### DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the dissertation entitled 'COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY: A CRITICAL STUDY' submitted by me has not previously formed the basis for the award of any Degree or Diploma or other similar title of this or to any other University or examining body.

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### CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the dissertation entitled "COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY: A CRITICAL STUDY" submitted by Mr. Malsawmdawnga Chawngthu for the award of the degree of Master of Philosophy in Library and Information Science is carried out under my guidance and incorporates the student bonafide research. This is the candidate original work and is worthy of examination.

Aizawl, Mizoram

(Dr. S.N. Singh)

Supervisor

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Aizawl

Malsawmdawnga Chawngthu

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### LIST OF ABBREVIATION

2. CAS:Current Awareness Service3. CD ROM:Compact Disc Read OnlyMemory4. CWIS:Campus Wide Information System5. DPL:Delhi Public Library6. DDO:Designated Detention Officer7. DVD:Digital Video Disc8. DLO:District Library Officer9. DYRC:District Youth Resource Centers10. E-MAIL:Electronic Mail11. ERNET:Electronic Mail13. HRD:Human Resource Development14. IBM:International Business Machines15. IT:International Networking for Educational Transformation18. INFLIBNET:Information Library Network19. ILA:Indian Library Association20. ITC:Information Technology Communication21. IFLA:International Federation of Library Association22. IASLIC:International Federation of Library Association
4. CWIS:Campus Wide Information System5. DPL:Delhi Public Library6. DDO:Designated Detention Officer7. DVD:Digital Video Disc8. DLO:District Library Officer9. DYRC:District Youth Resource Centers10. E-MAIL:Electronic Mail11. ERNET:Education and Research Network12. FTP:File Transfer Protocol13. HRD:Human Resource Development14. IBM:International Business Machines15. IT:Information Technology16. ILL:Inter Library Loan17. INET:International Networking for Educational Transformation18. INFLIBNET:Information Library Network19. ILA:Indian Library Association20. ITC:Information Technology Communication21. IFLA:International Federation of Library Association22. IASLIC:Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centers
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22. IASLIC : Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centers
Centers
23. LAN : Local Area Network
24. MSL : Mizoram State Library
25. NAPLIS : National Policy for Public Libraries
26. NGO : Non Govermental Organization
27. NICNET : National Information center Network

28. OPAC	:	Online Public Access Catalog
29. PC	:	Personal Computer
30. PWD	:	Public Work department
31. RCC	:	Reinforced Cement Concrete
32. RRRLF	:	Raja Rammohun Ror Library Foundation
33. RLG	:	Research Libraries Group
34. SDI	:	Selective Dissemination Information
35. SLA	:	State Library Authority
36. SLC	:	State Library Committee
37. SLPC	:	State Library Planning Committee
38. SIRNET	:	Scientific and Industrial Research Network
39. TV	:	Television
40. UDC	:	Upper Division Clerk
41. UNESCO	:	United Nations, Educational Scientific and Cultural
		Organization.
42. UT	:	Union Territory
43. WLN	:	Western Library Network
44. YMA	:	Young Mizo Association

# CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

# CHAPTER 2 MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY

# CHAPTER 3 COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT IN MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY

### **CHAPTER 4**

### CONTRIBUTION OF RRRLF FOR THE COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT OF MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY

### CHAPTER 5 DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

## CHAPTER 6 SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

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Libraries are good resources to cater the needs of academic community. Today there is an increasing awareness towards having access to information; therefore, libraries should be developed to meet the changing technological environment. To meet the requirement for developing the library in a standard library system, the availability of fund plays a crucial role.

India is world's largest democracy. Nine hundred sixty million people are inhabiting 12 big cities (with a population of 10lakhs and above), 3939 towns and 5.57,137 villages. There are 457 districts. In such a vast democratic country public library facilities are inadequate. Out of 457 districts only 357 districts have some sort of district libraries. There are in all 42,531 public libraries.

Among the 26 states of India, library legislation was enacted only in 10. In the remaining states, that too big state like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan, library legislation and library provision to the public is medieval in nature and content. Library resources itself is inadequate and the resources in libraries are further inadequate. For a vast population of 960 million people, only new pages of reading materials per head are available. This shows the poverty of our resources for intellectualism.

The state library was established in 1974 by the Government of Mizoram under the Department of Education. Before 1989, state library was under Department of Education. But now State Library is under the Department of Art& Culture. It is headed by the State Librarian. The Mizoram State Library has two professional staff with 9 supporting staff.

A Public Library is an Institution, established and administered under a state law by a local government or an ad-hoc library authority or by a Government Department wholly or partly financed other public funds, open to all without distinction. A well knitted public library system put to an end of isolated functioning of public libraries and their Affiliates. The public library system needs to have a distinct hierarchical structure to achieve the following objectives.

- Fostering and promoting the spread of knowledge, education and Culture.
- Strengthening the forces of socialism, secularism, democracy and rule of law
- Equal opportunity of free access to the users of rural as well as urban areas regardless of race, colour, age, sex, nationality, language, Status or Level of Educational attainment.
- Providing vision perspective, insight and leadership to the Library movement.
- Promoting Socio Economic Development of the Society by catering to the needs of Millions of Neo-Literate from the poorest and weaker Section of the Society.

Until the trifurcation of Education Department of Mizoram in 1989, public libraries were on the supervision and administration of education Department. But, since that time, Public Libraries came under the Directorate of Art and Culture till today. During the Assam Government, the first Public Library was established in Aizawl as SubDivisional Library, which has now elevated to the category of District Library.

Besides the above there are 452 recognized village libraries, which are run by the largest in the State, Young Mizo association (YMA). Buildings of such Libraries are voluntarily constructed by the local people and the staffs are also on voluntary basis.

### 1.1 RRRLF ASSISTANCE TO MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY

Mizoram has attained a very high literacy percentage which means most of the people can read regional literature and the scheme of the matching fund of the foundation is the backbone of non-formal education in this State. The matching fund received from the Foundation is fully utilized for the purpose and most of the interior place to receive reading materials, which is the beginning of development of the state.

RRRLF came into existence in the year 1972 and incidentally this was the year Mizoram became a Union Territory, only after 10 years of establishment of the foundation. Since then, i.e. from 1982-1983 onwards Mizoram have high percentage of literacy of the people. Books distributed under RRRLF have gladly helped the rural villages. It also works as a good means of Non Formal Education.

Dr. BP Barua the former director, Shri B. Bhattacharjee, field officer and Shri A. Guha, assistant field officer of North East Area have made sincere efforts in helping the people of Mizoram in the field of library services.

The function of a state library should be incorporated in the legislation. The State Government should provide necessary infrastructure and finance to ensure that these functions are actually performed. The annual budget of the state libraries in India, incidentally, is so meager that they are reduced to second or third-rate public libraries.

#### **1.2 ROLE OF STATE LIBRARY**

All the 25 states except Sikkim and all the Union Territories, except Daman & Diu have State Libraries. The State Library is supposed to provide leadership in the development of public library system in the state, besides being a coordinating and common service center. But, unfortunately despite library legislation, they have failed to any role whatsoever in the development of the State library system. They function Primarily as Public Libraries for the Cities where they are located. Some of the Public Libraries in the Country on the contrary are better equipped in terms of Buildings, Furniture, staffs and reading materials than the State Libraries. The Primary reason for the failures of the State Libraries in the discharged of its allowed function has kept their isolated functioning. They offer no service to the Divisional or District Libraries, Person living outside the Capital Cities where State Libraries are generally located are sometimes not even aware of the existence of their state library because they offer no service to them.

#### **1.3 FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The functions performed by the public library are as follows:

- a) It collects the printed materials and audiovisual materials.
- b) Logical organization of materials for convenient use.
- c) Provision of information services so that they may be used.
- d) Guidance to individuals in the use of educational and recreation materials.

The materials are provided to:

- a) Facilitate informal self education of the people in the community.
- b) Enrich and further development of the subject on which individuals are undertaking formal education.
- c) Meet the informal needs of all.
- d) To support the educational, civic and cultural activities of groups and organization.
- e) To encourage the constructive use of leisure time.

A public library performs other functions such as,

- a) Information
- b) Education
- c) Recreation
- d) Entertainment
- e) Inspiration

In developed countries many users use a public library for the purpose of self-improvement. They are concerned with information and education. Success of a democracy depends upon universal education of people.

In this context education is a continuing and lifelong process. Education of neo-literate should be taken care of. Recreation and entertainment should be provided through reading. Certain kinds of books can lead to relaxation achievement of pleasure.

UNESCO Public Manifesto, "Proclaims UNESCO's belief in the public library as a living force for education culture and Information and as on essentials agents for the fostering of peace and understanding between people and the nations.

It may be noted that Television and Radio performed the same function as these of public libraries; Books have certain advantages and disadvantages. A powerful media and can sustain the interest of a viewer to a greater extent than books. In some of the western library there is an integration of various media such as books, periodical publication, and audiovisual resources.

### 1.4 LIBRARY LEGISLATION: CURRENT STATUS

Several attempts are being made by individuals and library associations to provide public libraries under law. Apart from Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, a number of individuals spent their time and energy to put on the statute book public library laws. Notable among them are Kumar Munindra Deb Rai Mahasai of Bengal, K.V. Krishna Swamy Iyer, T.R. Venkataraman Sastry, Basheer Ahmed Sayeed of Madras, M.V. Donde of Bombay, K.M. Ujalambkar of Hyderabad and P.N. Kaula of Delhi.

It is only after India's independence that, Dr. Ranganathan's dream of public library act enactment was fulfilled. Through the good offices of the then Minister for Education, Avinaslingam Chettiar, a modified Bill was introduced in the state legislature which was passed as the Madras Public Libraries Act in 1948. Since then the following ten states have enacted library acts for their respective states:

1. Tamil Nadu (1948)

2. Andhra Pradesjh (1960)

3. Karnataka (1965)

4. Maharashtra (1967)

5. West Bengal (1979)

6. Manipur (1988)

7. Kerala (1989)

8. Haryana (1989)

9. Goa (1993)

10. Mizoram (1993)

It is hearting to note that the major states in terms of population and other natural resources like UP, MP, Bihar, Rajasthan and Punjab have no library legislation. No professional force is able to motivate the state governments in this direction.

#### 1.5 PREREQUISITES OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Collection development is interplay of the library's aims and objectives and the strategies of the librarian and his staff in order to meet the user's needs within the constraints of the library. For this purpose the library has to formulate a clear policy of the acquisition, periodic evaluation of the collection and the systematic weeding out of documents.

Bloomfield observed that the collection development involves identification of some of the key issues like:

• Identification of the purpose and mission of the library/parent organization.

• Formulation of library's collection development policy by library committees or by library staff.

• Matching between users' requirements and institutions aims and objectives.

• Budgetary provisions and the contingent problems.

• Working out the strategies for implementing the policies and programs; and

• Maintaining, revising and updating policy statements.

#### **1.6 COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

In this course, the primary focus is on collection development policies in libraries. However, many other agencies, especially non-profit ones, have collection development policies. For example, the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections has an excellent and somewhat lengthy set of guidelines for natural history collections. For example, their first objective is:

"Management and care of collections of natural history materials should be governed by respect for the scientific, historic, physical, cultural, and aesthetic integrity of the specimen or artifact and its associated data. Concern for the future should include protection against unnecessary damage, loss, or alteration that might affect its future research, educational, or exhibition potential."

An example of one of their responsibility statements:

"Each institution should develop collections policies and procedures that provide a written framework for collection management, care, and use. It is essential that each institution also provide the resources (e.g., time, money, qualified personnel, appropriate space, and facilities) needed for the long-term preservation and documentation of the collection under its responsibility, or make alternative arrangements for collection management and care with an appropriate allied institution."

An example of one of their staff responsibility statements:

"Collection care personnel should have appropriate training to understand fully all aspects of collection work (e.g., legal, ethical, environmental conditions, management, security, health and safety), the limitations of their own expertise and authority, and the consequences of any decisions and/or actions they make take or recommend. Every effort must be made to consult with appropriate specialists to ensure that all aspects of management, preservation, and use are considered before authorization for actions is given."

An example of one of their use of collections statements:

"Use of collections should be carried out in ways that are compatible with preservation objectives and concerns held by indigenous peoples, whenever possible. Certain specimens or artifacts may be considered too rare, fragile, culturally sensitive, or significant for exhibition or loan

(e.g. type specimens, specimens of extinct species, historically significant specimens, or specimens in poor condition."

### 1.7 ADVANTAGES OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Several authors like Katz, Magrill and Hickey mentioned the advantages of a written collection development policy. Their views can be summarized as follows:

A collection development policy:

- expresses openly its relationship with the objectives of the parent organization/ library.
- forms the basis for planning collection development.
- provides practical guidance in day to day selection of reading materials free from personal bias.
- helps in determining the best method of acquisition.
- supports and assists in justifying the selection/collection.

CD policy offers some help against censorship by a clear statement of the type of materials to be purchased and indicating that the policy has the support of the library authority/ committee.

• acts as a rational guide for budget allocation and also helps in long range budget planning by stating priorities and outlining growth and development goals.

• helps in making best use of resources.

• facilitates cooperative programs like inter library loans, resource sharing and networks.

• assists in establishing methods of reviewing materials before purchase.

• offers suggestions on types of materials to be stored, weeded out and discarded

### **1.8 LIBRARY COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT IN AN ELECTRONIC AGE:**

Electronic technologies and collection development are two of the top concerns in library and information science today. In a recent analysis of the literature, four major trends in library and information science were identified: increases in end-user access to computer-based information resources; library use of networks and telecommunications; dependency on CD-ROM-based information sources; and emphasis on collection management activities.

Clearly, collection management is a fundamental concern. Demas puts the matter into perspective this way: "Electronic publishing has profound implications for collection development, which is defined as the intentional and systematic building of the set of information resources to which the library provides access. While the principles of collection development, which were developed in the world of, print publications, do not change radically with new publishing technologies, methods of decision making and specific selection guidelines must be adjusted significantly to incorporate new publishing formats".

Although most of the current literature cited below refers to academic or research libraries, much of the content applies to all types of libraries. This digest will

focus on problems and solutions of practical interest to all librarians.

The challenges of integrating electronic resources technologies into the process of collection and development are many, and many-faceted. Beyond taskoriented considerations, such as the selection process itself, there are large-scale management issues to consider such as budget, policy, personnel, and technology. Some of the biggest problems, not surprisingly, stem from simultaneous decreases in funding and increases in operating costs. Collections budgets are at special risk because they are not directly connected to the number of staff positions or level of user services (Otero-Boisvert, 1993). Academic libraries note impacts of electronic technologies on research, such as increasing demands for electronic searching capabilities, demands for access to machine-readable scholarly texts, and use of network discussion groups for scholarly communication (Shreeves, 1992).

Three areas of collection development that seem to be the most problematic are selection, acquisitions, and inter-institutional cooperation. Two themes pervade the discussions: the shift in library philosophy from ownership of locally stored resources to provision of access to electronically stored resources; and the need for rethinking collection development policy, both to support the new philosophy and to better deal with new types of resources on a day-to-day basis.

### 1.9 SIGNIFICANCE AND SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The library is the nucleus of information centers which support learning, teaching and research needs of the users' communities by providing access to scholarly literature. Growth and changes have always been predominant characteristics of libraries, these generates collections and services within the library system. For this, fund is the basic needs of library. Mizoram State Library is receiving fund for its growth and development from RRRLF. Collection of information must remain flexible enough to support to the causes of the information requirements of the users in the MSL. This opens avenue for collections development including imparting of services within the library system.

Based on the fund received from the RRRLF, the research work aims at evaluating the flexibility of MSL and also their capabilities in developing a process to integrate recent changes in the standard library practice to meet the current and update demands of the users' communities. The advancement of technology also leads to the needs of more funds for institutional repositories, which adds great value and recognition to the library itself as well as the library professionals. Moreover, the study will also open new windows to other libraries in the state.

Mizoram State Library plays an important role in promoting and supplementing higher education in the state. Mizoram being the second highest literacy state in the country, having 88% of literacy in 2001 census, have the great potential to make use of the fund received by them from RRRLF to have a better access to the academic

world. With the help from RRRLF by way of funding, the MSL can also organize various programs that are intended to impart the knowledge and skills that would enable students to become effective and efficient. There is a great chance for MSL to be at par with other state libraries by way of proper utilization of fund received by them.

The scope of the present study extends to its services, collection development, developing of websites, dissemination of information, development of infrastructure and above all, the service provide by the MSL in the public libraries attached to them.

#### **1.10 REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

An extensive survey of literature available in the relevant area of the study to make update with information has been taken. The scholar also has taken proper care to scan the published literature in the concerned area and some of them are included here.

### Balakrishnan, S. and Paliwal, P.K. (2001) Library collection and Automation, Delhi: Anmol Publication.

A library collecting priorities depends on some determining factors like the scope of collection, the resources available in terms of money, space and staff, and its use. This book tries to narrate that the complete aspects related to library and information technology in twentyfirst century. This book offers the most thorough treatment available on the application of library science techniques to information management problems and completely integrated presentation of library systems and its function.

### Bhusan, A. (2007). Collection Management in libraries, New Delhi: Cyber Tech Publication.

This book provides the basis for the systematic development of the library's collection. The process through which it is developed is one of its most important strength. It will provide the community with a better understanding of the library and library staff with more interaction with its community.

Clayton, Peter, and G.E. Gorman. (2002). "Updating Conspectus for a Digital Age" Library Collection, Acquisition, & Technical Services 26:253-58.

Reemphasizing some themes from the conspectus chapter in their 2001 collection management textbook, Clayton and Gorman stress that the conspectus "urgently needs to be updated" because it was developed in the pre digital age. They maintain that the conspectus should consider resources a library provides access to in addition to its present focus on what is owned, that is, it should be 'resource access centered' rather than 'collection centered'. The authors conclude that either a new instruments must be developed for assessing the resources available in and through libraries or the conspectus must be revised to meet this need.

Drummond, Rebecca C., and Mary H. Munroe.(1996). "Including Access Conspectus Methodology." In advances in Collection Development and Resource Management, vol.2, 63-79. Greenwich, CT: JAI Press.

Drummond and Munroe decide the conspectus, supporting the "old paradigm" of ownership, focuses on size of holdings without considering a library's ability to access unowned materials. They also note the Supplemental Guidelines for assigning collecting levels based on ownership are "vague and ambiguous." A large section discusses access issues, including speed, reciprocal borrowing, Internet resources, informing patrons about access methods.

# *Evans, G. Edward. (2004). Developing Library and information Center collection, Colorado: Libraries Unlimited.*

Collection development is an exciting and challenging area in which to work and selecting the right materials for the library community is a intellectually demanding an activity as a librarian will encounter. This book can serve as the starting point in that learning process. This book provide practical information an material producer and distributors, community survey technique, policies, materials selection, acquisition and evaluation in order to minimize the variables involved in the selection process. This book was written with the intent of emphasizing the similarities between types of libraries in the process of developing collection.

Ferguson, Anthony W. (1992). "The Conspectus and Cooperative Collection Development: What it can and cannot do." Acquisition Librarian no.7: 105-14

This essay explores the conspectus role in cooperative collection development. The author surmises that conspectus-based cooperative collection development agreements have been "illusive" because implementing the conspectus became an end itself. Further, competitiveness among libraries, their desire for autonomy, and the ownership paradigm have been barriers to cooperation. He contends that two "concept" that is, categories for assigning collecting levels, need to be added to the conspectus; 'desired collecting goals' and 'cooperative collecting responsibilities.' Ferguson's opinion carries authority because he was among the collection development librarians that spent thirteen years developing the conspectus.

# Gopal, Krishan. (2003). Library collection conundrums and contradiction, Delhi: Author Press.

Collection development needs to be based not only on what a book is about but also on its suitability as evidence from which people can learn. This book elaborative discusses the astonishing richness of materials sources of information. The important distinction between library material and the activity of collection development, the role of collection as part of the retrieval process, the significance for collection development activities of the technical medium of materials and the tending for libraries collection to conform to the cultural value of its social context.

Lange, Janice, and Richard J. Wood. (2000). "The Conspectus: A Tool for Collection Assessment and Description." Encyclopedia of Library & Information Science 66, supplement 29: 65-78

This lengthy encyclopedia article provides an overview of the Conspectus at the turn of the millennium and incidentally, approximately twenty years after its origin. Although descriptive rather than prescriptive, the authors observe the conspectuses both collection centered and client centered The traditional uses of the conspectus collection development policy making, budget justification, resource sharing, communication, training etc are discussed. Taking generally favorable attitudes, this entry offer a relatively current in-depth analysis of the conspectus.

## Rastogi, K.G. (2006). Acquisition and Collection development in library science, New Delhi: Alfa Publication.

This book dwells on all these aspects of acquisition and collection in the libraries. In this book, the author has focused on the collection development policies, selection policies and acquisition policies. However, many librarians use the term interchangeably, perhaps because some of the same information is included in policies which are variously identified as collection development, selection, or acquisition policies.

## Sharma, J.B. (1995). Organization and development of libraries, Delhi: Kaniksha Publishers Distributors.

The development of libraries has become a very complex and important phenomenon in the information dominated society of today. The author addresses some key issues related to the collection development of library. The libraries and the library scientist have to play a great role in the work of information technology and development of the Library.

## **1.11 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Mizoram State Library is the one of the largest library in terms of resources that is available in the State. This State Library caters the information needs for every walk of the Mizoram public. The major allocation of fund for the library is received from RRRLF, only minimal support is extended by the State Government towards the State Library. In this situation MSL is more or less fully depended on outside funding agencies to manage the library resources and to procure new collection.

## **1.12 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- 1. To ascertain the use of Mizoram State Library by the users.
- 2. To recognize the principles and problems of collection development.
- 3. To examine the role of RRRLF in Mizoram State Library as an agency for the development of the society.
- To find out the feasibility of modernization in Mizoram State Library along with the opportunities and challenges posed by electronic materials.

## **1.13 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The present study is based on the collection development and utilization of the Mizoram State Library. The scholar prepared a semi structured questionnaire for the user constituting relevant variables to the study for all types of users of MSL to meet their information requirement and another for collection development in the library. A total number of 400 questionnaire were distributed among the users , out of which, while 315 filled in questionnaire in total were received which constituted from 190 male and 125 female, remaining 85 questionnaire were not received and this constituted 79% respectively.

Further the scholar applied the interview methods with the librarian, which helped the scholar to obtain primary data concerning to the research problem. The scholar also explored some URL sites to draw relevant information pertaining to the study.

The secondary source of information such as unpublished dissertation, research articles, pre-reviewed journals, open access journal and books also have been consulted to make the study were exhaustive and authentic.

## **1.14 CHAPTERISATION**

Chapter 1	:	Introduction.		
Chapter 2	:	Mizoram State Library.		
Chapter 3	:	Collection Development in MSL		
Chapter 4	:	Contribution of RRRLF for the		
		collection development of MSL.		
Chapter 5	:	Data Analysis and Finding.		
Chapter 6	:	Suggestions and Conclusion.		
		Bibliography		

#### 1.15 CONCLUSION

Libraries are the brightest beacons on enlighten. Libraries contain books which contain the entire past in them. Books and other documents make the private knowledge public. Hence the resources of libraries, needless to say, including public libraries are the fulcrum for the social, economic and cultural growth of a community, a nation or a state. The health of a country can be largely guessed form the health of its library system.

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Until the trifurcation of Education Department of Mizoram in 1989, Public Libraries were on the supervision and administration of Education Department. But, since that time, Public libraries came under the Directorate of Art and Culture till today. During the Assam Government, the first Public Library was established in Aizawl under the name of Sub- Divisional Library, which has now elevated to the category of District Library. The State Library came into existence in the year 1984. The State Librarian headed it. Besides, there are Five District Libraries in Mizoram. The State Library is now situated at New Capital Complex, Khatla. It has its own building and has been working since 2011.

Besides the above, there are 450 recognized libraries, which are run by the largest NGO in the state, Young Mizo Association (YMA). Buildings of such libraries are voluntarily constructed by the local people and the staffs are also on voluntary basis.

## 2.1 BUILDING

Government of Mizoram had taken up construction of Mizoram State Library at new capital complex, Khatla, Aizawl from the grant received from Library Foundation Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Kolkata amounting to `125.00 lakhs, to that effect Administration approval was accorded by Government of Mizoram on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2007 amounting to `125.00 lakhs. The work was tendered and allotted to Mr. Ramthanmawia, class-I contractor, Laipuitlang, Aizawl at an agreement amount ` 93, 37,830.32. The work was commencing w.e.f 15<sup>th</sup> April 2007 and completed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2009 within the sanctioned amount. The progress of work was hindered due to irregular fund flow as well as additional works at basement portion.

The building is 4(four) storied RCC framed structure i.e. Basement I, Basement II, Ground Floor & First Floor. The walls are half brick wall and the windows are aluminium frame with 5mm thick glass panes. The roof is Dyna roof 0.50mm thick fixed on steel roof truss and flooring is finished with joint free ceramic tile of 8mm thick.

The total area of the building is 1300.87 Sq.m. The floor wise provisions of rooms as per architectural drawings are as follows:

1. Basement I. Area= 267.61 sq.m.

This floor is designated for Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation distribution of books.

Basement II. Area i) Ordinary floor = 290.60 sq. m
 ii) Mezzanin floor = 64.19 sq.m

= 356.79 sq.m

This floor is used for Children Reading Hall and Children Section.

3. Ground Floor Area 367.37 sq.m.

This floor is used for Library

4. First Floor Area 309.10 sq.m

This floor is used for Lecture Hall.

The Architectural design and drawing are prepared by Architect Cell of Chief Engineer, PWD Aizawl Mizoram.

## 2.2 STAFF

At present there are 9 staff in the State Library such as State Librarian- 1 no. Counter Attendant-1 no. UDC- 3 nos. IV Grade -2 nos. Night Chowkidar- 1 no. Driver-1no.

## 2.3 USERS

In the State Library of Mizoram, the users are divided into two categories such as Adult and Children. The following are the total numbers of users of library;

> Total numbers of Adult members- 4092 Total numbers of Children members- 4359 Total numbers of Users per day- 20 Total numbers of members- 8451 (4092+4359)

In the state library, the membership fee is divided into two, such as Adult ` 10 and Children ` 5 along with ` 100 as security deposit. The member can borrow two books at one time. The duration of borrowing books is 10 days unless Re1 will be charged per day as late fee.

### 2.4 OFFICE HOURS

The office hours/opening of library of Mizoram State Library also follows the patterns of Mizoram Government office hours. In winter season, the opening hours of State Library, monday to friday is 9:30 am-4:00 pm. In summer season, the opening hours of the library are 9:30 am- 5:00pm, on monday to friday.

### 2.5 BUDGET

The main source of budget for public libraries in Mizoram is financed by the State Government. Budget allocation for past years is shown in the table, supplemented with graph for clear information.

Year	Plan Grant	Non Plan Grant
	(`in Lakh)	(`in Lakh)
2004-2005	16.73	16.70
2005-2006	18.87	17.90
2006-2007	12.89	17.90
2007-2008	28.80	19.30
2008-2009	8.70	23.85
2009-2010	8.75	35.25
2010-2011	32.60	39.75

Table 1: Budget Allocation from RRRLF

Besides the State Government budget allocation, it also received matching fund and central assistance from the Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), Ministry of Culture and Government of India. During 2004-2005 financial years, the State Government contributed Rs 12 Lakh to this foundation as matching fund. A grant from RRRLF is a boon for development services not only for state library but also for Public Libraries in Mizoram particularly for the recognized village libraries.

## 2.6 SERVICES

The Mizoram State Library provides the following services-

- 1) Issue of documents.
- 2) Provision of general and specific information.

- Assistance in the searching or location of documents or use of Library catalogue or understanding of reference books.
- 4) Readers advisory services
- 5) Library orientation and bibliographic instruction and
- 6) Extension services.

## 2.7 ACTIVITIES OF STATE LIBRARY

The following activities are taken by the State Library:

- In collaboration with the Mizoram Library Association, it conducted Three (3) Months Certificate course in Library Science in 1997. 24 (Twenty Four) persons participated in this course and some of them get employment after the completion of course.
- 2) The directorate of art & Culture and Mizoram Library Association in collaboration with the Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) conducted Seminar cum Training Since 1989 in alternative years. This helps particularly the Village Librarian to access more in the field of Library and Information Science.
- The Mizoram State Library remains observe 'National Book Week' 14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Nov for spreading over Usefulness of Library or Library awareness campaign every year.
- In association with RRRLF inspection team, the Village/ Recognized libraries are inspected occasionally.
- The Mizoram State Library also occasionally organizes Book Exhibition and book fare.
- 6) It has separate children collection equipped with English. These collections cater the information as well as recreational needs of the children.

- 7) It is a distribution center. The State Library contains books and furniture from RRRLF to distribute to the recognized libraries, so the distribution works of books and furniture to the village libraries are done by the Mizoram State Library.
- 8) The State Library has been doing Newspaper binding; this is very useful for the information needed persons or the one who is doing research.

## 2.8 STATE LIBRARY AUTHORITY

In every Act, there must be provision for constituting a State Library Authority (SLA). This is essential and it formed the kingpin of the entire system. Except in model Public Libraries Act, 1955 which has a short span of life, there is no mention of State Library Authority in any Acts in clear terms. There is no provision also in the present Acts to constitute any State Library Authority. Neither the minister for Libraries, nor any corporate body is declared to be the State Library Authority with a statutory obligation to establish, maintain, and administer the public library system of the state. But, in case of city/ district library authority as bodies corporate having perpetual succession and common seal with power to acquire hold and dispose of property, they can enter into contracts and may be the said name sue and be sued. They should provide library service in the areas of their jurisdiction in the same line, there is need for a State Library Authority, at State level as administrative and controlling authority.

## 2.9 STATE LIBRARY PLANNING COMMITTEE

At the instance of the foundation, every state/U.T. has set up state library planning or state library committee

#### The SLCs will particularly decide:

- A. The number and categories of libraries for assistance under different schemes, mode of preparation of consolidated list(s) of books for different categories of libraries.
- B. Promotion of purchase of books to be selected under different subject headings.
- C. Collection of books through advertisement of physical verification and other related matters.
- D. Setting up of a committee or sub-committee for book selection, if considered necessary.
- i. The SLCs will approve list(s) of books and the list of libraries at the second meeting. The mode of purchase, rate of discount and distribution of books will also be decided at this stage taking into consideration the guidelines of the Foundation in this regard.
- ii. Selection of books and libraries shall be the responsibility of the State Library Committee and no prior approval of the Foundation will be necessary provided the cost of books selected and proposed to be acquired for the libraries remains within the limit of funds approved by the Foundation.
- iii. The convener or any other authorized officer of the State Govt. shall place orders for the purchase of books specifically mentioning that the orders are placed on

behalf of the Foundation. Moreover, in the said order the convener should indicate that the bill is to be raised in the name of the RRRLF Kolkata.

iv. The convener of SLC shall forward the following documents to the Foundation:

a) Copy(s) of the Minutes of SLC

b) List of selected libraries together with full postal address under the seal and signature of the convener.

c) Copy(s) of the valid order placed on the supplier(s).

d) Certified bill(s) or bill with acknowledgements.

e) List of selected titles duly signed on each page by the convener with office seal.

## **Matching Scheme**

The Foundation operates five numbers of scheme for which grant are given to the libraries recommended by the convener of SLC of each state / U.T. administrations. Only such libraries can derive financial assistance under this matching program of the Foundation which observes the following criteria and procedures.

## **Type of Institution**

Assistance under matching scheme is given from the matching fund to public libraries run or aided by the state govt. / U.T. administrations, local bodies, Local Library Authorities or registered voluntary organizations.

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In order to be eligible for assistance of the schemes of the Foundation, a non-govt. institution should be a registered society / Trust with the following characteristics:

- It should have adequate facilities, resources, personal etc. to run the library
- 2. Its working should have been found satisfactory by the state govt./U.T. administration.
- 3. It is not run for profit to any individual or body of individuals and
- 4. The library should be open to all without discrimination.

## **Procedure of Submission of Application**

The Foundation will not entertain applications directly from any library/organization. The application in the prescribed form, complete in all respect, together with relevant documents will be received through convener of SLC of the respective state with their recommendations.

Rules of the schemes, specimen copy of prescribed form will be made available from the office of the convener of the SLC/DLO/Secretary, Zilla Grandhalaya Samstha/ Zonal Offices of Foundation.

## Schemes:

- Scheme of Rural Book Deposit Centre's and Mobile Library Services.
- Scheme of Assistance towards organization of Seminars/Workshops / Training Courses (Orientation / Refresher) and Book Exhibitions / Awareness Programs.

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- Scheme of Assistance towards purchase of Storage Materials, Reading Room Furniture and Library Equipment like Card Cabinet, Fire Extinguisher etc. including Copier.
- Scheme of Assistance to Public Libraries to acquire Computer with accessories for library application and TV, CD player, DVD Player sets for educational purposes.
- Scheme of Assistance to Public Libraries towards increasing accommodation.

## 2.10 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY

Information Technology plays a crucial role on lives of people across the world since the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Government, industrialist, businessmen and scientist have decided to use IT as instruments for their day-to-day services and development works. As soon as IT entered into the field of our education and society, Library has taken it as important instruments to access information needs of the hour. But, on the contrary, these digital instruments created division in the society between those who have access to IT based services and those who have not.

In the case of Mizoram, application of IT in Public Libraries is still in developing stage. RRRLF, an autonomous body for the promotion of public libraries has given PC's for the automation of libraries with library software. But, it is not taken up to bring forth the mark of the hope due some technical problems instead under process. The Mizoram Public Libraries Act 1993, being passed at the helm of IT decade, does not include any services or provision to serve the needs of the users in a digital age. Barriers for the digitization of State Library in Mizoram are:

- a) Poor knowledge of IT
- b) Shortage of IT know-how staff
- c) Inadequate infrastructure.
- d) No government initiatives in the program.
- e) Poor communication/ remoteness.
- f) Less educational abilities/less demand
- g) Poverty.
- h) High Populace in rural areas.
- i) Linguistic diversity.
- j) Remoteness of geographical location.
- k) Economic factors.

## 2.11 MODERNIZATION OF MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY

The important aspects of a State Library are that it should have goals and programs to achieve the adequate supply of information to the public.

Today we are living in the age of information. A large amount of information is being generated every moment. The ability to collect, to store and disseminate this large amount of information needs applications of new technologies. Computer and telecommunication technology have highly revolutionalized the field of library and information services with the introduction of new technology, libraries are expected to use various types of technology to provide information more quickly in greater volume than before. The use of modern technology has a great relevance in the context of fourth law of Library Science 'Save the time of reader/staff'. The applications of modern technology facilitate easy access and store Information quickly.

Automation is a technique to make system automated i.e. self –active. For this the electronic machines are used to automate the libraries. The Mizoram State Library has taken initiatives for computerization; the library presently procures five computer and library software. Although there is a plan to create data bases and provide computerized library and information services, but due to lack of trained man-power the work is not in satisfactory position.

Some of the multi type advantages in library automation are given as under:

- It increases productivity in terms of both works as well as in services.
- It extends of library services beyond the library peripherals.
- It allows participation into outside networking systems for the resources sharing of the libraries.
- It creates economy in expenditures.
- > It does proper and optimum utility of library materials.

## 2.12 CONCLUSIONS

Mizoram State Library is the biggest library in the state of Mizoram, which is open to full public use. It is the property of general public. In our modern society, it is essential that the user can be provided with a correct and up to date information and knowledge. The function of State Library is to collect current information and then organize it with the help of technical procedure. Mizoram State Library is one of the agency on which an adult heavily relies. This storehouse of knowledge should be put to use for the users benefits in the state. The Mizoram State Library is not simply giving education, but also extending help in research and development. Hence our modern society has become information-oriented society. This tried to gather information and knowledge, from the Books, magazine and other reading materials.

Mizoram State Library is one of the agency on which an adult heavily relies. It provides suitable learning materials to develop skill and competence in areas of interest self-education may be obtained through state library.

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Shukla, K.C. (2005). Sources and Services provided by Public Library. New Delhi: Commonwealth.

Wasty, M.S. (1999). Problem and Prospect of Library, Calcutta: Wiley Eastern. Collection development is the first and the foremost function of any library. The term 'collection development' includes all such activities as assessing the user needs, evaluating the present collection, determining the selection policy, coordinating, the selection of items, re-evaluating and storing parts of the collection, and planning for resource sharing. It is not a single activity but a group of activities. It is a planned, which can be implemented and evaluated, and a systematic development of an already existing collection.

Collection development involves the selection and acquisition of various kinds of library materials, but in most case it is likely to mean the planned systematic development of an already existing collection. Therefore Library collection is the sum total of library materials like books, journals, serials, manuscripts, pamphlets, reports, government publication, computer tapes, punch card, micro film, microfiches and micro cards etc. which build up the holdings of the library being an academic library, the basic aim is to collect the materials as most suitable and useful for the users to meet their information requirement for the presents as well as for the future users.

The efficiency of the library is measured largely by the quantity and quality of its collection. Collection is not only measured in terms of numbers but also in terms of their utilities to its clientele. The objective of collection is to build a library collection, which will supply a continuously expanding store of useful information to support and enrich the programs of its parent organization. Hence, in order to achieve its objective the library should maintain a sound and balanced collection. Optimum

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utilization of resource can never be performed without a consistent and comprehensive well balanced collection of documents. So, building of library collection should be done according to the users need so that the resources could be utilized in optimized way. Due to the explosion of information each library has to keep an eye on the requirement of user's community within a limited grant. The Librarian should realized that core quality collections be developed instead of making a big stock of unused materials, keeping in mind the limited budget.

According to Evans, "Collection development is the process of identifying the strength and weakness of library materials collection in terms of patron needs and community resources and attempting to correct existing weakness if any. This requires the constant examination of and evaluation of the library resources and the constant study of both patron's needs and changes in the community to be served."

According to Bloomfield, "Collection development represents an evolving concept of library collection management device to answer changing reader's demands on library collection."

According to Magrill and Hickey, "Collection development is an encompass of broad range of activities related to the policies and procedures of selection, acquisition of library collection."

From the above definition, the following may be inferred:

1) a) Collection development presupposes a nucleus collection to build and develop over, the building and

developing library collection is the heart of librarianship and continuous to be the core activity.

b) It is conceived as a sum of collection planning, collection implementation and collection evaluation functions.

2) It includes the systematic planning and rational building of a collection in a cost effective way, assessing user needs, evaluating the present selection of items, weeding and storing parts of the collection planning for resources sharing.

3) It is the systematic building of a library collection based on meaningful data rather than subjective choices. It is the processing of assessing the strength and weaknesses in the collection and the creating plan to correct the weakness and maintain the strength.

## **3.1 NEED FOR COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT**

A vast majority of libraries in the recent past (about two decades) have come under severe financial pressure. Inflation in the prices of books and others reading materials and cost due to long term worldwide economic recession has caused problems. In the Indian context, the problems have become much more acute due to devaluation of Indian currency and rise in the postal, freight and other incidental charges. Due to economic recessions, it is no longer possible to buy all the documents selected and wanted by the clientele. The crux on the problems in collection development lies here. Hence, the need for collection development.

The collection development shall be able:

a) To meet the needs of the majority of the clientele.

- b) To constrain the duplication of documents or near text of documents.
- c) To control bias or over attention to any particulars section of clientele.
- d) To buy books which have greater shell-life
- e) To meet the immediate needs of the readers.
- f) To buy on modular's bias i.e., spread out document acquisition on a modular structure.
- g) To meet the library networks demands for core subjects.
- h) To identify the acquisition of a balanced set of documents.
- i) To enhance the value of documents already acquired.
- j) To understand the cost-benefit and cost-effective aspects of documents acquisition.

## 3.2 IMPORTANT POINTS IN COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

## 3.2.1 Selection:

The primary function of a written collection development policy is to provide guidance to staff when selecting and deselecting (printed and electronic) resources for the local collection. The document serves as a guideline for each stage of materials handling. It might cover the selection, acquisition, processing, housing, weeding, retention, preservation (archiving in case of electronic resources), relegation and discard of all types of library material in the relevant subjects, with reference to specified levels of collection depth and breadth. This reduces personal bias by setting individual selection decisions in the context of the aims of collection building practice, and identifies gaps in collection development responsibilities. It ensures continuity and consistency in selection and revision. Moreover, it clarifies the purpose and scope of local collections, and allows selection decisions to be evaluated by, for example, identifying what proportion of in-scope published material has been acquired. Such a reference guide reduces the need of selectors to raise recurrent questions, and assists in the training of new staff. It also provides useful information to other library staff whose work is collection based.

## 3.2.2 Planning:

A policy document provides a sound foundation for future planning, thereby assisting in determining priorities, especially when financial resources are limited. This provides a basis for the fair allocation of resources, and helps to protect library funds by explaining the rationale behind acquisitions bids. Having a formal publication to refer to ensures continuity and avoids confusion. Compilation of a formal document is beneficial in itself, in that it involves acquiring knowledge of existing collection strengths, and obliges staff to reflect on the library's goals. The stated aims help other collection-related activities such as cataloguing, preservation and storage to form a coherent strategy, and support reader services, for example by identifying areas that are ripe for deselecting, or more suitable for inter-library loan, document delivery or Internet access than for acquisition.

## **3.2.3** Public relations:

Formal policy statements can be useful in making the case for the library when dealing with both its users, administrators and funding bodies. They support the stated objectives of the organization, demonstrating accountability and commitment to agreed goals. Ideally,

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the compilation of the document requires the active participation of both users and administrators, thereby improving communication between the library and its clientele. The policy statement serves as a contract with the library's users; it has the function to demonstrate to individuals within an institution what they can expect of the library both in form of collections and of services. It enables individual selection decisions to be justified on a standardized basis. By referring to the official statement, library staff can deflect criticism or censorship arising from special interest groups, and politely but firmly refuse unwanted gifts, sectarian materials or potentially offensive items.

## **3.2.4** The wider context:

As individual libraries are increasingly unable to provide all their services by themselves, they are banding together into cooperatives, alliances and consortia. For these ventures to work, there must be mutual knowledge and agreement on which library is collecting what. A written collection development policy therefore often serves as a basis for wider cooperation and resource sharing, whether in a locality, region, country, or even internationally.

## 3.3 COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT: LAWS, FACTOR AND PROCESS

According to Evans, three basic prescriptions (laws) are involved in collection development process in any library. They are:

a) As the size of the service community increases, the degree of divergence in individual information needs increases.

- b) As the degree of divergence in individual information needs increases the need for cooperation programs/sharing of information materials increases.
- c) It will never be possible to completely satisfy all the information needs of any individual or class of clientele in the service community.

### **3.3.1 Factors affecting Collection Development:**

The factors that affect collection development in the public libraries are as follows:

- a) The Institution- Consider the nature of the library; its objective and the extents of its services are necessary as they have a direct bearing on developing the collection.
- b) The user's community- The potential needs of the users and the prospective users are to be examined. The collection should match at every point to the reading requirement of the clientele.
- c) The present collection- The extent of the present collection, its utility from the users opinion/needs shall form the basis for building future collection. This necessities collection evaluation for developing a live and user oriented collection.
- d) Human and financial resources- The effectiveness of the library staff or the personal involved in the collection building and more so the available financial facility are the most decisive factors in the collection development. Adequate finances shall be made available to correlate with increase of prices of documents and also the rapid changes in the foreign rates coupled with inflation.

## **3.3.2** How of Collection Development:

Library collection has to be developed to meet the needs of present and future needs of its users. The planning has to be made for systematic and rational collection. Magrill and Hickey have identified the following factors in Collection Development.

- a) Assisting the Users needs.
- b) Evaluation of present collection.
- c) Determination of collection policy.
- d) Coordination of selection items.
- e) Weeding and storing collection; and
- f) Planning for Resource Sharing.

Unless these elements are properly streamlined, no library can achieve better collection development program substantially.

The objectives of a public library are generally broad. However, public library functions and service for education, information and recreation. The collection development has to be related to changing environments to enable to fulfill its objectives and functions.

Bloomfield has identified the following factors with regard to the How of Collection Development:

- a) Identification of the purpose and mission of the library.
- b) Formulation of library's collection development statement by library staff, users and committees.
- c) Strategies and policies to implements the policies.
- d) Division of budget and its consequence problems.
- e) Maintaining, revising and updating the policy stamen.
- f) Matching users requirement and institutions stated aims..

## **3.3.3 Collection evaluation**

Evaluation is judging the intrinsic merits of materials. It is to determine the quality of the collection. It could be either to evaluate how well each individual items or how good the items for particulars needs of the users. The utility of collection evaluation can be enumerated as under:

- a) To justify the increased budget demand and to examine the collection policy.
- b) To organize the resources more competently and to improve the efficiency of library staff.
- c) To determine the adequacy of the quality of the collection to ascertain how old is the collection.
- d) To reveal the strength and weakness and utility of the collection.

There are different methods, both qualitative and quantitative like expert judgments, user study, analysis of subject wise growth, determining the use of collection etc. However, public libraries in India do not evaluate their collection. This may be due to the factors such as lack of stated policy, staff, planned growth of libraries, and provisional in the library acts etc. It is a serious lacuna in the collection development of public libraries.

## 3.4 PROBLEMS OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

The collection development policies, collection development program, evaluation of collection development, the procedure and techniques of collection development, the allocation of fund for collection development and such other consideration are the basic principles of collection development in the ideal condition. Unfortunately, such ideal condition does not prevail in the libraries for many reasons. Every library faces the problems collection development for some reasons. The problems of collection development are created mainly for three reasons, inadequate financial resources, and non availability of the right materials in the markets and shortage of accommodation or space for keeping the library holdings or ever-increasing collection of the library. Another problem is created by the changes in user needs and requirement from time to time.

C.A. Gardner states the following problems usually encountered in developing a qualitative collection. These are-

a) Increasing volumes of books and journals that come out from the ever growing numbers of publishers.

b) Relentless rise in prices of books and journals year after year that outstrips the rather fixed library budget.

c) Fluctuation in the exchange rates of foreign currencies.

d) Widening and changing scopes of activities of the users groups.

e) The restrictions on imports, especially of non book materials

f) Unfair trade practices that are followed by some of the books sellers, distributors and publishes agents.

Every library must have collection development policy and procedure. Such methods of book selection and collection development may vary, but every method is not good as another. The kind of the parent institutions, the kind of the library, the fund allocation in book budget, the state of existing collection, the needs and requirement of clientele groups, use pattern of the library collection, the motivation and capabilities of personnel involved, efficiency of users services and many other factors must be considered in each library situation. It may be so that in a library, approval program are considered suitable and in another library blanket orders are better.

In selection of retrospective materials and rare books somewhere faculty is entrusted in a University library, somewhere Librarian is entrusted and somewhere both are entrusted. In selection of such materials, question may arise regarding selection principles, criteria to used, materials to be selected, materials to be excluded and the like. There is a gulf of difference between principles and activities done.

The traditional concepts of the library as a storehouse of documents and holding oriented services are changing very fast. The new technologies. interdisciplinary research and non print media changed the nature of the library collections. The crucial factors of price and journals increasing book subscription availability of books and journals, special foreign, created certain adverse situation a in library collection development.

The global situation of the problems of collection development affects equally the Indian situation in general. Some problems are there in our country. The book market in our country is not well organized in all the parts of the country. Even all the books published in India are not available in all the corners of the country by a well knit marketing system. Except the large publishing houses or distributors, other publisher cannot afford to give publicity about the book published because of high

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advertisement rates. Therefore, unawareness or lack of information about all the published materials creates the impediments in collection development.

## 3.5 COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT METHODS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The acquisition program should be organized and implemented systematically so that the reading material of maximum utility can be acquired with minimum cost in least possible ways. The theories of book selection are to be viewed seriously in developing collection. This is very much crucial in the case of public libraries. Collections of reading materials have been codified in the Acts and Bills. Therefore, collection should be developed with reference to:

- a) Public Library Acts.
- b) Press and Registration of Books (Newspaper) Act.
- c) Delivery of Books Act.
- d) Archival Act/Monuments Act.
- e) Gift/Exchange/Donations (including RRRLF) etc.
- f) Purchase/Book selection policy.
- g) Resource sharing.

## **3.5.1** Problems of Collection Development in Public Libraries:

The Sinha Committee did not specify the book acquisition policy for public libraries. It has entrusted the job of selection and acquisition to the state librarians with the device of the Book Selection Committee constituted for this purpose. However, the collection development in public libraries is constrained by various factors such as finance, documents nature and production and environment.

The following factors acts as hindrances for better collection development in public libraries in India.

- a) Inadequate financial resources or financial mobilization.
- b) Improper allocation and augmentation of resources.
- c) Absence of strict provisions in the library legislation.
- d) Lack of community analysis and user studies.
- e) Lack of collection development policy.
- f) Lack of weeding, storage, preservation and evaluation programs.
- g) Indifference on the part of the government and other authorities concerned.
- h) Absence of standards for collection development in Indian context.
- i) Lack of aptitude or interest on the part of the staff.

## 3.6 COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY ELEMENTS

The main reason to write a collection development policy is to prevent the library from being driven by events or by individual enthusiasms and from purchasing a random set of resources, which may not support the mission of the library. Besides, electronic resources are becoming increasingly important to libraries of all types and sizes, and are consuming an ever-increasing share of library budgets. Therefore, selection decisions concerning electronic information resources should also be made within an explicit collection development policy. This might be a separate policy or an integrated one. The first elements of a collection development policy will be a mission statement of the library, the purpose of this policy and the audience to whom it is addressed. It should also include brief statements about the community or user group(s); description of the types of programs the library collection serves; the size (including number of periodicals, monographic volumes, electronic resources, languages represented) of the collection; a detailed budgetary overview of the money the library will spend on the different types of information resources; and any formal or informal cooperative agreements that affect the collection policy or practices.

## **3.6.1** General Statements:

Here will be listed characteristics that determine the direction of the development of the collection such as: current focus only or also retrospective acquisitions; the resource types (monographs, periodicals, theses, gray literature, maps, etc.); languages; formats (printed, non print or electronic); special sources of funding (a grant or gift from a donor); the policy regarding gifts and any special policies regarding maintenance (weeding, discarding, preservation) of the collection; and size of the collections. Other statements can be about how complaints are handled; if there is an equivalent to the "Library Bill of Rights"; about other relevant policies; what limitations exist - what subjects or areas are intentionally not collected etc.

## **3.6.2** Narrative Statements:

Each institution, including its community and other constituents, is unique. Therefore, its policy statements will be unique. The policy statements should reflect this particular library and the community it serves.

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- Statements should be made of special subject or format collections that represent unique materials and for which special guidelines apply, and which formats are excluded.
- The scope of coverage should be described (languages collected or excluded; geographical areas covered and/or specific areas excluded; chronological periods covered by the collection in terms of intellectual content and in terms of publication dates and specific periods excluded).
- Subjects should be described in terms of the library's classification scheme and subject descriptors.
- Library unit or selector responsible for the collection(s).
- Other categories of useful local information, such as interdisciplinary relationships; consortia relationships; policies for acquiring access to information.
- Other factors of local importance.

## 3.6.3 Subject Profiles:

This section of the policy is based upon collection assessment (also referred to as collection evaluation) and needs periodic updating to reflect progress towards goals or goal revision due to changing circumstances. The preferred presentation is a set of conspectus reports, which include all appropriate collection information. Conspectus means an overview or summary of collection strength and collecting intensities – arranged by subject, classification scheme, or combination of either, and containing standardized codes for collection or collecting levels and languages of materials collected. Such a conspectus is a synopsis of a library collection development overview or policy. The first conspectus was developed by the Research Libraries Group (RLG) and was subsequently adapted by other groups such as the WLN (Western Library Network). The information should be provided for each conspectus division (24), category (500) and subject (4000) evaluated by the library. See the Appendix for the list of the 24 Conspectus Divisions. The assessment is achieved by a number of steps which include planning, gathering data, assigning collection depth indicators (or levels) and language codes. This information is used to manage the library's resources and to make other decisions relevant to the general operations.

### **3.6.4** Collection evaluation methods:

The techniques and processes used to gather data for collection assessment are briefly described below. The data ideally describe in a succinct fashion the strength and depth of existing collections and provide a basis on which to assign collection levels. Some techniques are essential and should be used consistently, while others are valuable under certain circumstances and not always necessary. It is up to the individual conducting the evaluation to select the methods, which will be used for each segment of the collection. This decision is based upon the availability of data, the amount of staff and other support available, and the goal for the final outcome (how it will be used in the library/institution). The techniques available for evaluating collections may be divided into two groups: those that are primarily collection-centered and those that are clientcentered. Collection-centered techniques examine the content and characteristics of the information resources in order to determine the size, age, scope and depth of the collection in comparison to an external standard. Clientcentered techniques describe how the collection is used

and indicate the effectiveness of the collection relative to use. Collection assessment is likely to be most accurate and produce the most useful results when combinations of client-centered and collection-centered techniques, including both quantitative and qualitative results are employed in the data gathering and description process.

# - Quantitative Measures

Quantitative measures reveal size, age, use, costs and other numeric data. Examples of quantitative measures include inventory, or shelf list measures to determine actual title or volume counts, by segment or subject area. Median age or similar measures indicate the currency of the materials. Amount expended for acquisitions in a segment or subject area per year illustrates the ongoing commitment to develop that area. Percentage of titles owned by a library when compared to a standard list shows the breadth and depth of the collection. Use statistics (including internal library use and ILL) are both collection and client-centered.

#### - Qualitative Measures

Qualitative measures are obtained through subjective evaluation and involve the professional judgment of librarians, appraisal from subject experts, or the opinion of customers. These techniques include impressions of condition. the character and appropriateness of a section of the collection. Another qualitative technique is the judgment made by comparison of one subject in the collection to a similar subject in another library, or to a subject bibliography.

# 3.7 STANDARDS FOR COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Various types of libraries are following national standards and guidelines. Standards are useful tools for providing basic theory, furnishing a set of objectives and stimulating research in evaluation of performance. However, they are only guidelines. And there is no single set of standards which should be valid for all public libraries.

However, in this section the provisions in the various standards for collection development in public libraries are furnished below:

The American Library Association suggested for a public library system serving 150000 to one million people should have the collection as follows.

Books: At least 1, 00,000 non-fiction titles and a comprehensive collection of older as well as current fiction.

Periodicals: At least one currently published periodical title, for each 250 people.

Non-Print Media: For large and medium sized libraries it will be between 10% and 15% of the units total materials budget.

The IFLA standards for Public Libraries laid down the following:

- a) At least three volumes per inhabitants.
- b) At least 100 reference sources for 3000 population unit. In the large library it will be 10% of total stock.
- c) At least 250 volumes per annum per 1.000 populations.
- d) At least 50 periodicals is a basic requirement. In a large library 10 periodicals per 1,000 population.

e) At least 2,000 records or tapes or sound recordings up to the population of 20,000. At least 300 such records should be added annually.

Building a need based collection depends to a great extent on the professionalism, vision, knowledge, dedication and ability of the librarian and his staff involved in collection development. In the Indian context, hardly see any well-written collection one can development policy for public libraries. Moreover, unfortunately due to unnecessary and cumbersome procedures, red-tapism and indecisiveness on the part of the government, the collection development activity in the public libraries are handicapped. The present situation posses, a great challenge to public libraries with regard to collection development, but if the problem is taken up in totality and required support is provided by the government concerned, the public libraries will certainly be able to come up to the expectations.

# 3.8 COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT IN DIGITAL AGE

Electronic technologies and collection development are two of the top concerns in library and information science today. In a recent analysis of the literature, four major trends in library and information science were identified: increases in end-user access to computer-based information resources; library use of networks and telecommunication; dependency on CD-ROM based information sources; and emphasis on collection management activities.

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Clearly, collection management is a fundamental concern. Demas puts the matter into perspective this way: "Electronic publishing has profound implication for collection development, which is defined as the intentional and systematic building of the set of information resources to which the library provide access. While the principles of collection development, which were developed in the world of print publication, do not change radically with new publishing technologies, methods of decisions making and specific selection guidelines must be adjusted significantly to incorporate new publishing formats". Although most of the current literature cited below refers to academic or research libraries, much of the content applies to all types of libraries.

# Future Challenges:

The challenges of integrating electronic resources and technologies into the process of collection development are many, and many-faceted. Beyond taskoriented considerations, such as the selection process itself, there are large-scale management issues to consider such as budget, policy, personnel, and technology. Some of the biggest problems, not surprisingly, stem from simultaneous decreases in funding and increase in operating costs. Collection budgets are at special risk because they are not directly connected to the number of staff positions or level of user services.

Three areas of collection development that seem to be the most problematic are selection, acquisitions, and inter-institutional cooperation. Two themes pervade the discussions: the shift in library philosophy from ownership of locally stored resources; and the need for rethinking collection development policy, both to support the new philosophy and to better deal with new types of resources on a day-to-day basis.

#### Selection:

The next step in the selection of electronic materials is the formulation of collection policy and practice. Evans discusses formats and selection issues, and provides two valuable sample documents: a sample policy for electronic resources management, including 41 selection criteria related to library policy, vendors, technical concerns, costs, and local needs; and a checklist for CD-ROM products and subscription.

Although many selection criteria for electronic resources are the same as those for print, electronic resources present special problems.

# **CD-ROM** Publication:

CD-ROM (Compact Disc Read Only Memory) are the best, powerful and economical tool for storing and retrieving of huge amount of information in libraries. Since CD-ROM disc save high cost building and shelf storage space, they are a boon, especially for the academic libraries, which provide instantaneous reference service to the students.

Advantages of CD-ROM collections:

- CD-ROM develops the capacity and quality of the collection at the academic libraries.
- Users themselves can do their information searches which provide more satisfaction than referring books and journals.

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- It facilitates high storage capacity i.e., the information contained in 30 volumes of Encyclopedia Britannica can be stored and made available in a single disc.
- When compared with the primary sources of hard copies, CD-ROM involves the least publishing cost.
- > It has high-data integrity and more durability.
- ▶ It is more reliable and more resistant to damage.
- It provides an effective way of information presentation with multimedia, and it is easy to use.
- Linking of several CD-ROM workstations through networks enable the users to access the information from all other systems at a time in the multi-user environment.
- Instead of keeping a huge stack of back volumes of journals, encyclopedias, etc., which need large storage space, we can keep the CD-ROM journals and encyclopedias which will solve the space problem.
- CD-ROM union catalogue is an effective medium for resource sharing among libraries.

#### **Online Database:**

Databases are the collections of related numeric and/or textual information in machine-readable form that is processed for computerized publishing through networks. The electronic publication media of dissemination, OPACs, BBSs, UseNet newsgroup, electronic journals and newsletters are such data bases.

Online databases have many advantages which include:

- Reduction in the number of costly subscriptions to periodicals and journals.
- Reduction in the space required to store paper media.
- Instant access to up-to-date information.

- Online database to immediately satisfy the desire for information.
- Online databases which can be accessed through internet facilities.

#### **Electronic Journals and Newsletter:**

Electronic journals and Newsletter are available on various internet service providers. Details of these electronic publications can be got from Strange Loves directory of Bailey's list. They can be subscribed by sending the e-mail message to: listserv@vhupvml.bitnet. It reduces the budget problems and removes the timeconsuming job of searching manual systems. We can browse or retrieve all the issues of the available electronicjournals and newsletters through the networks and can get the required information in a few seconds; also it can be downloaded.

#### Multimedia Packages:

Multimedia is a powerful tool for retrieving information which has influenced significantly, the process of collection development in academic libraries. It plays a vital role in the field of education and training. Since multimedia is an integration of text, graphics, video, audio and animation on a single medium, it adds much quality to the collection of the libraries. Multimedia always helps the students to develop new skills that print medium alone cannot produce. There are multimedia CD-ROMs on Encyclopedia Britannica on wildlife, on cities, on music, CD-ROM Magazine, discs to teach the alphabet, words, language, games, history of cinema, telling fairy tales, etc. available in the international market, just like books and music cassettes.

### E-Mail and Fax Medias:

Telefacsmile systems are electronic communication systems which permit the transmissions of images like photos, maps, drawings and printed paper on paper reproduction at the remote receiver. These types of activities are called telecopying systems and it can be termed as e-mail systems. The users can receive or access information through this electronic medium very fast and accurately.

#### Teletext and Videotext:

Teletext and Videotext are two important electronic publications among the new information storage and display technology. The videotext system is very useful for updating encyclopedia works, dictionaries, financial information, etc., and also for doing SDI, bibliographic and document delivery services. The advantages of teletext are to provide current information on a wide range of subjects to the user in any easy accessible manner which is less expensive.

# 3.9 COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INTERNET

The user friendly electronic network of internet is a worldwide network of computer networks. Today internet links over 50,000 networks in 150 countries connecting over 5 million hosts and giving access to about 30 million users with over 1,000 computers being added daily. This information super highway of global networks links the organizations of government, academic, research and commercial which provide access to e-mail, bulletin boards, database, library catalogues, chat lines, multi-user domain, etc.

Internet is an information super highway which transmits information in a fraction of time across the globe in the form of electronic publications. Internet is a tool providing access to vast and worldwide quantities of valid information by which the quality and quantity of the collection in the academic libraries are elevated to a high position. The Internet Network Information Centre is one of the bodies which are concerned with the internet conventions. There are a lot of internet servers, online services and internet software packages available for facilitating access to international databases. America online, IBM Global Network, Microsoft Network, Prodigy, Apple e-world, Delphi and Netcom are some of the online services available through internet, ERNET, SIRNET, NICNET, INDONET, INET, INFLIBNET, ICNET and UUNET are some of the internet facilities available in India.

Services Accessible through Internet:

- a) The internet lets us communicate, share the resources and data with people around the world
- b) It provides the basic communication facilities like e-mail, Usenet news, FTP and telnet.
- c) Online public access catalogues and database can be accessible through internet.
- d) The information sources of electronic journals, pre-prints, technical reports, software, Campus Wide Information System (CWIS), databases, institutions, electronic publishing, marketing and publicity of products and services, etc., can also be accessible through internet.

- e) Online education and access to multimedia information is possible through internet.
- f) In the context of resources sharing internet plays a very vital role in the academic libraries.
- g) Internet provides SDI, bibliographic, patent and other referral services also.

# 3.10 COLLECTION OF DATA IN MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY:

The total number of collection in Mizoram State Library is 74144 (as on August 2011) and there are also children collections. It has as much as 8451 members, out of which 4359 are Children members. About 70% of their data collection is donated by RRRLF under Central Book Selection scheme, and 30% are provided by the State Government. The State Library contains collection of books in the language of Mizo, English, Hindi and Urdu.

It subscribes Mizo and English Daily Newspaper and Magazines, such as:

# **Daily Newspaper (Mizo)**

Mizoram State Library use to subscribe the following local news papers in Mizo language to attract the users and to make the users aware of the news.

- 1) Chhawrpial
- 2) Dingdi
- 3) Hnehtu
- 4) Khawpui Aw
- 5) Mizo Aw
- 6) Mizo Arsi
- 7) Romei
- 8) The Aizawl Post
- 9) The Zozam Times

- 10) The Zoram Voices
- 11)Vanglaini
- 12)Virthli
- 13)Zoram Politik.

## **Daily Newspaper (English)**

Apart from the news papers in Mizo, it also subscribes the following daily news papers in English especially to make known about the latest information to the elite group of people.

- 1) Highlander
- 2) News link
- 3) Sunday times
- 4) The statement
- 5) The Telegraph
- 6) The Mizoram Post
- 7) The Sunday Statesman

# Magazine (Mizo)

The following popular magazines are also subscribed by the library under survey in Mizo languages.

- 1) Diktawn
- 2) Hriatna
- 3) Hriselna
- 4) Kohhran Beng
- 5) MZP Chanchinbu
- 6) Lengzem
- 7) Lelte
- 8) Lunglen
- 9) Science Journal
- 10)Student Outlook
- 11)Shalom

- 12)Thlifim
- 13)Zolentu
- 14)Zolife
- 15)Zozam

# Magazine (English)

The popular magazines being subscribed by the library in English language are as follows:

- 1) Digit
- 2) Employment News
- 3) India Today
- 4) Mainstream
- 5) National Geographic
- 6) News week
- 7) Reader Digest
- 8) Society Interior
- 9) SPAN
- 10)Sport Star
- 11)Times

# 3.11 CONCLUSIONS

Collection Development Policy is a set of goals and statements of actual practices in developing the collection. It will assist in planning of acquisition program, budget planning and resource sharing and inter library loan activities. The development of collection development policy needs a lot of planning a committee has to take up the task of drafting the collection development policy.

The various factors in the collection development in Mizoram are the institutions, the user community, the present collection and human and financial resources. Collection Development is the key aspect of collection development. It determines the quality of the collection. Some of the methods of the collection evaluation are expert judgment, user study, analysis of subject wise growth and determining the effective use of collection.

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Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) in India was set up in 1973 to commemorate the bicentenary year of the birth of Raja Rammohan Roy who was a pioneer social reformer but he stressed much upon for the of modern education for national growth. Coincidently, the International Book Year was also observed in the same year putting emphasis on 'Books are for all'. Basically it was promulgated for developing reading habits among the citizens of India and Globe. The foundation was created as an autonomous body with the headquarters at Calcutta (presently known as Kolkata) by the Department of Culture, Government of India in May 1972 with a basic aim for spreading library services throughout the country in cooperation with the State Governments, Union Territories Administration and Organization.

The foundation is run by the members, where, the Minister, Department of Culture, Government of India is the Chairman including other members of the foundation. The members of the foundation comprise the Librarians of repute, Library Science Experts, and the representative of Indian Library Association (ILA). There is Administrative Committee for its administration. This Foundation has an office also in which there is a Director, one Officer, one Executive Officer, One Accountant and so many other Staff.

## 4.1 FOUNDATION OF RRRLF

RRRLF is a central autonomous organization established and fully financed by the Ministry of Culture,

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Government of India. RRRLF is registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961. It is the nodal agency of the Government of India to support public library services and systems and promote public library movement in the country commensurate with the objectives as embodied in its Memorandum of Association.

The supreme policy-making body of RRRLF is called the Foundation. It consists of 22 members nominated by the Government of India from amongst eminent educationists, librarians, administrators and senior officials. The Minister of the Department of Culture, Government of India or his nominee is the Chairman of RRRLF. Shri Jawhar Sircar, Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Culture is the present Chairman and Shri K.K. Banerjee, Director is the executive head and exofficio Member-Secretary of the Foundation. The Foundations function in each states/U.T. through machinery called State Library Committee(SLC)

The Foundation works in close association and active cooperation with different State Government and Union Territory Administrations through a machinery called State Library Planning Committee (SLPC/SLC) set up in each State at the instance of the Foundation. To participate in Foundation's programs, a State Government/U.T. is required to contribute a certain amount fixed by the Foundation.

Since 2005-06 the Foundation has also taken up the initiative to develop the District Youth Resource Centre (DYRC) in collaboration with Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sangathana, an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Sports & Youth Affairs. Location-The Headquarters of RRRLF is housed in its own five\_storeyed building at:

Block-DD-34, Sector-I

SaltLake City KOLKATA -700064

#### 4.2 OBJECTIVES OF RRRLF

Public Libraries in India have been a neglected scenario in India. Their progress is not at par with the development of the university and research libraries. They function under the administrative control of the state governments. Libraries are not a priority item as far as the state government and concerned. Realizing the need to help supporting development, growth and modernization of public libraries in India, Government of India has established Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) with laudable.

Following are the main objectives of RRRLF:

- i) To promote library movement in the country.
- ii) To enunciate a national library policy and to work towards its adoption by the Central and State Governments.
- iii) To help build up a national library system by integrating the service of National Libraries, State Central Libraries, District Libraries and other types of libraries (children's, academic and special) through inter-library lending system.
- iv) To propagate the adoption of library legislation in the country.

- v) To provide financial and technical assistance to libraries.
- vi) To establish in the country Regional Library Service Centers which will offer reprographic and book preservation of reading material, whether printed or in manuscript form.
- vii) To maintain a national register of qualified librarians and their fields of specialization.
- viii) Take all such measures as may be found necessary form time to time for promoting library development and its utilization in the country.

The Government of India in order to implement and supervise the objective stated above established a Directorate of Libraries in the Ministry of Culture. The RRRLF during the last 35 years had initiated many schemes for the establishment and development of public libraries in the country. The foundation had assisted about 35,000 public libraries all over the country. Some of the accomplishments of the foundation are mentioned below.

Accomplishments of the Foundation are:

- i) Survey the conditions of the public libraries.
- ii) Aid to establish the public libraries in the country.
- iii) Provision of matching grants for purchasing and distribution of books directly to RRRLF to the public libraries in the country.
- iv) Aid for the construction of building and purchasing furniture and other requisites.
- v) Modernization of public libraries by applying ITC and automation
- vi) Pursuing the DPLs to open the separate sections for women and children, physically handicapped, blind etc.

- vii) Arranging annual lectures on public libraries in various parts of the country.
- viii) Assisting Library Association and of the NGOs to conduct conferences, seminars, workshops, etc.
- ix) Announcing the best libraries awards.
- Training and retraining the library personnel working in public libraries.
- xi) Encouraging research on public libraries issues and problems.
- xii) Publication of Grandhana, RRRLF news letter and other publication.
- xiii) Establishment of four zonal offers in four parts of the country.

# 4.3 ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMME OF RRRLF

(i) The RRRLF from its inception has been persuading and insisting on the State Governments to enact public library legislation. Due to its efforts the public Library legislation has been enacted in West Bengal (1979), Manipur (1988) Kerala (1989), Hariyana (1989), Mizoram (1987), Goa (1994) Gujarat (2003) Assam (2005-2006), Orissa (2005) and Uttar Pradesh (2006). Still it is continuing its efforts to convince the State Governments in the remaining states and union territories to enact the public legislation in the country.

# (ii) National Policy for Public Libraries (NAPLIS):

The UNESCO in its publication "Guide Lines on information policy', insisted its member states to publish their policy for public libraries. The Govt. of India

appointed a committee in 1985 under the Chairmanship of Prof. D.P. Chattapadhay for drafting comprehensive NAPLIS. The Director of RRRLF was the convener of the committee and helped it in formulating its recommendation. The draft policy was submitted to the Government and the RRRLF has been perusing the Government of India to adopt this policy on par with the National Educational Policy the National Science Policy and the National Industrial Policy etc. The Draft policy is still pending with the Government of India. It has recently appointed a knowledge commission to review the entire scenario in the country and submit its recommendations on public libraries.

# (iii) Survey of RRRLF on public Libraries:

The RRRLF established four zonal offices in the four zones of the country. The Administrative Officers in the Zonal Offices who are professional's in Library and Information Science regularly visit all the public libraries in their zonal jurisdiction and inform their Head Quarters about the State of affairs on public libraries. Further the RRRLF recently got a survey conducted on the State of conditions of the public libraries by a private organization viz. A.C. Neilson Org. Marg Pvt. Ltd. The report stated that there are only 49757 villages have libraries, out of 5,57,137 villages in the country. This reveals that only 9% villages are having public libraries and per capital income incurred on public libraries is only Rs.0.07ps. The RRRLF based on the AC. Neilson Org. Marg report classified the states into three categories namely 1) Lagging 2) Developing 3) Developed. So the RRRLF from time to time either directly or through agencies has been

conducting survey on the public libraries in the country. *The Neilson Org.Mar Survey Report* pointed out the following perceptions towards RRRLF initiatives by the libraries

• Majority of the libraries perceived that the RRRLF schemes are instrumental to solve the problems faced by the public libraries.

• Different category respondents perceived that the RRRL Initiatives are the only effort in its nature for the betterment of the public library system in the country.

• Substantial number of respondents perceived that the Library would be in deep trouble in case the RRRLF stops assistance.

• However, voice to increase the assistance and initiatives from the RRRLF, mainly in-terms of financial assistance observed from the different category libraries.

• Substantial number of respondents perceived that the RRRLF needs to communicate their schemes more explicitly to the beneficiaries, so that they can avail the schemes depending upon their need and eligibility.

# (iv) RRRLF initiatives for the establishment of Public Libraries:

The RRRLF has been pursuing the state governments to give priority and to provide funds for the establishment of public libraries in more and more villages. It provided funds for purchasing of lands, construction of buildings and also acquisition of required furniture. Through the efforts of RRRLF several villages' libraries were established in the villages with its financial assistance to the states. The Foundation has taken long strides in promoting library services in the country. It has spending more than 35 cores annually for the growth and development of the public libraries in the country.

## (v) Assistance Program:

The RRRLF provides matching grants to every state annually for purchasing of books, furniture, and computers etc., If a state government give 50% of the estimated expenditure the RRRLF provides the remaining 50% of the expenditure. The RRRLF provides assistance for the following programs of the public libraries.

RRRLF promotes public library services rendering book and financial assistance to the public libraries under different schemes of assistance in collaboration with Library Department or Department in charge of Public Library Services.

### Matching:

- 1. Assistance towards building up of adequate stock of books and reading materials.
- Assistance towards development of Rural Book Deposit Centers and Mobile Library Services.
- Assistance towards Organization of Seminars, Workshops, Training Courses (Orientation / Refresher), Book Exhibitions and Library Awareness Programs.
- Assistance towards purchase of Storage Materials, Reading Room Furniture and Library Equipment like Card Cabinet, Fire Extinguisher etc. including Copier.
- 5. Assistance to Public Libraries towards Increasing Accommodation.

 Assistance to Public Libraries to Acquire Computer with accessories for library application and TV, CD Player, DVD Player for Educational Purposes.

Assistance under these schemes is given from the resources shared on matching basis with the States/Union Territory Administrations (See Details at SLPC). For developed States 50: 50, Developing and lagging states 60: 40 & North-Eastern States 90 : 10.

#### **Non-Matching :**

- 1. Assistance towards building up of adequate stock of books through central selection.
- 2. Assistance to voluntary organizations (NGOs) providing public library services.
- Assistance to Children's Libraries or Children's Section, Senior Citizen Section, Neo-Literate Section of General Public Libraries.
- Assistance to public libraries towards Celebration of 50/60/75/100/125/150 years and the like.
- Assistance towards Organization of Seminar/Conference by Professional Organization, Local Bodies, and NGOs engaged in Public Library Development / Library Movement and University Departments of Library Science.
- 6. Assistance towards collection and compilation of library statistics through official and non-official agencies.
- 7. Assistance to centrally sponsored libraries.
- 8. Assistance towards Establishment of RRRLF Children Corner.

Assistance under these schemes are given fully from the Foundation's own resources while assistance under scheme at 2 is rendered on 75: 25 matching basis (75% being Foundation's share). While Application Forms can be downloaded, details of schemes are available in the Foundation's Information Manual "Books for the Millions at Their Doorsteps" which is available in the office of the Convener, State Library Planning Committee (i.e., Director/Officer-in-charge of the library) of the respective State / U.T. or in the state (Central) libraries of all states / union territories and RRRLF zonal offices.

# Promotion of District Youth Resource Centre's (DYRCs):

The Development of DYRCs is being made commensurate with the decision of the inter Ministerial Steering Committee constituted for the purpose with the representatives from the Ministry of Sports & Youth Affairs, Ministry of Culture, Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation and Nehru Yuvak Kendra sanghatana. The DYRCs are assisted for the following purpose:

- 1. Towards building up adequate stock of books.
- 2. Towards acquiring storage materials and library furniture.
- 3. Towards construction of library building.
- 4. Towards acquisition of computers with accessories.

# (vi) Aid for construction of building for public libraries in the state and union territories:

State governments in general lack finances for the development of public library infrastructure. Building for

a public library in villages is an important component. Philanthropist have been coming forward to give land for the construction of library building in the villages but the Directorate of Public Libraries are not in a position to meet the expenditure for the construction of the library buildings. RRRLF has come forward to extend financial assistance in such cases. A village library without a building is a difficult proposition. Besides the district subdivisional and town libraries, the RRRLF has been sanctioning `4 lakhs for each rural library. During the period 2007-2008 the foundation released building grants to one hundred twenty eight public libraries in the country involving an assistance of `.327.09 lakhs. Hence, the RRRLF program to aid the construction of public library buildings is a laudable one.

#### (vii) Modernization of public libraries:

The interface of computer technology with the communication technology made the flow of information easier and faster. The networking of public libraries has become essential. The public libraries in order to bring the latest information to the doorstep of the clientele the modernization of their collection and services have become inevitable. The RRRLF realized the lack of automation in public libraries. In order to fill in the gap, the RRRLF came forward to provide computers to all state central libraries (SCLs) and district central libraries (DCLs). It wants to network the SCLs and DCLs in the first phase. It also proposes ultimately to cover and link up all the public libraries, mandal libraries, village libraries and book deposit centers with the DCLs, SCLs and desire to establish the network of Indian public libraries on the

model of Jannet in England so as to satisfy the ever increasing thirst for knowledge and easy access to information by the clientele in the rural communities. The modernization of the public libraries in the villages will enable rural communities in having access to needy information. It is desirable to establish a photo digital library to help the public libraries.

# (viii) Opening New Sections or Reading Corners in public libraries:

The RRRLF after making various surveys realized that certain sections of rural communities like women and children have not been provided sufficient opportunities for their reading needs in public libraries. Women are important in family development. The neglect of these two sections in the rural communities would weaken the democratic foundation of the Indian society. The RRRLF has been insisting and also financing the public libraries to open separate new sections for woman and children in Public Libraries. These sections are to be provided with required collection of books and information material. This would result generally in improving the reading habits of rural children and women. The RRRLF during the financial year 2006-2007 released Rs.56.93 lakhs for establishing the children and women sections in the public libraries.

### (ix) Annual lecture program:

The RRRLF arranges annual lectures in various parts of the country in order to create the public library culture and awareness which is lacking at present. These lectures impress on the people on the importance of public libraries among the educated for lifelong education.

### (x) Assisting LIS Associations and NGOs:

The RRRLF assists all library associations at national and state levels to hold conferences, seminars debates, and workshops on library issues. Such debates and discussions among various other things create the importance of public libraries, village libraries and community information centers in the society.

# (xi) Instituting awards for the best public libraries, best librarians and fellowships:

The RRRLF has been giving awards annually to the best public libraries and the best public librarians to motivate the library professionals to render positive services to the people. This provides a sense of enthusiasm in the library staff to provide more and more services to the rural people.

# (xii)Training and Refresher courses to the library personnel:

Periodical grants are provided by the RRRLF to the Directorates of public libraries in the states to conduct refresher training courses to update the skills of the professionals in the modern technology.

# (xiii) Encouraging research programs on problems and issues on public libraries:

The ultimate goals of the governments in the democratic countries are to establish an information society or a knowledge society. As stated by J.S. Mill that the worth of the state, in the long run, is the worth of the

individuals composing it. The RRRLF strives through its different programs to improve the knowledge of people and the social fabric it provides funds to research activity on public libraries, the young and experienced professionals are provided with grants to carry out or to conduct research on public library issues. This provides feedback to the RRRLF and enables to reorient its programs and plans.

### 4.4 PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES OF RRRLF

RRRLF has undertaken several promotional activities for qualitative improvement of library services. Besides organization of many seminars and conferences, it has played a major role in the preparation of National Policy on Library & Information System. It has also issued guidelines on public library systems and services. Raja Rammohun Roy Memorial Lecture by a scholar of eminence is an annual feature of anniversary celebrations for the Foundation. RRRLF also interacts with many national and international professional associations like IFLA, ILA, IASLIC and different state level library associations.

To disseminate innovative, new concepts and ideas for the development of Public Library Services and system in the country through research oriented activities, the Foundation introduced Annual Raja Rammohun Roy Award to the best contributor of an article covering the area of development of Public Library Systems and Services or suggesting measures for promotion of reading habit. The Foundation has also undertaken a program of giving seven awards annually - one for the best State central Library and six for the best District Libraries of six regions in the country. Since 2005 the Foundation also instituted RRRLF Best Rural Library Awards - one per each state.

The Foundation institutes "RRRLF Fellowship" to offer fellowship to five eminent men and women in the field of Library Services who have contributed to the library movement in the country through active involvement in the movement, organizational initiative or intellectual leadership or are dedicated to the propagation of reading habit among the masses.

# 4.5 RESEARCH PROJECT AND PUBLICATION OF RRRLF

A research cell along with a special library on Library & Information Science and a statistic unit supported by a computer unit are providing necessary input to its various activities. About 5000 important books and journals on Library & Information Science and allied fields have been acquired in the library. Beside carrying on Research Projects on public library or allied subject, the Research Cell renders advisory and consultancy services whenever required. It has prepared and published a report on loss of books in libraries for the Government of India.

RRRLF has brought out a number of publications. The significant publications are

1. Indian Libraries : Trends and Perspectives

- 2. Raja Rammohun Roy and the New Learning
- 3. Directory of Indian Public Libraries
- 4. Granthana, Indian Journal of Library Studies (bi-annual)
- 5. RRRLF Newsletter (bi-monthly)
- 6. Annual Report
- Books for the Millions at their Doorsteps (Information Manual)

#### 4.6 MODERNISATION PROGRAMME

The Foundation has installed computers in its Computer Section for building-up data-bank of Public Libraries for the country. The Foundation's computer unit is intended to give information storage, retrieval and data processing support for all the application areas. As a step towards modernization to become a fully automated institution, the Foundation has upgraded its computer system with inter office LAN. The INTERNET connectivity and E-mail facility has been installed in the office of the Foundation through National Informatics centre. The Scheme of Central Selection has since been computerized fully; other activities are on the way of being fully computerized.

# 4.7 ACHIEVEMENT

The Foundation has taken long strides in promoting library services in the country. With the expanded activity during the 9<sup>th</sup> five year plan (1997-2002) the total plan grant reaches `3233.00 lakh against `1175.70 lakh during the 8<sup>th</sup> five year plan from the Govt. of India with an average annual plan grant @ Rs.646.60 lakh and state contribution reaches `1977.00 against `645.97 lakh during the 8<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan with an average annual contribution (a) `395.40 lakh. During the year under report, the third year of the 10<sup>th</sup> Five year Plan, the plan grant stepped up to `1150.21 lakh including a special grant of `150.21 lakh for North-Eastern states and contribution received from various state governments also reached `769.59 lakh. Consequently the amount of assistance rendered to libraries during the year under report also reached `1756.29 lakh against the annual average of `701.20 lakh during the 9<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. Over the last thirtytwo years the Foundation has covered about a little over thirtyone thousand libraries at different levels:

Table 2: Different Levels of Libraries in India

State Central Libraries	28
Divisional and District Libraries	451
Sub-divisional / Taluka / Tehsil Libraries	501
Town & Rural Libraries	30134
Nehru Yuvak Kendras	272
Jawahar Bal Bhavans	49
Others	128
Total	31563

# 4.8 RRRLF ASSISTANCE TO MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY

Mizoram has attained a very high literacy percentage which means most of the people can read regional literature and the scheme of the matching fund of the foundation is the backbone of Non-Formal Education in this State. The Matching Fund receive from the foundation is fully utilized for the purpose and most of the interior place to receive reading materials, which is the beginning of development of the State.

RRRLF came into existence in the year 1972 and incidentally this was the year Mizoram became a Union Territory, only after 10 years of establishment of the foundation. Since then, i.e. form 1982-1983 onwards Mizoram have high percentage of literacy of the people do not get sufficient reading materials in the villages. Books distributed under RRRLF have gladly helped the rural villages. It also has a good means of non formal education.

All the time the State Library is engaged for the work under the scheme of RRRLF Kolkata for the up liftmen and development of Rural Libraries covering the whole Mizoram for the benefit of all the Districts in Mizoram. In order to make the project a success under the scheme, State Library Planning Committee (SLPC) was formed as per the Foundation's norms and guideline. Implementation of all the projects and programs under the scheme was prepared and finalized by SLPC every year. At present, 38 nos. of NGO Library buildings are constructed with the grants form RRRLF matching scheme. In addition to these, 25 nos. of NGO Brach Libraries are awaiting for the sanction of grants/funds for construction of their respective library buildings as on August 2011. Besides, furniture for storage of books was also given to Govt. recognized Libraries. Under the Scheme, all the recognized Libraries are receiving assistance for books. These recognized Libraries are depending upon with the grants from RRRLF for running their respective Libraries. RRRLF scheme is the backbone for running all the rural libraries in Mizoram. Besides, Govt. Libraries such as State Central Library and District Libraries are used to receive a good number of English and Hindi books under RRRLF Central Book Selection Scheme every year.

Dr. BP Barua the former Director, Shri B. Bhattacharjee, Field Officers and Shri A. Guha Assistant Field Officer of North East Area have made sincere efforts in helping the people of Mizoram in the field of Library Services.

The year wise contributions from RRRLF are given below:

Sl.No.	Year	Amount
1	2008-2009	5 lakhs
2	2009-2010	20 lakhs
3	2010-2011	15 lakhs
4	2011-2012	15 lakhs

Table 3: Year Wise contribution from RRRLF

#### 4.9 CONCLUSION

The RRRLF is the only national agency which is devoting its full time for the growth and development of public libraries in India. It is anxious to establish public library network for flow of information from top to bottom and from bottom to top. It is deeply concerned to help the rural communities to have the access to information for making better decision in their day to day transactions. It has many splendid programs and plans. But its financial budget is scarce and limited. The government of India should provide at least 3 to 4% of its annual budget for the development of public libraries in the country. Public libraries should be considered as important as the educational institutions, like schools, colleges and universities. The central government by establishing the central schools, central universities cannot think that it has provided sufficiently for the education of people. It has equal responsibilities for the establishment of the public libraries as these are the gateways of information. According to the UNESCO Public Library Manifesto the establishment of public libraries, community information centers are mandatory on the part of the government. The central government cannot leave this important responsibility completely to the state government authorities which have limited resources to provide public libraries in every village. The RRRLF should also strive hard and impress on the central government to bring out a National Public Library Policy all at the earliest. The national policy alone can provide the direction, and guidance for the development of the public libraries in the country.

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A library collection is the sum total of library material, books, periodicals, manuscripts, government publication and variety of primary materials, non-book materials that make up the holdings of a particular library. Development of a good collection is essential for satisfying user need in a library. Building collection may occasionally involve the selection and acquisition of these materials, but in most cases it is likely to mean the planned and systematic development of an already existing collection. In both the instances the governing factors are the available and continuing base of financial support, the available space and staff (which are dependent upon the extent that of financial support) and the policies established by the library.

Data analysis and findings are essential for a scientific study and for that the scholar has taken relevant data obtained through the filled-in questionnaire for making analysis and draw inferences. Analysis refers to the computation of certain measures along with searching for patterns of relationship that exist among data groups. The analysis of data in a general way involves a number of closely related operations, which are performed with the purpose of summarizing the collected data and organizing these in such a manner that they answer the research questions. Analysis is the product of insight into the total situation, paying upon the assembled facts and giving them a general significance. Its validity depends more upon common sense, experience, background knowledge, and intelligent honesty of the interpreter than upon conformity to any set rules that may be formulated.

### 5.1 ANALYSIS OF LIBRARIAN'S STATEMENT

The Librarian finds satisfactory routine of the library. The annual collection added in the library is approximately 500 numbers of books; classification of books is done by Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) 20<sup>th</sup> edition.

The Librarian suggested that the improvement of the library collection can be done by adding general books, journals, children collection and different kinds of newspaper. But the library does not procure different subjective journals. Certain types of special of special services and facilities are provided to library staff like seminar, training, workshop provided by different Institution and departments. The library collection is not sufficient. The library visitors receive assistance from the library attendant.

The library staffs circulate various services like reprographic service, reference service, reading room service and moreover State library look after libraries in different rural areas. The State Library is maintained by the State Govt. budget and from RRRLF, Kolkata.

The Mizoram State Library is graded 'Average' by the Librarian.

### 5.2 FIELD SURVEY ANALYSIS

Analysis of response by the library users under the study has been discussed. As already presented, altogether 400 questionnaire were distributed for the users in State Library of Mizoram. Out of 400, a total number of 315 filled-in questionnaires were received back which constituted 79%

90

# 5.3 ANALAYSIS BY GENDER

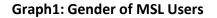
Gender is one of the components of the questionnaire. Data relating to this component of the library under study has been placed in Table 4 supported with Graph 1 for analysis. Analysis related to the use, belonging to both the gender such as male and female.

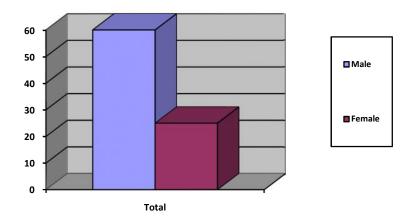
Table 4: Gender of MSL Users

Sl.No	Gender	Total
1	Male	190 (61%)
2	Female	125 (39%)
	Total	315 (100%)

Source- Field Survey

Analysis shows that, male constitute higher number covering 190 (61%) total while female constitute 125 (39%) of the total number. It could be further visualized that the male users are higher in number than that of the female





# 5.4 AGE GROUP OF MSL USERS

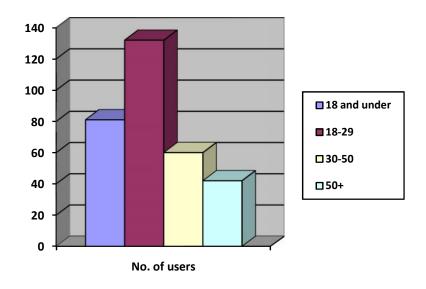
Table 5 and Graph 2 show the Age group of MSL users.

Sl.No	Age Group	No. of User
1	18 and Under	81 (26%)
2	18-29	132 (42%)
3	30-50	60 (18%)
4	50+	42 (14%)
	Total	315 100%)

Table 5: Age Group of MSL Users

Source- Field Survey

Graph 2: Age Group of MSL users



The analysis indicates that, the age group of 18-29 years is the highest number in using the library. While making analysis it could be ascertained that 132 (42%) of 18-29 age group, 81 (26%) of 18 and under age group, 60 (18%) of 30-50 age group, 42 (14%) of 50 or over age group. Very less number of user age group is 50 over.

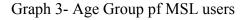
Users belonging to 18-29 age groups are the highest user groups of the library. This shows that the maximum library users belong to youth group for visiting the library for various purposes.

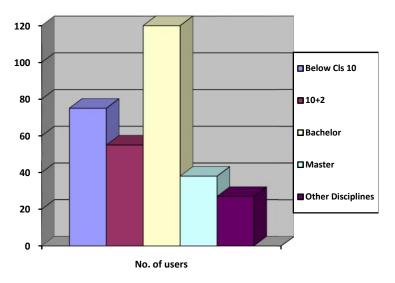
# 5.5 QUALIFICATION OF MSL USERS

The qualification of MSL users has been placed under Table 6. The scholar has obtained data relating to this component that has been classified into five categories such as, below class 10, 10+2, bachelor degree, master degree and other disciplines (M.Phil, Ph.D, Engineer etc.)

Sl. No	Qualification	No. of Users
1	Below Class 10	75 (24%)
2	10+2	55 (17%)
3	Bachelor Degree	120 (39%)
4	Master Degree	38 (12%)
5	Other Disciplines	27 (9%)
	Total	315 315%)

Table 6: Qualification of MSL Users





While analyzing, the data it was revealed that the users belonging to the qualification have responded maximum bachelor degree which constitute 39%, followed by below class 10 (24%), master degree 12%, 10+2 (17%) and other disciplines 9% (M.Phil, Ph.D and BE) etc. This shows that the qualification of bachelor degree more emphasis to use the State Library of Mizoram. However the scholar could not obtain 85 questionnaire duly filled in which constitute 22% in total by the use of the library due to their pre-engagement. Likewise, the qualification of bachelor degree is higher in number of the Mizoram State Library.

### 5.6 OCCUPATION OF MSL USERS

The occupation of MSL users has been placed under Table 7. The Scholar has obtained data relating to this component which has been classified into five categories such as, Govt. employed, self employed, retired person, business and student.

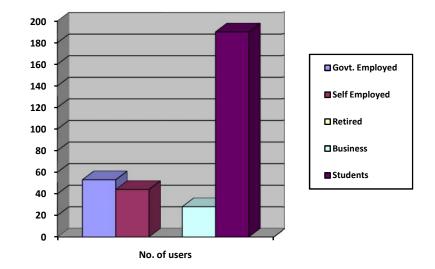
Sl. No	Occupation	No. of Users
1	Govt. Employed	53 (17%)
2	Self Employed	44 (14%)
3	Retired	-
4	Business	28 (9%)
5	Student	190 (60%)
	Total	315 (1000%)

Table 7: Occupation of MSL Users

Source- Field Survey

The data shows that most of the Govt. employed, self employed, student and business are using the state library. While making analysis it could be ascertained that 190 (60%) of students, 53 (17%) of Govt. employed, 44 (14%) of self employed and 28 (19%) of business member use the state library. Thus, student user is the highest among the state library user. So, there is no retired person amongst the state library users. Very less number of respondents is from business class. The above table has been supplemented with Graph 4 for clear understanding of the users using the library. It could be further analyzed that the students are more in using the library.

Graph 4- Occupation of MSL users



### 5.7 FREQUENCY OF LIBRARY VISIT

The frequency of visit to the library helps to know the use of the library and is an index to judge the utilization of the library resources. If user visits the library frequently, it can be implied that they are getting benefits from the library resources. Analysis of frequent visit of the use to the library under study is placed below in Table 8 followed by a Graph 5 for clear understanding.

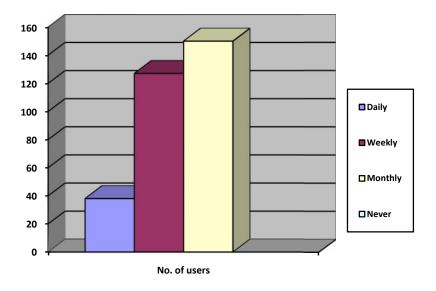
Sl. No	Frequency	No. of User
1	Daily	38 (12%)
2	Weekly	127 (40%)
3	Monthly	150 (48%)
4	Never	-
	Total	315 (100%)

Table 8: Frequency of Library visit

Source-Field Survey

The frequency of visits to the library depends upon the nature of library collection, organization, maintenance and services etc. The above table 8 depicts the views to the use who responded to the statement related to their frequency of visit to the Mizoram State Library. It is evident from the table that, the various types of user chose option to visit the library according to their needs and requirements. The table reflects that the monthly visitors are more than that of daily and weekly. It could be seen from the Table that out of 315, 150 (48%) visit the library monthly, while 127 (40%) visit weekly, followed by 38 (12%) visit Daily. This shows that the Monthly visitors are holding the highest frequency of the state library users.

Graph 5- Frequency of Library visit



# 5.8 PURPOSE OF LIBRARY VISIT

Table 9 and Graph 6 show the purpose of using the library.

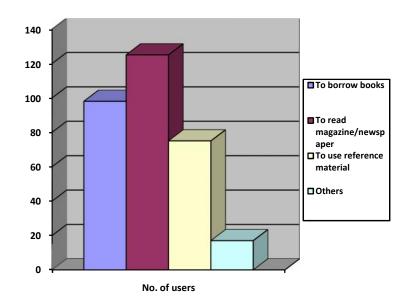
Table 9: Purpose of Library Visit

Sl.No	Purpose	No. of User
1	To borrow books	98 (31%)
2	To read magazine/newspaper	125 (40%)
3	To use reference material	75 (24%)
4	Others	17 (5%)
	Total	315 (100%)

Source- Field Survey

The respondents were asked to indicate the purpose of visit the library library which differs from one user to another. The major purpose of visit to the library are listed in Table 9 which forms the quantitative study that gives an indication of the core purpose of materials used by the use of the state library. It is revealed from Table 9 that a majority of 125 (40%) number of the respondents purpose to read magazine and newspaper, while others' purpose to borrow books that constitute 98 (31%), 75 (24%) to use reference materials, and 17 (5%) to use others. It could be further analyzed that the users' purpose to read magazine and newspaper are more in number for visiting the library for various purposes.

Graph 6- Purpose of Library Visit



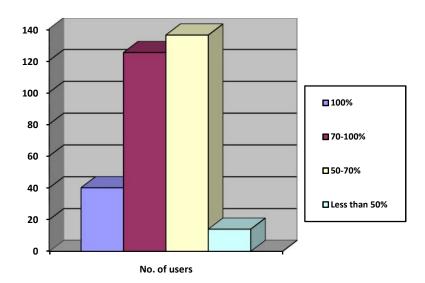
### 5.9 SATISFACTION LEVEL OF MSL USERS

Table 10: Satisfaction level of MSL users

Sl. No	Level	No. of Users
1	100%	40 (13%)
2	70-100%	125 (39%%)
3	50-70%	136 (44%)
4	Less than 50%	14 (4%)
	Total	315 (100%)

Source- Field Survey

The users visit the library to fulfill the information needed for them by consulting the documents available in the library. The user of the library was asked to indicate the types of resources which they prefer to use. The scholars through the questionnaire obtain the satisfactory level of the user, which primarily has been split over four levels such as, 100%, 70-100%, 50-70%, less than 50%. Placing of the information received by the various use in the library under study in the Table 10 out of 315, 136 (44%) number of user received 50-70 percent in their information needed, while 125 (39%) get 70-100 percent received their required information. In all types of the satisfaction level, 50-70 percent are higher compared to others level, it could be further visualized that the users are adaptive to the sources of information.



Graph7: Satisfaction level of MSL users

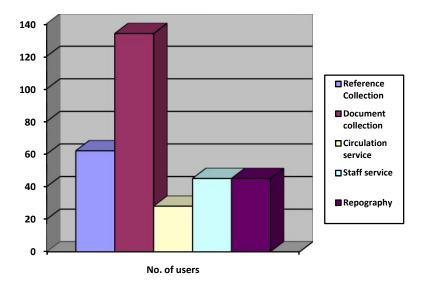
### 5.10 LACUNA OF COLLECTION AND SERVICES IN THE LIBRARY

The user visits the library to fulfill the information needed for them by consulting the documents available in the library. The user of the library was asked to indicate the types of resources which they prefer to use. The scholars questionnaire through the obtain the unsatisfactory level of the users, which primarily has been split over four levels such as, 100%, it is found that the Reference Collection is used by only 62 (20%) in Collection numbers. Document (Books, Journal, Magazine, Newspaper) is used by 134 (43%) in numbers, Circulation Service is used by 28 (9%) numbers, Staff Service is 45 (14%) lacking for the library visitors and Reprography is used by 45 (14%) members only.

SI.No	Lacuna of Collection and Services	No. of Users
1	Reference Collection	62 (20%)
2	Document Collection(Books, Journal, Magazine, Newspaper	134 (43%)
3	Circulation Service	28 (9%)
4	Staff Service	45 (14%)
5	Repography	45 (14%)
	Total	315 (100%)

Table 11: Lacuna of Collection and services in the library

Source- Field Survey



Graph 8 : Lacuna of Collection and services in the library

# 5.11 SERVICES RECEIVED BY MSL USERS

The scholar submitted a question through the questionnaire to the respondents to ascertain the tapping of the source for service received by the library user through four option such as; staff are helpful and pleasant, staff are too busy with their work, did not ask for help, and staff do not have knowledge to help the users. The same has been placed in Table 12 appended with graph 9 for clear understanding of the problems.

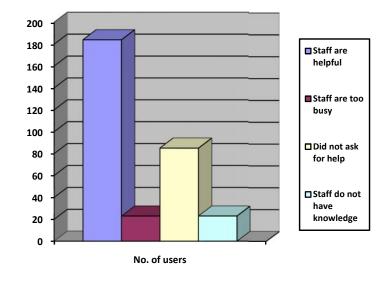
Sl.No	Services received	No. of Users
1	Staff are helpful	184 (58%)
2	Staff are too busy	23 (8%)
3	Did not ask for help	85 (27%)
4	Staff do not have Knowledge to help	23 (8%)
Total		315 (100%)

Table 12: Services received by MSL users

Source- Field Survey

The table clearly indicates that among the respondents' opinion on the services received and the same has been tabulated in Table 12 supplemented with graph 9 for better clarity of information, shows that 184 (58%) number of users out of 315 in total feel satisfaction, followed by 85 (27%) number of users do not ask for help, 23 (8%) number of users out of 315 in total gives that staff are too busy, followed by 23 (8%) number of users find that staff do not have knowledge for help. This shows that most of the respondents are familiar with staff's services to get help of the library service.

Graph 9: Services received by MSL users



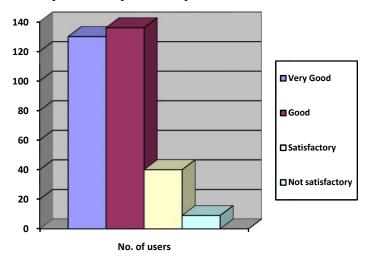
# 5.12 THE MSL COLLECTION

The scholar would like to ascertain from the respondents opinion on the MSL Collection and the same has been tabulated in Table 13 supplemented with graph 10 for better clarity of information shows that 136 (43%) respondents out of 315 in total response Good about the library collection. However,130 (41%) respondents out of 315 in total gives very good response about the library collection. 40 (13%) number of user response are satisfactory and 9 (3%) number of users are not satisfied with the library collection.

Sl.No	Opinion	No. of Users
1	Very Good	130 (41%)
2	Good	136 (44%)
3	Satisfactory	40 (13%)
4	Not Satisfactory	9 (3%)
	Total	315 (100%)

Table 13: Respondent opinion on the MSL collection

Source- Field Survey



Graph 10: Respondent opinion on the MSL collection

# 5.13 REQUIREMENT FOR IMPROVEMENT OF MSL COLLECTION

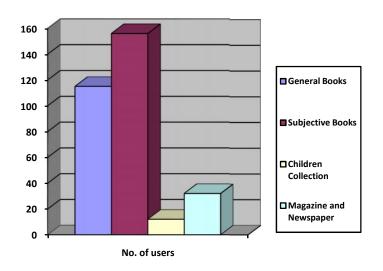
The scholar would like to ascertain from the respondent about the improvement of library collection through four options such as general books, subjective books, children collection, magazine and newspaper. The same has been placed in Table 14 supplemented with graph 11 for better clarity of information shows that 156 (56%) respondents out of 315 in total gives Subjective books about the better improvement of library collection. 115 (36%) respondents out of 315 in total gives general books for improvement of the library collection. However, 32 (10%) members of users give magazine/newspaper about the improvement of library collection. 12 (4%) number of users give children collection for the improvement of library collection. This shows that the subjective books are needed to improve the library collection in the State library.

Table 14: Requirement for improvement of MSL Collection

Sl.No	Requirement	No. of Users
1	General Books	115 (36%)
2	Subjective Books	156 (50%)
3	Children Collection	12 (4%)
4	Magazine and Newspaper	32 (10%)
	Total	315 (100%)

Source- Field Survey

Graph 11: Requirement for improvement of MSL Collection



# 5.14 AREA OF INTEREST OF MSL USERS

The scholar submitted a question through the questionnaire to the respondents to ascertain the tapping of the area of interest of the library user through four options such as, general, subjective, fiction and biography. The

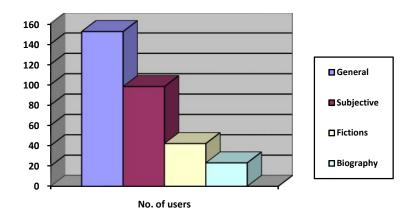
same has been tabulated in Table 15 supplemented with graph 12

Table 15: Area of Interest of MSL users

Sl.No	Area of Interest	No. of User
1	General	152 (49%)
2	Subjective	98 (31%)
3	Fictions	42 (13%)
4	Biography	23 (7%)
	Total	315 (100%)

Source- Field Survey





The analysis shows that the entire respondents are interested in different collection of the library. It could be revealed that out of the total number of 315 respondents, 152 (49%) number of respondents are interested in general collection, followed by 98 (31%) number of user respondents are interested in subjective. While 42 (13%) number of users' respondent are interested in fiction, 23 (7%) number of respondents are interested in biography. It could be further visualized that the user area of interest in general collection is higher in number of the library users.

# 5.15 TYPES OF FICTION FAVOURED BY MSL USERS

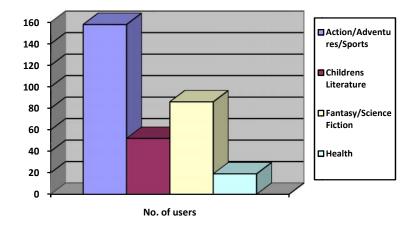
The types of fiction favored by the users have been placed under table 16. The scholars has obtained data relating to this component which has been classified into four categories, such as; action/adventures/sports, fantasy/science fiction, children literature and health fiction.

Sl.No	<b>Types of Fiction</b>	No. of Users
1	Action/Adventures/Sports	158 (51%)
2	Children Literature	52 (16%)
3	Fantasy/Science Fiction	86 (27%)
4	Health	19 (6%)
	315 (100%)	

Table 16: Types of Fiction favored by MSL users

Source- Field Survey

The table clearly reveals that 158 (51%) number of users favored action/adventures/sports fiction, while making analysis it could be ascertained that 86 (27%) number of users favored fantasy/science fictions. Moreover, it also could be observed those 52 (16%) number of users favored children literature, and 19 (6%) number of users favored health fiction. This shows that the respondent users are favored action/adventures/sports fiction is highest among the users. The above table has been supplemented with graph 13 for clear understanding of the users favored fictions.



Graph 13: Types of Fiction favored by MSL users

# 5.16 MAGAZINES FAVOURED BY MSL USERS:

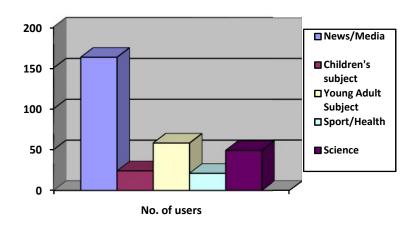
The types of magazines favored by the users have been placed under table 17. The scholars has obtained data relating to this component which has been classified into five categories, such as; news/media, children's subject, young adult subject, sport./health, and science magazines.

Sl. No	Types of Magazine	No. of Users
1	News/Media	163 (52%)
2	Children's Subject	24 (8%)
3	Young Adult Subject	58 (19%)
4	Sport/Health	21 (6%)
5	Science	49 (15)
	315(100%)	

Source- Field Survey

The table clearly reveals that 163 (52%) number of users favored news/media magazines, while making analysis it could be ascertained that 58 (19%) number of users favored young adult's magazines. Moreover, it also could be observed those 49 (15%) number of users favored science magazines, and 24 (8%) number of users favored children magazines. While 21(6%) number of users are favored sports/health magazines. This shows that the respondent users are favored news/media magazines is highest among the users. The above table has been supplemented with graph 14 for clear understanding of the users favored magazines

Graph 14: Types of Magazines favored by MSL users



### 5.17 NEWSPAPERS FAVOURED BY MSL USERS:

The types of newspaper favored by the users have been placed under table 18. The scholars have obtained data relating to this component which has been classified into five categories, such as; local news, national news, business news, foreign news and sport news.

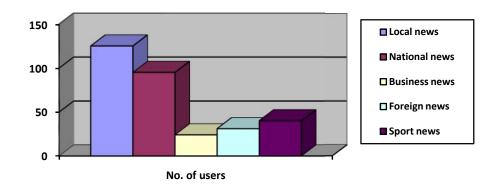
SI. No.	Types of Newspaper	No. of Users
1	Local News	125 (40%)
2	National News	95 (30%)
3	Business News	24 (8%)
4	Foreign News	31 (10%)
5	Sport News	40 (12%)
	Total	315 (100%)

Table 18: Types of Newspaper favored by MSL users

Source- Field Survey

The table clearly reveals that 125 (40%) number of users favored local news, while making analysis it could be ascertained that 95 (30%) number of users favored national news. Moreover, it also could be observed those 40 (12%) number of users favored sports news, and 31 (10%) number of users favored foreign news. While 24 (8%) number of users are favored business news. This shows that the respondent users are favored local news is highest among the users. The above table has been supplemented with graph 15 for clear understanding of the users favored newspaper

Graph 15: Types of Newspaper favored by MSL users



# 5.18 PROCESS FOR SEARCHING OF DOCUMENTS BY MSL USERS

Table 19- Process for searching of documents by MSL users

Sl.No.	No. of Users			
	Always	Mostly	Sometimes	Never
1	58	59	140	58
2	84	83	96	52
3				
a)	57	116	83	59
b)	96	120	84	15
c)	121	120	61	13
d)	60	84	119	52
4	60	83	124	48

**Note** Sl. No. 1 - Catalogue when searching for resources Sl. No. 2 - Browsing the shelves when searching for resources

Sl. No. 3 - Using the catalogue for searching

a) Keywords

b) Subject

c) Title

d) Author

Sl. No. 4 - Searching Unsuccessful

1. About 58 numbers of the library user, use catalogue when searching for resources always, 59 numbers of user use catalogue mostly, 140 numbers use sometimes and about 58 numbers never use the catalogue when searching for resources.

2. Browsing the shelves when searching for resources always are about 84 in numbers, mostly done by 83, about 96 does sometimes and some 52 numbers never search the shelves.

3. (a) When using the catalogue, about 57 users always search, about 116 search mostly, about 83 sometimes search catalogue using keywords, and about 59 users never use keywords for searching the catalogue.

(b) When using the catalogue, about 96 users always search, about 120 search mostly, about 84 sometimes search catalogue using subject, and about 15 users never use subject for searching the catalogue.

(c) When using the catalogue, about 121 users always search, about 120 search mostly, about 61 sometimes search catalogue using title, and about 13 users never use title for searching the catalogue.

(d) When using the catalogue, about 60 users always search, about 84 search mostly, about 119 sometimes search catalogue using author, and about 52 users never use author for searching the catalogue.

4. Using a different method if first search is unsuccessful this is applied always by about 60 users, 83 users mostly,

124 users sometimes and 48 users never use different methods.

### 5.19 FINDINGS

After due analysis of the questionnaire placed under different tables as noted above, interacting with the users, and while browsing the other sources of information concerning to the present study of the Mizoram State Library, the scholar deduced with the following findings. From the above study, it could be realized that the user gave much emphasis to use the library resources on MSL in multiple ways. The general is not a positive criterion where both the communities equally play a vital role to access the library resources from amongst all the users. The scholar made a thorough analysis to ascertain the frequency of visit, which after analysis could be observed that the user community immensely takes the maximum benefit of the library resources. The scholar made an all out of effort to project the various studies which after analysis it could be found that:

- Male users are higher in number than that of the female users and the maximum library user is youth group for visiting the library for various purposes.
- The qualification of Bachelor Degree is higher in number of the MSL users, and it could be further analyzed that the students are more in using the library.
- The Monthly visitor is the highest frequency of the state library user. It could be further

analyzed that the users' purpose to read magazine and newspaper are more in number for visiting the library for various purposes.

- 4) The scholar through the questionnaire obtain the satisfactory level of the user, which primarily has been split over four level such as, 100%, 70-100%, 50-70%, less than 50%. In all types of the satisfactory level, 50-70 percent are higher compare to others level, it could be further visualized that the users are adaptive to the sources of information.
- 5) Most of the users are familiar with staff's services to get help of the library service.
- 6) The scholar through the questionnaire 136 (44%) respondents out of 315 in total response Good about the library collection. However,130 (41%) respondents out of 315 in total gives very good response about the library collection. 40 (13%) number of user response are satisfactory and 9 (3%) number of user are not satisfied in the library collection. The subjective book collections are needed to improve on the library collection.
- The user area of interest in General collection is higher in number of the library users.
- The study further shows that consequently after the emergence of library computerization, the user are accessing the library profusely.

### SUGGESTION AND CONCLUSION

#### 6.1 Suggestion:

The scholars after obtaining various suggestions from the users have submitted below to improve upon the library services in a more effective way. Moreover, the scholar also placed below some of the valuable suggestions to act upon by the library for improvement.

- Libraries need to be automated to meet the challenges of an information society with necessary hardware and software. Each library should create its own local database and provide effective and efficient computerized library and information services, such as Database Service, CAS, SDI, Reference Service, Document Delivery Service, etc.
- The Library should conduct feedback/use survey to know the need of use from time to time.
- The library is required to be well equipped by modern Information Communication Technology to facilitate each access to the information needs of the use.
- Internet facility should be provided to the library user, so that they may access their information needs easily.
- Library staffs, both professional and semi-professional needs to be fully oriented towards application of ICTS. The authority should organize such kind of regular training programs to acquire latest developments in the field. Special initiatives in orientation programs/computer literacy program may be organized for the library staff.
- Library must employ modern library technique and device in its operation. So that it provides service in order to save time of library user and the staff because manual system is time consuming.

### 6.2 Conclusions:

The Collection Development in Public Libraries shall reflect the functions and objectives of public libraries. Mizoram State Library is the biggest public library in the State of Mizoram, which is open to full public use. It is the property of General Public. In our Modern Society, it is essential that the user can be provided with a correct and up to date Information and Knowledge. The function of State Library is to collect current Information and then organize it with the help of technical procedure. Collection Development is essential in order to meet the needs of libraries clientele, to have balance collection in a library, and to fulfill the costand cost-effective benefit aspects of documents acquisition. The aspect of collection development is the heart of librarianship. It deals with the collection planning, implementing and collection evaluation. It is a systematic building of a library collection.

Public Library is very important social institution. It plays a significant role in the development of the Society. The Social progress depends largely on education, which is provided to the common people only if some social institution continuously, disseminate the Information required for keeping the people capable of analyzing and discussing a given situation at a given time, their decision that effects society will be right Public Libraries only can play this role efficiently. Public Libraries in developing countries have a special responsibility towards illiterate and Neo-literates. Reading to illiterate's hour can be organized by Public Libraries. Hopefully this will inspire them to learn reading and

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writing. Public Libraries must made special efforts to reach the disadvantages people. They need information for their very survivor. Public Libraries can play an important role in strengthening the foundation of democracy.

The RRRLF is the only national agency which is devoting its full time for the growth and development of public libraries in India. It is anxious to establish public library network for flow of information from top to bottom and from bottom to top. It is deeply concerned to help the rural communities to have the access to information for making better decision in their day to day transactions. The RRRLF hopes to establish, through the State government authorities, libraries, in backward areas, tribal areas and forest and hilly areas in order to bring the illiterate and innocent people into the main stream of public life. The RRRLF has many splendid programs and plans. But its financial budget is scarce and limited. The government of India should provide at least 3 to 4% of its annual budget for the development of public libraries in the country. Public libraries should be considered as important as the educational institutions, like schools, colleges and universities. The Central Government by establishing the central schools, central universities cannot think that it has provided sufficiently for the education of people. It has equal responsibilities for the establishment of the public libraries as these are the gateways of information. According to the UNESCO Public Library manifesto the establishment of public libraries, community information centers are mandatory on the part of the government. The Central government cannot leave this completely to important responsibility the state

government authorities which have limited resources to provide public libraries in every village. The RRRLF should also strive hard and impress on the central government to bring out a National Public Library Policy all at the earliest. The national policy alone can provide the direction, and guidance for the development of the public libraries in the country. The establishment of public library network is already delayed in India. There is Banks Network, railway Network, INFLIBNET for the academic libraries but there is no such network for the public libraries in the country. The RRRLF should think of better programs and policies to take the cutting edge of information to the rural communities at a grass root level to user India into knowledge society. Unless and otherwise such programs are adopted that the rural communities will remain backward and suffer stupor forever. The RRRLF should strengthen the Directorates of Public Libraries in the states by providing more money on the basis of percapita of the population instead of giving match grants on adhoc basis. It also should bring great pressure through the Ministry of culture/HRD to enact library legislations by all the States and Union territories in the country.

The RRRLF in order to be active and effective it has to change it's institutional and composition of its various organs and include more LIS professionals in activities. Society and Library as mentioned on the previous chapters are deeply and closely related to each other. They are interlinked an Interdependent with each other. Societies without Library are like a body without hair. Libraries without Society neither have any origin. Therefore they cannot be separated or taken apart. Tracing

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from the Civilization Libraries have always been a product of social organization and apart of social activities..

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# Appendix -I

### **QUESTIONNAIRE** on

# **COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY:** A CRITICAL STUDY

Dear sir/madam,

I am pursuing M.Phil Course in the Department of Library & Information Science, Mizoram University under the supervision of Dr. S.N. Singh. My research topic is "Collection Development and Utilization of Mizoram State Library: A Critical Study". I am putting this questionnaire to collect data for my work. I therefore request you to kindly extend your help by giving your time to response this questionnaire. I assure that your response will be kept confidential and used for this research purpose only.

Sincerely

Malsawmdawnga Chawngthu M.Phil Scholar Dept. of Library & Information Science Mizoram University, Aizawl

- 1. Name:
- Male Female 2. Sex
- 3. Age group
- $\square$  18and under 30 50 □ 18 – 29
  - 50 or over
- 4. Qualification:

## 5. What is your current work status?

- Govt Employed
- Self Employed
- Retired
- Business
- Student

#### 6. Where do you reside?

- 🗌 Aizawl
- Outside Aizawl

#### 7. How often do you visit the Library?

- □ Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- □ Never

## 8. State your purpose of visit to the Library?

- □ To borrow books
- o To read Magazine/ Newspaper
- □ To use Reference Material
- □ Others

# 9. Is the Library caters your Information needs?

- □ 100%
- 0 70-100%
- □ 50-70%
- $\Box$  Less then 50%

#### 10. Do you find any lacuna in the Library?

- □ Reference Collection
- Document Collection (Books, Journals, Magazine, Newspaper)
- □ Circulation Service
- □ Staff Service.
- □ Repography

## 11. Mark the items describe the service you received

- $\Box$  Staff are helpful and pleasant
- $\Box$  Staff are too busy with their work
- □ I did not ask for help
- $\Box$  Staff do not have the knowledge to help me

# 12. State your opinion about the library collection

- Very Good
- □ Good
- □ Satisfactory
- □ Not Satisfactory

# 13. Mark the items for improvement of Library collection

- □ General Books
- □ Subjective Books
- □ Children Collection
- □ Magazine and Newspaper

# 14. State your area of interest?

- General
- □ Subjectives
- □ Fictions
- Biography

# 15. What types of Fiction do you like to read?

- □ Action/Adventures/Sports
- □ Fantasy/Science Fiction
- Children Literature
- □ Health

# **16.** What type of Magazine do you like to read?

- □ News/Media
- □ Children's Subject
- □ Young Adult Subject
- □ Sports/Health
- □ Science

# 17. What types of Newspaper do you like to read?

- Local News
- National News
- □ Foreign News
- Business News
- □ Sport News

# 18. How do you process for searching of documents?

Catalogue Searching	Always	Mostly	Sometime	Never
You use the catalogue when				
searching for resources				
You browse the shelves when				
searching for resources				
When using the catalogue, you				
search using:				
Keywords				
• Subject				
• Title				
• Author				
You use the different method if				
your first search is unsuccessful				

Comments:\_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Libraries are good resources to cater the needs of academic community. Today there is an increasing awareness towards having access to information; therefore, libraries should be developed to meet the changing technological environment. To meet the requirement for developing the library in a standard library system, the availability of fund plays a crucial role.

The State Library was established in 1974 by the Government of Mizoram under the Department of Education. Before 1989, State Library was under Department of Education. But now State Library is under the Department of Art& Culture. It was headed by the State Librarians. The State Library has two professional staff with 9 supporting staff.

A Public Library is an Institution, established and administered under a State law by a local Government or an ad-hoc library authority or by a Government Department wholly or partly financed other Public Funds, open to all without distinction. A well knitted public library system put to an end of isolated functioning of Public Libraries and their Affiliates. The public library system needs to have a distinct hierarchical structure to achieve the following objectives.

- Fostering and promoting the spread of knowledge, education and Culture.
- Strengthening the forces of Socialism, Secularism, Democracy and rule of law

- Equal opportunity of free access to the users of rural as well as urban areas regardless of race, color, age, sex, nationality, language, Status or Level of Educational attainment.
- Providing vision perspective, insight and Leadership to the Library movement.
- Promoting Socio Economic Development of the Society by catering to the needs of Millions of Neo-Literate from the poorest and weaker Section of the Society.

Until the trifurcation of Education Department of Mizoram in 1989, Public Libraries were on the supervision and administration of education Department. But, since that time, Public Libraries came under the Directorate of Art and Culture till today. During the Assam Government, the first Public Library was established in Aizawl as Sub-Divisional Library, which has now elevated to the category of District Library.

Besides the above there are 452 recognized Village Libraries, which are run by the largest in the State, Young Mizo association (YMA). Buildings of such Libraries are voluntarily constructed by the local people and the staffs are also on voluntary basis.

#### **RRRLF** Assistance to Mizoram State Library:

Mizoram has attained a very high Literacy percentage which means most of the people can read regional literature and the scheme of the matching fund of the Foundation is the backbone of Non-Formal Education in this State. The Matching Fund received from the Foundation is fully utilized for the purpose and most of the Interior place to receive reading materials, which is the beginning of Development of the State. RRRLF came into existence in the year 1972 and incidentally this was the year Mizoram became a Union Territory, only after 10 years of Establishment of the Foundation. Since then, i.e. from 1982-1983 onwards Mizoram have high Percentage of Literacy of the people. Books distributed under RRRLF have gladly helped the rural Villages. It also works as a good means of Non Formal Education. Dr. BP Barua the Former Director, Shri B. Bhattacharjee, Field officer and Shri A. Guha. Assistant Field Officer of North East Area has made sincere efforts in helping the people of Mizoram in the Field of Library Services.

The function of a State Libraries should be incorporated in the legislation. The State Government should provide necessary infrastructure and finance to ensure that these functions are actually performed. The annual budget of the State libraries in India, incidentally, is so meager that they are reduced to second or thirdrate public libraries.

## 2. ROLE OF STATE LIBRARY

All the 25 states except Sikkim and all the Union Territories, except Daman & Diu have State Libraries. The State Library is supposed to provide leadership in the development of public library system in the state, besides being a coordinating and common service center. But, unfortunately despite library legislation, they have failed to any role whatsoever in the development of the State library system. They function Primarily as Public Libraries for the Cities where they are located. Some of the Public Libraries in the Country on the contrary are better equipped in terms of Buildings, Furniture, staffs and reading materials than the State Libraries. The Primary reason for the failures of the State Libraries in the discharged of its allowed function has kept their isolated functioning. They offer no service to the Divisional or District Libraries, Person living outside the Capital Cities where State Libraries are generally located are sometimes not even aware of the existence of their state library because they offer no service to them.

## 3. LIBRARY LEGISLATION: CURRENT STATUS

Several attempts are being made by individuals and library associations to provide public libraries under law. Apart from Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, a number of individuals spent their time and energy to put on the statute book public library laws. Notable among them are Kumar Munindra Deb Rai Mahasai of Bengal, K.V. Krishna Swamy Iyer, T.R. Venkataraman Sastry, Basheer Ahmed Sayeed of Madras, M.V. Donde of Bombay, K.M. Ujalambkar of Hyderabad and P.N. Kaula of Delhi.

It is only after India's independence that, Dr. Ranganathan's dream of public library act enactment was fulfilled. Through the good offices of the then Minister for Education, Avinaslingam Chettiar, a modified Bill was introduced in the state legislature which was passed as the Madras Public Libraries Act in 1948. Since then the following ten states have enacted library acts for their respective states:

- 1. Tamil Nadu (1948)
- 2. Andhra Pradesjh (1960)
- 3. Karnataka (1965)
- 4. Maharashtra (1967)
- 5. West Bengal (1979)
- 6. Manipur (1988)
- 7. Kerala (1989)

8. Haryana (1989)

9. Goa (1993)

10. Mizoram (1993)

It is hearting to note that the major states in terms of population and other natural resources like UP, MP, Bihar, Rajasthan and Punjab have no library legislation. No professional force is able to motivate the state governments in this direction.

## 4. BUDGET

The main source of budget for public libraries in Mizoram is financed by the State Government. Budget allocation for past years is shown in the table, supplemented with graph for clear information.

Year	Plan Grant	Non Plan Grant	
	(`in Lakh)	(`in Lakh)	
2004-2005	16.73	16.70	
2005-2006	18.87	17.90	
2006-2007	12.89	17.90	
2007-2008	28.80	19.30	
2008-2009	8.70	23.85	
2009-2010	8.75	35.25	
2010-2011	32.60	39.75	

Table : Budget Allocation from RRRLF

Besides the State Government budget allocation, it also received matching fund and central assistance from the Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), Ministry of Culture and Government of India. During 2004-2005 financial years, the State Government contributed Rs 12 Lakh to this foundation as matching fund. A grant from RRRLF is a boon for development services not only for state library but also for Public Libraries in Mizoram particularly for the recognized village libraries.

## 5. SERVICES

The Mizoram State Library provides the following services-

- 1) Issue of documents.
- 2) Provision of general and specific information.
- Assistance in the searching or location of documents or use of Library catalogue or understanding of reference books.
- 4) Readers advisory services
- 5) Library orientation and bibliographic instruction and
- 6) Extension services.

# 6. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY

Information Technology plays a crucial role on lives of people across the world since the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Government, industrialist, businessmen and scientist have decided to use IT as instruments for their day-to-day services and development works. As soon as IT entered into the field of our education and society, Library has taken it as important instruments to access information needs of the hour. But, on the contrary, these digital instruments created division in the society between those who have access to IT based services and those who have not.

In the case of Mizoram, application of IT in Public Libraries is still in developing stage. RRRLF, an autonomous body for the promotion of public libraries has given PC's for the automation of libraries with library software. But, it is not taken up to bring forth the mark of the hope due some technical problems instead under process. The Mizoram Public Libraries Act 1993, being passed at the helm of IT decade, does not include any services or provision to serve the needs of the users in a digital age. Barriers for the digitization of State Library in Mizoram are:

- a) Poor knowledge of IT
- b) Shortage of IT know-how staff
- c) Inadequate infrastructure.
- d) No government initiatives in the program.
- e) Poor communication/ remoteness.
- f) Less educational abilities/less demand
- g) Poverty.
- h) High Populace in rural areas.
- i) Linguistic diversity.
- j) Remoteness of geographical location.
- k) Economic factors.

# 7. MODERNIZATION OF MIZORAM STATE LIBRARY

The important aspects of a State Library are that it should have goals and programs to achieve the adequate supply of information to the public.

Today we are living in the age of information. A large amount of information is being generated every moment. The ability to collect, to store and disseminate this large amount of information needs applications of new technologies. Computer and telecommunication technology have highly revolutionalized the field of library and information services with the introduction of new technology, libraries are expected to use various types of technology to provide information more quickly in greater volume than before. The use of modern technology has a great relevance in the context of fourth law of Library Science 'Save the time of reader/staff'. The applications of modern technology facilitate easy access and store Information quickly.

Automation is a technique to make system automated i.e. self –active. For this the electronic machines are used to automate the libraries. The Mizoram State Library has taken initiatives for computerization; the library presently procures five computer and library software. Although there is a plan to create data bases and provide computerized library and information services, but due to lack of trained man-power the work is not in satisfactory position.

Some of the multi type advantages in library automation are given as under:

- It increases productivity in terms of both works as well as in services.
- > It extends of library services beyond the library peripherals.
- It allows participation into outside networking systems for the resources sharing of the libraries.
- It creates economy in expenditures.
- > It does proper and optimum utility of library materials.

# 8. ADVANTAGES OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Several authors like Katz, Magrill and Hickey mentioned the advantages of a written collection development policy. Their views can be summarized as follows:

A collection development policy:

• expresses openly its relationship with the objectives of the parent organization/library.

• forms the basis for planning collection development.

• provides practical guidance in day to day selection of reading materials free from personal bias.

• helps in determining the best method of acquisition.

• supports and assists in justifying the selection/collection. CD policy offers some help against censorship by a clear statement of the type of materials to be purchased and indicating that the policy has the support of the library authority/ committee.

• acts as a rational guide for budget allocation and also helps in long range budget planning by stating priorities and outlining growth and development goals.

• helps in making best use of resources.

• facilitates cooperative programs like inter library loans, resource sharing and networks.

• assists in establishing methods of reviewing materials before purchase.

• offers suggestions on types of materials to be stored, weeded out and discarded

# 9. LIBRARY COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT IN AN ELECTRONIC AGE:

Electronic technologies and collection development are two of the top concerns in library and information science today. In a recent analysis of the literature, four major trends in library and information science were identified: increases in end-user access to computer-based information resources; library use of networks and telecommunications; dependency on CD-ROM-based information sources; and emphasis on collection management activities.

Clearly, collection management is a fundamental concern. Demas puts the matter into perspective this way: "Electronic publishing has profound implications for collection development, which is defined as the intentional and systematic building of the set of information resources to which the library provides access. While the principles of collection development, which were developed in the world of, print publications, do not change radically with new publishing technologies, methods of decision making and specific selection guidelines must be adjusted significantly to incorporate new publishing formats".

Although most of the current literature cited below refers to academic or research libraries, much of the content applies to all types of libraries. This digest will focus on problems and solutions of practical interest to all librarians.

The challenges of integrating electronic resources and technologies into the process of collection development are many, and many-faceted. Beyond task-oriented considerations, such as the selection process itself, there are large-scale management issues to consider such as budget, policy, personnel, and technology. Some of the biggest problems, not surprisingly, stem from simultaneous decreases in funding and increases in operating costs. Collections budgets are at special risk because they are not directly connected to the number of staff positions or level of user services (Otero-Boisvert, 1993). Academic libraries note impacts of electronic technologies on research, such as increasing demands for electronic searching capabilities, demands for access to machine-readable scholarly texts, and use of network discussion groups for scholarly communication (Shreeves, 1992).

Three areas of collection development that seem to be the most problematic are selection, acquisitions, and inter-institutional cooperation. Two themes pervade the discussions: the shift in library philosophy from ownership of locally stored resources to provision of access to electronically stored resources; and the need for rethinking collection development policy, both to support the new philosophy and to better deal with new types of resources on a dayto-day basis.

## **10. SIGNIFICANCE AND SCOPE OF THE STUDY:**

The library is the nucleus of information centers which support learning, teaching and research needs of the users' communities by providing access to scholarly literature. Growth and changes have always been predominant characteristics of libraries, these generates collections and services within the library system. For this, fund is the basic needs of library. Mizoram State Library is receiving fund for its growth and development from RRRLF. Collection of information must remain flexible enough to support to the causes of the information requirements of the users in the MSL. This opens avenue for collections development including imparting of services within the library system.

Based on the fund received from the RRRLF, the research work aims at evaluating the flexibility of MSL and also their capabilities in developing a process to integrate recent changes in the standard library practice to meet the current and update demands of the users' communities. The advancement of technology also leads to the needs of more funds for institutional repositories, which adds great value and recognition to the library itself as well as the library professionals. Moreover, the study will also open new windows to other libraries in the state.

Mizoram State Library plays an important role in promoting and supplementing higher education in the state. Mizoram being the second highest literacy state in the country, having 88% of literacy in 2001 census, have the great potential to make use of the fund received by them from RRRLF to have a better access to the academic world. With the help from RRRLF by way of funding, the MSL can also organize various programs that are intended to impart the knowledge and skills that would enable students to become effective and efficient. There is a great chance for MSL to be at par with other state libraries by way of proper utilization of fund received by them.

The scope of the present study extends to its services, collection development, developing of websites, dissemination of information, development of infrastructure and above all, the service provide by the MSL in the public libraries attached to them.

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## **11. REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

An extensive survey of literature available in the relevant area of the study to make update with information has been taken. The scholar also has taken proper care to scan the published literature in the concerned area and some of them are included here.

# Balakrishnan, S. and Paliwal, P.K. (2001) Library collection and Automation, Delhi: Anmol Publication.

A library collecting priorities depends on some determining factors like the scope of collection, the resources available in terms of money, space and staff, and its use. This book tries to narrate that the complete aspects related to library and information technology in twenty-first century. This book offers the most thorough treatment available on the application of library science techniques to information management problems and completely integrated presentation of library systems and its function.

# Bhusan, A. (2007). Collection Management in libraries, New Delhi: Cyber Tech Publication.

This book provides the basis for the systematic development of the library's collection. The process through which it is developed is one of its most important strength. It will provide the community with a better understanding of the library and library staff with more interaction with its community.

Drummond, Rebecca C., and Mary H. Munroe.(1996). "Including Access Conspectus Methodology." In advances in Collection Development and Resource Management, vol.2, 63-79. Greenwich, CT: JAI Press. Drummond and Munroe decide the conspectus, supporting the "old paradigm" of ownership, focuses on size of holdings without considering a library's ability to access unowned materials. They also note the Supplemental Guidelines for assigning collecting levels based on ownership are "vague and ambiguous." A large section discusses access issues, including speed, reciprocal borrowing, Internet resources, informing patrons about access methods.

# Ferguson, Anthony W. (1992). "The Conspectus and Cooperative Collection Development: What It can and cannot do." Acquisition Librarian no.7: 105-14

This essay explores the conspectus role in cooperative collection development. The author surmises that conspectus-based cooperative collection development agreements have been "illusive" because implementing the conspectus became an end itself. Further, competitiveness among libraries, their desire for autonomy, and the ownership paradigm have been barriers to cooperation. He contends that two "concept" that is, categories for assigning collecting levels, need to be added to the conspectus; 'desired collecting goals' and 'cooperative collecting responsibilities.' Ferguson's opinion carries authority because he was among the collection development librarians that spent thirteen years developing the conspectus.

# Gopal, Krishan. (2003). Library collection conundrums and contradiction, Delhi: Author Press.

Collection development needs to be based not only on what a book is about but also on its suitability as evidence from which people can learn. This book elaborative discusses the astonishing richness of materials sources of information. The important distinction between library material and the activity of collection development, the role of collection as part of the retrieval process, the significance for collection development activities of the technical medium of materials and the tending for libraries collection to conform to the cultural value of its social context.

# Sharma, J.B. (1995). Organization and development of libraries, Delhi: Kaniksha Publishers Distributors.

The development of libraries has become a very complex and important phenomenon in the information dominated society of today. The author addresses some key issues related to the collection development of library. The libraries and the library scientist have to play a great role in the work of information technology and development of the Library.

## **12. RESEARCH DESIGN:**

#### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Mizoram State Library is the one of the largest library in terms of resources that is available in the State. This State Library caters the information needs for every walk of the Mizoram public. The major allocation of fund for the library is received from RRRLF, only minimal support is extended by the State Government towards the State Library. In this situation MSL is more or less fully depended on outside funding agencies to manage the library resources and to procure new collection. This advocate the researcher to take up the above topic and try to analyze the collection development policy of MSL and how well the library administration is utilizing the fund that they receive from outside agencies like RRRLF.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- 1. To ascertain the use of Mizoram State Library by the users.
- 2. To recognize the principles and problems of collection development.
- 3. To examine the role of RRRLF in Mizoram State Library as an agency for the development of the society.
- 4. To find out the feasibility of modernization in Mizoram State Library along with the opportunities and challenges posed by electronic materials.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The present study is based on the collection development and utilization of the Mizoram State Library. The scholar prepared a semi structured questionnaire for the user constituting relevant variables to the study for all types of users of MSL to meet their information requirement and another for collection development in the library. A total number of 400 questionnaire were distributed among the users , out of which, while 315 filled in questionnaire in total were received which constituted from 190 male and 125 female, remaining 85 questionnaire were not received and this constituted 79% respectively.

Further the scholar applied the interview methods with the librarian, which helped the scholar to obtain primary data concerning to the research problem. The scholar also explored some URL sites to draw relevant information pertaining to the study.

The secondary source of information such as unpublished dissertation, research articles, pre-reviewed journals, open access

journal and books also have been consulted to make the study were exhaustive and authentic.

## 13. FINDINGS

After due analysis of the questionnaire placed under different tables as noted above, interacting with the users, and while browsing the other sources of information concerning to the present study of the Mizoram State Library, the scholar deduced with the following findings. From the above study, it could be realized that the user gave much emphasis to use the library resources on MSL in multiple ways. The general is not a positive criterion where both the communities equally play a vital role to access the library resources from amongst all the users. The scholar made a thorough analysis to ascertain the frequency of visit, which after analysis could be observed that the user community immensely takes the maximum benefit of the library resources. The scholar made an all out of effort to project the various studies which after analysis it could be found that:

- Male users are higher in number than that of the female users and the maximum library user is youth group for visiting the library for various purposes.
- The qualification of Bachelor Degree is higher in number of the MSL users, and it could be further analyzed that the students are more in using the library.
- The Monthly visitor is the highest frequency of the state library user. It could be further analyzed that the users'

purpose to read magazine and newspaper are more in number for visiting the library for various purposes.

- 4) The scholar through the questionnaire obtain the satisfactory level of the user, which primarily has been split over four level such as, 100%, 70-100%, 50-70%, less than 50%. In all types of the satisfactory level, 50-70 percent are higher compare to others level, it could be further visualized that the users are adaptive to the sources of information.
- Most of the users are familiar with staff's services to get help of the library service.
- 6) The scholar through the questionnaire 136 (44%) respondents out of 315 in total response Good about the library collection. However,130 (41%) respondents out of 315 in total gives very good response about the library collection. 40 (13%) number of user response are satisfactory and 9 (3%) number of user are not satisfied in the library collection. The subjective book collections are needed to improve on the library collection.
- The user area of interest in General collection is higher in number of the library users.
- 8) The study further shows that consequently after the emergence of library computerization, the user are accessing the library profusely.

## 14. SUGGESTIONS

The scholars after obtaining various suggestions from the users have submitted below to improve upon the library services in a more effective way. Moreover, the scholar also placed below some of the valuable suggestions to act upon by the library for improvement.

- Libraries need to be automated to meet the challenges of an information society with necessary hardware and software. Each library should create its own local database and provide effective and efficient computerized library and information services, such as Database Service, CAS, SDI, Reference Service, Document Delivery Service, etc.
- The Library should conduct feedback/use survey to know the need of use from time to time.
- The library is required to be well equipped by modern Information Communication Technology to facilitate each access to the information needs of the use.
- Internet facility should be provided to the library user, so that they may access their information needs easily.
- Library staffs, both professional and semi-professional needs to be fully oriented towards application of ICTS. The authority should organize such kind of regular training programs to acquire latest developments in the field. Special initiatives in orientation programs/computer literacy program may be organized for the library staff.
- Library must employ modern library technique and device in its operation. So that it provides service in order to save time of library user and the staff because manual system is time consuming.

# **15. CHAPTERISATION**

Chapter I	:	Introduction.		
Chapter II	:	Mizoram State Library.		
Chapter III	:	Collection Development in Mizoram State Library		
Chapter IV	:	Contribution of RRRLF for the collection		
		development of Mizoram State Library.		
Chapter V	:	Data Analysis and Finding.		
Chapter VI	:	Suggestions and Conclusion.		
		Bibliography/ References		