

# ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC LIBRARY USERS IN INDIA

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## ABSTRACT

*Open libraries emerged worldwide alongside development in training, education, and distributions. Each nation has its own open library history with powerful pioneers. Rulers, affluent individuals, and givers have all made a commitment to society as open library improvement. In India larger part of individuals live in rustic regions and new advancements are not available from far off towns, in this way a wide hole has been developed between the libraries of 'information haves' and information those who lack wealth. Today Internet and web advancements open up better approaches for intelligent correspondence between open libraries and the common society. The advancement in the Information and correspondence Technologies (ICT) empower distant individuals can be associated by a few specialized choices in a more reasonable way. In light of the generally acknowledged conceptualization of "ICT for advancement," this article recommended different ways where assembly innovations can be utilized to improve and advance the current library administrations. An endeavor is made here to make a proposition for ICT driven open libraries for Indian states with reasonable library augmentation projects to help the whole provincial just as urban network particularly unprivileged masses.*

**KEYWORDS:** *ICT, Public libraries, India, convergence technologies, library Extension Program.*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The UNESCO Public Library Manifesto characterizes the open library as "the neighborhood door to information, gives an essential condition to deep rooted learning, free dynamic and social advancement of the individual and social gatherings". The open libraries happen to cover the amplest populace conceivable; their job in spreading proficiency and training has for some time been recognized and is viewed as fundamental. The open libraries in our nation are in a degraded state without a continually reviving print assortment and lively non print sight and sound sources that bait unskilled and semi-educated people because of different framework, labor and fiscal requirements just as absence of need with respect to strategy producers and actualizing bodies. Data and correspondence Technologies (ICT) are a various arrangement of mechanical apparatuses and assets to make, disperse, store, bring esteem expansion and oversee data. In connecting the computerized isolate Public libraries have a significant task to carry out. Nature of Infrastructure, assortment, data Technology use, labor, and so forth., in open libraries of India is exceptionally poor, notwithstanding not many offices in urban areas. Every one of these perspectives were relatively better in examination, scholastic and extraordinary libraries. Computerization will give rapid of correspondence, online access, exact and better support of their clients. It is of imperative significance that system is to be created in such a manner to reach to the remotest corner of the nation.

Modernization and up-degree of Public libraries regarding staff capability and ICT application with the perspective on meeting enlightening, social and past time needs of unprivileged rustic masses and increment their number as enrolled part. The data society is based on an establishment of coordinated effort and correspondence empowered by electronic systems. Open libraries in India ought to embrace most recent assembly advancements and have all around kept up framework capably upheld by expertly prepared capable staff; and have inspiration to work significantly towards eliminating social restraints among its clients. During ongoing years however a few open library frameworks have grown yet the incongruity of the circumstance is that neither any successful open library

framework giving significant library administrations to the colossal rustic masses nor a coordinated chain of library organize has so far created in the nation. There is a dire need that Public libraries in India must move its concentration from assortment to association. Despite the fact that Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) was presented in provincial advancement in the year 1986, rustic Public libraries generally stayed as an overlooked resource in the dispersal of data to the country populace. Also the IT strategy detailed in the year 2000 indicated little enthusiasm for the advancement of rustic libraries. The situation need to transform, we the data experts need to approach and study the current arrangement of activity and locate a superior answer for change these perusing rooms in to a data/information focus where individuals, injured with ignorance or restricted instruction, discover esteem.

### 1.1 Current status:

On a Look at the current library situation winning in the nation apparently there are various sorts of open libraries winning in the various pieces of the nation. The state of most of rustic libraries is very hopeless. A considerable lot of them don't have their own structures, some are situated in little covered cottages and some offer a room and time with their organizations. Storerooms are poor and load of perusing materials is additionally immaterial. It is seen that out of 29 States and 6 Union Territory Administrations, just 11 states, have so far passed library enactment, empowering the concerned State Government to give an open library framework. There are 28 state focal libraries arranged in various urban communities are supported by Raja Ram Mohan Roy library Foundation, Calcutta, set up by Govt. of India. Directly RRRLF is attempting to spread library benefits everywhere on over the nation in dynamic participation with state governments and Union domain organization and willful associations (NGOs) working in this field. The Public library situation isn't uniform in India. It has been hard to gather approved measurements on open libraries in the nation, as the equivalent happens to be under the domain of various organizations and they never reveal such data on a public scale for different reasons. These figures compel us to figure just about the quantity of open libraries and there is no uncertainty to envision the troubles of encouraging data and library backing to the mass of over a billion populace, spread more than 32 lakhs sq. km., with a range of education, knowledge, cash, social and standing qualities. As states contrast in size, populace, education rate, status of books created in the concerned local language, financial development, open library framework additionally vary from state to state so far as its infra-basic offices and examples are concerned. Likewise there are managerial and support issues, for example, the country libraries in certain states structure a piece of the open library framework and in some different states they went under the ward of Adult Education Department or Public Relation Department. Wide-spread lack of education is the best impediment for creating library administrations in some urban and provincial regions in the customary example. Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF's) program of help is generally useful to the reason for open library administrations in the nation. The program gives the best case of asset sharing between the inside and the state for the improvement of open library benefits at all levels. The Foundation has taken long walks in advancing library administration in the nation. During the most recent 28 years, the Foundation has secured, out of 60000 open libraries situated in the nation in a dissipated way, in excess of 31000 libraries at various levels [10]. Be that as it may, huge numbers of these open libraries (around 70% might be rustic) are simple perusing rooms absent a lot of books or great foundation or prepared staff. As per International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) guidelines, there ought to be one open library for each 3000 individuals [10], and in this way with more than 1 billion individuals India needs in excess of 3,43,000 open library units. India has around 568558 possessed towns [11] and there might be only one open library for 8-10 of them. One of the IFLA principles specify with the closest library unit ought not be in excess of a mile away from the neighborhoods. The significant limitations looked by the open library framework to successfully scatter data are complex, basically because of:

- An impressive level of the populace is unskilled or practically educated constraining library to be of negligible use to them
- Poor distribution for the framework improvement and assortment advancement for open libraries
- Lack of enough endorsed posts, compelling a large portion of the administrations to be worked by deliberate non-proficient staff, causing adequate crumbling on data association and overhauling
- There is additionally an issue of taught experts liking to work in extraordinary and scholarly libraries than open libraries.
- Little accentuation on appropriation Information and Communication Technology for open library frameworks and administrations.

## 1.2 ICT driven Public Libraries

Open library framework in the nation bombed absolutely in carrying information to the doorsteps of each person. It is prudent for us to take a gander at the issue once again, particularly when the PC and correspondence advancements have now opened up to us at an insignificant expense [5]. ICT does exclude just the Internet yet an array of different devices which could be utilized exclusively or in assembly with one another. The combination innovations incorporate network radios, Internet radio, neighborhood, tele-focuses, data stands, cell phones, WAP applications and so on. Utilization of union Technologies diminishes the slant in information dissemination among rich and poor, taught and uneducated, rustic and urban and people. ICT driven open libraries should go about as go-between focus with reasonable mindfulness programs. As the operational hub for improving proficiency, mindfulness, government assistance and social arousing, it is the goal to place open libraries in the correct point of view to show up at a solitary window coordinated condition for data scattering worried about all parts of human life

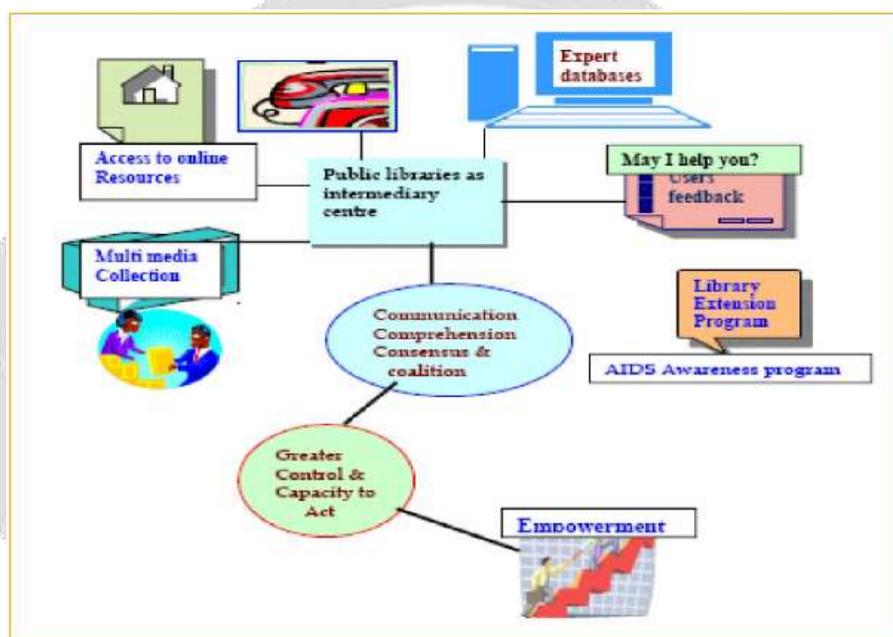


Fig-1: A proposed model of ICT- driven Public Libraries

## 1.3 National Policy on Library & Information System (NAPLIS)

In 1985, a board was set up under the chairmanship of Prof. D.P. Chattopadhyay to define a National Policy on Library and Information System (NAPLIS). The Committee presented its report in May 1986. Following that, another council took a gander at ramifications of the report and made an activity plan for its usage. The Empowerment Committee presented its report in April 1988 and an Implementation Cell was shaped to actualize its proposals inside a time of a half year. One more Working Group, under the Joint Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Culture, was established to look at its suggestions for execution. The Working Group presented its report in July 1993 and proposed executing just 29 of 60 suggestions made by the NAPLIS.

Coming up next are a portion of the proposals of NAPLIS identified with open libraries:

- Proposals for support and improvement of open libraries should ideally originate from State Legislative Enactment. The Central Government may overhaul the Model Public Library Bill. Assets for library advancement should originate from each state, either from general income or from neighborhood tax collection. Focal Government organizations may give assets under Plan Expenditure.

- Efforts ought to underscore country open libraries. A town or a bunch of towns with a satisfactory populace ought to have a network library/country public venue, which will likewise fill in as a data community. Assets from different offices occupied with the general wellbeing, grown-up instruction, State and focal government, and so forth., ought to be utilized to develop and keep up this middle.
- The focal government expands its help to state governments in the advancement of open libraries. The RRRLF, as the public office for organizing and helping the advancement of open libraries, ought to be appropriately reinforced so as to do this.
- Standards and rules for library administration ought to be made.
- There ought to be an arrangement of public libraries comprising of National Library, Calcutta (Now Kolkatta) as the National Library of India, National Depository libraries in Delhi, Bombay (Now Mumbai), Madras (presently Chennai), National Subject Libraries, and others. These public libraries should shape part of one coordinated framework.
- A National Commission on Libraries and Information System or National Commission on Informatics and Documentation might be comprised by an Act of Parliament to serve under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Commission will have portrayal from suitable focal and state organizations and could give direction and arrange library improvement programs in all areas. This body will have the essential duty regarding the usage of NAPLIS programs.
- National Depository libraries; Connemara Public library, Chennai; Central Library (Asiatic Society), Bombay; and Delhi Public Library, Delhi should focus on advancement of assortments and protection of Indian culture delivered in the dialects of their areas, enhancing and supplementing the endeavors of the Indian National Library.
- The Indian National Bibliography should have an exhaustive inclusion of the public yield of archives and ought to be refreshed consistently. This duty ought to be vested in the National Library.
- Government ought to make a public consciousness of the need to save the country's social legacy. Public libraries ought to be dependable, with safeguarding offices made there. Connections between libraries, chronicles, and galleries ought to be built up with the end goal of public conservation.
- The Ministry of Rural Development has an arrangement for one public venue in each Panchayat Center. The Department of Culture and the Ministry of Rural Development have consented to give library administrations at every one of these Rural Community Centers.
- A significant connection ought to be set up between public venue library and grade schools. In the event that the schools don't have libraries of their own, the public venue library ought to give kids satisfactory administrations.
- A public venue library ought to have a significant job in grown-up training programs.
- A region library ought to give offices and diversion to the crippled and low-pay individuals, e.g., writing in Braille.
- Libraries ought to be underlying zones of ancestral fixation and in minority networks to help in creating and supporting their particular societies.
- Libraries ought to be outfitted with significant assets, for example, distributions covering Open University and professional instructive courses, for their job on the side of separation training.
- All open libraries inside a state should shape a piece of a system stretching out from town library through public venue library, area library, and state organize, and ought to be connected to the public data network.

## **2. RURAL DIGITAL LIBRARIES IN INDIA:**

The rise of intranet based "Gyandoot" advanced libraries in Dhar region of Madhya Pradesh has changed the lives of unprivileged rustic networks. "Gyandoot" is a remarkable type of G2C (Government to resident) DL action to address the difficulty forced by exchange costs related with taxpayer supported organizations. It associates 21 digital

bistros called "Suchanalayas" which offer types of assistance to around 10-15 gram panchayats, 20-30 towns and total populace of between 20,000-30,000 individuals. The Soochanalayas are situated at the square central command, haat bazaars and Bus warehouse fixates and furthermore out and about side where individuals regularly travel. These digital bistros are worked by neighborhood administrator called Soochak, who is a nearby volunteer not an administration individual.

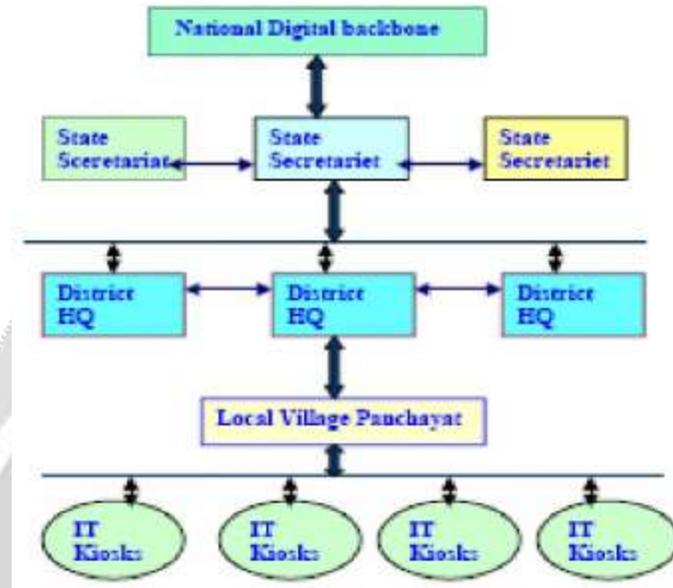


Fig 2: Government Network infrastructure to support rural digital libraries

### 3. CONCLUSION:

Open libraries are frequently discussed as the conceivable answer for data neediness as they are in a situation to give free admittance to the Internet for their networks. Open libraries in India should utilize new Information and correspondence advances to make online world, which will additionally change our lives. Christopher Edwards in his article has properly called attention to "Providing admittance to data has generally been about structures, based around establishments offering administrations to on location clients. Building tomorrow's libraries won't just involve introducing columns of PCs with Internet access: our clients will progressively hope to have the option to get to material from where they live and work. Giving access will progressively be tied in with creating electronic data administrations, for example, Internet entries and going about as an agent between content suppliers and far off clients". Open libraries have consistently been the entryway to learning for an extraordinary larger part of the populaces that they serve. They are information focuses and add to long lasting learning. For India, there are obstructions that prompts the objective of having an establishment to serve the majority, which is much more basic in the current data society, in a country where 40 percent of the populace is living beneath the destitution line.

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