August 2020

Status of College Library Services in Barak Valley, Assam: A Study

Sufia Khanom Mozumder
USTM, Meghalaya, sufia.mazumder@gmail.com

P K. Barooah
USTM, Meghalaya, pkbarooah@gmail.com

Mahtab Hussain
USTM, Meghalaya, mahtabhussain.scl@gmail.com

Status of College Library Services in Barak Valley: A Study

Sufia Khanom Mozumder

Research Scholar, Department of Library and Information Sciences,
University of Science & Technology, Baridua, Meghalaya 793101, India,
E-mail: sufia.mazumder@gmail.com

P. K. Barooah
Department of Library and Information Sciences,
University of Science & Technology, Baridua, Meghalaya 793101, India,
E-mail: pkbarooah@gmail.com

Mahtab Hussain
Department of Library and Information Sciences,
University of Science & Technology, Baridua, Meghalaya 793101, India,
E-mail: mahtabhussain.scl@gmail.com

Abstract

The aim of the present paper is to know the current status of various library services provided by different Under Graduate (U. G). College libraries of Barak valley, Southern Assam. The tremendous development in Information Communication Technology and their application in the various aspects of libraries have opened a new door for the libraries and users alike. In the age of Information Technology, there is a huge change in the methods and techniques of seeking the information and way of information dissemination on the other hand. The College Library System is a type of information system which is supposed to provide equity access to information and the world of knowledge to its user community. The seekers of knowledge and information are general public irrespective of their sex, caste, religion, age and wealth. Primary Mission of every library is not only to provide information and knowledge from its own resources but also from other institutions. But, unfortunately the College libraries of Assam are not fully automated, due to the lack of Library building space efficient IT infrastructure as well as insufficient and skilled library staffs. So college libraries of are not able to satisfy their users.

The present study was carried out during last quarter of year 2019. For that purpose, survey method has been adopted, which comprises of structured questionnaire filled up by college librarian / library in charge of different colleges

and a set of users questionnaire responded by different users of the colleges. On the basis of filled up questionnaire received from the respondents, data has been analysed and tabulated using Microsoft Excel Software. For data analysis percentage technique, has been adopted. The paper highlights the important survey findings in respect of status of various library services provided by different U. G. College libraries of Barak valley.

Keywords: College Library, U.G.College, Computerization, Digital Library, Library services, Information Communication Technology, Barak Valley, Assam.

1. Introduction

The recent development in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has made significant changes on different areas of Libraries and Information Centers. Now a day the traditional services of library such as circulation, reference, acquisition services have been shifting towards electronic form. With the implementation of computerization, the libraries are able to fulfill the main objective of libraries i.e., to create, store, process and disseminate information at local, regional, national and international level. It is known that ICT enables to access digital information to anyone, anywhere and anytime. In this changing scenario, the college libraries also need to give emphasis on ICT infrastructure development and redesign their day to day activities and services. Through adopting ICT, the college libraries are also able to fulfill its main objective i.e., free flow information and knowledge at the doorstep of the library. The study attempts to discuss current status of various library services provided by 18 provincialised under graduate leading- cum oldest general degree college of Barak Valley of Southern Assam.

Barak Valley, a remote area of South Assam, comprises of Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi Districts. Colleges of Barak Valley are affiliated to Assam University. ICT development and networking system is still in a very initial stage among the college libraries of this region. Twenty major colleges of this region are selected for this study. These colleges are taken into account to study on the basis of year of establishment and importance in collection/ services.

2. Review of Literature

Past literature is the mirror of present and future, which helps to develop a thorough understanding and insight into previous research works that relates to the present study. The study of the previous research findings gives a hint to the budding area of fresh research.

A number of studies have been carried out on library services provided by different types of libraries and information centre's in India and other parts of the world. Every work of ongoing research needs to be related with the work already done, to get an overall relevance and purpose. In any field of study, the existing literature constitutes a base depending on which all further research work is carried out.

The review of literature is a link between the research proposed and the research already done (**Kumar, 2009**). Literature review involves scanning the pages of any published paper in journals, books, newspaper, website, and any other media where someone may be able to find any related topic to his own research topic .Therefore, the researcher made a detailed review of the research material available related to his own research. To establish overall relevance with the work already done by other people on the proposed subject, existing literature were studied and reviewed library services provided by National and International college libraries including Barak Valley.

Suku & Pillai (2005) discussed the scenario of automation activities of university Libraries in Kerala. They discussed various aspects of library automation such as in-house activities, information services & their usage, manpower development etc. In 2005, **Lohar and Kumber (2005)** discussed the situation of college libraries in Shimoga District (Karnataka) and found that the situation is not up to the mark. **Chakraborty and Maisal (2005)** observed that automation of library and networking of library not only depend on computer system, internet server or the software but also depends on skill cum quality of manpower of libraries. **Rajput & Jain (2006)** report the automation status of in special libraries and information centers of Gwalior District in Madhya Pradesh. Discussed various problems suffered by the authorities and the staff in the process of automation. The scenario of digital library at CSIR-NEIST was presented by **Barooah (2009)**. The author emphasized the need of development of ICT infrastructure and training of professional staff to provide efficient services to its users. In the year 2007**, Sinha & Chakaraborty (2007)** reported that the status of on application of ICT in college Libraries of Barak Valley is in infant stage. Another group of worker also brought out the status of application of ICT in the college libraries of Lakhimpur district of Assam. It clearly shows that in this regard lot more has still to be done to bring the level of higher education of Assam **(Saikia and Barooah 2019)**. Only few best colleges of Barak Valley have started implementing automation and the

manpower aspects of library automation in the college libraries of Assam. The status of automation has been discussed along with library survey, library software, and library services. **Hussain(2005)** discussed about modernization of public libraries of Assam and given an account on use and Impact of Digital Resources. Use and Usage Statistics of Electronic Resources at Central Library, Tezpur University was presented by Mishra **and Gohain, (2010**). **Modal & Bandyopadhyay (2010)** examines the situation of IT application and related manpower problems in government-aided general degree college libraries of Burdwan Sadar (North and South), West Bengal. **Al-Ansari (2011)** explored the application of ICT in special libraries in Kuwait and reported that majority of the libraries are partially automated. Major obstacles for application of ICT in special libraries as revealed by the study are lack of adequate personnel, ICT training programs, and low priority of libraries within their organization. **Kaur (2012)** revealed that majority of the degree colleges in Chandigarh have automated their libraries using standardized library automation software such as LIBSYS and SOUL. **Choudhury, Rohman & Barooah (2018)** presented a detailed accounts of management of digital libraries in special libraries of Assam. Another group of worker also presented the status of ICT application in management of university libraries of Assam which showed that there is lot more have to be done in this area for which university managements have to increase budgetary allocation for supporting their ongoing automation work, acquisition of e-resources and training of manpower to handle the challenges of ICT applications **(Rohman, Choudhury and Barooah 2019).** A survey made by a group of workers among university libraries of North Eastern region of India showed that the speed and scale of electronic revolution can be expected to have impact on research collection with a force not felt since the arrival of printing press. There is no doubt that it will bring new opportunities for information provisions to users/researchers. So the collection will change to the truly hybrid resource which technology makes possible. The use of electronic resources is growing more rapidly than expected and the use of old journals in electronic format is increasing even more rapidly than use of electronic resources overall (**Roy & Barooah 2019**).

Motivated by these, in this paper, the authors studied the current status of various library services provided by different U. G. College libraries of Barak valley of Assam.

3. Statement of Problem

The statement of the problem is to analyze the "Status of college library services in Barak Valley: a study". The under graduate College Libraries of Barak Valley are in the stage of implementation of ICT products and its services. The

standard of application depends upon the capacity of colleges in different factors such as manpower, finance, skill professional and budget etc. Lot of problem faced by college, in the modernization and digitization of college libraries, considering these problems in to account this study has been conducted. In the changing environment of ICT and library networking era the colleges of Barak valley are lagging behind from national developments. After finding the gap of development in ICT infrastructure and various library services available in colleges, all hiding problems have been considered in this study. Now, it can conclude that the work reported in this paper will add an element of support to the existing work related to library services provided to different college libraries of Barak valley.

4. Objectives of the present study

The main objectives of this study are as follows:

- To examine the current status of library services provided by different College Libraries of Barak Valley.
- To provide suggestions for proper implementation of ICT and modernization of the college libraries.
- To identify the various obstacles confronted by the library professionals in providing Library services in different College Libraries of Barak Valley.
- To find out the level of growth and development in the field of ICT cum building infrastructure of the selected College libraries of Barak Valley, Assam.

5. Scope of the Study

This paper deals with the present status and challenges of library services provided by below mentioned college libraries of all three districts of Barak Valley. This study highlights the availability of ICT infrastructure and building infrastructure, electronic resources as well as print resources. It has been decided to study the libraries of only general degree colleges of all three districts of Barak Valley which were provincialised by the Government of Assam on or before 2013. Hence, the scope of the present study is limited to the libraries of only 18 (eighteen) degree colleges of all three districts of Barak Valley as shown in table-1 below:

Table No-1.General information of respondent colleges

SL. No	Name of the District	Name of College	Abbreviation	Year of Establishment
1		Gurucharan College, Silchar	GCCS	1935
2		Cachar College, , Silchar	CCS	1960
3		Women's College, Silchar	WCS	1963
4		Janata College, , Kabuganj	JCK	1964
5	**Cacher**	Nehru College, Pailapur	NCP	1965
6		Radhamadhab College, Silchar	RMCS	1971
7		M.C.D. College, Sonai	MCDCS	1972
8		West Silchar College, Barjatrapur	WSCB	1985
9		Karimganj College, Karimganj	KCK	1946
10		Rabindra Sadan Girls College, Karimganj	RSGCK	1962
11	**Karimganj**	Ramkrishna Nagar College, Ramkrishna Nagar	RKNCRKN	1964
12		Nabin Chandra College, Badarpur	NCCB	1969
13		Patharkandi College	PKCP	1995
14		S. S. College, Hailakandi	SSCH	1950
15		Lala Rural College, Lala	LRCL	1964
16	**Hailakandi**	A. L. C. College, Algapur	ALCCA	1997
17		M.H.C.M.Sc.College, Algapur	MHCMSCA	1997
18		S.C. Dey College (Katakhal),	SCDCK	1992

Table 1 shows the year of establishment and name of Library of each college under the study. Gurucharan College, Silchar and Karimganj College, Karimganj are two oldest colleges both of

which were established in pre-independence India. Eleven colleges are established between 1950 and 1972 out of which three colleges one in each district established in the same year 1964 and rest five colleges established before 1997.

6. Study Area:

Barak Valley is situated in the southernmost part of the state Assam covering a geographical area of 6941 square kilometers and comprising of three districts viz., Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi. The valley gets its name from the major river, the Barak following through it. There are a good number of colleges in the valley i.e. in three Districts. There are 35 general degree colleges in the three districts of Barak Valley. Out of these 35 colleges there are 22 provincialised Colleges and rest are all private colleges. 18 provincialised under graduate Colleges has been selected for the current study

7. Methodology

The study has been conducted on 18 (eighteen) selected degree college libraries of all three districts of Barak Valley Assam. In this study primary data has been collected by using survey method. A structured questionnaire has been designed and distributed to the Librarians or library in-charges of the selected degree college libraries of three districts of Barak Valley Assam. The investigator personally visited the degree college libraries under the study and observed the existing building infrastructure and ICT infrastructural facilities. The researcher also conducted informal interviews with the library professionals working in these colleges to know the various aspects of library services provided by these college libraries. The investigator receives 89% responses from the respondents. The raw data collected from research area were tabulated and analyzed statistically using frequency distribution with percentage.

8. Data Analysis and Interpretation

Out of 18 (eighteen) college libraries surveyed, sixteen college libraries have positively responded to the questionnaire. It has not been possible for the researcher to collect data from. Nehru College, Pailapool due to non-availability of any professionally qualified permanent

library staff in that college at the time of survey respectively. All the itemswise data collected has been presented in tabular form and analyses using statistical softwares.

8.1 Distribution of Questionnaire

Questionnaires were distributed to 18 respondents and out of which 16 (88.88%) respondents have respondents (Fig.1 and Table 1).
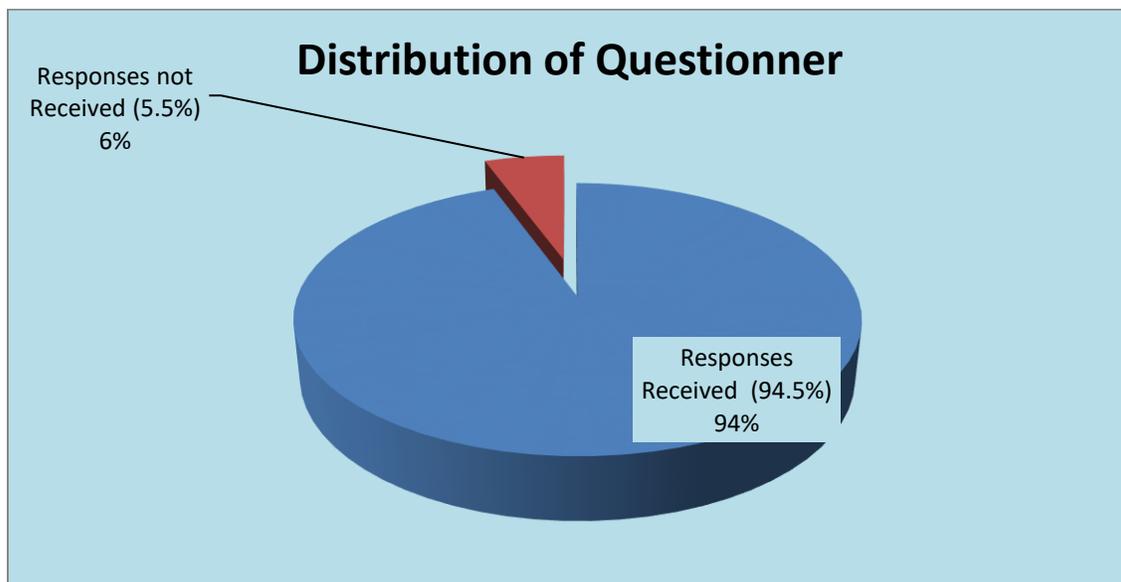
Fig- 1 Percentage of responses received

8.2 Institutional Information of surveyed college :

 The general information of the selected college library is reflected in the table-2 below:

Table No -2. Institutional Information of surveyed colleges

SL No	Abbrevia tion	NAAC Accredited/ Grade	Year of NAAC Accreditation/ Cycle No	Coursed offered		No of Teaching Staff		No of Non Teaching Staff	
				Regular	Distance	Sanct ioned	Non Sanct ioned	Sanctio ned	Non Sanctio ned

1	GCCS	A	2016 2nd Cycle	H.S and Degree, Arts ,Sc and Com	Degree/ PG	77	25	34	34
2	CCS	B+	2004 1st Cycle	H.S and Degree, Arts ,Sc and Com	Degree/ PG	52	10	22	14
3	WCS	B	2011	H.S and Degree, Arts and Com	-	18	16	6	13
4	JCK	C+	2004	H.S and Degree, Arts	-	25	-	18	-
5	NCP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	RMCS	B	2016 2nd Cycle	H.S and Degree, Arts and Com	-	35		18	
7	MCDCS	B	2016 2nd Cycle	H.S and Degree, Arts and Com	-	20	18	15	
8	WSCB	-	-	H.S and Degree, Arts	-	27		13	
9	KCK	B	2010 2nd Cycle	H.S and Degree, Arts ,Sc and Com	Degree/ PG	58	09	20	
10	RSGCK	B	2010 2nd Cycle	H.S and Degree, Arts and Com	-	26	08	11	
11	RKNCR KN	B	2004 1st Cycle	H.S and Degree Sc and Arts	Degree	25		08	
12	NCCB	B yet to declared	2011 2nd Cycle 2019 3rd Cycle	H.S and Degree, Arts ,Sc , Com and B. Voc	-	49		22	
13	PKCP	-	-	H.S and Degree, Arts	-	25		12	
14	SSCH	A	2011 2nd Cycle	H.S and Degree, Arts ,Sc and Com	Degree/ PG	48		16	
15	LRCL	C+	2004 1st Cycle	H.S and Degree, Arts and Com	-	24		10	
16	ALCCA	-	-	Degree, Arts and Com	Degree	24		12	
17	MHCM SCA	-	-	Degree Sc	-	19		11	

| 18 | SCDCK | - | - | Degree, Arts and Com | | 19 | | 11 | |

Source: Primary data

Table-2 shows that only one college viz. N. C. College, Badarpur, is only a four stream college in Barak Valley and accreditation by NAAC, 3rd cycle is already completed and grade is yet to declared. Only two colleges viz. S. S. College, Hailakandi and G. C. College, Silchar obtained A grade in their respective 2nd cycle of NAAC accreditation. Further it is observed from above table-1 that Janata College, Kabuganj and Lala Rural College, Lala both get C+ grade by NAAC in the same year 2004. All the respondent colleges which are established on and before 1972 have assessed and accredited by NAAC . Also survey results reveals that some colleges in Barak Valley have started UG as PG courses under distance education mode. G. C. College, Siclhar has highest no of regular (sanctioned) and part time(non-sanctioned) faculty as well highest no of regular (sanctioned) and part time(non sanctioned) non teaching staff . Also West Silchar College, Barjatrapur, has lowest no of regular (sanctioned) and part time (non-sanctioned) teaching as well as non teaching staff.

8.3 Library Information of surveyed College :

Table No-3.Library Information of surveyed College

SL. No	Name of College	Name of College Library	Name of Librarian / Library Head	Qualification	No of Supporting Staff	Library Area in Sq. ft.
1	GCS	B.C. Gupta Memorial Central Library	Mrs Sehnara Begum Choudhury	MLISc, Ph.D	11	14500
2	CCS	Central Library	Dr Soma Acharjee	Ph. D	03	2000
3	WCS	Central Library	Dr. Sarita Bhattacharjee	MLISc, Ph.D	03	2200
4	JCK	Central Library	Pradip Sinha	MLISc, M.Phil	03	2480
5	NCP					
6	RMCS	Bipin Chandra Memorial Library	Dr. Sonali Choudhury	MLISc, Ph.D	03	5000
7	MCDCS	Central Library	Mihir Kanti Nath	MLISc, M.Phil	02	1680

8	WSCB	Central Library	Ali Hussain Barbhuiya	M.A. , MLISc,	02	1000
9	KCK	Karimganj College Library	Vacant	-	03	8000
10	RSGCK	R.S. Girls College Library	Dr Sangita Talukdar	MLISc, Ph.D	02	2400
11	RKNCRKN	Sishir Granthalaya	Shyam Thakuria	MLISc,	01	2128
12	NCCB	Central Library	Dr. Sankar Kumar Chakravorty	MLISc, Ph.D	03	2000
13	PKCP	Central Library	Kaji Abu Bakkars ahim	MLISc	01	720
14	SSCH	Pratap Chandra Nath Central Library	Shibojit Choudhury	MLISc, Ph.D Thesis submitted	04	7000
15	LRCL	Central Library	Vacant		06	3000
16	ALCCA	S. A. Choudhury Memorial Central Library	Rofique Uddin Laskar	MLISc	03	700
17	MHCMSCA	MHCM Science College, Library	Mrs. Sufia Khanom Mazumder	MLISc	02	600
18	SCDCK	S.C. Dey College, Library	Bibash Ranjan Dey	MLISc	03	750

Source: Primary data

From the above TableNo-3 it is observed that in College library of G. C. College has maximum number of supporting library staff (11) than any other college libraries. Also college library of Ram Krishna Nagar College, Ram Krishna Nagar, and Patherkandi College, Patherkandi there are less number (one in each) of supporting library. In all the college libraries five (5) librarians are having Ph. Ds and two (2) librarians having M. Phil Degree. Two colleges the posts of Librarian are lying vacant. The Library space of G. C. College are largest in size (14500 sq ft) on the other hand library space of M. H. C. M. Sc. College, Algapur is least in area (600 sq ft) than all other colleges.

9. Various types of library services available to the college libraries of Barak valley

Library services availability

Library services are those services offered by library to its users like lending of library materials, on-line access to various library systems, copying, printing, online reservation of books etc. Following are the some services provided by college libraries of Barak Valley to its users.

9.1 Current Awareness type (CAT):

Current Awareness Service: CAS is a system for alerting users towards latest developments and new publications acquired by the libraries / information centre.CAS in any library can be provided efficiently and accurately at any time quickly with the help of computerized databases. CAS is a direct link between the user and the communicator through communication system or communication devices. This system or device is called Current Awareness Service

Selective Dissemination of information : Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) is defined as the system in which selectively and automatically compiled information about new documents is disseminated to researchers, scientists and others who need these documents/information or supplying each user or group of users with a reference of documents or abstracts relating to their predefined areas of interest. The basic concept of SDI consists in matching of the information with the internet of the clientele. SDI can be provided efficiently and accurately at any time quickly with the help of computerized databases.

News paper clipping service: News paper clipping service is also known as clipping service, in this service clip an important article from newspaper and saving it to a clippings list or cut and pasted on sheets of paper and placed in folder where you can easily find it. The folders containing the news paper clipping or clippings list are properly indexed. With rapid change in ICT and user needs, now focus has been shifted to digital / online news clippings.

Electronic Document Delivery (EDD): This service refers to the ability to "create, distribute, and view documents without ever touching a piece of paper." The emphasis is on manipulating large formatted documents such as procedural manuals or catalogues.

Table No-4.Current Awareness Type

SL. No	Name of College	Current Awareness Services (CAS)	Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI)	News paper clipping services	Electronic document delivery	List of New arrivals
1	GCS	√		√		√
2	CCS	√		√		√
3	WCS	√		√		√
4	JCK	√				
5	NCP					
6	RMCS	√	√	√	√	√
7	MCDCS			√	√	
8	WSCB			√		
9	KCK			√		
10	RSGCK			√		√
11	RKNCRKN	√		√		√
12	NCCB	√		√		√
13	PKCP					
14	SSCH	√	√	√	√	√
15	LRCL			√		
16	ALCCA	√		√		

| 17 | MHCMS CA | √ | | √ | | √ |
| 18 | SCDCK | | | √ | | |

Current Awareness Services (CAS)	Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI)	News paper clipping services	Electronic document delivery	List of New arrivals
10 (58.8%)	2 (11.76%)	15 (88.23%)	3 (17.64%)	9 (52.94%)

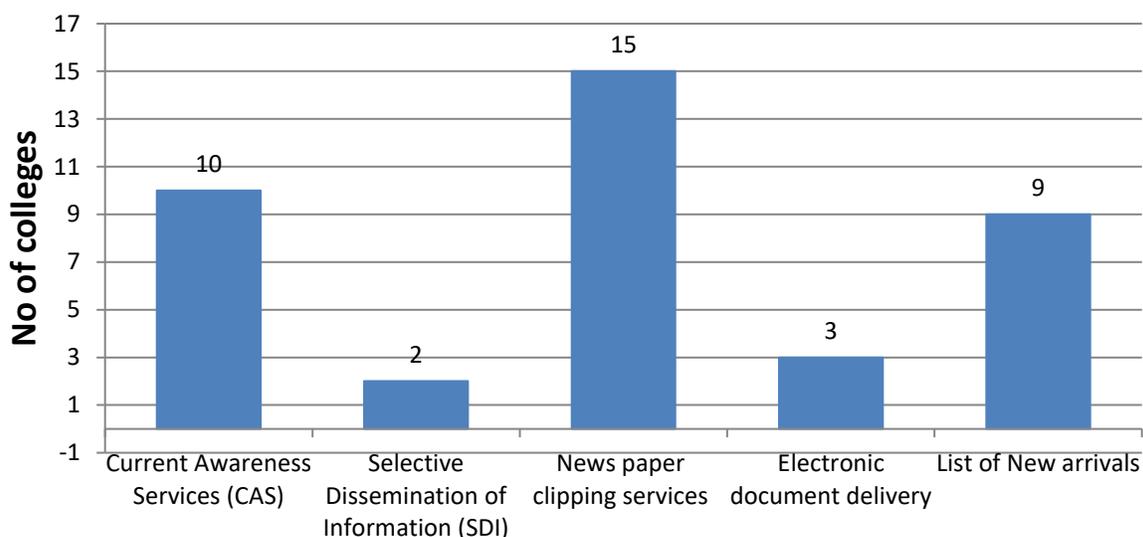**Fig-2 various CAT services provided by libraries under study**

Table-4 and Fig-2 shows that Current Awareness Services (CAS) is available in 10 Libraries, Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI)) is available in 02 Libraries, News paper clipping services is available in 15 Libraries, Electronic document delivery is available in 03 Libraries, List of New arrivals, is available in 09 Libraries. Further all the services are available in two libraries viz., RMCS and SSCH.

9.2 Traditional / manual service:

Book Bank: Central Library of a college maintains a book bank mainly for degree level text books to help meritorious students belonging to B.P.L and weaker sections of the society. Only the eligible students can borrow books up to a certain numbers from book bank for a period of one semester or as per rules regulation of library.

Inter Library loan: Inter library loan is one of the major activities of the library and information centre. Due to the budget cuts and hike in prices of reading material, library has been literally forced to use faster communication channels to share the resources available.

Reference service: Reference service is that part of library administration which deals with the assistance given to the readers in their use of the resources of the library, that is reference service help the users to find right kind of information at the right time from the information sources as such as reference books, catalogues, directories, files, abstracting and indexing periodicals and other reference materials. The goals of Library's reference services are the contact established between the users with the best available library and information resources for their needs.

Cataloguing: According to Charles Ammi Cutter "A library catalogue is a list of books which is arranged on some definite plan, as distinguished from a bibliography, it is a list of books in some library or collection".

The library catalogue found to be the most popular area for automation. All the libraries of the Central Government institutions, State Government institutions and majority of the State Government autonomous institutions were in different stages of automation of their catalogue. Most of the libraries were automated their cataloguing completely. Most of them were attached to the Central Government autonomous institutions. Majority of the libraries had partially automated cataloguing system and the retrospective conversion process was in progress.

Literature search service: Literature search is a systematic search of all types of document such as books, articles in a journals etc. in a particular topic. The college library provides literature search service to the user's community for searching their required information on various topics. So users can browse the different types of document for their literature. Literature search can be carried out in a particular library for its own collection as well as the other libraries on networking. IT facilitates the library information centers in providing literature search service by searching various information sources in print or non-print media within a library or outside the library or at national or international level in a short time with accuracy.

Reading Room Service: Reading room is a quiet room in a library where one can study comfortably.

Table No-5.Traditional / Manual service

SL. No	Name of College	Lending service	Book bank service	Reference service	Cataloguing	Literature search service	Book Exhibition	Reading room facility
1	GCS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
2	CCS	√	√	√				√
3	WCS	√	√		√			√
4	JCK	√	√					√
5	NCP							
6	RMCS	√	√			√	√	√
7	MCDCS	√	√				√	√
8	WSCB	√	√		√			√
9	KCK	√	√					√
10	RSGCK	√	√					√
11	RKNCRKN	√	√			√		√
12	NCCB	√	√	√		√		√
13	PKCP	√						√
14	SSCH	√	√	√	√	√		√
15	LRCL	√	√		√			√
16	ALCCA	√			√			√

| 17 | MHCMS CA | √ | √ | | √ | | | √ |
| 18 | SCDCK | √ | | | √ | | | √ |

Source: Primary data

	Lending service	Book bank service	Reference service	Cataloguing	Literature search service	Book Exhibition	Reading room facility
N=17	17	14	4	8	5	3	17
Percentage	100	82.35	23.52	47.05	29.41	17.64	100

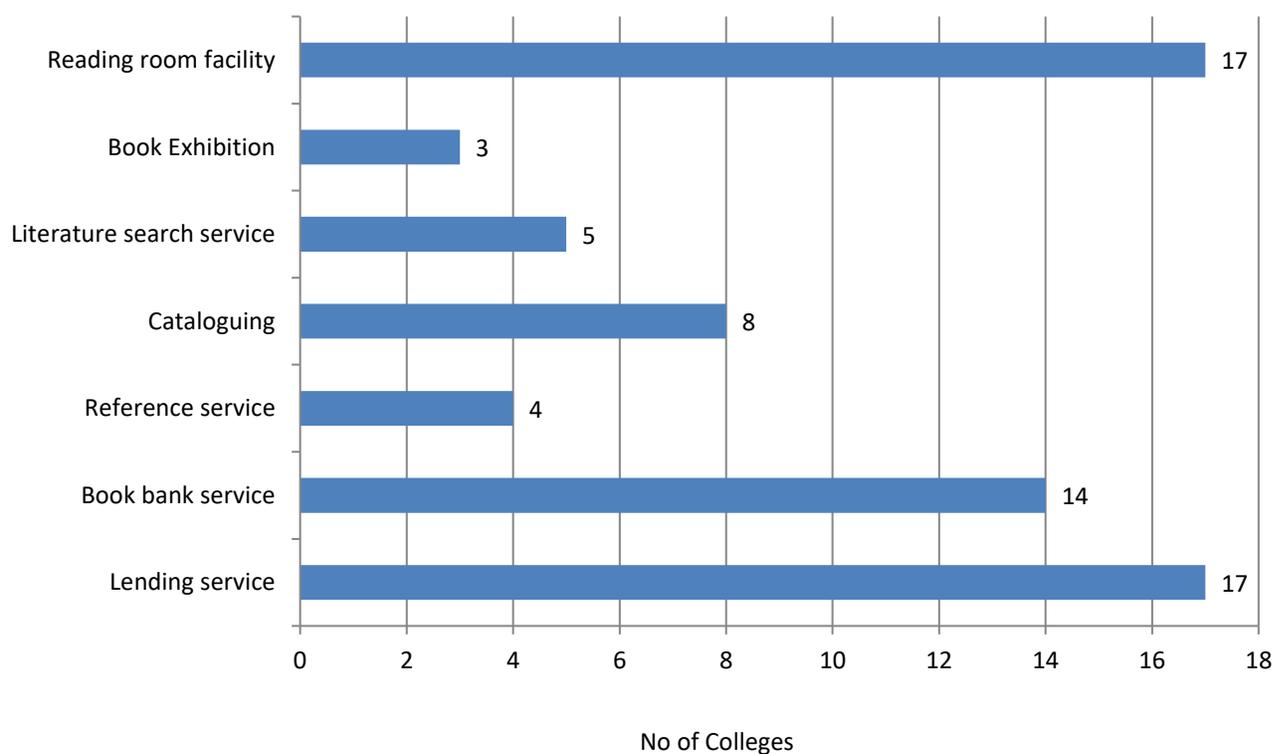**Fig-3 various traditional service provided by libraries under study**

Table No-5.shows that Lending service and Reading room facility is available in all the Libraries, Book bank service is available in 14 (82.35 %) Libraries, Reference service is available in 4 (23.52%) Libraries, Cataloguing services is available in 8 (47 %) Libraries, Literature search service, are available in 5 (29.4 %) Libraries

and Book Exhibition is available in 3 (17.64%) libraries. Further all the services are available in two libraries viz., GCCS and SSCH

9.3 Modern Technology based service:

Reprographic Service: Reprographic service is a scientific method of duplicating printing library materials like Journals, books, manuscripts, rare material, maps and diagram so as to make available to the libraries. The use of copying techniques in libraries is of the greatest importance both for teaching and research. The introduction of reprographic service into libraries enhanced access to information but also raised serious concerns about copyright infringement.

OPAC: An Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) is an online database of materials held by a library or group of libraries and can access it through a computer terminal. OPAC allows searching the entire catalogue online conveniently and quickly using one or more search criteria.

Abstracting and indexing service: Abstracting service is a service that provides abstracts of publications or abstract on a given subject . An indexing service is a service that assigns descriptors for referencing documents. Abstracting and indexing service can be prepared with the help of software.

CD ROM Database service: CD-ROM stands for Compact Disc Read Only Memory. It can stores any kind of Computer data e.g., text documents, video, audio etc. Most of the published material now a day's available in CD-ROMs. In a library one can search documents within CDs.

Bibliographical service: Bibliography is a list of books and other documents such as journal articles ; it is a list of documents, irrespective of their availability in particular library. It is the organized approached to human records. Bibliographies of various documents can be compiled and launched on line on the computer networking.

Internet facility: Now a day's college library working in digital and networked environment and internet services is available. Now users can contact with the library for various services though e mail or whatsapp by sending and receiving request for library services. This service is quicker, cheaper and time saving.

Library Orientation service: Huge advancement of ICT and its applications in libraries has changed the way of looking towards the libraries, by its users. In

order to use library resources effectively and efficiently by it users, library should trained its users properly this training is called user's orientation.

Cataloguing: Like prenatal Cataloguing readymade catalogues of many documents are available on-line which can be downloaded from their respective sites for further use by the other libraries.

Library Consortium: Now days, the Library Consortium is a new concept that facilitates the libraries to get benefit of wider access to electronic resources which is a group of libraries those are working together towards a common goal, whether to expand cooperation on traditional library services such as collection development, or electronic information services. The consortia may be formed on a local, regional, national or international basis, on a functional or format basis, or on a subject basis.

Circulation Service: The main function of the circulation services to checking out library materials to library users, renewing the borrowed items, reserving checked out items for the patron, checking in materials returned, checking the materials for damage at the time of return, according to the rules and regulation of the library.

In any Library automation system it is necessary that circulation control provides all the relevant information at the press of a key. If a queue of borrowers begins to build at the issue desk it can be very frustrating to have to plough through numerous menus to get to where the issuer needs to be. With this in mind libraries have concentrated on making everything required available from one screen and logically arranged. At the click of a mouse, library staff can see all the items on loan to a borrower, with those overdue clearly indicated. Other information such as the borrower's reservation details, borrowing history, areas of interest, is all available by clicking the appropriate tab.

Acquisition: Acquisition is the process for collecting library materials by different modes such as purchase, exchange and gratis. It is a core process by which a library enhances its collection. Acquisition is a set of interrelated activities involved in building and maintaining a collection of library resources to serve the needs of its users.

An automated acquisition system is generally referred to as book ordering system wherein various steps involved in traditional acquisition process are automated. Automated acquisition system reduces repetitive and clerical tasks and library staff can devote more time to information activities. It is revealed that majority of the libraries' acquisition process were purely manual. Even though a good number of the libraries had library management software, majority of them

were doing acquisition work manually. This might be due to the inefficiency or lack of training of the library professionals for the automated acquisition work.

Classification: A library classification is a system of knowledge organization by which library resources are arranged and ordered systematically. Library classifications use a notational system that represents the order of topics in the classification and allows items to be stored in that order

Library Classification can also be considered to be a process of putting books and other reading material on a subject in a logical sequence on the shelf, which could be of immense help to the users. It requires an adept thorough study and practice in the technique of classification of books, knowledge of the details and handling of the scheme of classification

Serial control: Harolds (1987) defines, serial as any publication bearing either chronological or numerical designation issued in successive parts appearing at intervals (usually regular ones) and as a rule intended to be continued indefinitely.

Serial control consists of a number of activities and services often performed manually. The basic functions and activities remain the same as in automated environment. Serials or periodicals are the backbone of any special library. Automated serials management gives quickest information access even in the absence of library professionals. Table-6 below shows various technology based services provided by college libraries of Barak Valley of Assam.

Table No-6.Modern Technology based service

SL No	Name of College	Reprographic Service	OPAC search	Multimedia service	Photo copy service	Printing service	Database Searching	Internet Information browsing	Access to any specialized Network and resources
1	GCS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
2	CCS	√	√		√	√	√	√	
3	WCS		√		√			√	√
4	JCK	√			√		√		√

No	Code	Reprographic Service	OPAC search	Multimedia service	Photo copy service	Printing service	Database Searching	Internet Information browsing	Access to any specialized Network and resources
5	NCP								
6	RMCS	√	√		√	√	√	√	√
7	MCDCS	√					√	√	√
8	WSCB								
9	KCK				√		√	√	
10	RSGCK				√			√	
11	RKNCRKN				√		√	√	
12	NCCB				√			√	√
13	PKCP				√				
14	SSCH	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
15	LRCL				√			√	
16	ALCCA								
17	MHCMSCA				√	√		√	
18	SCDCK							√	

Source: Primary data

	Reprographic Service	OPAC search	Multimedia service	Photo copy service	Printing service	Database Searching	Internet Information browsing	Access to any specialized Network and resources
N=17	6	4	1	13	5	8	13	7
%	35	23	5	79	29	47	76	41

Fig-4. various modern technology based services provided by libraries under study
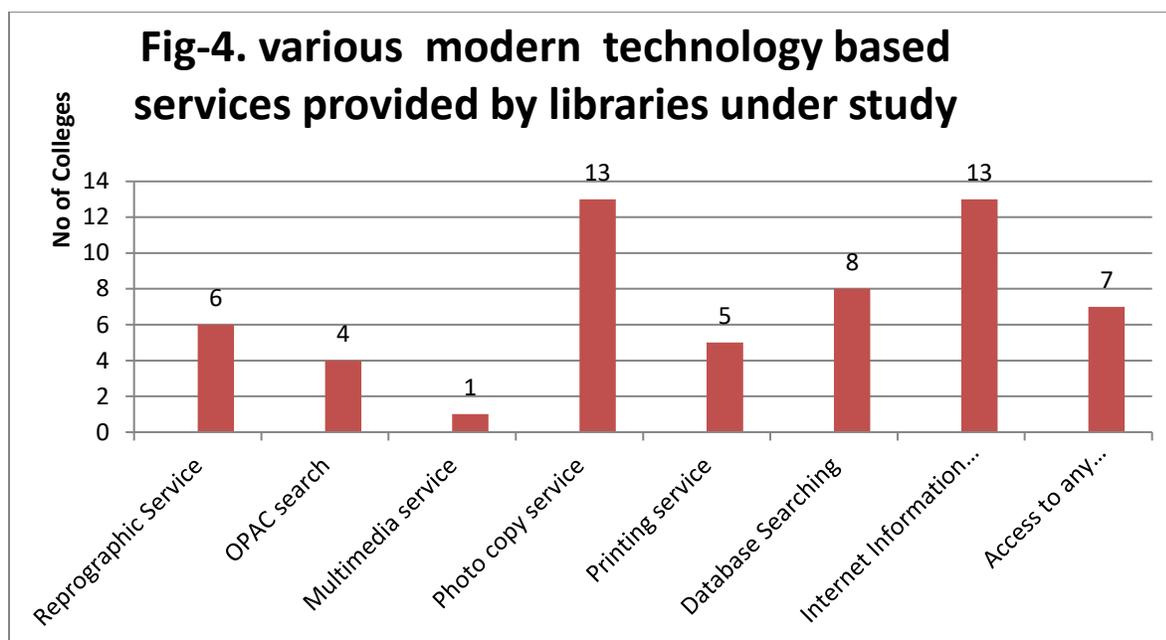
Table No-6.shows that Reprographic Service is available in 6 (35%) College Libraries, OPAC search service is available in 4 (23 %) Libraries, Multimedia service is available in only 1 (5%) Libraries, Photo copy service are available in 13 (79 %) Libraries, Printing service are available in 5 (29 %) Libraries, Database Searching service, are available in 8 (47 %) Libraries, Internet Information browsing service, are available in 13 (76 %) Libraries and Access to any specialized network and resources is available in 7 (41%) libraries. Further all the services are available in two libraries viz., GCCS and SSCH.

10. Findings of the study:

After a rigorous study about the current status of various library services provided by different U. G. College libraries of Barak valley some findings are given below:

- All the colleges library, traditional services like Lending service and Reading room facility are available, other services like Reference, Cataloguing, Literature search, Book Exhibition are available only in few libraries. All these services are available in two libraries viz., G.C. College, Library, Silchar and S.S.College, Library, Hailakandi and these are only two A grade college in Barak valley. Most of these libraries book bank service is available.

- Most of the college's library, current awareness services (CAS) and news paper clipping services are available, other services like selective dissemination of information (SDI), electronic document delivery available in very few libraries. But all these services are available in two libraries viz., Radhamadhab. College, Library, Silchar and S. S. College, Library, Hailakandi.

- Most of the college's library, modern technology based service services like Photo copy service and Internet services are available, other services like Reprographic Service, Database Searching, Access to any specialized Network and resources, printing service available in very few libraries. Multimedia service is available in only G.C. college library. But all these services are available only G.C. college library. A.L.C. College, Algapur and West Silchar College, Barjatrapur does not have any modern technology based service.

- G. C. College has maximum number of supporting library staff (11) and 8 no of colleges have 3 no of supporting library staff in each Two college have supporting staff 2 in each. Also college library of Ram Krishna Nagar College, Ram Krishna Nagar, and Patherkandi College, Patherkandi there are less number (one in each) of supporting library staff. In three colleges the posts of Librarian are lying vacant. Among all the college libraries, five (5) librarians are having Ph. Ds and two (2) librarians having M. Phil Degree.

- The Library space of G. C. College are largest in size (14500 sq ft) on the other hand library space of M. H. C. M. Sc. College, Algapur is least in area (600 sq ft) than all other colleges.

- Most of the libraries are serving the users in traditional mode in the age of ICT, due to lack of skilled staff and lack of implementation of ICT. It is observed that those colleges which are established earlier are providing better library service but exception in case of Karimganj College.

11. Suggestions and recommendation

As a suggestive measure basis of the current study towards improvement of library services of college libraries of Barak Valley following few recommendations are given below.

- Librarians and College authority should take necessary steps to create a fund for the development of Library infrastructure in their colleges. Librarian and college authority can take initiative to collect fund from UGC, State Govt, local bodies, RUSA, CM fund etc for modernization of respective college libraries.

- The concerned authority of three college's viz. Karimganj College, Karimganj, Lala Rural College, Lala and S.C Dey College, Katakhal should take initiative to recruit trained professional librarian which remained vacant at the earliest for improvement of library services in respective colleges.

- Most importantly the policy making is important in this matter. Librarian can take short term and long term action plan with proper support from college authority for ICT development in libraries.

- All the barriers from the administration should be removed with the cooperation of the college librarian. Disbursement of fund and prioritizing the library purchase should be encouraged. Purchase of learning resources should be top most priority.

12. Conclusion

Now a day's due to the rapid advancement of ICT and their application to libraries, significant changes occurs in library management and services. Particularly, evolution of digital libraries, library automation, e- resources, etc. forced the librarians to change the traditional service methods to automated methods. Amongst the college libraries under study, almost 50% of the colleges are not properly equipped with minimum infrastructure. The present study reveals that most of the college libraries in Barak valley are in developing stage in terms library infrastructure as well as automation.

Although, some of the surveyed college libraries have started library automation but all the software modules are not completed. Also few surveyed college libraries have not yet developed basic infrastructure like reading room, reprographic facility and print facilities and in some colleges there is no permanent librarians. Most of the college libraries have internet connectivity but only some colleges are able to provide internet service to its users and some college internet usage restricted to office use only. So it is suggested that number of computer terminals with internet facility for users as well as for library service be arranged and maintained regularly for optimum use of ICT based resources and services.. The concerned college authority should provide proper support to the library professionals in application of ICT and also provide permission for attending workshops/training programmes to enhance their technical skills for proper implementation of ICT and providing effective and efficient services to the college library users.

References

1. Al-Ansari, H. (2011). Application of information and communication technologies in special libraries in Kuwait. *The Electronic Library, 29*(4), 457 - 469.
   doi: 10.1108/02640471111156731

2. Barman, RK & Singh, SK. (2007) HRD Aspects of library automation in college libraries of Guwahati: A Study 5th convention planner-2007, Guwahati, Dec.7-8,.INFLIBNET centre.Ahamadabad.

3. Barooah P K(2009) : Scenario of digital library at CSIR, In-Proc. National Seminar cum workshop on "Management of Libraries in digital environment", held on 28-30th May 2009, ed by Dr(Mrs) S Borthakur, H K Gohain, published by Rev. B M P Library, AAU, Jorhat, 2009 p-49-56.

4. Chakaraborty, Abira & Maisal, Anjali. (2005) Library automation and networking: A case study on Hoogly Mohsin College. In Automation and Networking of the College Libraries, edited by Biswajit Banerjee. Maulana Azad College, Kolkata, 224-25.

5. Tahera Akhtar Choudhury, Mukut Rahman, P.K. Barooah (2018): A Scenario of special libraries and ICT application in the state of Assam: a study, **Library Phillosophy & Practice**, Dec 2018, http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/2045/

6. Gireesh and Rajashekara.(2009). Use of EResources by IT Professionals: A Case Study of Cognizant Technology Solutions Pvt. Ltd. In: Library/ Information Users in Digital Era (*Eds*: Amitabha Chatterjee et al.).XXVII All India IASLIC Conference/ 26-29 December, 2009/ KIITBhubaneswar/ N0.48/ pp 287-295.

7. Lohar, M.S. & Kumber, M (2005) "College libraries in Shimoga district: A survey". SRELS J. Inf. Manag. 42(3), 335-53.

8. Kaur, J. (2012). Availability and use of information technology in degree college libraries in Chandigarh. *Gyankosh: The Journal of Lib. & Info. Management, 3*(2), 24-34.

9. Kumar, M. (2009). Academic libraries in electronic environment: Paradigm shift. A paper presented at the International Conference on Academic Libraries (ICAL) held at the University of Delhi, India. p. 105.

10. Hussain, Mahtab.(2005). Modernisation of Public libraries in Assam In: Librarianship in North Eastern Region with a slant to information technology: problems and prospects, edited by Wooma Sankar Dev Nath. Guwahati: Guwahati Library Association, 106-112.

11. Mendhe, Ravindra , Taksande, Pratibah and Taksande, Gautam.(2009). Use and Impact of Digital Resources at G.H.Raisoni College of Engineering , Nagpur , India: A Case Study.   In: Library/ Information Users in Digital Era (Eds: Amitabha Chatterjee et al., XXVII All   India IASLIC Conference/ 26-29 December, 2009/ KIIT Bhubaneswar/ N0.48/ pp 239-245.

12. Mishra, R.N. and Gohain , Rashmi Rekha.(2010). Use and Usage Statistics of Electronic Resources at Central Library, Tezpur University: A Case Study. In: Re-engineering of Library and Information Services at Digital Era: Proceedings of 7th Convention PLANNER- 2010, 18-20 February 2010, (*Eds*: Jagdish Arora et. al.,) INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmadabad, pp 183-205.

13. Mondal A K & Bandyopadhyay A K (2010).Application of ICT & Related   manpower problems in the college libraries of Burdwan. Desidoc Journal of   Library & Information Technology, Vol.30, No.4, pp44-52.

14. Rajput & Jain (2006)."Status of Automation in Special Libraries & Information   centers of Gwalior Survey.NCIMDiL.

15. Murkutor Rahman, Tahera Akhtar Choudhury, Pronab Kumar Barooah (2019): MANAGEMENT OF COLLECTION IN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES OF ASSAM IN ICT ENVIRONMENT: A STUDY, **Library Phillosophy & Practice, May, 2019,** https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/2464

16.Rikumoni Saikia & P K Barooah,(2019). IMPACT OF ICT IN COLLEGE LIBRARIES OF ASSAM FOR PROMOTING HIGHER EDUCATION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT, **Library Phillosophy & Practice, Winter 2019,** https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/2313

17. Roy A & Barooah P K (2019), Importance of E-resources In Providing Quality Library Services in Selected University Libraries of North Eastern Region of India, *IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science (IOSR-JHSS), 24(10) series 8, p-9-20*

18. Suku J & pillai.M G (2005) "Automation of university libraries in Kerala status, problems & prospects." *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, v31 n2 p151-159

19. Sinha.M, Chakarborthy.S, Bhattacharjee.J, (2007) "Application of   Information communication Technology in college Libraries of Barak Valley   (Southern Assam)", Ahmedabad: INFLIBNET centre, 7-8.

Automation of University Libraries in Kerala: Status, Problems and Prospects

Suku, J.; Pillai, Mini G.