



Role of library in higher secondary schools for quality development in the learning process

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Abstract

School library becomes a source and force for educational excellence only when it functions as an integral component of the total teaching learning process. The socio economic and cultural development of a nation depends to a large extent on the achievements made by it on education and research. Libraries play a vital role in all stages of education especially in secondary and senior secondary education, again the basic foundation on which the higher education is built. Libraries in schools are the natural supporting centre for individuals intellectual development. The paper ventilates the role of libraries for quality development in the higher secondary schools and other higher educational institutions. To understand the role of libraries, of Kokrajhar district, 600 students of Higher Secondary level are selected. Stratified Random sampling procedure is followed here. Data are collected by using a self-made questionnaires and observation method. To analyze the collected data of Rural and Urban area students, Chi-square Test is used. The paper concludes with the defects of libraries and their suggestions for remedies.

Keywords: Higher secondary education, libraries

1. Introduction

In all the progressive countries the importance of library in educating the children is greatly felt. In the countries like and United States of America libraries are the main source of educating the children.

School library becomes a source and force for educational excellence only when it functions as an integral component of the total teaching learning process. The educational programme and library programmes are inter dependent and inseparable and have undergone tremendous changes since second half of the 20th century. In view of the changing philosophy of education and to bring changes in the education system, Government of India appointed a commission (1964-66) under the chairmanship of D.S.Kothari. On the basis of its report, a new and uniform pattern of 10+2 system of school education was adapted in the country.

School libraries have always been an indispensable adjunct to education a base for gathering innovative thinking, a stimulus to culture and an aid to self development (Onal, 2009). Morris (2004) contends that a school library serves as a center and coordinating agency of all materials used in the school. The IFLA/UNESCO School library Manifesto (2000) while emphasizing the creation of strong and school libraries mandates that "For each country there should be work on developing links between school objectives and its library services." Thus the contemporary school library has moved beyond the concept of mere isolated facilities for housing of books and other materials which have no role to play in the teaching learning process in a school. Rather, it is more as the structure for integration of the library services with school's curriculum in the current world education scenario.

The National Curriculum Framework (2005) of the NCERT also attributes great significance to the library method of teaching and learning in schools.

2. Importance of school libraries in secondary higher secondary education

The socio economic and cultural development of a nation depends to a large extent on the achievements made by it on education and research libraries play a vital role in all stages of education especially in secondary and senior secondary education-the basic foundation on which the higher education is built.

Libraries in schools are the natural supporting for individuals intellectual development and are particularly important today in view of the shift in emphasis towards individualized and heuristic learning. (Kumar,1994).The instructional methods had been reflected in the function and role of libraries in learning process .This renewed role of the library prompts it to provide documents and services for intellectual as well as recreational needs of individuals. Kaul C.L.and Gupta. J.K. in 1990 studied on “A simple study of school library facilities and their utilization in secondary schools of four selected states.”

3. Objectives of study

To study the role of Higher Secondary Schools and college libraries in Higher education system of Kokrajhar district.

4. Hypothesis

The hypothesis:

There is no significant role of library facilities in higher secondary schools in Kokrajhar district.

5. Method

In the method of study descriptive survey method is taken.

6. Sample

For the present investigation multistage random sampling was taken in the study. 600 students are taken from rural and urban areas of higher secondary level from different colleges and higher secondary schools of kokrajhar district .300 from rural areas and 300 from urban areas were considered.

7. Tools

7.1 Questionnaires

7.2 Observation method

7.3 Interview method

8. Analysis and interpretation of the study:

8.1 *The role of library upon students in the Higher Secondary Schools*

Table 1 : Shows the number of students who get facilitated library in their institution

No. of students = 600

Area	Yes	No.	Total
Rural	0 (0%)	300 (100%)	300
Urban	2 (0.66%)	298 (99.33%)	300
Total	2(0.33%)	598(99.66%)	600

X^2 (Chi- square) 2.00668896, $df = 1$

As $x^2 = 2.00668896$, ($P > 0.05$), $df = 1$. So null hypothesis is accepted and there is no significant difference role of library upon the students in higher secondary school level in the rural and urban areas.

From the above table it is found that in rural area, out of 300 students 0 (0%) responses shows that they do not get facilitated library in the institutions and out of 300 students in Urban area 2(0.66%) responses show that they get facilitated library and 99.33%

students do not get facilitated library in institutions. Again in both Rural and Urban areas only 2 (33%) students' responses show they get facilitated library in the institution.

Most of the H.S schools have no sufficient library facilities. They have no sufficient books, reference books. Library is very important for quality education, even in the college also sufficient facilities are not found. Library rooms are very small and books are not available for borrowing. Sufficient light is not available in the library.

Table 2 : Shows the number of students who get facilities for borrow books from School /college library.

No. of student = 600

Area	Yes	No.	Total
Rural	20 (6.66%)	280 (93.33%)	300
Urban	30 (10%)	270 (90%)	300
Total	50 (8.33%)	550 (91.66%)	600

 X^2 (Chi- square) = 2.18181818, $df = 1$

As $x^2 = 2.18181818$, ($P > 0.05$), $df = 1$. So null hypothesis is accepted and there is no significant role of library in rural and urban areas of students who get facilities to borrow books.

From the above table in Rural area 20 (6.66% students responses are found. They get facilities to borrow books from school/ college libraries. In Urban area it is seen 30 (10%). 270 (90%) responses show that they do not get facilities to borrow books from

school / college library in Urban area.

Again in both Rural and Urban areas the yes responses are found as 50 (8.33%) in borrowing books from school/college library and 550 (91.66%) responses are found as negative responses. Students do not get sufficient books and reference books from library. There are some students who are poor, and cannot purchase books. They are deprived of the proper education and thus library can help to get the scope to form his life.

Table 3 : Shows the students who get sufficient furniture to sit and read comfortably

Area	Yes	No.	Total
Rural	0 (0%)	300 (100%)	300
Urban	1 (0.33%)	299 (99.60%)	300
Total	1 (0.16%)	599 (99.83%)	600

 X^2 (Chi - square) = 1.00166945, $df = 1$

As $x^2 = 1.00166945$, ($P > 0.05$), $df = 1$. So null hypothesis is accepted and there is no significant role of school/ college library of rural and urban areas in respect of students who get sufficient furniture to sit and read comfortably from the above table, in rural area it is found that there is no sufficient furniture in the institution. 100% negative responses are found.

In the Urban area only 1 (0.33) % are found and 300 (100%) are negative responses. Again in the Rural and Urban areas 1 (0.16%) are found having furniture and 599 (99.83%) responses show negative responses out of 600. In a library student should read and sit comfortably. For this sufficient furniture should be necessary. Besides these, almirah, bookcase should be necessary for keeping the books.

Table 4 : Shows the number of students who get sufficient reference books to study in their college library

Area	Yes	No.	Total
Rural	0 (0%)	300 (100%)	300
Urban	2 (0.66%)	298 (99.33)	300
Total	2 (0.33%)	598 (99.66%)	600

 X^2 (Chi - square) = 2.00668896, $df = 1$

As $x^2 = 2.00668896$, ($P > 0.05$), $df = 1$. So null hypothesis is accepted and there is no significant role of school/ college library of rural and urban areas in respect of students who get sufficient reference books for his study.

From the above table it is seen that there is no "Yes" responses in Rural area in respect of sufficient reference books for his study in the school/ college library and 100% "No" responses are found. In the

Urban area out of 300 students responses are only 2 (0.66%) and 298 (99.33%) are found negative responses. In both rural and urban areas only 2(33%) and 598 (99.88%) are found as negative responses in respect of sufficient reference books in the school / college library. Reference books are also very important for study elaborately. There are some chapters which are scattered in different books so, for one chapter only another book is necessary.

Table 5 : Shows the no. of students who get sufficient text books in their school / college libraries

Area	Yes	No.	Total
Rural	7 (2.33%)	293 (97.66%)	300
Urban	12 (4%)	288 (96.0%)	300
Total	19 (3.16%)	581 (96.83%)	600

X^2 (Chi - square) = 1.35881873, $df = 1$

As $x^2 = 1.35881873$ ($P > 0.05$) $df = 1$. So null hypothesis is accepted and there is no significant role of rural and urban areas of students who get sufficient text books in their school/college library.

From the above table in Rural area it is seen that only 7 (2.33%) responses show that they get sufficient text books from their school/ college libraries. And 293 (97.66%) are found as negative responses. In Urban area there is only 12 (4%) are

found as positive responses and 288 (96.0%) as negative responses. Again in both rural and urban areas, there is only 19 (3.16%) found as positive responses and 581 (96.83%) are found as negative responses.

As if most of the parents are poor, they cannot purchase the books according to their requirements. They want to borrow books from the library so sufficient text books should be kept in the library.

Table 6 : Shows the number of students who read magazines

Area	Yes	No.	Total
Rural	(0%)	300 (100%)	300
Urban	1 (0.33%)	299 (99.66%)	300
Total	1 (0.16%)	599 (99.83%)	600

X^2 (Chi- square) = 1.00166945, $df = 1$

As $x^2 = 1.00166945$, ($P > 0.05$), $df = 1$. So null hypothesis is accepted and there is no significant role of rural and urban areas of students who read magazines.

From the above table it seen that there is no "Yes" responses against the reading magazine and

there are 300 (100%) responses are found as negative. It means that 100% students do not read magazines. In the Urban area only 1 (0.33%) responses are found in reading magazines. In both rural and urban areas there is only 1(0.116%) "Yes" responses are found.

Table 7 : Shows the number of students who read Journals

Area	Yes	No.	Total
Rural	0(0%)	300 (100%)	300
Urban	1 (0.33%)	299 (99.66%)	300
Total	1 (0.16%)	599 (99.83%)	600

X^2 (Chi- square) = 1.00166945, $df = 1$

As $x^2 = 1.00166945$, ($P > 0.05$), $df = 1$. So null hypothesis is accepted and there is no significant role of rural and urban areas students who read journal in school/college library.

From the above table it is seen that in rural area out of 300, there is “yes” responses who read journals. In the urban areas only 1 (0.33%) response is seen for the students who read journals and 299 (99.66%) students response that they do not read Journals. Again in both rural and urban areas only 1(0.16%) is found as “yes” response and 599 (99.83%) are found as negative responses.

Reading habit of Journal helps to know various types of information. Some Journals are weakly, some are quarterly, monthly and yearly. Some Journals helps the teachers to know about the research problems of the society.

9. Defects in the role of libraries

1. There is no material to satisfy the students. The books are visually old and unsuitable for the students.
2. The organization of the libraries is such that it ensures nothing good to the students and teachers. As they are dying of hunger and thirst, there are no trained librarians to organize the libraries properly. The library work is entrusted to teachers and they do not take any interest on it.
3. There are no books for the children and the books for the higher level students which are stocked in few book shelves.
4. Only those books are purchased in the library which is useful for teachers. They are beyond the comprehension of students. The libraries do not afford their readers for a proper and well balanced material to read. There is no provision for journals, magazines and bulletin in most of school libraries.

5. The general tendency of the authorities is not to encourage students to read the books which are not concerned with their students.
6. There is no adequate place for establishing library in most of the higher secondary schools and junior colleges. It should hold a control place; a single room is meant of r this purpose.
7. The major obstacle is the lack of funds for well equipped library in different higher secondary schools and colleges.

10. Suggestions

1. The location of the library should be centrally located. There should be provision for plenty of light and sunshine. Its floor should be covered with the carpet.
2. Equipment and books –
The library should be well equipped having the decent furniture and the books of importance. In selecting the books due importance should be given to their utility and attractiveness. The books kept in the library must have the following qualities.
 - a) The books should be various subjects and various kinds.
 - b) There should be reference books for the teachers.
 - c) Standard of books of top ranking authors of the different languages.
 - d) There should have news papers, journals, magazines, News bulletin for the teachers and students.
3. Full time trained librarian – In order to organize the library properly a full time trained librarian should be appointed.
4. Sufficient financial assistance from government is necessary to solve the problems related with the status of higher secondary level of the area.

5. Sufficient furniture should be necessary to sit and read comfortably in the library room.

11. Conclusion

The existing higher secondary facilities in Kokrajhar district are far from being satisfactory. The essential physical facilities, adequate collection of books, professional manpower, and basic services are

necessary. It does not even fulfill the minimum standard of library. It is high time that recommendations of various commissions, committees, seminars, conferences and standard regarding school libraries are revised and necessary steps should be initiated together with regular funding to improve their existing conditions.

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