COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY IN SCHOOL LIBRARY IN WEST BENGLA: CASE STUDY

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Abstract

Collection means resources in any format. Collection development is considered as synonymous to “Collection Building”. Collection development in a library would mean building up and improving the collection in that library. Collection development policy supports the Library’s role in offering collections to meet the learning, teaching and research needs of its students and staff. This paper focuses a case study which depends on collection development policy in West Bengal.

Keywords- Collection, Collection development, school library

INTRODUCTION

Library is a growing organism. Main task of library is to choice, preserve, and deliver access to relevant and representative information resources. According to ODLIS The process of planning and building a useful and balanced collection of library materials over a period of years, based on an ongoing assessment of the information needs of the library's clientele, analysis of usage statistics, and demographic projections, normally constrained by budgetary limitations. Collection development includes the formulation of selection criteria, planning for resource sharing, and replacement of lost and damaged items, as well as routine selection and deselection decisions. 1 Hendrik Edelman’s seminal paper of 1979 is widely cited in the literature and a good starting point for discussion. He notes that in the USA, book selection in academic libraries had been a neglected subject in the literature, particularly when compared to the literature on book selection in public libraries. He explains the relationship between ‘collection development’, ‘selection’ and ‘acquisition’ as a hierarchy and defines collection development as follows: Collection development is a planning function. A collection development plan or policy describes the short- and long-term goals of the library as far as the collections are concerned, taking them into account and correlating them with the environmental aspects such as audience demand, need, and expectation, the information world, fiscal plans, and the history of the collections. From the collection development plan flows the budget allocation in broad terms. (Edelman, 1979, 34) Prytherch (2005, p. 151) defines collection development as The process of planning a stock acquisition programme not simply to cater for immediate needs, but to build a coherent and reliable collection over a number of years, to meet the objectives of a service. 8 This paper show us school library collection development policy in West Bengal.

OBJECTIVES

Some of the major objectives are to:

- Language of the Collection
- Rate of Library use
- Journals Used
- Classification Scheme
- Cataloguing Scheme
- Library Services
- Librarians Behaviour
• Standards for collection size

**SCOPE**

This research work is measuring Collection Development policy in School Library in West Bengal. The present study deals with the Librarians and teachers of different schools, such as, Fatepur High (H.S) School, Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan, Ichapurbivukinkar high school, Saraswati Vidyaniketan (J. H.), Buincha Junior High School, Bediapara Monomohit Vidyapith, Naihati Narendra Vidyaniketan.

**METHODOLOGY**

The survey method was employed to collect the required data. A detailed questionnaire was prepared for this purpose and in order to enhance the validity and reliability of the questionnaire, experts in the field of library science, psychology and statistics were consulted and were requested to review the questionnaire critically. Beside this data was collected through individual discussions and interviews with schoolteachers and librarians. Questionnaire was revised based on the suggestions given by the experts. The present study deals with the Librarians and teachers of different schools, such as, Fatepur High (H.S) School, Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan, Ichapurbivukinkar high school, Saraswati Vidyaniketan (J. H.), Buincha Junior High School, Bediapara Monomohit Vidyapith, Naihati Narendra Vidyaniketan.

**SURVEY**

In this survey the participants were teachers and librarian of schools in West Bengal. The main area of conducting this survey was to know the idea of librarians and teachers collection development in schools.

**ANALYSIS**

We interviewed 2 school librarians and 10 school teachers from different schools in West Bengal.

**Librarians Opinion**

- School librarians are aware about the knowledge of Collection Development.
- Fatepur High (H.S) School library and Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan library collection is Indian and foreign both languages.
- Suvery Chandra is the librarian of Fatepur High (H. S) School. According to her Fatepur High (H. S) School Library provide user Bengali, English, Sanskrit books. Preeti Gupta is the librarian of Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan. According to her Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan school library provide user Bengali, English, Sanskrit and Hindi books.
- According to Preeti Gupta (Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan) and Suvery Chandra (Fatepur High (H.S) School ) the rate of library use of students is almost daily and the rate of library use of teachers is several times in a week.
- Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan and Fatepur High (H. S) School librarians used Print Journal.
- According to Preeti Gupta, and Suvery Chandra their library used AACR-II cataloguing scheme.
- We asked the librarians that what their perception about their classification scheme. Both librarians view is DDC classification scheme is good for school library.
- It is impossible to calculate the size of collections. Suvery believes, library size and growth rate cannot be linked with feature of service to users. Preeti, on the other hand, states that there is a strong relationship between the size of a collection and its ability to meet user needs.

**Teachers Opinion**

- When in our survey we ask some teachers of Fatepur High (H.S) School, Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan, Ichapurbivukinkar high school, Saraswati Vidyaniketan (J. H.), Buincha Junior High School, Bediapara Monomohit Vidyapith, Naihati Narendra Vidyaniketan. Most of the teachers acknowledged the term Collection Development.
According to teachers most of the school library collection is Indian and foreign both languages.

- Fatepur High (H. S) School, Bediapara Monomohit Vidyapith, Buinch School of Arts, Saraswati Vidyamandir, Ichapur Shivakar, Naihati Narenda Vidyamandir library provide user Bengali, English, Sanskrit books. Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan school library provide user Bengali, English, Sanskrit and Hindi books.

According to Sastick Deb Bhattacharyya (Naihati Narenda Vidyamandir), Manas Banerjee and Tapan Kr. Das (Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan), Bikash Ch. Ghosh and Biswajit Dey (Fatepur High (H.S) School), Subir Adhikary (Ichapur Shivakar high school), their school library used print journals. the rate of library use of students is almost daily and the rate of library use of teachers is several times in a month. According to Tapasri Chakraborty (Buinch School of Arts), Citakali Aditya and Malay Kumar Hazra (Bediapara Monomohit Vidyapith), their school library not used print journals and online any type of journals.

According to Manas Banerjee economics teacher of Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan and Tapan Kr. Das English teacher of Jyotinagar Bidyasree Niketan, Sastick Deb Bhattacharyya Sanskrit Teacher of Naihati Narenda Vidyamandir, Subir Adhikary computer teacher of Ichapur Shivakar high school, Biswajit Dey Vocational Teacher of Fatepur High (H. S) School, Bikash Ch. Ghosh Education Teacher of Fatepur High (H. S) School, most of the teachers are satisfied in Librarians behaviour.

SUGGESTION

The major suggestions of this study are below:

- Prepare resource sharing collection development policy between different schools
- Use Internet in School library
- Prepare School library consortia
- Interlibrary loan of library material between different schools
- Purchased or subscribe Free Electronic Documents from Internet.
- Design data bank
- Design a rule and framework of school library collection development.
- Allocate fund from Budget for school library
- Prepare weeding out policy of school library

**CONCLUSION**

Collection development is the process of identifying the information needs of the user that a library serves and acquiring materials that will meet those needs. A good collection of documents is the base of each library. The term collection development is planned systematic development of an existing collection. Librarians have to adopt IT for library operations, especially for collection development activities and information services generation. It is important to continuously carry out collection evaluation for a stable and significant collection. Librarians need to know the preferred levels of their collection.

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