# ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN TEACHER EDUCATION OF MANIPUR

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## Abstract

Education of teacher is considered as a significant input for quality improvement of education system. Teacher is the backbone of delivery system of an educational enterprise. For this reason, pre-service and in-service teacher education programmes are conducted for orientation and reorientation of teachers to become efficient and competent ones. In this 21st Century of Digital Era the role of libraries in teacher education is tremendous. Application of ICT, library automation and wide range of services provided by libraries in teacher education will bring another revolution in nearby future in learning and teaching process. Lack of finance, resource and aware of library services are big challenges in giving proper library services to the teacher educational institutional in Manipur.

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## Introduction

Teacher Education is the most important part of the learning process of human civilization. Teachers are backbone of the delivery system of effective curriculum transaction. Their preparation need a relooking in the light of the new curriculum framework. In the developed countries like U.S.A. and Japan, teacher started joining regular pre-service training after secondary stage. In India pre-service-training of four year duration is open in 4 regional institution of teacher education run under the aegis of NCERT. While the majority of the teacher training institutions conduct one year degree course of Bachelor of Education. Recently, NCTE has issued guidelines for conducting two year B.Ed. course through distance mode of education for in-service school teachers such as IGNOU.

In Manipur, as per selected educational statistics of the Manipur of HRD of the Department of Education, Govt. of India in 1995-96, there are more than four thousand five hundred untrained teachers working in the secondary schools. To clear the backlog of thousands of untrained teachers to become qualified one is a gigantic task on the part of the state government. A viable alternative is to open two years B.Ed. correspondence course under distance education mode under Manipur University as per guidelines of NCTE. The proposed B.Ed. centre of distance education may be located at D.M. College of Teacher Education in view of its location and infrastructural facilities available there. The course should exclusively mean for the training of in service school teacher of the state. It is hopeful that after the launching of this course, a sizeable number of untrained teachers will be trained and consequently, accelerates in clearing of backlog of untrained teacher in the state.

In Manipur there are ten (10) Teacher Training Colleges as shown below:
1.      D.M. College of Teachers Education, Imphal
2.      Hindi Teachers Training College, Imphal
3.      Kanan Devi Memorial College of Education, Imphal
4.      Trinity Teachers Training College, Imphal
5.      R.K. Sanatombi Devi College of Teachers Education, Imphal
6.      ThokchomIbotombi Institute of Teachers Education, Bishnupur
7.      IGNOU Teachers Education located at D.M. College of Teachers Education, Imphal

8.      I.R.E. College of Teachers Education, Wangjing

9.      Department of Teachers Education, Manipur University, Canchipur

10.     Ibotombi Teacher Training College, KhaNaoremLeikai, Canchipur

**Need of the Study**

The successful management of any organization depends on the study of the early history of the organization. The problems faced by the organization and their management are guidelines for future plans of development. Analysis of the problems will certainly differ from one type of library to another type of library, but the general problems will be quite similar. Until and unless the problems are spelt out by the concerned persons whether it may be an administrator, a staff or clients the misunderstanding it, will not be possible to draw the solution of the problems. Such studies will be very much helpful. From the above view point the growth and development of all libraries of Teachers Education in Manipur will be studied.

**The Biggest Library Problem:**

Most librarians have an admirable dedication to their profession and are not focused on issues of power and they remain serving within the realm of their job descriptions. In addition, we may have a blind spot about forward – thinking strategy and analysis for developing new programmes and seeking new audiences. These factors combine to create the biggest library problem; political power in their institutions. Symptoms of the problem include the much-delayed website redesign, logging programme redesign, testing and promotion and adopted of open-source technology.

This problem is an artificial one, since librarians already have a key product and service. The real issue is losing central of library operations, beginning with institutional support. Lack of support from higher authority and Choatic Situations prevailing in the state and lack of finance create the unawareness of the importance of library in higher education.

**Characteristics and role of LI Sc. Professions:**

The major characteristics and role of LI Sc Professions are given below:

1.      A profession calls for specialized knowledge and technical skills. There is no doubt that librarianship requires specialized knowledge and technical skills.

2.      Formal training and experience are also required for acquiring the necessary knowledge of methods for putting knowledge to work and technical skills. In practice large majority of professionals possess a degree or post-graduate diploma of (LISc) the duration of one academic year.

3.      To participate the formation of the educational policies of the College and University.

4.      To maintain relationships with the Vice-Chancellor, Deans and other teaching or non-teaching staffs.

5.      The College Librarian is not having that much of administrative or coordinating functions like that of the University libraries. He has much scope for training the students in using the library and to pay individual attention to the students and teaching community of the College in their academic requirements.

6.      To co-operate with libraries and scholars in making resources available for research. Helping to the learners who are involved in using the knowledge.

7.      Knowledge professionals who have the skills, training and know how to organize knowledge into systems and structure that facilitate the productive use of knowledge resources. They include faculty, librarians, record managers and other information specialists. Their tasks include the representation of the various kinds of organizational knowledge, developing methods and systems of structuring and accessing knowledge, knowledge distribution and delivery, knowledge storage and retrieval and so on.

8.      The experts are the individuals in the organization who have the specialized expertise to fashion the knowledge infrastructure of the organization. These include system analysts, system designers, software engineers, programmers, data administrators, network managers and/other specialists who develop knowledge based terns and networks.


**Functions of the LI Sc. Profession:**

Librarians organize knowledge through the process of subject analysis and cataloguing-creating information about information or what is known as metadata. Metadata standards are still in their infancy. Library professionals provide another role in supporting resource discovery, one in which digital technologies or Internet play only a small role. This is in providing a trusted service. This trust and authority is based upon librarians making choices, evaluating information as a part of collection development and with a thorough understanding of what users need.

Librarians do not only create pathfinders and guides of their users, but they in fact, are the pathfinders and guides. The development of an infrastructure for the network resource discovery and retrieval of highly distributed autonomously created and diverse electronic information is required. Above all, this infrastructure will need to be managed by Library and Information Science Professionals who understand information needs and uses. Libraries doors open for independent thinking without prejudgment.

Libraries preserve records, a nation, a culture, a community and enable us to communicate through distance and time with the living and the dead. All this is made possible by library work of sorting, storing indexing and preservation; a work that will carry, in the electronic environment also. The recent advancements in IT have changed the world scenario. Its revolution has affected each and every aspect of human society and has opened new opportunities and challenges for all. The developments have also imposed certain responsibilities and challenges on library and information professionals.

Although the librarians have been accepting and adopting new technologies actively but due to dramatic revolution in IT especially in digital storage media, librarians have been constantly struggling with the dilemma of database between printed or electronic media.

**Challenges for LIS Professional:**

**The LIS Profession experience some challenges:**

- Most of the LIS departments do not have minimum qualified IT oriented faculties with some exceptions and also do not have sufficient member of equipments to each the practical for the subjects.

- The faculty improvement programme is not so strong and effective because of shortage of manpower and budgetary provision at the individual university/ college level.

- The present system of teaching method i.e., Face to Face (F2F) is also found not preferable because to the developments in ICT.

- The developments is www and Internet technical have brought great challenges to the LIS professionals.

- Different mode of publications i.e., e-publication and hypermedia.

- Globalization of library profession and library teacher education.

- In India there is also resistance to change in the new setting and work culture.

- Survival of LIS Profession in India in an ethical manner.

**Conclusion:**

India remained as one of the cradles of world civilization. There can be no civilization without knowledge. Knowledge comes from education. From the simple poem of Vedic age to the modern information age there has been continuous growth of education in India. Library is a key to knowledge. Librarian is the holder of the key. Service before self is the motto of a librarian. In this 21$^{st}$ Century of Digital Era the role of libraries in teacher education is tremendous. Application of ICT, library automation and wide range of services provided by libraries in teacher education will bring another revolution in nearby future in learning and teaching process. Lack of the finance, resource and aware of library services are big challenges in giving proper library services to the teaching educational institutional in Manipur. The objective of a librarian is to give the right information to the right information seeker at the right time. Therefore, friends! go regularly to an appropriate library, promote your reading habit, try to understand what is the development of the modern world and think where do you stand, try to get maximum service of the librarian and let the libraries take their maximum role of library in teacher education in Manipur.

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