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A STUDY OF OPEN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES OF INDIA

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ABSTRACT :

Education is the nation's most powerful creator who equips society with the ability to be "adopted, adaptable and skilled". It is a fundamental tool for the cultural and social development of the country, where higher education is the key tool for bringing about socio-economic transformation. Students used to stay at the Guru's house and acquire knowledge by tradition. This system is called Gurukul education system. Gurukul means "learning at home with the Guru". The only way for the student to acquire knowledge was to stay in the Gurukul and serve the Guru and at the same time live a strict discipline, lead a moderate lifestyle and constantly practice what the Guru has taught the student and learn from the heart.

KEYWORDS: *socio-economic transformation , constantly practice , equips society.*

INTRODUCTION:

The history of modern education in India began with the arrival of European missionaries in the Indian subcontinent. Before the arrival of the British in India, European missionaries started first academic and then teacher education institutes. The influence of the colonial rule on India has made the education system less innovative, creative and less original. In a real sense, the Indian education system as we have it today dates back to the establishment of the British government in India after the arrival of the East India Company. They gradually began to change the Indian education system and one day we came up with a completely new process of educating the people. He changed the whole system to inculcate a European attitude in Indian children. He emphasized the use of English in education rather than his mother tongue. He started the textbook culture in India. The purpose of introducing textbooks was to prevent children from creating new knowledge and to make them feel that they are mere consumers of the knowledge that the textbook author wants to impart to them. The second and most dangerous consequence of the introduction of textbooks is the loss of respect for teachers in Indian society.

Teachers lost the right to decide what to teach and how to teach. All they had to do was follow the textbooks. Another concept introduced by the British in Indian education was that of examinations. The British planned to have centralized control over the Indian education system by introducing examination

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methods. So the students were limited to learning only what they wanted to cover in the exam and the rest was left. Thus the field of knowledge became very narrow. The examination system gave rise to a serious consequence in students known as cramming. In order to pass the exam, the students began to memorize what they understood or did not understand. At that time Indian students were not very good in English. So they started memorizing English concepts rather than learning from the heart.

OPEN/DISTANCE EDUCATION SYSTEM:

Through studies in various fields, educational institutions and the public sector were looking for an alternative education system to meet the challenges of access to higher education and equality for a large segment of the population and especially disadvantaged groups living in remote and rural areas such as hard working people, housewives and other adults seeking knowledge. One can get admission for learning as well as get a degree to get recognition as per the traditional teaching method.

Open and distance education in India started around 1960. By the 1980s, there were 34 universities teaching correspondence through departments designed for that purpose. The first single mode open university was established in Andhra Pradesh in 1982 as the Andhra Pradesh Open University on 26 August 1982 by the APOU Act 1982. The name of this university is Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University on 7[th]December 1991 by the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the APOU Act, 1992. Kundu further says that in 1985, the Central Government took the initiative to establish the National Open University and on September 20, 1985, the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) came into existence.

In addition to the above two open universities, we have 13 more state open universities established by the respective state grants. They are a single mode institution which means they are only teaching in distance mode and giving art catering to people who could not do regular courses due to various reasons. In addition, 140 dual universities offer programs / courses via distance mode. Thus, about 40% of the universities in India are offering distance education. To maintain academic standards and strong coordination among all ODL institutions, the Distance Education Council (DEC) was established in 1991 under Section 16 (7) of the IGNOU Act, 1985 along with Section 5 (2). Since then the DEC, as a supreme agency, has been responsible for accrediting ODL institutions in India.

Ghosh further states that most open and distance learning universities in India follow the UK Open University model. They coordinate communication and collaboration through the Distance Education Council (DEC), established in 1992. DEC is responsible for the maintenance, coordination and maintenance of quality and standards. Many factors, including emerging ICT, liberalization, privatization and globalization, have increased the demand for free and distance education. While the government is responsible for funding more than 90% of open and distance education, plans are underway to engage the private sector more closely, particularly by allowing fee increases.There are various benefits to choosing an Open University course. Patnaik and Mohanty give the following details:

- **Complementing the efforts of the traditional system:** The traditional system is partially unable to meet the needs of a growing number of students.
- **Equality of Opportunity:** Open University offers a good opportunity for all to update and acquire higher education.
- **Expand geographical access to education:** The Open University reaches out to every remote area through print and electronic means.
- **Increase the capacity of education in new areas:** Traditional system provides education within time. The Open University system meets the needs through new courses specifically designed for scientific and technological change.
- **Learning in a natural environment:** Through open universities, students can learn while working as well as in a home environment.

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- **Flexibility:** The Open University system meets a large number of requirements. People according to their needs.
- **High potential for in-service education:** Now with advances in science and technology, training institutes have been set up to enhance the skills and knowledge of government employees to take advantage of new developments. Area. Can be done through an open university. This can increase the scope in terms of content and numbers. It can provide in-service training especially for technical personnel.
- **New methods of teaching:** The flexibility required in an open university uses a variety of teaching methods to deliver quality education over long distances.
- **Student Support Services:** Student support services include a network of study centres and regional centres where counsellors / teachers act as teacher surrogates in the classroom and interact with students and are equipped with audio video cassettes, library and more. In this case the learner can make the best use of what the learning package offers.

PROCEDURE FOR MAINTENANCE OF LIBRARY COLLECTIONS:

Books and other reading materials including magazines, newspapers, audio-video collections are organized in various collections such as book collections, rare book collections, periodical collections and reference collections etc. Orders but magazines are arranged according to the journal title. Shelf and shelving of reading material from different collections should be improved as much as possible daily to ensure that the shelf arrangement of books and other reading material is in the prescribed order. Shelf modification is undertaken to ensure that books and other reading shelves are kept in the prescribed order. If it is not, the necessary repairs are made to restore order to the shelves. However, other library maintenance tasks may include removing out-dated books and other materials for repair or binding, sending out new books and journals for binding, displaying new books and other reading materials found in the library, and creating stack room guidesand returned after using the shelving volume, etc. The library can also do stock verification on a periodic basis, to remove books and write books as per their policy.

When discussing organizational structure and management outcomes, some important structural variables in organizational structure are considered as follows:

- Horizontal distinction
- Vertical variation
- Centralization
- Line and staff
- The size of the organization, the technology and the period of environmental control
- Unity of command
- Direction unity
- Scalar chain

DEVELOPMENT OF COLLECTION:

Collection development is one of the most challenging and imaginative processes in the library business through which, library staff acquires a variety of materials to meet the demands of its users. Harold's Librarians Glossary defines collection development as "the process of planning a stock acquisition program to create a regular and reliable collection over several years to meet not only immediate needs but also service objectives". Collection development is a very important function of the library. Users' needs, collection development strategy, selection, editing, management-evaluation, weeding, storage and storage are important areas of collection development.

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ROLE OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE IN DEVELOPMENT OF COLLECTION:

It is a well-known fact that a single person cannot do all the work, and so it is with librarians. Deciding and managing the policy of the library alone cannot bear the burden, it can be assisted by its representatives in the routine of the library, but the administrative and policy issues should be shared by a few more individuals. The role of the library committee seems to be portrayed here. The University Library Committee is the representative of the University; therefore its members should be selected for their interest in the development of library resources and services; And its functions should be informative and advisory rather than administrative and executive. Library committees are concerned with library policy and do not interfere in library administration but they can act as an advisory capacity and formulate policies for the development of higher education and research in collaboration with librarians. It can allocate funds for the library needs of different departments. In most universities, the vice-chancellor will be the school president and dean or head of department, and some senior faculty members will set up library committees. But it is better to have a collection development strategy to run and develop the library collection smoothly.

POLICY OF DEVELOPMENT COLLECTION:

There should be a written compilation development strategy, which can serve as a guide for librarians. But it has to be adapted to the needs of the users, the size of the library and the availability of funds.

1. **Pre-Requisite of Policy of Development of Collection:**
a. The quality and quality of the existing collection.
b. Number of students enrolled.
c. Number of teachers involved.
d. The nature of teaching methods.
e. Availability of funds

2. **Steps in Collection Building in a University Library:**
a. Analysis of user information needs.
b. To formulate and implement a selection policy in line with the objectives of the library.
c. Editing program to create a balanced collection.
d. Its impact on resource allocation and collection development.
e. Weeding of programs to ensure the effectiveness of the collection.

However, more generally collection development means that the printed and non-printed materials available in the library are really useful for customers to see the selection, editing and evaluation of the library collection. Its purpose is to find the information users need; Know the user's information needs, select and obtain documents that are really useful for customers, review the collection from time to time to remove unwanted and outdated documents from it.

Development of Collection in Digital Era:

The conditions and functioning of the library system have changed a lot due to information and communication technology and it is changing. Information and communication technology (ICT) has greatly increased the capabilities of library services, creating networking options to provide access to vast stores of electronic information, more sophisticated library housekeeping systems, and more bibliographic access through services. The view that changes in management and organizational structure in response to changing user needs affect the roles and responsibilities of employees who provide more customer-centric services. Further, under the pressure of factors like economics, technology, higher education and

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institutions, resources were exchanged in libraries and networking like INFLIBNET, DELNET, CALIBNET, NICNET, INDONET etc. was developed and the cooperatives were UGC-INFONET and INDEST Consortium etc.

Open University Library System:

Although the organizational structure of an open university central library is more or less the same as that of a regular university library system, the open library network operates through a three-tiered hierarchical system, with the central library at Zenith as the main coordinating link. Nodes are branch libraries in regional and study centres. The Central Library at Headquarters combines the features and functions of both academic and specialized libraries. This dual responsibility complicates library policies regarding collection development, selection and acquisition of multimedia resources, as well as the provision of library and information services to various clients in the Central Library and Regional and Study (R&S) branch libraries centers. "The central library in the open university system can provide various manual as well as electronic services to users including regular and remote users. And in addition to the traditional library services of lamination, the library also provides electronic services by retrieving information via OPAC, CD-ROM search, microform search and internet search. Other participants in the area can borrow books from libraries for a short period of time. Of practice Libraries should cooperate to provide full service to different categories of users. However, the collections developed in these libraries using selection and editing strategies may differ.

CONCLUSION:

Library professionals should be equipped for the advent of various technologies and provide good services for use as suggested by Galbo and Lapin's. He goes on to say that this is possible with the help of change management. For this, organizational culture which is a collective understanding, a shared and integrated set of perceptions, memories, values and attitudes that has been learned over time and which determines the behavioural expectations taught in their socialization in the library institution. To identify the prevailing current and preferred institutional culture types of educational libraries, especially in the direction of changing library culture and improving effectiveness in library settings.

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