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**Evolution and Collection Development of  
B.S.Abdur Rahman University Library:  
A Case Study**

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**Abstract**

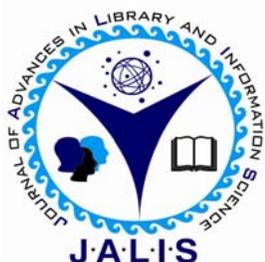
*This study is conducted at Central Library of B.S.Abdur Rahman University, Chennai to know its collection development for the past 10 years. Library budget sanctioned and actually spent amount were analyzed for the study. Number of books purchased, amount involved for each purchase and its growth rate were also been analyzed for this ten years period. The study has also conducted in the area of journals subscription for the above period. Fortunately, there is no change in librarian for this period and hence the details were collected with ease*

**Keywords**

Evolution, Collection Development, B.S.Abdur Rahman University, Book Purchase, Budget.

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## INTRODUCTION

Collection development has become more complex due to the gradual emergence over the last two decades due to the revolution taken place in the area of information and communication technology. The older form of capturing the information, storage and delivery have dramatically changed and the technology has overruled in all the areas, which has direct impact in the collection development of any library particularly in higher education libraries. New technologies and formats including CD-ROM, electronic serials, electronic books, the internet and World Wide Web have greater impact on library collection and its development. Librarians made every effort to typical the resulting selection process and incorporate it into the existing library organization. Academic collection development specialists have dealt with dramatic changes brought about by decreasing purchasing power and the growing importance of electronic resources. However, with the advent of the internet and the ability to simultaneously share virtual resources, cooperative collection development, through consortia arrangements, became popular once again. The ability of consortia to purchase products at a better price than individual libraries has made them very popular with funding agencies. Library collection development is the process of gathering the information needs of the user community in a timely and economical manner using information resources locally held, as well from other organizations. Collections are developed by librarians by purchasing or otherwise acquiring materials for a period, based on assessment of the information needs of the library users.

## AREA OF THE STUDY

### **B.S.Abdur Rahman University, Chennai**

B.S Abdur Rahman University is an institution acclaimed for its quality in teaching and research. Being one of the largest engineering institutions in India, it lays emphasis on innovative research, investment in high-quality facilities and first-rate infrastructure. By making use of the latest technologies and quality teaching, the college is able to offer a wide choice of interdisciplinary degrees in engineering which has enabled students to gain accolades in the global level. It is one of the few institutions with all the UG and PG programmes approved by AICTE and accredited by the National Board of Accreditation. This has been upgraded to

university status with a view to keep academic in pace with development in industry. Modern hostel facilities are available for men and women students separately within the University campus

### **Central Library**

The Central Library of B.S.Abdur Rahman University has huge collections in the field of Science, Engineering and Technology, Management and Humanities. The library functions 12 hours in a day and Saturdays and Sundays also the library is working. The library is member of Delnet, Malibnet, British Council, Anna University, American Consulate, Structural Engineering Resource Centre. Subscribing online journals as individual member is costlier, therefore the central library of this university has joined INDEST Consortium and subscribing online journals such as ACM, ASCE, ASME, IEEE, ELSEVIER, EMERALD and SPRINGER publications.

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Geoffrey Little (2011) says that Library's collections primarily support librarians and staff in their daily work and ongoing professional development. However most of the libraries the budgets are comparatively small, selectors receive few requests for new materials and collection parameters vary by institutions but are limited in terms are publishers, subjects and audience. The majorities of LIS sectors are also responsible for library collection development in multiple subject areas and most engage in work outside collection development. De Fino (2011) discussed the collection development librarians have long struggled to meet user demand for new titles. Too often, required resources are not purchased, whereas some purchased resources do not circulate. E-books selected through patron-driven plans are a solution but present new challenges for both selectors and catalogers. Radical changes to traditional technical services workflows are required, and selectors must modify the selection process to give more choice to the user. Rutgers university librarians have adopted an innovative new technical services workflow and collection development model to manage a successful, patron driven acquisitions project for e-books in the fields of math and computer science. Morrissey (2008) looks at ethical issues and questions that arise in collection development. It analyses the code of ethics of

American library association (ALA) to highlight different elements of the code and how they relate to collections and looks at ethics in libraries collection development policies. Issues that involve individual bibliographers as well as managers of collection development are addressed. Ethical dilemmas involving interactions and information obtained from vendors are examined. Lastly questions of ethics and bias as they relate to gifts and remote access to resources are covered.

Tucker (2007) focuses on the options and concerns regarding collection development of libraries. The collection assessment project is a time consuming process that takes careful planning and organization. Although there are lots of variables and processes involved in the project, it is a necessary project to help a library refocus and build the most useful and cost effective collection for library users. Collection assessments also assist a library with implementing structural or policy changes that help the library become better at providing materials for research and teaching. In addition, collection assessments can be extremely beneficial with strategic planning.

### **OBJECTIVES**

The following objectives are framed in according with the scope of this investigation.

- To study the growth rate of the collections in the last ten years.
- To analyze the fund allocation for the last ten years.
- To know the amount spent for books and journals purchase.
- To evaluate whether the allocated amount is sufficient to fulfill the requirements of the departments.

### **METHODOLOGY**

This study examines the growth of the collection development of books and journals in B.S.Abdur Rahman University, Chennai. It has carried over by data's were collected, organized and tabulated according to the objectives of the study and analyses by using statistical tools such as percentage and ranking analysis.

### **ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS**

**Table 1: Library Budget details**

Year	Library Budget		Amount spent in %
	Amount sanctioned	Amount utilized	
2004-2005	1710000	1354003	79.18
2005-2006	2441000	2354784	96.46
2006-2007	2644000	2644000	100
2007-2008	4527000	4537000	100.22
2008-2009	7200000	7147221	99.26
2009-2010	9050000	7541250	83.32
2010-2011	7649000	7479000	97.77
2011-2012	7038000	7018310	99.72
2012-2013	8615000	7907854	91.79
2013-2014	5900000	5900000	100
Total	5,67,74,000	5,38,83,422	94.90

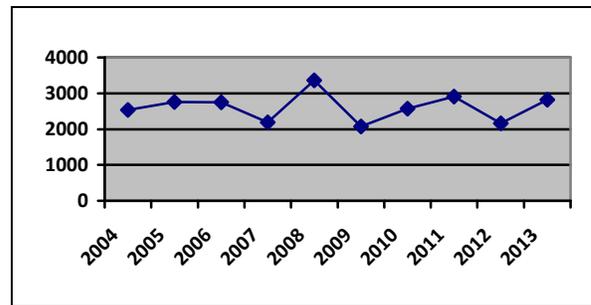
The above table illustrates that 5.67 crores have been sanctioned for library for the last ten years out of which 5.38 crores have been utilized, the budget utilization average is 94.90%. During the academic year 2007-2008, the library has utilized more than allotted amount (100.22%) where as during the year 2004-2005 it has spent only 79% of library budget. The table further shows that the library has spent more than 90% of annual budget in eight years. There was a clear growth in terms of library budget allocation and utilization during the period 2004 to 2012, it has clearly understood that over 10% growth has seen between the year 2004 and 2012.

**Table 2: Books Purchase details**

Year	No. of Books Purchased	Amount spent for books purchase	Amount spent in %	Year wise growth %
2004-2005	2538	523741	38.68	9.7
2005-2006	2761	1326353	56.32	10.55
2006-2007	2749	1426903	53.96	10.51
2007-	2190	1930795	42.55	8.38

2008				
2008-2009	3365	2483638	34.74	12.87
2009-2010	2072	2495013	33.08	7.92
2010-2011	2576	2235696	29.89	9.85
2011-2012	2907	2250394	32.06	11.11
2012-2013	2168	2731831	34.54	8.29
2013-2014	2823	2349750	39.82	10.78
Total	26149	19754114	36.66	99.96

The above table indicates that 26149 books were purchased during this ten years period, an average of 2614.9 books were purchased in a year. Highest number of books were purchased (3365) during the academic year 2008-2009 and lowest purchase was in the year 2009-2010, during this year 2072 books were purchased. The library has spent 1.98 crores rupees towards the purchase of 26149 books, it has spent 36.66% of total amount for the above purpose. During the year 2005 and 2006, the library has spent more than 50% of its budget allocation to meet the highest demand from the user community. The table further shows that during this ten years period the library growth rate was 9.99% as far as books purchase was concern.



*Figure 1. Year Wise Book Purchase Details*

**Table 3: Library Budget Vs Book Purchase**

Year	Library Budget		No. of Books purchased	Amount spent in % for books purchase
	Amount sanctioned	Amount utilized for Book purchase		
2004-2005	1710000	523741	2538	30.63%
2005-2006	2441000	1326353	2761	54.33%

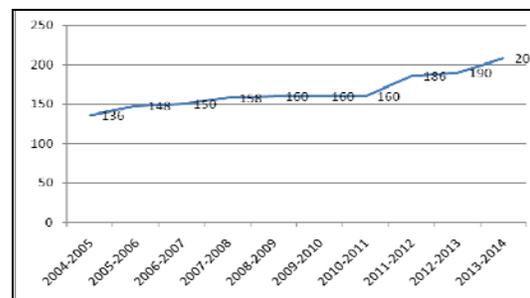
2006-2007	2644000	1426903	2749	53.97%
2007-2008	4527000	1930795	2190	42.65%
2008-2009	7200000	2483638	3365	34.50%
2009-2010	9050000	2495013	2072	27.57%
2010-2011	7649000	2235696	2576	29.22%
2011-2012	7038000	2250394	2907	31.98%
2012-2013	8615000	2731831	2168	31.71%
2013-2014	5900000	2349750	2823	39.82%
Total	5,67,74,000	1,97,54,114	26149	34.80%

The above table describes that 34.80% of amount has been spent for books purchase for the last ten years. During the period 2004 – 2013, the management has allotted 5.67 crore rupees for library out of which 1.98 crore have been spent for books purchase. More than 50% of amount has been utilized for books purchase in the year 2005 and 2006. The lowest percentage of amount has been utilized for books purchase in the year 2009, there were 2072 books have purchased during this year for Rupees 24.95 lakhs. The table further indicates that more than 30% of amount has been utilized for books purchase for eight years, except two years (2009 & 2010) the library spent 28 percentage of amount for books purchase.

**Table 4: Print Journals subscribed**

Year	Journals subscribed	Year wise Growth (%)
2004-2005	136	8.21
2005-2006	148	8.94
2006-2007	150	9.05
2007-2008	158	9.54
2008-2009	160	9.66
2009-2010	160	9.66
2010-2011	160	9.66
2011-2012	186	11.23
2012-2013	190	11.47
2013-2014	208	12.56
Total	1656	99.98

Table four reveals that subscription to the print journals has been gradually growing year by year. First year of this study starts with 136 journals and the last year with 208 journals, there has been a clear growth in the collection development of print journals subscription for all these ten years. There was no change in number of journals subscription during the period 2008-2010, 160 journals were subscribed for all these three years.



*Figure 2. Yearwise Print Journals Subscribed*

**Table 5: e-Journals subscribed**

Year	e-Journals subscribed	Year wise Growth (%)
2004-2005	NIL	0.00
2005-2006	NIL	0.00
2006-2007	123	0.73
2007-2008	719	4.25
2008-2009	729	4.31
2009-2010	2928	17.32
2010-2011	2928	17.32
2011-2012	3070	18.15
2012-2013	3163	18.70
2013-2014	3250	19.22
Total	16910	100

The above table illustrates that first two years there were no online journals subscribed by this institute. The institute has enrolled its membership in INDEST Consortium for online journals subscription in the year 2006, the above membership is been continued till date for the above purpose. The table further indicates that a clear growth in e-journals subscription over year by year. The subscription started with 123 journals and now it has been increased to 3250. The year 2008, the e-journals subscription was 4.31%, by immediate next year the e-journals subscription has jumped into over 17%. It clearly indicates that the demand in online resources has been constantly increasing year by year.

## CONCLUSION

B.S.Abdur Rahman University library has built its collections in a positive note, over 26 thousand books were purchased during the past ten years period. Understanding the importance of online resources, the library has subscription to e-journals and the number has increased from 125 to and 3250 within a short span of time. Apart from teaching and learning process, the university is constantly focusing on research, consultancy, extension and outreach activities. Hence, the library is deeply concentrating to build the collections on the above areas.

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