources for the benefit of users.

7. Library is provided with well equipped conference hall, an audio-visual room and Internet corner.

6.3 Conclusion

The library professional has never been exposed so much in past to the changing information scenario as it has been done now. In this age of information explosion, the technology has progressively replaced the old method of information collection, storage and retrieval. Today the walls of the library are giving way to electronic environments to establish links with information and virtual libraries that are getting shaped on the resource sharing and networking. Each individual library is acting as a place for storage and services to the users while the trend is to provide shared information to the users. Emphasis is given to access to information rather than owning it. It is also possible to create their own institutional digital repositories by transforming their institutional
publications which are in print. All this needs cooperation and support from the authorities of the colleges and active participate of library professionals.

Academic libraries in India have long desired one-stop shopping for their customers and in this electronic age their customers are demanding it to search from a single point at any physical location, and retrieve information from the library catalogue, citation form journal indexes and full text information electronic resources.

The driving force in advancing the creation and use of information in the current millennium will be integration of Internet /World Wide Web and standard of computer application operating in the networked environment. The rapid enrichment of resources available in electronic from combined with immediacy of access will make the electronic media an essential component in the work environment of students and scholars in all disciplines at all levels. Academic libraries are facing increasing pressures from multiple sources. Libraries can no longer be expected to support research and development from their own resources due to the information explosion, increasing cost of library materials, shrinking library budgets etc.

The global computer network providing access to online bibliographic information and full text delivery of request will change the way work is performed in the libraries. The most important advantage of the information age for libraries may be that the information is not limited to the items held by library rather than user can access any modern library in the world through the World Wide Web.

Libraries must provide reliable, cost efficient access to information whether print or multimedia whether held locally or remotely. The need to provide information services that remove the barriers of distance and time become even more important. In earlier times libraries have always acquired and organized material so that the information is accessible more easily.
In view of the above points, it can be concluded that Resource sharing and networking is a great boon which needs to be implemented progressively and professionally in degree colleges in Hyderabad Karnataka region. This initiative will generate optimum satisfaction among users and also save considerable national resources.

6.4 Further Areas of Research

1. Similar studies can be initiated in the other area like; Medical colleges, Agricultural colleges and Pharmacy colleges etc.

2. Design and development of digital archival of library may become a vital area of research.

3. The study of ICT infrastructure and their utilization and benefits to the users of libraries can be another useful research area and that would bring some benchmarks for the ICT facilities in the college libraries.

4. The IT is generating new technologies for application in libraries like RFID technology. The research in cost effective use of new technologies in academic libraries would make a good research proposal.