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# IMPACT OF ICT IN COLLEGE LIBRARIES OF ASSAM FOR PROMOTING HIGHER EDUCATION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT.

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# **IMPACT OF ICT IN COLLEGE LIBRARIES OF ASSAM FOR PROMOTING HIGHER EDUCATION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT.**

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## **Abstract**

Library plays a vital role in academic institutions of higher learning. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century information technology has revolutionized the field of library and information science globally. In this context the present study is aimed to see the status of under graduate colleges of Assam and their attached libraries with special reference to Lakhimpur district of the state of Assam. It is found that library activities in these institutions of higher learning are lagging behind reason of which is lack of initiative to upgrade the library facilities up to date using modern technologies. Due to this the satisfaction level of users is much lower and might cause harm to the society.

## **Introduction**

### **ICT and libraries**

Information technology is currently taking center stage and transformed the whole world into a global village with a global economy, which is increasingly dependant on the creative management and distribution of information. The enormous advantages it has in easing the delivery of information around the world. The acquisition of knowledge has therefore been the thrust area throughout the world. The economy of present times depends no longer on visible resources and capital goods but on invisible knowledge and information. Therefore, poor nations as well as poor individuals can create wealth through active contacts and use of knowledge and information. Libraries of the 21st century can help fight poverty and narrow the gap between rich and poor. For the first time in history poor are getting opportunity to enhance their wealth through the creation and use of knowledge. And libraries are taking a central role in this notable movement ( Sing & Nazim 2008)

Information and Communication Technology (ICT), being the building blocks of modern society, has fundamentally changed the practices and procedures of nearly all forms of endeavour within

academics and governance. The revolutionary change which is taking place in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) has dramatic effects on the way universities carry out their functions of teaching, learning and research, particularly on the creation, dissemination and application of knowledge. This requires a shift in the delivery and pedagogy used in the current education system. For India to emerge as knowledge super power of the world it is imperative to convert our demographic advantage into knowledge powerhouse by nurturing and honing our working population into knowledge enabled working population. Thus ICT integration is a crying need for capacity building efforts of educational institutions. Research has suggested that using ICT in instruction enables students to take a more active role in their learning rather than their more traditional role of passive observer and listener. With all parameters it acts as a change agent in education and society by promoting a proper balance between content generations and research in critical areas. Therefore it is pertinent to pay attention to the ICT implementation in educational system for imparting easily accessible, affordable and quality higher education (Alom M , 2016). *The use of ICT in education lends itself to more student-centred learning settings and often this creates some tensions for some teachers and students. But with the world moving rapidly into digital media and information, the role of ICT in education is becoming more and more important and this importance will continue to grow and develop in the 21st century. This paper highlights the various impacts of ICT on contemporary higher education and explores potential future developments. Earlier worker argues the role of ICT in transforming teaching and learning and seeks to explore how this will impact on the way programs will be offered and delivered in the universities and colleges of the future (Oliver, Ron (2002). A group of workers from Pakisthan studied the effect of information and communication technology on the educational improvement of third grade high school students in Khash-Iran . The research was a descriptive survey. The population included the third grade high school students of Khash city who were about 1900 people studying in 35 educational units in 2010. The sample size was determined using Kirgizia and Morgan statistical tables and was determined to be 320 people. Random multistep method was employed for sampling among male and female students in proportion with the community size. A researcher-made 24-quesntion questionnaire with a grading scale of Likret type was used for data collection whose validity and reliability was confirmed by Cronbach's  $\alpha$  . The method of measurement type was used for data analysis; frequency distribution table, frequency percentage and diagram drafting were used descriptive statistics section, The Khi (chi-square), U Mann –Whitney and Kruskal-Wallis statistical tests were used in inferential statistics section with regard to the measurement scale. SPSS was used to analyze data. Research findings reveal that using information and communication technology is effective in increasing educational motivation, improving questioning skill,*

improving research spirit and raising school marks. It is generally effective on third grade high school students' educational improvement to a great extent. This effect was the same among male and female students with different average scores, ages and fields. However, its effect on vocational and high schools students was different (Ghaznavi, Mohammad Reza et al 2011).

*Attempt has been made to design a comprehensive report on role and impact of Information Technology in boosting higher education in Pakistan. This popular technology give the advantage to education sector and role of information technology has resulted in a widening of educational access, giving people the chance to study for a qualification or a new career in their extra time. In this context, the study aims to give particular attention about how information technology plays a vital role in the education sector of Pakistan, to suggest some helpful measures to promote the involvement of information technology in education sector, to highlight the ways people use Information Technology for increasing their education, to understand the ways people use to uplift their ideas for research. The discussion concentrates on structure, access, quality, and future prospects of information technology in Pakistan. It is argued that if quality does not match quantity, and the information technology sector fails to bring out enlightened, highly skilled, trained, motivated and ethically committed individuals, the countries cannot meet any of its development objectives. The Higher Education Commission also facilitated the development of higher educational system in the country with main purpose of upgrading the universities and colleges in the country to be focal point of the high learning of education, research, and development through Information Technology (Ali, Muhammad Shabbir et al 2014)*

The emergence of information and communication technologies has brought a paradigm shift for academic libraries. ICT has enhanced access, research and communication. This means that it has become a very useful tool in academic libraries whose mission is to support teaching, learning and research. This being the case, professional librarians in the 21st century are expected to exploit the opportunities brought about by ICT to ensure that academic libraries are repositioned to be 21st century compliant and remain the hub of information provision, generation and dissemination (Emezie & Nwaohiri 2013). Earlier worker also stressed that the management of the library should provide scope to library professionals to enhance their skill in handling latest technological gadgets to increase their efficiency in providing services to the users and also should provide adequate budget to library for acquisition of documents and technological facilities ( Barooah 2004). It also suggests that e-

resources are more widely accessed than print being concurrent accessibility of them. Journal-wise use pattern conforms to Pareto Law, means 80% access to knowledge is from 20% journals and 20% access to knowledge is from 80% journals. Hence, peripheral demand of access to knowledge (~20%) needs 80% resource allocation which may not be convincing for planners and decision takers. Efforts are already on to increase ICT competency framework for LIS professionals in India is essentially knowledge based information dissemination system in which coordination among different LIS communities are at top priority and may function as national web-based information system in India. The pivot of a successful competency framework is the understanding of fundamentals of ICT and its applicability in various streams of resource generated information ( Tyagi et al 2018)

## **Education**

In a developing country like India, education plays an important role in the overall socio-economic development of the society. It is a form of learning in which the knowledge values, culture, beliefs and habits of a group of people transmitted from one generation to another. Needless to say, education expands intellect, knowledge and shapes character of human beings. It creates a sense of equality among all. It enables a person to discern what is right and what is wrong makes him rational, judicious and humane. Education is the process of perfection of the mankind. It is a means that improves the quality of life, enlightenment of the people and the society as well. There are three stages of education system in Assam .These are - primary, secondary and higher education. Higher education includes college and universities where libraries play a pivotal role in teaching learning process. College, university and research institution are very essential for shaping a society or a nation. Higher education should be quality education which should be up to date, need based and socially relevant. Higher education should be quality based, produces quality workers and thus strong nations is build. Education is a process from childhood to old age, every one continuously through this process.

The Progress, of any society and its population, heavily depend on education. Especially for a country like India, which is late corner development it is all the more important to emphasize on education to get in pace with the 21<sup>st</sup> century world. In the quest for development, Primary education which forms base is absolutely essential-however higher education undoubtedly provides the cutting edge. At the dawn of new century there is an unprecedented demand for and a great diversification in higher education, as well as an increased awareness of

its vital importance for socio cultural and economic development, social progress and political democracy in independent India.

According to UNESCO report the 21<sup>st</sup> century “Higher education is the mandate to bridge the knowledge gap between countries and communities enriching dialogues between people, culture, international living and net-working of ideas research and technologies”.

Higher education aims to achieve a comprehensive and well-rounded development in the life of the student. College education in India as of now is facing pressures of increased enrollment. Changing educational policies and the challenging task of higher education to a vast human resource potential in the age group of 14-24 enabling century global knowledge.

The present challenging and competitive environment is characterized by globalization which entails international alliances and perhaps, liberalization and emergence of knowledge society powered by innovations, information and communication net-works and unprecedented growth of science and technology. Education has the ability to alleviate human lives like non-other. Particularly, higher education can deliver great benefit to society; gains that are unthinkable.

### **College Library -its Role, Function**

Library occupies a significant place in Academic Institutions such as schools, colleges, universities, research institutions etc. for imparting education. The library is the most effective and economic medium for spread of education and dissemination of information .The character and efficiency of a college or university may be gauged by its treatment of its central organ the library.

A library attached or associated with a college and used by teachers students and staff. In general a college is regarded as an institution of higher learning which usually offers a three years or four years courses after school leading to a bachelor. Colleges forms an integral part of higher education and libraries in colleges are the primary source of learning. Libraries must play that role effectively. The basic common efforts of all college libraries should be to meet the legitimate needs and demands of all college community. Among all stages i.e., Primary, Secondary, College and University education is very essential for shaping a society or a nations. College education provides a totally different environment for boys and girls who pursue higher studies. Usually the classes comprise a large number of students and unlike school education, the students of college get much less individual attention from the teacher. The students, therefore, must have much more on self-learning. Therefore, the college library is the automatic choice for

students to supplement their class room teaching. College library should become an instrument of instruction and the users should use library as an integral part of the curriculum.

### **Objectives of College Library :**

College library is the most important adjunct of colleges. The objectives of college library are as follows:-

1. Support implementation of objectives of parent institution i.e., the College.
2. Supplement the curriculum taught in the institution to which it is attached.
3. It develops habits of deep and advanced studies of subjects beyond the text books of subjects in students.
4. It enhances the understanding of different subjects or disciplines among students.
5. It prepares the students to be an intelligent, aware, informative and enlightened person to play the role of a future responsible citizen.
6. It assists the research work and lays down the initiative base for research work in students,
7. It informs the researcher with latest up-dates in their respective subject area,
8. It provides healthy entertainment to the student,

A college library expected to support the objectives of the college by devising suitable programmes. The basic function of a college library is to assist the parent body to carry out its programmes. This means that it must adequately serve the needs and requirements of the teachers and students towards reading, study and research. The character and efficiency of a college or university may be gauged by its treatment of its central organ, the library. The library is the most effective and economic medium for spread of education and dissemination of information.

The 21<sup>st</sup> century college libraries could assimilate the changes to the benefit of all the users and the library staff. Now the task of college library has become more challenging and complex due to knowledge explosion. The main purpose of college library is to assist the instructional programmed of the institution.

Information technology (IT) is one of the important revolutions that have made drastic changes in every walks of people's life. In the field of library and information science it has great impact on changing its environment. With the application of IT library and information science have undergone a rapid and dynamic change. It has opened the new doors in the field of library

and information science. The 21<sup>st</sup> century is the age of Information science and technology. Due to the development of computer technology and fast advancement of communication techniques, the new information and the advanced knowledge are spreading world- wide and penetrating into every part of the world. The Internet becomes a huge treasure mountain that provide variety of information in the forms of database, pictures movies multimedia or the interactive displays etc. Many academic institutions specially colleges, research institutions and leading universities in the world have their own webpage to demonstrate their educational goals, academic activities, excellent training programmers and the innovative and important research results.

College libraries, now a days are making great efforts to build up their information infrastructure in order to provide fast and efficient information highway to help their users in sharing and utilizing the information all over the world. Indeed, it has added some more technology based functioning to keep their users abreast of global development. The library automation is inevitable in this age of information explosion.

Kanakachary (2002) stated the necessities of ICT in libraries for the following purposes :

- 1) There are many advantages like speed, accuracy and reliability in the process of information.
- 2) In the future there is also a danger of no availability of hard copies of documents particularly the secondary sources that are available only on CD-ROM .
- 3) Due to escalation in price of periodicals and books no library can afford to acquire all the publications, requiring active resource sharing through network.
- 4) Many international data bases like DIALOG MEDLARS, AGRIS etc. are delivering the information, electronically.
- 5) The literature in almost all the fields is increasing tremendously and in a multidimensional way .
- 6) The information seeking behavior of the users is also changing according to their varied needs.
- 7) The quality user friendliness reliability and regularity of library services can be improved through ICT.
- 8) To be able to utilize the growing world of electronic information, application of ICT is must.



9) With the help of ICT it is possible to gain local, national regional and international reputation.

10) To be able to provide round the clock access and service to users.

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Assam, a northeastern state of India, is divided into **33** administrative geographical units called districts. Lakhimpur is an administrative district in the state of Assam in India. The district headquarter is located at North Lakhimpur. The district is bounded on the North by Siang and Papumpare District of Arunachal Pradesh and on the East by Dhemaji District and Subansiri River. It occupies an area of 2,277 square kilometer connected by road with National Highway 15. According to the 2011 census Lakhimpur district has a population of 1,040,644 with a literacy rate of 78.4%.

There are eighteen (18) provincialized degree colleges in the district of which some are in rural and some are located in urban areas. Apart from these eighteen undergraduate colleges there are one law college, one college of veterinary science and four teacher's training colleges and two newly established undergraduate colleges in the district which are not taken into consideration due to their specialized in nature and also their recent establishment.

### **Objective of the Study:**

The main objective of the study are :

- i. To Access the Existing situation and Infrastructure of College Libraries
- ii. To find out the Role of Information in College Libraries for Career building of the students.
- iii. To Examine the Status of Library Automation in the college Libraries.
- iv. To know the Latest Collection of the Libraries.
- v. To know users Satisfaction Relating to different Services provided by the Libraries.

### **ROLE OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Education is an obligatory need of every human kind. A better education system can improve the community, scientific and technological improvement of a country. The human resource development of a country depends upon the quality of education imparted in country. Higher education caters to the education in the colleges and college libraries.

Higher education is recognized today as a capital investment and is of paramount importance for economic social development of the country. Institution of higher education college have the primary responsibility for equipping individual with advanced knowledge and skills required for positions of responsibility in government, business .and emerging challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century have a direct impact on the future development of higher education.

Information Technology is rapidly changing the terrain of Education to-day. It is rapidly changing the way of live, and the way we learn and teach is just a small part of this revolution. Students have been transformed into digital library in a college by this revolution.

It is imperative that classrooms can be converted to Tech- hubs that use Gadgets and technologies that aid learning .The emergence of social networking site, Smart phones, Digital readers, Digital books, Could computing help class rooms become more interactive and smarter. So in modern times, in a college, library these are most essential for the benefit of the students.

College libraries in the Modern or digital era are treated as gate-way to the information and knowledge. The main role of the library and library professionals is to acquire the required and qualitative information resources, which suits the needs of the users. There is a need to provide users based or user centric service to the users to satisfy their requirements.

The central pillars for our education policy are equity, excellence and expansion. Every stakeholder wants quality education or excellence in education. RUSA(2013)has proposed a similar special body like state level NAAC in order to have quality parameters according to the state' provisions and requirements. In the context of rapidly changing scenario of higher education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, a librarian has to be awake, conscious and techno-craggy to get maximum result. The govt. policy on higher education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century demands versions of up gradation automation and digitalization. There is lot of pre preparatory work to be carried out by the librarian. The librarians should be student centric. The modernization of this aspect shall be turned to enter the 21<sup>st</sup> century and our concern is to move towards the 21<sup>st</sup> century college library in the real sense.

## **UPGRADATION OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES IN CHANGING ENVIRONMENT**

The traditional library system cannot satisfy the users of 21<sup>st</sup> century. The users of to-day are very hungry about the different multifaceted subject or information. Traditional college

library system has been changed due to proliferation of information and communication technology. ICT in libraries helps in performing their routine operations and services most effectively and efficiently.

An honest attempt has been made on the assumption that the future of college libraries is in our own hand. It further emphasizes the need for change in college libraries in the context of the exponential rate of proliferation of knowledge. It highlights the impact of ICT in college libraries. Libraries became multimedia centre of information resources. The combination of computer and communication technologies introduced a sea change in the functioning and services of college libraries. The 21<sup>st</sup> century college library processes of generation, organization and dissemination of information and knowledge were subject to constant change since 1980s. The march of academic libraries and librarianship towards 21<sup>st</sup> century is well reflected. The implied “challenge of Change “ can be met only when special efforts are made to incorporate the following into practice.

**a). Library Software selection and automation**

**b). Retrospective Conversion**

**c). Electronic Resources acquisition**

**d). Readers Friendly organizational pattern**

### **Scope of the Study:**

There are only 18 (eighteen) numbers of Provincialized undergraduate Degree Colleges in Lakhimpur District of Assam. Out of that eight colleges were selected on the basis of their location both from rural and urban areas of the district as sample. The study has been attempted to present a general survey on collection development, role of information technology in college libraries of Lakhimpur District.

### **Methodology:-**

In order to study the assigned subject, keeping the above objective and scope in mind, following methods have been applied. These are questionnaire and survey methods. An interview method also followed to know the present situation and conditions of the college libraries under study. The selected college libraries of Lakhimpur District were visited for this purpose. To

collect necessary information, three sets questionnaire is designed and are distributed among the librarians, college authorities and users followed by personal interview. A good response have been found from the librarians, college authority and users and a clear picture of college libraries has been visualized. The secondary data are collected from institutions websites, home page, annual reports etc.

## ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

Eight selected colleges subjected to study are presented in table one below. Fifty percent each of them are situated in rural and urban areas. Out of them one college, namely North Lakhimpur College has already completed 75 years in 2017 and another has completed 50 years in 2014. Except one college, namely Pub Dikrong College established in 1991 all others have completed 35-40 years. Table 1 below shows the detailed picture.

**Table -1 Name of the selected Colleges of Lakhimpur District, their Location and year of Establishment**

Sl. No.	Name of the Colleges	Name of the College Libraries	Location	Estd.
1	Madhabdev College {M.D}	Madhabdev College Library	Narayanpur	1964
2	Lakhimpur Girls College {LGC}	Lakhimpur Girls College Library	Lakhimpur	1972
3	North Lakhimpur College {NLC}	North Lakhimpur College Library	Lakhimpur	1952
4	Lakhimpur Commerce College Library {LCC}	Lakhimpur Commerce College Library	Lakhimpur	1972
5	Nowboicha College {NC}	Nowboicha College Library	Nowboicha	1985
6	Sankardev College {SC}	Bhabendranath Saikia Library	Pathalipahar	1982
7	Pub Dikrong College {PDC}	Pub Dikrong College Library	Laholial	1991
8	Bihpuria Collage {BC}	Bihpuria Collage Library	Bihpuria	1973

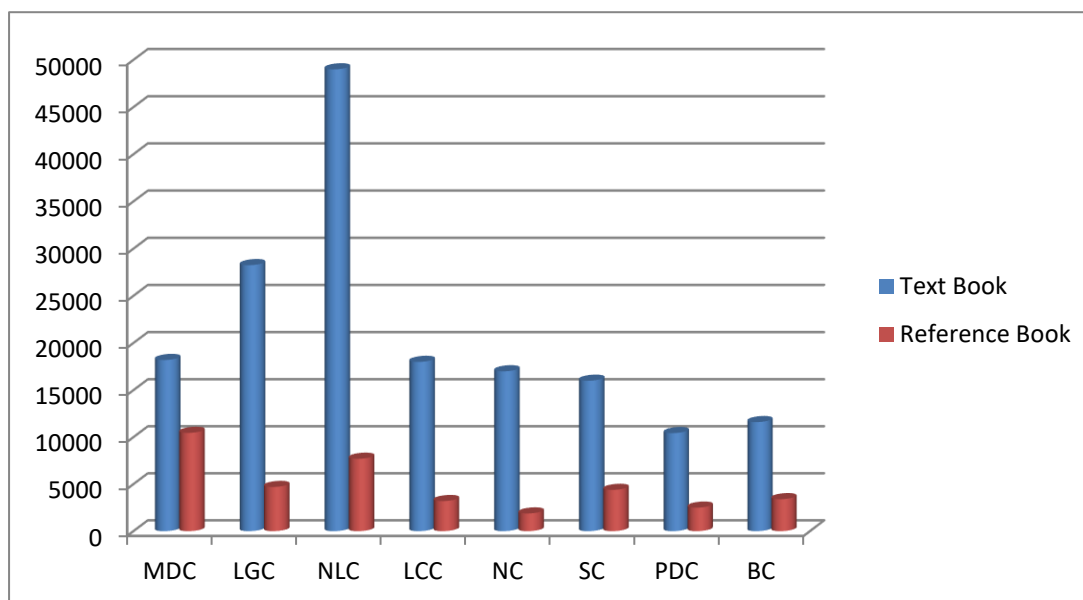
Library collection forms the foundation of any college library for efficient and effective services to its user's. Table -2 below shows the volumes of document holding of the selected college libraries of Lakhimpur district.

**Table No 2:-The Library Collections of the Colleges of Lakhimpur District**

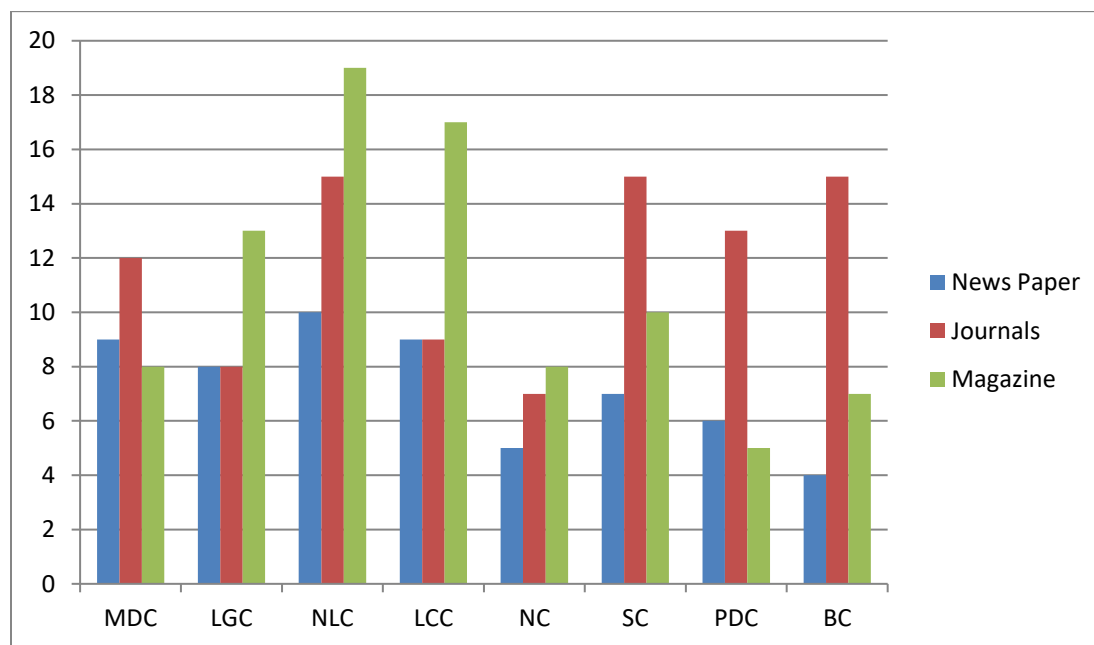
Sl. No.	Name of the Colleges	Text Book	Reference Book	News Paper				Journal National	Int. Journal	Total	Magazine
				Ass	Eng	Other	Total				
1	Madhab Dev College	18200	10454	5	3	1	9	10	2	12	8
2	Lakhimpur Girls College	28250	4700	4	2	2	8	5	3	8	13
3	North Lakhimpur College	49000	7700	4	4	2	10	10	5	15	19
4	Lakhimpur Commerce College	18000	3200	5	3	1	9	7	2	9	17
5	Nowboicha College	17000	1880	3	2	0	5	7	0	7	8
6	Sankardev College	16000	4390	5	2	0	7	15	0	15	10
7	Bihpuria Collage	10430	2500	4	2	0	6	13	0	13	5
8	Pub Dikrong College	11600	3400	3	1	0	4	15	0	15	7

The collection of text books is directly proportional to number of years it served. Because the college library is bound to acquire text book periodically to serve its users and according to change is syllabus the text books were changed. Fig. 1 and 2 shows the ratio of various types of collection of documents.

**Figure-1 : Total number of Books in the college libraries of Lakhimpur District:-**



**Figure-2 : Total number of Newspapers, Journals and Magazines subscribed by College Libraries of Lakhimpur District:**



**ICT Infrastructure in college libraries of Lakhimpur District-**

The Application of ICT is much essential for Libraries and Information centers because these centers are carrier of information which is essential for everyone. Use of ICT in Library and information centers has become more important in the age of information explosion to serve the users efficiently. Therefore, it has been urgent need to discuss about ICT infrastructure development of college Libraries of Lakhimpur District.

**Table No-3: Institution wise status of ICT Infrastructure in college libraries of Lakhimpur District**

Sl. No.	Name of Colleges	ICT Application							
		Desk top Computer	Server	Printer	Scanner	Laptop	Xerox	LAN	Internet
1	Madhab Dev College	25	3	4	5	1	2	Yes	Yes
2	Lakhimpur Girls College	9	4	1	1	1	1	Yes	Yes
3	North Lakhimpur College	12	2	1	5	1	1	Yes	Yes

4	Lakhimpur C.College	5	1	1	1	1	1	Yes	Yes
5	Nowboicha College	3	1	1	1	1	1	No	No
6	Sankardev College	8	1	1	1	2	1	Yes	Yes
7	Bihpuria Collage	2	NO	1	No	No	N0	No	No
8	Pub Dikrong College	2	No	No	No	N0	No	No	No

Computer is one of the most important weapon of modern technology. It is most powerful tool man has ever created. Computer is very fast to carry out all operations assigned to all and very accurate.

**Internet Connectivity in College Libraries:-**The use of ICT product and services in the library indicate the level of implementation of IT towards modernizing the college library services. The present study showed that computer Server are installed in 75% in the libraries of which one library, namely, Nowboicha College do not have LAN and is using the same for data storage only. Printers available in 87.5%, Scanner are available in 75% of the libraries, Laptop computers are available in 75% libraries, Xerox are available in 75% libraries and LAN connected and internet facility provided in 62.5% libraries in the district. However, computer facility with internet connectivity made available for use of readers of college libraries is only 37.5%.

Library Automation covers usually all housekeeping operations, acquisition, serial control, cataloguing, circulation, reference etc. and libraries have developed and diversified their services based on advancement of ICT. Web 2.0 has recently emerged as a second generation of web based technologies for communication. Library 2.0 is a new way of providing library service through new Internet technologies. In the front of automation of libraries, only 50% colleges are doing it of which three college library have claimed to have automated using SOUL 2.0 software provided by INFLEBNET and rest have not yet started it. Table -4 below shows the status of automation of selected college libraries

**Table No :4 Status of Library Automation in College Library Services of Lakhimpur District**

Sl. No.	Name of the Colleges	Library Software	Library Automation Status
1	Madhabdev College (MD)	SOUL 2.0	Fully

2	Lakhimpur Girls College (LGC)	SOUL 1.0	Partially
3	North Lakhimpur College (NLC)	SOUL 2.0	Fully
4	Lakhimpur Commerce College (NCC)	SOUL 2.0	Fully
5	Nowboicha College ( NC)	N/A	N/A
6	Sankardev College (SC)	N/A	N/A
7	Pub Dikrong College ( PDC)	N/A	N/A
8	Bihpuria Collage ( BC)	N/A	N/A

N/A=Not applicable

**5. Man Power Resources :** -Man power is powerful resources for the successful management of college libraries. In order to optimize use of college library the staff should professionally qualified. It is observed that all the college libraries are under staffed and lake of sufficient professional staff.

**6. Computer Training :** In the context of rapidly changing scenario of higher education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, a librarian has to be awake, conscious and techno-craggy to get maximum result. The government should have policy guidelines for training of library staff for upgradation of their skill so as to achieve the target of satisfying the users of 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**7. Reading Room :** Library without a Reading Room a just like a body without its soul. It is very important for its clientele. The reading room should be with sound environment with open access to library material on shelves. Regarding the use of library the study revels (out of 80 students, the Result has been shown the following table No-5

**Table No:-5 Showing the Nature and Purpose of Library use :-**

Sl. No.	Nature of use	Number of user	Percentage	Purpose of use	Number of user	Percentage
1	Regularly	52	65%	For supporting the class room instruction	62	77.5%
2	Occasionally	28	35%	For spending leisure time effectively	18	22.5%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>			<b>80</b>	

**Library Development Committee :**



Most of the colleges of Lakhimpur District having Library Development Committee, which helps the librarian to think together and to get suggestion from the members about the effective development and management of library services.

**Power Supply:-**Proper electric power supplies with back-up facility in the libraries under study have not at all satisfactory. Due to irregular power supply, application of automation process does not work properly in the college libraries of Lakhimpur District.

**Financial Position:** Finance plays a very significant role in the organization and management of the libraries. The main source of fund of college library is collection library fees. As the government has adopted a policy to provide free education up to undergraduate level to students of economically weaker section recently the collection of library fees is comparatively smaller now and become inadequate for growth of these libraries. Same is the situation in the area of IT infrastructure development also.

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## **SUGGESTION AND CONCLUSION.**

The Information atmosphere around the World is changing every minute and at a tremendous speed due to the emergence of the web based Information and communication technologies (ICT), globalization of networks and Internet. Hence ensuring and organizing access to educational materials in the electronic environment is an important factor in determining realistic request for development and advancement of education. However, libraries can not neglect its huge and ever growing printed collection also. Therefore, the process of automation must be stressed. Suitable hardware and software facilities must be provided to these college libraries along with compulsory training should be provided to the existing library staff to handle these technological gadgets efficiently. There should be recruitment of professionally qualified staff in college libraries as per government approved formula where it is lying vacant. As library is a growing organism regular and sufficient budget must be ensured to it for collection of document as well as for infrastructural development of college libraries.

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