CONTRIBUTION OF UGC IN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION LIBRARIES

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Abstract: Education and libraries are two sides of a same coin because both of them are so closely interrelated that they cannot be separated from each other. With the help of education we enable us to flee from the octopus clutches of ignorance and libraries are the main source of knowledge which answers to the quarries of all students who are in the main path of higher education like Students, Teachers, Researchers, Technocrats, and Technologist etc. The flourishment of library especially in higher education is the result of recommendation of various committee and commissions constituted after post-independence period. As the quality of higher education is controlled and maintained by University Grants Commission, our present endeavor is to examine their contribution in growth and development of libraries.

Keywords: UGC, Library Committee, INFLIBNET

1.0 Introduction: The progress and development of a country is mostly depending only on the Education and Library is the fulcrum of support for the entire range of academic activities on an educational institutions. Higher education is key to youth employability. With half of the country's population below 25 years age, Indians young exhibit a huge appetite for quality intuitions in higher education. As of March 2018 there are 854 Universities in India including 381 state universities, 130 deemed universities, 47 central universities, 240 private universities and 40,026 colleges in India. Some years ago there is no better arrangement and system of libraries in comparison with some other countries like USSR, USA, UK, France and Germany etc.

After that releasing and recognizing the importance of education in the reconstruction of Indian society after independence, the GOI appointed the University Education Commission which was set up under the chairmanship of S. Radhakrishnan to "to report on Indian University Education and suggest improvements and extensions." In 1952 the GOI decided that all grants to universities and higher learning institution should be handled by the UGC. So UGC played a vital role in the improvement of college and university Libraries.

2.0 Function and Role of UGC:

There are some function and role of UGC are given below

1. UGC and Library Committee
2. UGC and Academic Libraries
3. UGC and Scale of Library stuff
4. UGC and Library Science Training
5. UGC and Reprographic Service
6. UGC and Computers
7. Establishment of INFLIBNET

3.0 Recommendation for Enhanced Use of Libraries in Higher Education

The recommendation of numerous commissions and committees set up by UGC for development of college, University Libraries are:

3.1 The Library Committee (1957)

C.D. Deshmuk drawing analogy between University and Library that the administration is the head; the teachers are the soul and Library is the heart. In the year of 1957, the Library committee was established under the chairmanship of S.R. Ranganathan. The committee also known as 'Ranganathan Committee'. The committee suggested through the formula " at the rate of 15 per Student and 200 per research scholar. There

should also be special initial Library grants in the case of new university and of a new department in an existing university; a similar scale should be followed for the college libraries. In order to promote co-operation among Libraries, a Union list of periodicals to be prepared. The committee strongly recommended that an open access system be introduced in every academic Library. Committee also stressed "that reference service is the essential human process of established contact between the right reader and the right book by the personal service. Reference service is vital in promotion of reading habit in the students therefore each library should provide adequate number of reference Librarians to function as a library hosts and human converters." Other recommendation included building up a microfilm collection, coping facilities for microfilms and book material, appointment of a committee to look into the standards of teaching, examination and research in the library schools and appointment of fulltime searching faculty member rather than asking librarians to teach part time in the library schools. The committee added that "the status and the salary of the library stuff should be the same as that of the teaching and research stuff.

3.2 Review Committee of Library (1961)

In order to consider the question of improving and coordinating research in the department of Library and Information Science in Indian Universities under the chairmanship of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan a Review Committee was formed in July 1961, in which a questionnaire a note was prepared by the UGC, Which from the backbone of many developments of the subject of Library Science. The committee strongly recommended that department of LIS and Library of a University close cooperation between each other. It emphasized that Library for short periods and Librarian should maintain academic interest and deliver few lectures for the courses.

3.3 Education Commission (1964)

The vital significance of the Libraries in the education systems has been voiced by various commissions including the education commission (1964-66). "Without a good Library, high quality instruction and research in colleges and universities would be entirely inconceivable". The Education commission constitute under the chairmanship of Dr. D.S. Kothari (1964-66). This commission also known as Kothari Commission. The Commission devoted considerable attention to the development of the University Libraries and made suitable recommendation on the following points:

1.   Norms for the financial report;
2.   Long range planning for Library development;
3.   The need for the establishment of a well-equipped Library before the starting of a University, College or department;
4.   Suitable phasing over the Library grants;
5.   Encouraging the students in the use of books;
6.   In disciplinary communication and
7.   Documentation service in Libraries.

Monetary guide lines were also suggested by the commission. "As a norm, a University should spend each year about Rs. 25 per student registered and 300 per Teacher [of the total budget] depending on the stage of development of each University Library".

It was also suggested that "the foreign exchange needed for University and College Libraries Should be allowed separate by the UGC."

4.0 Mehrotra Committee (1983)

The Mehrotra Commission constitute under the chairmanship of professor R.C. Mehrotra marked another important stage in the history of higher education Libraries in India, in 1983 by UGC. The committee submitted reports on revision of pay scale of Librarian to the UGC on Sept. 3, 1986. The commission discussed about qualification for the recruitment of Librarians and the promotion of the Librarian should be linked with the additional qualification. The committee suggested that the Librarians should be given duty leave to avoid opportunities to attained summer school, workshops, seminars etc. to keep a breast with the modern developments. The GOI accepted the recommendations of the Mehrotra Committee and implemented it.

4.1 Committee of National Network System for University Libraries [INFLIBNET] (1988)

Committee on National Network System constituted by UGC in the year of 1988, under the chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal suggested that to build a strong communication network for linking Librarian and Information Centers, between all the Universities in higher education and research institutes of our country.

The main objective was to the committee, Share the existing resources to optimize utilization avoid duplication holdings so as to have an access to wide range of literature.

4.2 Curriculum Development Committee in Library and Information Science (Continuing since 1990)

In Sept. 1990, the Curriculum Development Committee on LIS was constituted on the recommendation of UGC. The Committee gave a historical overview of the development of LIS education in Independent India and the present status of LIS education. The committee emphasized provision of minimum accommodation for the department of LIS, setting up of the Library and workshop cum information processing laboratory, strength of teaching stuff and non-teaching staff and recruitment of teachers qualification by the UGC. The most important contribution of the committee was the formation of new curriculum with core courses and optional courses.

5.0 Some Important Schemes and Programme for Promoting College and University Libraries

5.1 Loan Education Exchange Programme (1951-1961)

During the 1950's and early 1960's the Indian academic Libraries received huge grants from the UGC amounting up to Rs. 1,00,000 for books, buildings, equipment's and even for the additional staff. At the same time may Libraries get additional grants from a special US Fund called the Wheat Loan Programme.

5.2 Book Bank and Collection Development Scheme

UGC introduced 'Book Bank' Scheme in the year of 1963-64. Book Bank are to be set up in all the Medical, Engineering, Agriculture, Law and Vaterinary degree colleges and institute imparting charted accountancy, MBA and a like management courses and polytechnics where SC students are the receipt of post-matric scholarship. The main objective of this scheme is to provide text book to poor, needy and deserving students for home study on long term basis charging nominal deposits. The UGC provided substantial grants since its inception for the acquisition of books and journal under general development schemes and for special programs. The fund are allotted to the Universities and colleges for every five year plan period.

UGC scheme of the development grant to the colleges under XII th plan which have been included under section of 12B of the UGC act, grant for the purchase of Books and Journals including e-journals, microfilms, CDs including setting up book banks in order to augment the facilities and improve reading habits of the students. The Library grant maybe utilize over the plan period to procure the latest publications. Care maybe taken not to purchase second hand books. The amount up to 15% under this item may be utilize for staking purpose.

5.3 Infrastructural Facilities

UGC has provided grants Library as well as rendering of effective and efficient service depends the functional building, modern equipment and appropriate furniture. The committee that a proposal for any new building, fittings and furniture or for the adoptions of existing library building or for extension of library should be examined and approved by a Library expert appointed by UGC.

During the XII th plan, envisaged that each University Library should have well stacked and comprehensive, automated digitized Central Library. The amount up to 10% of the grant allocated under this item is for providing stacking facilities including furniture, equipment, computerization and automation of the Library and the college can construct/extend/renovate various types of building such as Library, Laboratory and Class rooms. The building grant will be available on 100% basis. However expenditure on construction/extension and renovation of building should not exceed 50% of the total grant under General Development Assistance.

5.4 Coaching Scheme for SC/ST/OBC (Non- Creamy Layer) Minority Students for Universities and Colleges

Financial assistance under the scheme is available to such Universities and Colleges which came within the purview of section 2(f) and are fit to receive central assistance under section 12(B) of the UGC act, 1956. Institutions having sufficient number of SC, ST, OBC will be considered for the financial assistance.

5.4.1 University
Nature of Assistance

The financial assistance is available for the following items:

Non-Recurring Items: A "One time" grants up to Rs. 5.0 Lakhs for the each scheme during the XII plan period for the following items:

- Books and Journals
- Audio-Visual and teaching-learning aid material
- Computer with Printer
- Photo Copier
- Generator or Invertor

5.4.2 College
Nature of Assistance

Non-Recurring Items: Not to be exceed

Table-1: Coaching Scheme of Development Grant to the colleges

	Coaching scheme for entry in Service	Coaching scheme for NET/SET	Remedial Coaching Scheme
Books & Journal	2 Lakhs	1 Lakhs	2 Lakhs
Equipment	3 Lakhs	2.5 Lakhs	3 Lakhs

5.4.3 Travel Grant

This scheme is to provide for support to Teachers/Technical Officers/All Administrative Officers viz. Registrar/Librarians/Directors/Physical Education for visiting centers of Research or to attained Conference/Seminars/Symposia/Workshop held in India.

   a. **Faculty Development Programme**

   The teacher should be permanent/ confirmed. The teacher should not be more than 50 years of age (Relax able by 5 years to women teacher) should have at least 3 years of experience. Although Librarian is a teaching staff but not having any teaching experience are not eligible for this scheme.

   b. **Career Oriented Courses**

   Various career oriented (Certificate, Diploma and Advanced diploma) courses are available under this scheme. College Library is eligible to conduct this Programme. Advance courses alike Library Automation and Networking, Library and office automation etc.

6.0 Conclusion:

The development of higher education and Libraries in India as compared to the pre- independence period is much faster and qualitative in the post-independence era. The major factors responsible for such a development were the university education commission of 1948-49, the Kothari commission 1964-66 and the birth of the UGC in 1956. Funds have will always remain the backbone of any institution. The UGC took special interest in higher education libraries and with the help of its Library committee; establishment of INFLIBNET (An autonomous Inter University Center of UGC) in the year 1991 is a milestone in the process for networking of academic libraries.

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