UGC Financial Assistance for Collection Development: A Study

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Abstract

This paper focuses on UGC role in collection development in college libraries. The University Grants Commission (UGC) of India is a statutory organization set up for the determination and maintenance of standards of higher education. It provides funds for government recognized universities and colleges to development of human resource, collection, equipment, construction of building and maintenance of standard. Sometimes the commission may Allocate and disburse funds in different heads such as purchase of Books, Journals, Equipment, infrastructure development, Building Construction etc. present study examine the UGC contribution in college library collection development in affiliated to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.

Keywords

Five Year Plan; Ix Plan: X Plan: Financial Assistance: Collection Development

Electronic access

The journal is available at www.jalis.in

Journal of Advances in Library and Information Science
ISSN: 2277-2219 Vol. 53. No.1. 2016. pp.76-81

1. INTRODUCTION

The University Grants Commission (UGC) came into existence through an Act of Parliament in November 1956. However, the idea of the creation of the UGC to regulate the standards of higher education can be traced to the University Education Commission (Radhakrishnan Commission) (1948), better known as the First Education Commission, which in its report had initially recommended its establishment. To a certain extent, the efforts towards expansion of higher education in the colonial period also pointed in that direction. The system of higher education in independent India as well as its regulatory mechanism evolved in a way as a continuation of the colonial system. Hence the challenges of the higher educational system that the UGC had to confront, as it began its work, have to be looked at in the context of the colonial set up.

Higher Education is a very important sector for the growth and development of human resource which can take responsibility for social, economic and scientific development of the country. The University Education Commission (1948-49), under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, gave the foundations of the future of Indian Higher Education. The report of the Education Commission (1964-66) under the Chairmanship of Dr. D.S. Kothari symbolized the symbiotic relationship between education and national development. A lot of thought has since been generated towards the emerging concerns of higher education. The vision of higher education in India is to realize the country's human resource potential to its fullest with equity and inclusion. This essentially means the need to provide greater opportunities of access to higher education with equity to all eligible, and in particular, to the vulnerable sections of the society. Expansion of access by supporting existing institutions, establishing new institutions, supporting State Governments and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) / Civil Society to supplement public efforts are needed to aim at removing regional and other imbalances that exists at present. Policies and programmes for strengthening research and innovations have to be initiated and institutions, public or private, will have to be encouraged, to engage in stretching the frontiers of knowledge.

In recent years, the nation has embarked upon initiating a number of development linked strategies for promotion of higher education. The latest of these include the Report of the 'National Knowledge

Commission' (NKC), the Report of 'The Committee to Advise on Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education' and the Conclave of Vice-Chancellors and other Forums of Educationists.

Present study was conducted for the examine the benefit of UGC assistance in collection development in college libraries affiliated to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Higher education in India

The Higher Education of India had its origin in ancient universities like Nalanda and Taxashila in North, Vallabhi in Kathiawad and Kanchi in the South. During the British period up to 1857, several colleges were established in the country by East India Company and Christian missionaries. In 1857 an important decision was taken by the British government, for the establishment of universities in each of the three presidency towns of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras. These Universities were established in 1857.After independence, the various states of the country helped the progress of education in their respective areas, but the centre also shares some responsibilities in some fields of education. The Central government established the University Grants Commission (UGC), Indian Technological Institute (IIT), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) for the development of higher education in the country.

At present, in Higher Education, there are 335 universities, 16885 colleges, 99.54 lakh students and 4057 teachers in India. (www.education.nic.in accessed on 13-08-2010) Higher Education has the special importance in the educational system; it is a driving force of development, the creator of knowledge that helps to determine the future shape of society including the education system itself. Antony Stella & A Gnanam (2002) have declared two major responsibilities: “One is to equip graduates with the competencies and attributes needed to be effective in the global world of work thought redesigning and existing offerings with the focus on higher levels of skills and competencies, rather than on introducing the series of so called career-oriented qualifications. The second responsibility is to help in service personnel, reorient themselves to fit into the changing demands of skills and knowledge even to do the job on hand through appropriate modular short term teaching cum training program.” (Antony stella & A Gnanam, 2002) These responsibilities show the direction of higher education in the 21st century.

Mandate

The UGC has the unique distinction of being the only grant-giving agency in the country which has been vested with two responsibilities: that of providing funds and that of coordination, determination and maintenance of standards in institutions of higher education. The UGC's mandate includes:

- Promoting and coordinating university education.
- Determining and maintaining standards of teaching, examination and research in universities.
- Framing regulations on minimum standards of education.
- Monitoring developments in the field of collegiate and university education; disbursing grants to the universities and colleges.
- Serving as a vital link between the Union and state governments and institutions of higher learning.
- Advising the Central and State governments on the measures necessary for improvement of university education.

3.University Grants Commission: (UGC)

UGC inter university Centres: The UGC has been setting up autonomous centres, from 1984, when the first one was established to provide common facilities for research, and for various services and programmes to the universities, since heavy investment in infrastructure and input is beyond the reach of the individual university to obtain these facilities. The following is one of the inter-university centres have been established:

Funding in Various Schemes

UGC provides Development (Plan Grants) and Maintenance (Non-Plan Grants) to university and college level institutions. As of now, the UGC provides development as well as maintenance grants to 16 Central Universities, 53 Delhi University Colleges, (which include 20 Trust Maintained colleges, 16 Delhi Government Colleges, 6 University maintained colleges and 11 Evening Colleges), 4 colleges of the BHU and 12 College Hostels of Delhi University. Besides, 6 Inter-University Centres (IUC) also receive development

as well as maintenance grants. In addition to these, 24 Deemed Universities, 5 colleges of Delhi University and 120 State Universities are provided development grants.

3.1.Development Grants:

UGC has formulated 42 schemes for providing development assistance to universities, university level institutions, colleges and individual faculty members and researchers. The related links to these schemes are provided below. You may access related guidelines and download application form forms. UGC has provide grants to the colleges for strengthening basic infrastructure and meet their basic needs like Books & Journals including Book Banks, Scientific Equipment, staff, campus development, teaching aids, which are needed for proper instruction. It also covers to assistance for extension/ renovation of existing Buildings and construction of new Buildings. UGC has taken consideration of development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe Students, Development of Colleges situated in backward/rural/border/Hill areas with a view to removing disparities and regional imbalances, special remedial coaching to academically poor performers so that they graduate as confident men and women, UGC is encourage outreach activities, adult and continuing education in the neighboring areas so that the society as a whole, where the colleges is located, is benefited The assistance under this scheme will be provided to only those colleges which have been declared eligible to receive Central assistance under Section 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956 and fulfill the eligibility conditions as given hereunder

4. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

UGC financial assistance for collection development in Colleges Libraries affiliated to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad : A Study

5. OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

5.1.Definition of UGC

As per mentioned in UGC web site the definition of UGC is "The University Grant Commission (UGC) of India is a statutory organisation setup by Union Government in 1956 for the coordination, determination and maintenans of standards of University equation. It Prowled recognition for Universities and colleges. It's head quarters are in New Delhi and six region centers in Pune, Bhopal, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Guwahati and Banglor." (UGC Act, 1956).

5.2.Definition of University

"A University is an institution of higher education and research which gives academic degrees in a variety of subjects. A University is organisation that rovide budget under graduate and post-graduate education." (Mankar, Sudhakar 2001)

5.3.College

College is an educational institute which imparts education to graduate, undergraduate and postgraduate students and professional community with the help of various teaching aids and faculty to improve all round development of personality of the students admitted in the college."An institution of higher education usually offering only a curriculum in a Liberal degree"."A major division of a university usually division of Arts and Science especially one required for admission to study beyond the completion of secondary education." (C.V. Good, 1959)

5.4.College Library:

Libraries are constituted by the educational authorities in the campus of college to fulfill the information needs of students and faculty related to their subject by providing reading material like books, journals, non book materials etc. and services regarding curriculum. "A Library which is forming an integral part of a college, organized and administrated to meet the needs of its students and faculty."(Parmar P.P. et. al., 1989)

6.OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study is undertaken with the following objectives:

1. To survey current status of 2 (f) and 12 (B) college libraries affiliated to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University.
2. To study the UGC guidelines and different schemes for collection development such as Books and Journals.
3. To study the utilization of financial assistance from UGC for collection development.

4. To suggest ways and means to improve the library services in the college libraries under survey.

7. SCOPE AND LIMITATION

This University covers four districts; these are Aurangabad, Jalna, Beed, Osmanabad. There were 108 colleges of Arts, Commerce and Science by government aided out of 167 and 50 colleges has approved 2(f) and 12(B) as per UGC regulation. These 50 colleges are used in present study as sample. This study will take last 10 years (1997-2007) time period to study the utilization of grants for construction of library building and development of infrastructure by these affiliated college libraries. Random sampling used to collect the data. 40 (i.e. 80%) responses received out of 50 respondents Arts, Commerce and Science colleges libraries. All 2(f) and 12 (B) approved colleges are established before 2000.

8. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study deals with descriptive method of research with random sampling. Study takes one of the university regions in Maharashtra state as sample. This study evaluates the system in its historical perspective and present condition.

This research takes only Arts, Commerce and Science colleges approved under 2(f) and 12(B) by UGC and Affiliated to Dr.Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University. Aurangabad.

9. DATA COLLECTION

Questionnaire is used to collect the data. Researcher had sent questionnaire by post and thereafter lack of response given by the respondents then researcher was personally visited these college libraries and collect the data with observation. The questionnaires were including a self-addressed, postage-paid envelope and the correspondence should be personalized. Questionnaire is divided in 7 main categories, with General information-5 questions, UGC assistance 14 questions, Library building 8 questions.

10. DATA ANALYSIS

This study takes one of the university regions in Maharashtra state as sample. This research evaluates the system in its historical perspective and current status of college library infrastructure. The data was analyzed with help of means and standard deviations and its values were calculated. Collected data explained by using of tables, charts, maps and drawings.

Table 1:Item wise sanctioned assistance

Sr. No.	Items	IX plan sanctioned grant	Percentage	X plan sanctioned grant	Percentage
01	Books	12055302	50.31	20181619	55.90
02	Periodicals	335000	1.40	411537	1.14
03	Building	5837513	24.36	10055954	27.85
04	Furniture	2482411	10.36	2700000	7.48
05	Internet	40000	0.17	25135	0.06
06	Equipment	16.69161	6.97	1731709	4.80
07	Other	-	-	-	-
Total		23960216	100	36105954	100

Above table shows that IX and Xth five year plan UGC sanctioned the maximum grant such as 50.31% and 55.90% respectively to collection of books. It shows that importance of basic trinity of library, that is staff, collection and user. Collection is most important. Second highest amount sanctioned by UGC is to Building 24.36% and 27.85% respectively IX and X plan period. Third number is furniture i.e. 10.36% and7.48 %. Forth number is equipment i.e. 6.67 and 4.8% respectively in IX and X five year plan. 1.40% and 1.14% sanctioned for periodical and internet is 0.17% & 0.06% respectively in IX and X five year plan.

Hence research reveal that UGC is very strongly push the collection development policy by spending huge amount.

10.2. Reference Books purchased

Table 2: College libraries purchased reference books and amount.

Sr. No.	Five year Plan	No. of Reference Books purchased	Amt. of financial assistance
01	IX Plan	15426	12055302
02	X Plan	30883	20181619
	Total	46309	32236921

More than three corer rupees sanctioned by UGC to reference book collection it is basic support to academic libraries. It shows that maximum volumes purchased by libraries and fund sanctioned in Xth plan i.e. 30883 volumes and Rs.20181619/- than IX plan.

Table 3: Reference Collection Item Type Wise Analysis

Sr. No.	Item type of Reference material	IXth five year plan		Xth five year plan	
		No of Volumes	Parentage	No of Volumes	Parentage
01	Encyclopedias	9700	62.88	15496	50.18
02	Dictionary	4816	31.22	9503	30.77
03	Year books	217	1.41	1050	3.40
04	Atlas	64	0.41	107	0.35
05	Maps	38	0.25	91	0.29
06	Entertainment and sport	411	2.66	1723	5.58
07	Non-book Material	180	1.77	2911	9.43
	Total	15426	100	30883	100

It shows that volumes collected more than X plan period from IXth plan. Encyclopedias purchased in 62.88% and 50.18% in IXth and Xth plan respectively. Second highest category purchased by libraries is dictionary 31.22% an d 30.77 %. Very lowest category of purchased is maps i.e.0.25% & 0.29% respectively in IXth and Xth plan.

Table 4: Encyclopedia and Dictionary reference material likely most collected by libraries under UGC assistance in IX and X five year plan

	IX five year plan				Xth five year plan			
Reference Material	No of Reference volumes	Price per book	Total	%	No of Reference volumes	Price per book	Total	%
Encyclopedia	9700	934	9059800	62.88	15496	752.97	11668144	57.82
Dictionary	4816	500	2408000	31.22	9503	600	5701800	28.25
Year Books	217	445	96565	1.41	1050	435	456750	2.26
Atlas	64	200	12800	0.41	107	123.36	13200	0.06
Maps	38	101.76	3867	0.25	91	250	22750	0.11
Entertainment and sport	411	970	398670	2.66	1723	675.26	1163475	5.77
Non book material	180	420	75600	1.17	2911	396.94	1155500	5.73
Total								

UGC has provided the funds to develop reference and good collection to meet users need. Ranking started from Encyclopedia is highest rate of collection and spend amount on it i.e. 82.88% and 57.82% in IX and X plan respectively, then dictionary, entertainment/sprot items, yearbooks, non book material atlas and lastly maps purchased by college libraries its percentage is 31.55%, 2.66% 1.41% 1.17%, 0.41%, 0.25% respectively. Very less purchased items are Maps. This statistics shows encyclopedia are purchased very large and funding of UGC is indeed helpful to develop the collection for college libraries.

11. CONCLUSION

Such type financial assistances were also to be made whenever necessary, for purchase of Books, Journals and equipments for libraries. Now a day's all 50 college libraries are taking benefit of this various grants for purpose of collection development it means 100% libraries taking benefits. UGC assistance is definitely benefited to student, research and faculty by providing useful reading material.

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