Status of Collection Development in Six College Libraries of Dhakuakhana Subdivision of Lakhimpur District, Assam: A Study

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Abstract: In a college, libraries play the most vital role in educating the user community. Yes, libraries do not take classes but it helps in widening the knowledge by providing essential resources and services to the users. Therefore, to do this library must have a good amount of collections. Without adequate collection college library cannot helps its users in developing their knowledge and skill. Now a day's library not only collects the printed resources for its users, besides this, it collects electronic resources, online resources for performing better service to its users. In this paper, an effort has been made to define the term collection development and the status of collection development in the libraries of Dhakuakhana   subdivision of Lakhimpur district, Assam.

Keywords: collection development, electronic resources, college library, Dhakuakhana,, Lakhimpur.

I. INTRODUCTION

Collection development is an important function of the college library. Collection development is a very challenging job for the library staff. Collection development is the activity of the library through which library can increase its collection. However, it requires minute observation and selection of the documents.Various factors like users needs play the most prominent role in this process. Again users taste are changing with time to time, person to person so while library proceeds to develop their collection these points should be kept in mind. Before collection development importance should be given on objective setting, proper planning, policymaking, available fund etc. The procedure of purchasing printed document is different from purchasing of the electronic document. Whatever the policy collection development must give priority on user demand.

II. DEFINITION OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Collection development is a process of selecting, ordering and payment of information materials for the use of the users in the library (Olaojo and (Akewukekere, 2006).

Nnadozie (2006) described collection development as a planned, continuous and cost - effective acquisition of quality and relevant materials to meet the needs of the users and objectives of the university libraries. Collection development is concerned with the formulation of a systematic plan, which will meet the needs of its users. It encompasses a number of activities related to the development of the library's collection including the determination and coordination of selection policy, assessment of current and potential user needs, collection use studies, collection evaluation, identification of collection needs, selection of materials, planning of resource sharing, collection maintenance and weeding (Gorman and Howes, 1989; Clayton and Gorman, 2001). According to Joseph C. Shipment, collection development is "the sum total of library materials, books, manuscripts, serials, governments documents, pamphlets and microfiche, punched card, computer tapes etc. That makes up the holdings of a particular library. In other words, it is planned, systematic development of an already existing collection"

III. PROCEDURE OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

1. policy making to select materials
2. replacement of lost or worn materials.
3. weeding out the materials which are not in use
4. Cooperative decision making with other libraries or within library consortia.

IV. COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT IN DIGITAL ATMOSPHERE

Besides collecting printed resources, e-resource collection is also an important job of the library. Because e-resource has the highest popularity among all types of users. E-resources includes online databases, sources from OPAC,s, e-journal, e-books, e-reports, e- articles, Print- on- demand(POD), government publications, e- newsletters, e- thesis etc. At present, the user community show more interest on e-resources than printed resources as users find very easy in accessing e-resources. Users find e-resource accessing is very quick than traditional resources. Again library staff also feels comfortable in managing e-resources as it does not require any physical space and updating of e-resources is very easy. In traditional material, only one user can access one book at a time but more than one user can access e-resource at one time. Another advantage of e-resource is that fund allocation for e-resources are comparatively low than printed resources.

V. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

1. To know about the library collection acquired by the studied libraries.
2. To acquire knowledge about the status of collection development in the colleges of Dhakuakhana subdivision.

VI. AREA OF STUDY

There are many colleges in Dhakuakhana subdivision and it is not possible to cover all the colleges in limited time. Therefore, some selected college libraries are selected for data collection. The name of these college libraries are as follows Dhakuakhana College Library, North Bank College library, Harhi College Library, Brahmaputra College library, Rengam Subansiri College Library and United Degree College library.

VII. METHODOLOGY

The study has been conducted on some selected college libraries of Dhakuakhana subdivision. In this study, primary data have been collected by using survey method. A structured questionnaire was designed to satisfy the objectives of the study, which was distributed among the library professionals in six college libraries. The investigator receives 100% responses from the respondents. Here, secondary data has been collected from the journal articles and internet sources, dissertation etc.

VIII. DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

Analysis of data means the study of the tabulated material in order to determine an inherent facet on meaning it involves breaking down existing interpretation. In this paper, the analyses of data of the surveyed college libraries are represented in the tabular form:

Table 1: Showing the name of the colleges and year of establishment

Sl. No	Name Of The College	Location	District	Year Of Establishment
1	North Bank College	Ghilamora	Lakhimpur	1961
2	Dhakuakhana College	Dhakuakhana	Lakhimpur	1966
3	Brahmaputra College	Bakulguri	Lakhimpur	1993
4	Rengam Subansiri College	Patrichuk	Lakhimpur	1994
5	Harhi College	Gobindapur	Lakhimpur	1996
6	United Tribal Degree College	Hariani	Lakhimpur	2001

IX. COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Collection development is the process of increasing the holdings of the library. It is a planned procedure. Collection development should be balanced. The balanced library collection includes traditional printed materials, print and e-journals, online resources, CDs, DVDs etc. Table 2 shows the collection development of six college libraries of Dhakuakhana subdivision.

Table: 2 Showing the collection development of six college libraries of Dhakuakhana subdivision

Sl No	Name Of The College Library	Total Collection	News Paper	Current Periodicals	Non-Print Materials	Membership In N-List Consortium
1	Dhakuakhana College	15000	7+	12+	100(files)	N-List(2011)
2	Harhi college	9000	4	-	-	-
3	North Bank college	7500	7	10	20-	N-list(2015)
4	United Tribal college	4500	3	-	-	-
5	Brahmaputra college	3500	4	-	-	-
6	Rengam Subansiri college	3200	3	-	-	-

From the Table no 2 it is seen that Dhakuakhana college library has highest no of collection and it is about 15000.It is followed by Harhi College library which is about 9000.Rangam Subansiri College library has lowest no of the collection which is only 3200 at present. Again, when we observe the newspaper collection we see that Dhakuakhana College library has highest no of newspaper collection. Among the surveyed colleges of Dhakuakhana subdivision only two colleges, namely Dhakuakhana College and North Bank College subscribe N-List e-resources.

AUTOMATION STATUS OF SIX COLLEGE LIBRARIES
The following table shows the automation status of six surveyed college libraries of Dhakuakhana subdivision

Table: 3 Showing the automation Status of six surveyed college libraries of Dhakuakhana subdivision

Sl No	Name of the colleges	Software	Fully automated	Partially automated	Initial stage	Barc-oding
1	Dhakuakhana college	SOUL2.0	Yes	-	-	Yes
2	North Bank College	SOUL2.0	-	Yes	-	-
3	Harhi College	SOUL2.0	-	-	-	-
4	Brahmaputra College	-	-	-	-	-
5	United Tribal College	-	-	-	-	-
6	Rengam Subansiri College	-	-	-	-	-

From the Table no 3 it is clear that out of six surveyed colleges only one college namely Dhakuakhana College is fully automated. Beside this, North Bank College and Harhi College installed SOUL2.0 software in their library and starting developing the master databases for automation. Both these colleges are partially automated. Surveyed other three colleges have no automation initiatives.

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE SURVEYED SIX COLLEGES OF DHAKUAKHANA SUBDIVISION
Table 4: Showing the ICT infrastructure in the surveyed six colleges of Dhakuakhana subdivision

Sl no	Name of the colleges	Server	Printer	Scanner	LAN	Internet
1	Dhakuakhana college	1	1	1	Yes	Yes
2	North Bank college	1	1	-	Yes	Yes
3	Harhi college	1	1	-	Yes	Yes
4	Brahmaputra college	-	-	-	-	-
5	United Tribal college	-	-	-	-	-
6	Rengam Subansiri college	-	-	-	-	-

Table no 4 reveals that only three colleges have ICT infrastructure. Other colleges do not have ICT facilities. Among the six colleges, only Dhakuakhana College has well- equipped ICT facilities.

TYPES OF E-RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN THE SIX SURVEYED COLLEGES
Table: 5 Showing the types of E-resources available in the six surveyed colleges

Sl no	Name of the colleges	E- Journal		E-books			Other Audio visual Materials(cassettes/floppy,CDs, DVDs etc)
		Purchased	Open access	Purchased	Online	Offline	
1	Dhakuakhana college	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	**Yes**
2	North Bank college	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	**-**
3	Harhi college	-	Yes		-	-	**-**
4	Brahmaputra college	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
5	United Tribal college	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
6	Rengam Subansiri college	-	-	-	-	-	**-**

Table no 5 depicts that among six surveyed colleges of Dhakuakhana subdivision only Dhakuakhana College acquires E-Journals and E-Books. During the survey, the author knows it that Dhakuakhana College adopting digitisation process in their library so they can provide offline e-books and previous years question papers to the students. North Bank College also provide e-books and e-journals to its clientele, as it is a member of N-List Consortia. Harhi College provides open access e-journal available under OJAS. Other three colleges have not ICT infrastructure so they are not able to provide e-journal and e-books facilities to its clientele.

X. FINDINGS

➢ Among six surveyed college libraries of Dhakuakhana subdivision, only Dhakuakhana College has a good collection of all types. It has around 15000 printed collections and 100+ non-print materials (files). North Bank College also has 7500-printed collection and 20+ non-print collections. Harhi College has 9000 printed collections. Other three surveyed colleges have less than 5000 printed collections.

➢ From the surveyed, it is found that among six surveyed colleges every college rich in traditional printed materials.

➢ Among six surveyed colleges, only three colleges have well- equipped computer infrastructure.

➢ Out of six college libraries, only three college libraries namely Dhakuakhana College, North Bank College and Harhi College have Internet facilities.

➢ Among six surveyed college libraries, only Dhakuakhana College is fully   automated.

➢ Among six surveyed colleges, three college libraries traditional printed collections are not enough to fulfil the need of its clientele.

➢ Non-print materials are also not enough to satisfy the need of users' community in all surveyed colleges. Dhakuakhana college library can fulfil the need of the users to a little extent.

➢ At present all the colleges are on the way to adopting digitization still majority of colleges do not have computer and other ICT equipments.

XI. SUGGESTIONS

Based on the study the following suggestions are   recommended:

❖ Concerned authority and management should be positive mind for upgrading their college libraries.

❖ Adequate financial assistance should be provided to the library by the   concerned authority.

❖ At present journals and newspapers are becoming   an integral of our life so surveyed library must try to increase their journals and newspaper collections.

❖ Authority must give assistance to the library staff in full automation of their library. Because automation is the way by which library personnel can provide quick services to the users.

❖ Every surveyed library must try to collect non-print materials and e-resources as it has more demand in a modern environment and it does not require any physical space for storing.

❖ Internet facilities should be made available in all college libraries. The   concerned authority must give importance on it.

Every library must try to enrol them in N-LIST consortium through which they can help the users in accessing e-journals and e-books.

XII.   CONCLUSIONS

From the above study, it is found that in collection development every library must follow a set of standard. Importance should be given to users demand while going to develop their collections. At present E-collections have more usability, so every library must develop their e-collections college authority and library staff must work together to avail the best collections to its users. Adoption of ICT infrastructure can bring revolutionary changes in college library collections and it can fulfil the needs of its users.

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