
SPECIAL LIBRARIES COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT IN KARNATAKA: A STUDY ON SELECTION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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ABSTRACT

States that developments of new technologies for the storage of information have brought a change of thinking in future collection policies and procedures. Discusses the policies and procedures of collection development of resources in the special libraries in Karnataka. Further this study is limited to twelve R&D libraries of Bangalore and Mysore cities of Karnataka state. It also gives details about the collection of print and non-print resources and their growth from last five years. Further, explains about the selectors/recommenders of the resources, selection tools used to acquire different sources, mode of purchasing, library committee and its members, collection development policy and its form also discussed. It highlights the parameters of collection development policy, selection of materials is based on the policy or not, frequency of stock verification conducted by the librarians and weeding out of library resources is identified. Finally, some suggestions have been given to improve the selection of resources for libraries.

KEYWORDS: Collection development; Special libraries; R&D Libraries; Selection policies and procedures; Karnataka.

Introduction

Application of information and communication technologies in information management has transformed the way libraries provide information services to the user community. The advent of electronic publishing has led to the emergence of electronic or e-resources with associated challenges of their selection, acquisition, storage and information delivery. In the past, collection development

was paper based and selectors used printed selection tools like publisher's catalogues and trade bibliographies, unlike today where the most of selection tools are available electronically and librarians need computer and information literacy skills to surf the tools at their disposal. Library staff members also have a new cohort of vendors and suppliers, and for e-resources there are different procedures required to license, acquire, and list in library online catalogues. Mosher (1994) characterizes the situation very well when he argues that there is a shift in paradigm from traditional to electronic in that "we are moving from the age of the library as ordered and ordering institution to the library as a situational and virtual one, an adaptive culture characterized by change." All library procedures, including cataloguing, circulation, reference, interlibrary loan and collection development, have changed through technology. Collection development practices have changed because of the impact of new electronic formats being used for delivery of information (Gerhard, 2000). The use of computers, internet and other IT tools since more than one decade has changed the scenario in many fields and so also in libraries. Therefore, this study is conducted to know how and what are the tools and techniques used by the librarians for collection development purpose in special libraries.

Review of Related Literature

Paul (2011) highlights the features of collection development policy and selection criteria of library materials in the changing paradigm where the electronic media and communication technology are gaining momentum in developing countries. The author also identifies the changes to integrate the issues of collection development and management of electronic resources in the library. The criteria for selection of electronic resources, vital part of any policy of collection development, are also discussed here. Electronic resources was also be identified and evaluated for selection like traditional materials through the consultation of reviews and other services. A review of conditions in India regarding collection development policy and practices was also discussed in this study. Brantley (2010) examines holdings of 21 members of the Association of Research Libraries for books reviewed in American Historical Review. The author asserts that approval plans are inadequate for collecting from small publishers or from scholarship that crosses disciplinary boundaries. Although approval plans increase efficiency in collection development, the need for expert selection cannot be overstated. Results indicated that small publisher's books were less likely to be in libraries than university press publisher's books, and that history monographs are frequently classified outside disciplinary boundaries, and are therefore invisible to approval plans that define disciplines based on classification systems. Deyrup (2010) highlights the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) program, titled "Area Studies Librarianship: Globalization and Interdisciplinary Studies in Today's and Tomorrow's Academic and Research Libraries," held at the 129th American Library

Association (ALA) Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in June 2010. Topics discussed include the difficulty of supporting area and global studies, the mission of university library's collection development policies and the trends in North American research libraries was given. Evans (2009) offers updates on policies for collection preservation and development in Scotland. The arrival of the UK Research Reserve (UKRR) sees the closure of Collaborative Academic Store for Scotland (CASS) and a beginning for a Scottish Confederation of University and Research Libraries (SCURL) initiative called the Scottish Higher Education Digital Library (SHEDL) which has negotiated contracts to access the content from three publishers' from January 1, 2009 for users of Higher Education Institutions (HEI) and Small Specialized Institutions (SSI).

According to Morris and Larson (2006) libraries are responding to customer preferences for electronic research materials through the acquisition and management of these products. Electronic resources have significantly different characteristics than print resources when it comes to technical services management. The authors address aspects of a corporate research library's evaluation of its collection development and maintenance practices as related to electronic materials: selection, contract negotiations, orders, cataloging, access management, and stall development.

Munro and Philps (2008) find that there has been little recent research into the roles and responsibilities of academic librarians in collection development in Australian universities. In 2007 the authors reviewed the findings of a 1994 study of collection management in Australian university libraries, examining current practice and taking into account the impact of technology over the past 13 years. Two models of responsibility for selection of monographic materials in Australian academic libraries were identified from the study and these are presented and compared with a generalized model of practice in academic libraries in the United States. Fennewald (2003) highlights the presentation on Collaborating with Our Patrons: Letting the Users Select' held during the Association of College and Research Libraries; 11th National Conference in North Carolina in April 2003. Increased opportunities for users to participate in selecting books and materials for library collections; Experiences of Wayne State University in involving faculty and students in the selection process. Sridhar (1992) identifies types of special libraries, discusses characteristic features of special libraries vis-a-vis objectives, users, services, tools and techniques, acquisition, collection, lending, and personnel. The emphasis is on typical Indian science and technology libraries.

Objectives of the Study

The primary objective of the present study is to investigate and identify the issues relating to the current policies, practices and procedures of collection development of print and e-resources adopted by the select R&D libraries of Karnataka. The other objectives of the present study are as follows:

1. To know the present status of collection of resources in the libraries covered under the study.

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2. To survey the collection development methods and procedures being followed by the libraries under the study.
3. To analyze the collection development policy, if any, of the libraries under the study.
4. To explore information about the library committee existence and its composition.
5. To recommend some fruit full suggestions to improve present collection development programmes.

Methodology

The researcher has employed a well-structured questionnaire for collecting the data from the Librarians of the R & D institutes. A total of 12 questionnaires were distributed among the librarians of the R& D Institutes and all most all the librarians were positively responded. This constitutes 100 percent response rate. The researcher also visited and met all the institutes librarians covered under the study and interviewed them for clarifications relating policies and procedures followed for collection development purpose.

Scope and Limitations of the Study

The scope of the study is limited primarily to the selection policies and procedures followed in collection development of print and electronic resources in libraries attached to R&D institutions. It does not cover libraries attached to industries, government departments and business firms. Geographically the study is limited to Bangalore and Mysore Cities in Karnataka state. The lists of libraries covered in the present study are as under:

1	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR)	Bangalore
2	Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI)	Bangalore
3	Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR)	Bangalore
4	Central Power Research Institute (CPRI)	Bangalore
5	Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA)	Bangalore
6	National Centre for Biological Science (NCBS)	Bangalore
7	Raman Research Institute (RRI)	Bangalore
8	National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL)	Bangalore
9	Central Sericultural Training and Research Institute (CSTRI)	Bangalore
10	Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI)	Mysore
11	Defence Food Research Laboratory (DFRL)	Mysore
12	Central Sericultural Research & Training Institute (CSRTI)	Mysore

Results and Discussion

The data collected from the librarians on different aspects of collection developments were analysed and discussed in bellow section.

Qualification of the Respondents

Below figure shows the qualification of the librarians covered under the study.

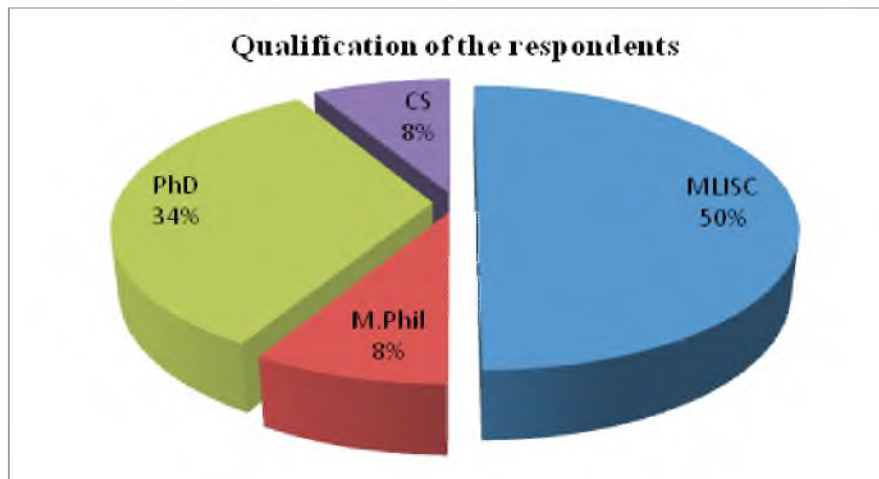


Figure 1: Qualification of the Respondents

Majority of the librarians i.e. 6 (50%) have MLISc qualification, followed by this 33.3% of them possessed PhD degree, and 8.3% each of them possessed either M Phil or CS degree.

Gender of the respondents

Gender of the respondents is shown in the Table 1.

Table 1: Gender of the Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	6	50.0
Female	6	50.0
Total	12	100.0

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Out of 12 librarians surveyed, 50% of them are male and female representing 6 each.

Age of the respondents

Table 2 depicts about the age of the respondents.

Table 2: Age of the Respondents

Age	Frequency	Percent
Between 31 and 35 years	1	8.3
Between 41 and 45 years	2	16.7
Between 51 and 55 years	5	41.7
Above 56 years	4	33.3
Total	12	100.0

Out of 12 librarians, 5 librarians belongs to the age group of between 51 and 55, following to this 4 librarians come under the age group of above 56 years, while 2 librarians reply that they fit into the age group of between 41 and 45 and remaining one librarian comes under the age group of between 31 and 35 years, representing 41.7%, 33.3%, 16.7% and 8.3% respectively.

Experience of the Librarians

The work experience of the respondents have been obtained and presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Experience of the Librarians

Experience of the Librarian	Frequency	Percent
Between 5 and 10 years	2	16.7
Between 10 and 15 years	2	16.7
Above 20 years	8	66.7
Total	12	100.0

Table 3 indicates the work experience of the respondents, out of 12 librarians surveyed, 8 librarians replied that they have work experience more than 20 years, representing 66.7% and 2 librarians each responded that they have experience between 5 and 10 years and between 10 and 15 years, this accounts for 16.7% each.

Total Number of Print Documents Acquired During Last Five Years

The below table presents the type of printed documents that R&D libraries have possessed from last 5 years.

Table 4: Print Collections of the Libraries

Print resources	2006-07			2007-08			2008-09			2009-10			2010-11		
	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean
Books	54	75000	9483.17	14	76000	9638.83	16	77500	9791.42	32	82000	10216.58	22	84000	10450.42
Journals	5	298	130.25	4	365	136.75	5	370	140.33	4	380	136.42	4	262	103.67
Theses & Dissertations	0	2026	215.75	0	2027	229.58	0	2241	273.83	0	2272	257.92	0	2378	276.25
Databases	0	5	1.58	0	5	1.58	0	4	1.50	0	6	1.67	0	6	1.75
Newspapers	0	14	6.67	0	14	6.67	0	14	6.83	0	14	6.83	3	14	7.64
Reference Sources	0	226	32.58	0	373	49.42	0	220	27.25	0	250	26.25	0	325	36.25
Patents	0	83633	6974.50	0	83633	6975.42	0	83633	6976.33	0	83633	6973.33	0	83633	6971.83
Standards & Specifications	0	12187	1028.83	0	12187	1029.42	0	12187	1030.42	0	12187	1030.33	0	12187	1033.17
Others (Reports)	0	41963	3520.25	0	41963	3505.25	0	42603	3560.92	0	43193	3615.08	0	43193	3610.25

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From the table, it is clear that book collections increased from 2006-07 to 2010-11 from a mean collection of 9483.17 to 10450.42. In the case of journals actually the acquisition decreased from 130.25 to 103.67. A substantial increase was observed in the collection of thesis and dissertations from a mean collection of 215.75 to 276.25. Similar was the case in collection of data bases where we find increase of data bases from 1.58 to 1.75. In the case of newspapers too there was a linear increase in the collection from a mean value of 6.67 to 7.64 newspapers on an average. In reference sources, we find a marginal increase in collection from 32.58 to 36.25. As far the patents are considered, we find hardly any changes from 6974.50 to 6971.83. This was true in the case of standards and specifications where we find a change of mean value from 1028.83 to 1033.17. Lastly, in the case of other i.e. reports, we find an increase from 2006-07 to 2010-11 from 3520.25 to 3610.25.

Total Number of Non-Print Materials Acquired During Last Five Years

An attempt has been made to collect the non-print collection of R&D libraries and the data obtained from librarians is presented in the below table.

Table 5: Non-print Collection of the Libraries

Electronic Resources	2006-07			2007-08			2008-09			2009-10			2010-11		
	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean
CDs	0	92	21.25	0	70	17.50	0	61	16.08	0	66	18.75	0	100	24.67
E-books	0	363	30.25	0	376	36.33	0	376	69.50	0	376	66.33	0	376	73.83
E-journals	0	6000	792.42	0	6000	537.58	0	6000	549.67	0	6000	885.33	0	6000	1838.83
E-theses/ Dissertations	0	288	24.00	0	400	33.33	0	600	50.00	0	850	70.83	0	1210	100.83
Atlases/ Maps/Globes	0	16	1.33	0	16	1.33	0	16	1.33	0	16	1.33	0	16	1.33

From the table it is clear that CDs collections increased slightly from 2006-07 to 2010-11 from a mean collection of 21.25 to 24.67. In the case of E- books the acquisition increased up to a considerable extent from 30.25 to 73.83 mean collections. Maximum increment can be observed in the E-journals collection from a mean collection of 792.42 to 1838.83. Similarly, was the case in collection of E-theses and dissertations where we find drastic increase from a mean collection of 24.00 to 100.83. As far the atlases/maps/globes are considered, we find hardly any changes from 1.33 to 1.33 mean value.

Selectors/Recommenders of Documents

Selection of documents is very important step in collection development process. The members/authorizes recommending the documents are listed in the below table.

Table 6: Selectors of the Resources to the Library

Selectors/recommenders	Response				X ²	P
	Yes		No			
	F	%	F	%		
Scientists/Professors/Researchers	11	91.7	1	8.3	8.333	.004
Library Committee	9	75.0	3	25.0	3.000	.083
Librarian	8	66.7	4	33.3	1.333	.248
Head of the Departments	7	58.3	5	41.7	3.33	.564
Institution Head	4	33.3	8	66.7	1.333	.248

Table 6 indicates that selectors/recommenders of the library resources, majority of the librarians i.e. 11 (91.7%) are opined that library users are the selectors of the resources, where as 75% (9) of them replied that the library committee recommends the documents for selection to the libraries, another 8 (66.7%) and 7 (58.3%) librarians stated that librarians and head of the departments are major selectors of the documents and the least number of the librarians i.e. 4 (33.3%) of them said that institutions head recommends sources to the library. Chi-square test revealed a significant difference between 'yes' and 'no' frequencies for scientists/professors/research scholar. For remaining options

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chi-square test did not show significant differences between 'yes' and 'no' responses.

Selection Tools Used for Print and Electronic Resources

The Table 7 shows tools used for selection of print and e-resources by the librarians of the R & D institutions.

Table 7: Selection Tools Used For Print and Electronic Resources

Selection tools	Response				X ²	P
	Yes		No			
	F	%	F	%		
Publishers catalogues	12	100	0	0	-	-
Books reviews	11	91.7	1	8.3	8.333	.004
Booksellers catalogues	10	83.3	2	16.7	5.333	.021
Publishers Websites	10	83.3	2	16.7	5.333	.021
Catalogue of Government publications	7	58.3	5	41.7	.333	.564
Newsletters	6	50	6	50	.000	1.00
National bibliographies	1	8.3	11	91.7	8.333	.004
Other	1	8.3	11	91.7	8.333	.004

Table 7 shows that, all the 12 librarians used publishers catalogue as a selection tool, followed by this, 91.7% (11) of them indicated that they use 'book reviews' as a selection tool, while 10 (83.3%) librarians each stated that they follow booksellers catalogues and publishers websites to select print and non-print resources to the library, nearly 58.3% of them replied they use catalogue of government publications for selection purpose, whereas, 'newsletters' is concerned 50% of the librarians agree that they consult it to select information sources and 1 (8.3%) librarian each stated that they consult national bibliographies and other tools to select resources to the library. Chi-square test revealed a significant difference between 'yes' and 'no' frequencies for tools - booksellers catalogues, national

bibliographies, publishers websites and for other tools. For remaining tools chi-square test did not show significant differences between 'yes' and 'no' responses.

Mode of Purchase of Resources

There are different modes of procurement of resources. The librarians may use simultaneously of more than one mode of acquiring resources. The data regarding mode of purchase of resources by the R&D libraries is presented in table 8 below.

Table 8: Mode of Purchase of Resources

Mode of purchase of library resources	Response				X ²	P
	Yes		No			
	F	%	F	%		
Directly from Publishers	11	91.7	1	8.3	8.333	.004
From Vendors / Distributors	10	83.3	2	16.7	5.333	.021
On approval Basis	9	75.0	3	25.0	3.00	.083
Gift / Exchange	7	58.3	5	41.7	.333	.564
Standing Orders	6	50.0	6	50.0	.000	1.00
Personal visits to Books shops	6	50.0	6	50.0	.000	1.00
Organizing book Exhibitions	5	41.7	7	58.3	.333	.564
Online Purchase Order	5	41.7	7	58.3	.333	.564
Calling for quotations	4	33.3	8	66.7	1.333	.248
Dealer Library Plan	1	8.3	11	91.7	8.333	.004

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The above table reveals that majority of the libraries i.e. 11 (91.7%) libraries purchase library resources directly from publishers, whereas 10 (83.3%) librarians state that they procure documents through vendors/distributors and another $\frac{3}{4}$ of the librarians (75%) procure through on approval basis. More than 58.3% (7) of the librarians stated that they procure through gift/exchange mode, of the total 50% (6) each of the librarians stated they procure resources through the mode of standing orders and personal visits to the book shops. Nearly 41.7% (5) of the librarians each follow through organizing book exhibitions and online purchase orders, more than 33.3% of them state calling quotations to purchase resources to libraries and one librarians replied that the library purchase through dealers library plan. Chi-square test revealed a significant difference between 'yes' and 'no' frequencies for mode - Direct from publishers, from vendors/distributors, through dealers library plans. For remaining cases chi-square test did not show significant differences between 'yes' and 'no' responses.

Opinion about Library Committee Existence

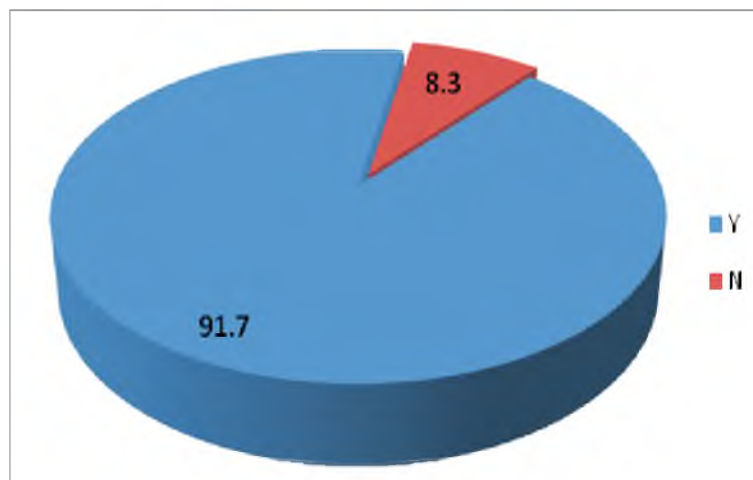


Figure 2: Library Committee Existence

Out of 12 librarians surveyed, 11 (91.7%) of them replied 'yes' for separate library committee existence and remaining 1 librarian state 'no' to the option. It shows that most of the libraries have separate library committee.

Composition of Library Committee

To know the members of the library committee the information was collected through the questionnaire was presented in table 9.

Table 9: Composition of Library Committee

Library Committee Members	Response				X ²	P
	Yes		No			
	F	%	F	%		
Head of the Departments	11	91.7	1	8.3	8.333	.004
Librarian	11	91.7	1	8.3	8.333	.004
Faculty deans	7	58.3	5	41.7	.333	.564
Finance officers	3	25.0	9	75.0	3.00	.083
Institution Head/Director	1	8.3	11	91.7	8.333	.004
Registrar	1	8.3	11	91.7	8.333	.004

Table 9 shows that the members of the library committee. It shows out of 12 institution libraries surveyed, in 11 libraries each 'head of the departments' and 'librarians' are the members of the library committee, representing 91.7% each, followed by this, in 7 libraries 'faculty deans' are member of the library committee, this accounts 58.3% of the total response. In 3 (25%) libraries 'finance officers' are composition of the library committee and 1 librarian (8.3%) each stated that institution head/director and registrar are also members of the library committee. Chi-square test revealed a significant difference between 'yes' and 'no' frequencies for committee members – Institution head/director, head of the department, librarians and for registrar. For remaining options chi-square test did not show significant differences between 'yes' and 'no' responses.

Opinion about Definite Collection Development Policy

Collection development policy is essential for every library as it provides planned collection development and helps in growth of a qualitative library collection. So that the librarians were asked about collection development policy and data gathered from them are presented in below table.

Table 10: Collection Development Policy

Options	Frequency	Percent
Yes	6	50
No	6	50

Above table shows that, out of 12 libraries, 50% i.e. 6 libraries each responses 'yes' and 'no' for collection development policy.

Librarians Opinion about the Policy Is Written or Unwritten

Figure 3 shows the librarians opinion about the statement 'whether the collection development policy is in written or un-written form.

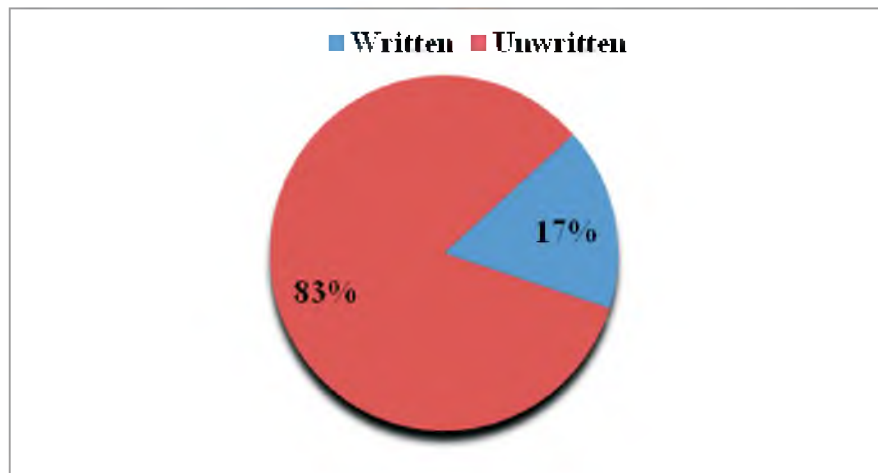


Figure 3: Opinion of the Librarians about the Policy Format

Figure 3 explains that 16.7% (2) of the librarians' state that there is a written form of collection development policy and majority of the librarians i.e. 83.7% (10) of them state the collection development policy is in 'unwritten' form. The study reveals that most of the research libraries still don't have written collection development policy.

Parameters in Collection Development Policy

It is noted that there are many parameters in collection development policy such as objectives of the library, users need/demand, use of documents on the basis of circulation statistics and so on. The following table has given the details of responses of the librarians in this regard.

Table 11: Parameters in Collection Development Policy

Parameters in Collection Development Policy	Response				X ²	P
	Yes		No			
	F	%	F	%		
-----	6	50	6	50	.000	1.00
Objectives of the library	5	41.7	7	58.3	.333	.564
Use of documents on the basis of circulation statistics	5	41.7	7	58.3	.333	.564
Possibility of resource sharing and Networking	4	33.3	8	66.7	1.33	.248
Fund allocation (Subject wise) & distribution process	2	16.7	10	83.3	5.33	.021
Growth rate of the publication	1	8.3	11	91.7	8.33	.004

Table 11 depicts that the parameters included in the collection development policy. Out of 12 librarians, 6 (50%) librarians stated that 'users need or demand' is main parameter in collection development policy, where as 5 (41.7%) librarians each agree that the parameters 'objectives of the library and use of documents on the basis of circulation statistics' are included in collection development policy, following to this, 4 librarians replied that 'possibility of resource sharing and networking' is another important parameter considered in the present electronic environment, it is interesting to know that 2 librarians stated fund allocation (subject wise) and distribution process is also a considerable parameter, and remaining one librarian opines that parameter 'growth rate of the publication' is considered in collection development policy, representing 43.3%, 16.7% and 8.3% respectively. Here significant differences were found between 'yes' and 'no' frequencies for the parameters - Growth rate of the publication and fund allocation (subject wise) & distribution process.

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For remaining parameters chi-square test did not show significant differences between the 'yes' and 'no' responses.

Opinion of Librarians about Selection of Documents Based on Collection Development Policy.

Table 12 shows the opinions of the librarians about the selection of the documents are based on collection development policy or not.

Table 12: Opinion of Librarian's About Selection of Documents Based on CDP

Option	Frequency	Percent
Yes	6	50
No	6	50

It shows that, 6 librarians i.e. 50% librarians each state that 'yes' and 'no' response about selection of documents is based on collection development policy or not.

Frequency of Stock Verification

Stock verification is conducted in many intervals such as once in a year, once in two year and so on. The data gathered regarding this is presented in the below figure.

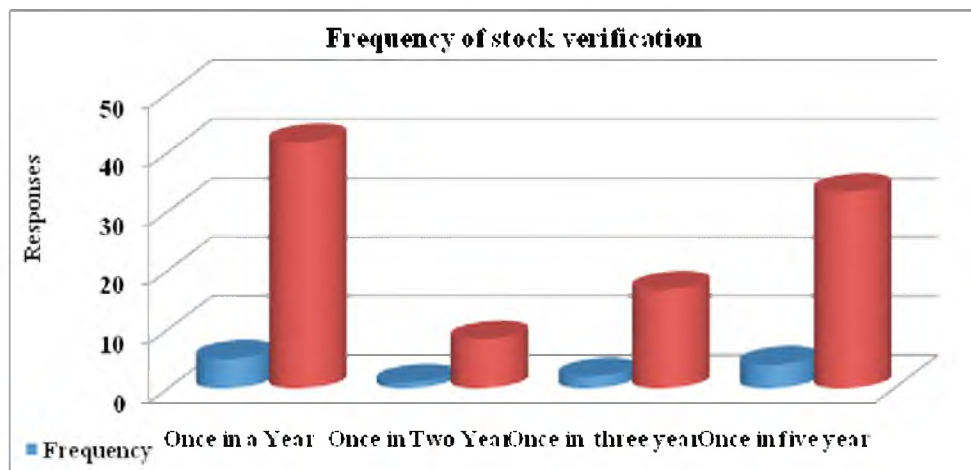


Figure 4: Opinion of the Librarians about the Frequency of Stock Verification

Figure 4 shows the frequency of stock verification conducted by the libraries. Out of 12 libraries surveyed 5 41.7% librarians stated that they conduct stock verification 'once in a year', followed by this, 4 33.3% of them replied they conduct 'once in five years', where as 2 16.7% librarians responded that they conduct 'once in three years' and finally one librarian opined that stock verification is conducted 'once in two years'.

Weeding Out of Print and Non Print Materials at the Time of Verification

Table 13 shows weeding out of the print and non-print materials at the time of verification.

Table 13: Weeding out of Library Materials

Opinion	Frequency	Percent
Yes	4	33.3
No	8	66.7

Among 12 librarians, 33.35 4 of them state 'yes' and remaining 66.7% 8 of the librarians replied 'no' for the statement of weeding out of library materials at the time of stock verification. It shows that in majority of the libraries there is no processes of weeding out the print and non print materials at the time of stock verification.

Summary of Findings

- Nearly 33.3% of the librarians possessed Ph.D. degree qualification. Of the total, half of the librarians are male and female respondents. More than 41.7% of the librarians belong to the age group of between 51 and 55 years. Majority of the librarians i.e. 66.7% of them have more than 20 years of experience.
- The study shows that there is a substantial increase in case of books collection from 9483.17 to 10450.42 , journal acquisition from 130.25 to 103.67 and thesis and dissertations collections of 215.75 to 276.25 respectively. Whereas non-print collections are concerned, we can see good improvement from last five years i.e. from 2006-07 to 2010-11. In case of e-books mean value from 30.25 to 73.83 , e-journals mean value from 792.42 to 1838.83 and e-thesis and dissertations mean value from 24.00 to 100.83 respectively Table 5 & 6 .
- In most of the libraries i.e. 11 91.7% Scientists/Professors/Researchers are the selectors of the resources and followed by this, Library Committee 75% and Librarians 66.7% stands

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2nd and 3rd place in the selectors list.

- Almost all the librarians use 'publishers catalogues' as a selection tools, followed by this 83.3% to 91.7% of them stated that they use booksellers catalogues, books reviews and publishers websites to select resources to libraries.
- Majority of the libraries purchase library resources directly from publishers, through vendors / distributors and through approval basis.
- More than 90% of the libraries have separate library committee and they stated that institution head and librarians are the members of library committee.
- In majority of the libraries the collection development policy is in un-written form.
- Out of the 12 libraries surveyed, 6 librarians replied that 'users demand or need' is a major parameter in collection development policy.
- Nearly 50% of the librarians replied that selection of the documents is based on collection development policy.
- More than 40% of the librarians opined that they conduct stock verification once in a year.
- Only 40% of the librarians agree that they weed out print and non print materials at the time of stock verification.

Suggestions and Conclusion

In the present contest the collection development/management is a more demanding concept which goes beyond a policy of acquiring materials, to policies on housing, preservation, storage, weeding and discard of stock. Rather than selection and acquisition, collection management emphasizes the systematic maintenance and management of library's existing collection (Seetharama, 1997) . According to the study, most of the libraries surveyed do not have written collection development policies and half of the librarians replied that the collection of the libraries is not on the basis of collection development policy. In this connection the study suggests that whatever form it takes still would require policies that would govern the acquisition of both print and electronic resources. Further, the resources which are available and the periodicals subscribed by the librarians need to be evaluate periodically on the basis of their usability. Also suggests the librarians have to consult more online selection tools to select information resources for their libraries. In addition if the collection development policies cover the issue of cooperation and resource sharing and networking mechanism among participating libraries that would help entire user communities among the institutions.

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