

ABSTRACT

Library plays a vital role in academic institutions of higher learning. In the 21st century information technology has revolutionized the field of library and information science globally. In this context, the present study is aimed to see the status of under graduate colleges of Assam and their attached libraries, very specifically, to examine the status of library automation in the college libraries, status of collection, efforts given as assistance in career building, etc with special reference to Lakhimpur district of the state of Assam. It is found that library activities in these institutions of higher learning are lagging behind reason of which is lack of initiative to upgrade the library facilities up to date using modern technologies. Due to this, the satisfaction level of users is much lower and might cause harm to the society. Therefore, it is tried to put forward some suggestion towards improvement of the scenario of college libraries of the district for all round improvement of higher education.

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

from storage building to guide, or possibly more appropriate here-college library is an information context. It may be concluded that this information/ library would be Information Hub. The influence of information technology will be most important in changing the terrain of higher education. Technology would help the purpose and improving the quality of higher education of Lakhimpur district and all over Assam.

Key words:-

**College Library, Higher Education, Information and communitarian Technology
Lakhimpur District, Assam.**