Executive Summary

Higher Education has undergone a radical transformation in the last few decades. Academic library plays a pivotal role in ensuring success of higher education and research. Information Technology has revolutionized the information handling activities in the academic libraries during the past few years. Emerged information society demands that all the relevant technologies that are involved in information processing, consolidation, repackaging, and retrieval be merged so as to evolve an effective Integrated system capable of providing diversified services.

Academic libraries have a long desired one stop shopping for their customers and in this electronic age, their customers are demanding feasible way to search from a single point at any physical location, retrieve information from library catalogue, citation from journal indexes and full text information from electronic resources. The one system one library concept by working together as a coordinated university library system will provide student, faculty, staff, citizens with access to university library collection and also global access to electronic information.

An attempt has been made in this study to understand the status of Information Technology applications in Indian University libraries; implications arising out of applications of IT in the universities including; the preparedness for university libraries to handle the emerging technology plus the future plans and factors for all the relevant Integrated university library and information system.

The study also shows that university libraries in India are in the process of development in Automation and Networking. The efforts made by UGC-INFLBINET
for automation and networking is greatly acknowledged everywhere. Libraries are an integral part of the academic mission of the university. Libraries can enhance a university the reputation by providing access to world information resources and services. It can stimulate research by promoting collections and services widely. A sincere attempt is also made to formulate and develop an integrated University Library and Information System to suit the Indian context. The study confidently concludes that, the Integrated University library and Information System will bring radical changes in the way of information generation, storage and communication.