CHAPTER 6.

CHALLENGES FACED BY THE LAW COLLEGE LIBRARIES

• Explosive growth of information and documents

• Increased cost of document and information materials.

• Increase in users information needs.

• New role of the librarian and greater responsibilities

• Latest techniques and concept in handling of information.

• New electronics information environment.

• Creation of databases and its security.

• Marketing of library and information services.

Function of a library:-

The successful operation and functioning of a library is based on the premise that it would have adequate resources to support training and research, fully trained and qualified staff capable of organizing the information contents in the most
scientific and helpful order, and the readers who come to use the library and its resources.

Books, staff and the read the trinities of librarianship as Dr. S. R. Ranganathan has put it on the basic ingredients for the working of any library. College library plays important role in the quality of higher education system.

Library established by college management to fulfill the academic information needs of students and facilities. grants commission provides different types of grants to develop the collection and infrastructure of college library.

1. College library should be ready to fulfill the academic information needs mainly of enrolled undergraduate students.

2. The college library should have separate premise of its own with contain minimum infrastructure facilities such as reading hall, periodical sections, circulation counter, service area, information display etc.

3. The seating arrangement should be adequate, comfortable, safe, well lighted and clean.

4. The functions of college library should be extended on holiday as per the requirement of students and faculties.
5. The timing of library should be suitable for students and staff and should be extend before and after the class hours.

6. The library advisory committee should be formed and the role of this committee should be displayed in the record of meetings.

7. The post of librarian should be filled as per the rules of grants commission and government.

8. The qualification experience and pay of librarians should be as per the rules of government and grants commission norms.

9. Librarians should attend the training programmes such as orientation and refresher courses. He should participate in the workshops, seminars, conferences etc.

10. The library should have computers and internet facilities and the library functions should be automated with the help of computer.
**Need and purpose of a library:-**

As the dam stores millions of gallons of water to be distributed to individual fields through well knit irrigation system, the library stores reading material to be distributed to individual students, teachers and research scholars through its various channels of communication.

The phenomenon often referred to as the information explosion and the literature explosion has obvious repercussions on library provisions of educational institutions.

The line of investigations and developing new one in almost all branches of knowledge and particularly in science and technology had a direct bearing on the library system to collect and supply of right type of literature at right time to the scholars pinpointedly, exhaustively and expeditiously.

Whether in the past or in this present age of information technology the importance of a library can not be ignored. Now a days libraries have become resource centers of learning. It is increasingly felt that there is a need to improve and update the libraries in the higher education institutions.

With the increasing impact of the information technology on the higher education, libraries are supposed to provide quality based services to its users. Libraries are considered as the heart of the educational institute and hence implementation of best practices in the libraries will gain better results for higher education.
Libraries play vital role in the educational, industrial and technological progress of a country. Progress of the nation depends upon advance knowledge gained by educationists, technologists, engineers and scientists of the country.

Hence the role of libraries in universities and then educational institutions is to active a free flow of information from the point of generation to the point of utilization of information efficiently and effectively.

The present educational policy emphasizes on self study, experiments, field study and research rather than classroom study. Therefore, the concept of library and has been playing a vital role in the development of the institutions especially when the authorities are focusing on the critical issues facing the higher education sector.

The development and changes in the ICT have changed the user”s expectations from the academic libraries in different ways. The ways to build a library collection and offer services to the end users vary from the recent to past exercises.

Thus to effectively meet the demands of the end users, the academic libraries need to identify and adopt good and best practices.

Library is a prime part of educational system and criterion about library functions as best practices. Libraries are becoming more and more serviceable and dissemination of knowledge resource centres.
There is need to develop best practices in academic libraries to bridge the growing gaps between the users and the library.

A new information society has emerged in which electronic information is playing a key role. Today libraries are functioning under constantly changing environment and faces variety of complex challenges like information explosion. Its revolutions, network evolution, shirking library budgets, escalating prices of documents, high level of users expectations.

Libraries are the sources of information and they continue to play a vital role in the development and establishment of the institution for spread of knowledge and a better house of learning. This is an era where changes are taking place, very rapidly in all sphere of life.

With the advent of technologies the concept of library is also changed, now a day’s libraries are acquiring processing and disseminating information in electronic and digital forms. Library is known as electronic library. Digital library, virtual library, knowledge resources centre etc. information technology has drastically influenced their functions and services.

Several factors are forcing academic libraries to change. The main three factors behind the change are changes in literate habits, changes in students and the curriculum and the changes in the technological infrastructure. Globalization is playing an important role in making today’s student more alert.
On the other hand it is introducing resource and concept of value for money in education field. Libraries can satisfy its users which can develop best practices.

To enable the parent organization the educational goal of the college, the college libraries provides stimulus to reading by collecting materials for study as well as feeds the intellect of the student. The library acts as a vehicle for disseminating information.

Radhakrishnan and Kothari commission reports have already identified the role of libraries in higher education. They had demanded the need of first class library for the college. It is hoped that within 10 years almost all the universities will have well equipped in computerized language.

Library is one of the important organization in every educational institute, library management is progressive initiative, although the activity any seen like just an administrator.

Information explosion, budget and new information communications technologies changed the role of library. Due to these factors the demands of users are increasing, but traditional library is unable to fulfill these needs of users.

Library plays multi dimensional role in the society. It is a warehouse of knowledge. It is communication centre and also a mediator between information generators and the information users. In the present day scenario information
and communication technologies (ICT) have made a tremendous impact on the functions of the academic libraries.

In particular, users expect quick, one stop service to cover a range of needs. Libraries are light with the introduction to the role in the present context and also the challenges faced by the academic libraries.

College library is the pulsating heart which is to quicken every activity which goes on upon the campus, it is the easily accessible mentor to which every alumnus should took for guidance and it is a beacon light whose rays should illuminate more and more the path of those leader’s of men who are entrusted with the conservation of equality of opportunity and the solution of problems of civilization that assessment a greater and ever increasing degree of complexity.

The library of a college play a central role in facilitating disseminating and creation of new knowledge. In the present era, the library is learning resource has taken up increasing more academic space and time in the life of the user.

Thus it is time to identify and adopt the new ways that will lead library and information center to improve their process and activities, there by optimizing the resource utilization and delivering high quality, and value added services to their users.

Every college library should become as a perfect library. For that purpose proper co-ordination among principal, librarian and authority or management is necessary. In this regard librarians should have to concentrate on to develop not only print resources but also electronic resources.
Library and education are like that of two rails of a running train. If either of the rails damaged, the train stops it's running. So also if anyone of the two entities i.e., library or education is stopped functioning the progress of the nation will suffer. So, let us extend our whole-hearted co-operation to take the nation will suffer.

The role of a teacher and the librarian:-

The role of a teacher is to impart formal education. A librarian is concerned with the stupendous work of introducing self education without much spoon feeding. A librarian's job is to guide the readers how and where to find the material and acquaint them with the hide and seek character of most of the books, which baffle even the high-up's.

A librarian, due to high professional training is to be capable of guiding them in the proper direction by resorting to the library techniques. When a student is at a loss to lay his hands upon the material required for his students, it is the librarian who come to the help of these misled taught in the garb of a messiah.

The reference service both long range and ready reference in the main join upon which the librarian should concentrate.
Role of library and information science professionals (Ramesh Babu, 2011):-

The librarians have to perform a variety of lead roles such as-
1. As a search intermediary
2. As a facilitator
3. As a end user trainer or educator
4. As a website builder or publisher
5. As interface designer
6. As knowledge manager or professional
7. As shifter of information resources
8. As information architecture
9. As information scientist or specialist or consultant
10. As a symbiotic human machine guru
11. As marketing officer
12. As resource preserver
13. As a researcher
14. As a collection development builder
15. As a institutional repository builder or initiator
16. As internet navigator

17. As a guardian of information super highway

In the library, librarian is leader. It is always say that if the leader is not good the workforce is unhappy, dissatisfied. Good leadership strives to bring about a set of shared values, a shared vision and the culture so that everyone knows what the organization is trying to do.

The culture, vision, values, beliefs and motivation in an organization arise from leadership. In the library, the librarian has to play the dual role in motivating staff as well as users. In today”s world librarian has become technology application leaders. Librarian as a leader should acquire all skills like.

The technological advancement and changed outline have put new challenges before and library and information profession. The information generated is stored in libraries and information centers providing faster services to user. The library and information professionals too have to identify their traditional recent changing role.

It is an age of information technology. In the age of IT the variety of E-journal consortia”s are there, it may be J-gate. INDEST, UGC sponsored INFONET and variety of databases it may be EBSCO which will be more helpful for all researchers. Librarian should have to know about not only commercial E-journal consortia but also open source consortia”s such as doaj.org, openj-gate etc.
In this regard, librarian should have to play as leadership. The leadership is ultimately creating a way for users to contribute to making something extraordinary happen. Leadership is defined in various ways, but common among them are that leaders are responsible for the performance of others and good leaders want those with whom they collaborate to perform their best work.

**Information technology and automation:-**

User today are faced with many difficulties in finding information, because new technology makes information available in different, mainly electronic formats. The most important role of the academic libraries and librarians is to educate the users or students in academic environment for effective use of information either through print texts or electronic text via internet.

It is a duty of today’s libraries to equip students with the necessary information skills to function effectively and to meet challenges of the information age. Information literacy is basically a library instruction programe. It focuses on content, communication, analysis, information searching and evaluation.

In view of the contemporary environment of rapid technological change and proliferating information resources information literacy in libraries have become increasingly important. It forms the basis for lifelong learning by enabling the learners to master content and extent their investigations, become more self directed and assume greater control over their own learning. In other word information literacy is a set of skills, which enables the individuals to recognize his or he information need. In addition it also enable to locate, evaluate the use of needed information effectively.
Problems in Library automation of law college libraries:-

There are so many obstacles in library automation of law college libraries such as:
1. Lack of funds
2. Lack of IT infrastructure
3. Lack of support from management
4. Lack of computer literacy among library personnel
5. Lack of technical skill and know how among library profession to overcome day to day IT related problems arising in application of IT.
6. Lack of training support

Overcome the problems of Library and information service professional :-

Following initiatives is necessary to over the problems of library and information service professional.

1. To train the library staff
2. To identify the basic problems related IT based services
3. To provide effective IT based library services
4. To computerized the libraries
5. To overcome he daily problems related to IT based services
6. To enrich the image of library profession.
Considering the above facts and figure, the study entitled "a survey of law college libraries in Marathwada region of Maharashtra" by formulating the following hypothesis of the investigation.