

**A STUDY OF LIBRARIES TO IMPROVE READING LEARNING
PROCESS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE HIGHER ACADEMIC
INSTITUTIONS OF KOKRAJHAR TOWN OF BTAD, ASSAM**

**Abhijit Kumar Bezbaruah,
Ph.D Research Scholar
CMJ University**

Abstract:

This paper, entitled “A Study of libraries to improve reading learning process with special reference to the higher academic institutions of Kokrajhar town of BTAD, Assam”, is an attempt to assess and evaluate the user reading habit in the libraries of Kokrajhar district. The library of an academic institute tries to inculcate reading habits among the students so that they grow as skilled readers and can effectively use the facilities provided by libraries of other kinds as well. It operates as a wing of the institution to which it is attached and thereby facilitates in accomplishment of the institution’s aims, objectives, vision, mission etc. In the libraries of higher educational institutions, unlike that of schools be it primary, middle or secondary, attention is duly paid to the possible outcome of Research from the side of the students. This otherwise simple distinction, does in fact, call upon several considerations of prominent in nature. Keeping these points in mind, the present paper would deal with the higher academic institutions of Kokrajhar town.

Academic Libraries in Korajhar town:

It has been observed that there are seven numbers of higher educational institutions in Kokrajhar town. Among these institutions four are conventional colleges and others are of professional nature.

1. The address of the surveyed libraries:

Sl. No.	Name of the Library	Name of the Parent Organization	Location
1	Kokrajhar Govt. College Library	Kokrajhar Govt. College	Kokrajhar
2	Govt. College of Teacher Education Library	Govt. College of Teacher Education, Kokrajhar	Kokrajhar
3	Commerce College Library	Commerce College, Kokrajhar	Kokrajhar
4	Kokrajhar Law College Library	Kokrajhar Law College	Kokrajhar
5	Girls' College Library	Girls' College Kokrajhar	Kokrajhar
6	Science College Library	Science College, Kokrajhar	Kokrajhar
7	Music & Fine Arts College Library	Music & Fine Arts College, Kokrajhar	Kokrajhar

Chart: 1

2. General information of surveyed libraries:

Sl. No.	Name of the Library	Year of Estd.	Scope	Scheme of classification/ Cataloguing	Total No. of seats in reading room	Access system	Library Hours
1	Kokrajhar Govt. College Library	1959	Science and Arts Studies	DDC/ AACRII	60	Open	10A M- 4.30P M
2	Govt. College of Teacher Education Library	1971	B. Ed Studies	No	10	Open	10A M- 3PM
3	Commerce College Library	1985	Commerce & Arts Studies	DDC/ No	12	Open	10A M- 4PM

4	Kokrajhar Law College Library	1985	Law Studies	No	12	Open	3PM-6.30PM
5	Girls' College Library	1990	Arts Studies	DDC/ AACRII	25	Open	10AM-4PM
6	Science College Library	1995	Science Studies	DDC/ No	52	Open	10AM-4PM
7	Music & Fine Arts College Library	1997	Music & Fine Arts Studies	No/No	Nil	Open	10AM-4PM

Chart: 2

3. Library collection of surveyed libraries:

The library, being a treasure house of knowledge, usually pays a greater emphasis to collection of data, especially on books. The reason behind this is that these are the medium through which a user can communicate and seek required information. The holding collections usually consist of periodicals, books, manuscripts and others. An overview of the collection of the libraries that have scrutinized can be got by looking at the charts given below:

Sl.No.	Name of the Library	Periodicals	Books
1	Kokrajhar Govt. College Library	29	26000
2	Govt. College of Teacher Education Library	Nil	5592
3	Commerce College Library	8	5500
4	Kokrajhar Law College Library	3	5850
5	Girls' College Library	16	8000
6	Science College Library	8	3632
7	Music & Fine Arts College Library	Nil	3000

Chart: 3

4. Reference and information service provided by the surveyed libraries:

Sl. No.	Name of the Library	Referral Service	Reprographic Service	Bibliographic Service	Internet	User Education	Inter Library Loan	Career Guidance
1	Kokrajhar Govt. College Library	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y
2	Govt. College of Teacher Education Library	Y						
3	Commerce College Library	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
4	Kokrajhar Law College Library	Y						
5	Girls' College Library	Y			Y	Y		Y
6	Science College Library	Y	Y			Y		Y
7	Music & Fine Arts College Library	Y						

Chart: 4

5. library services of the surveyed libraries:

Services	No. of respondent	No. of respondent say yes	Percentage
Referral Service	7	7	100%
Reprographic Service		3	43%
Bibliographic Service		0	00%
Internet Service		3	43%
User Education		4	57%
Inter Library Loan		1	14%
Career Guidance		4	57%

Table: 1

The table shows that the referral service is provided in all the libraries which have been surveyed. Out of all, 43% of the surveyed libraries provide Reprographic service and Internet Service; 57% of surveyed libraries provide User Education; 14% of surveyed libraries provide inter library loan service and 57% of surveyed libraries provide career guidance services.

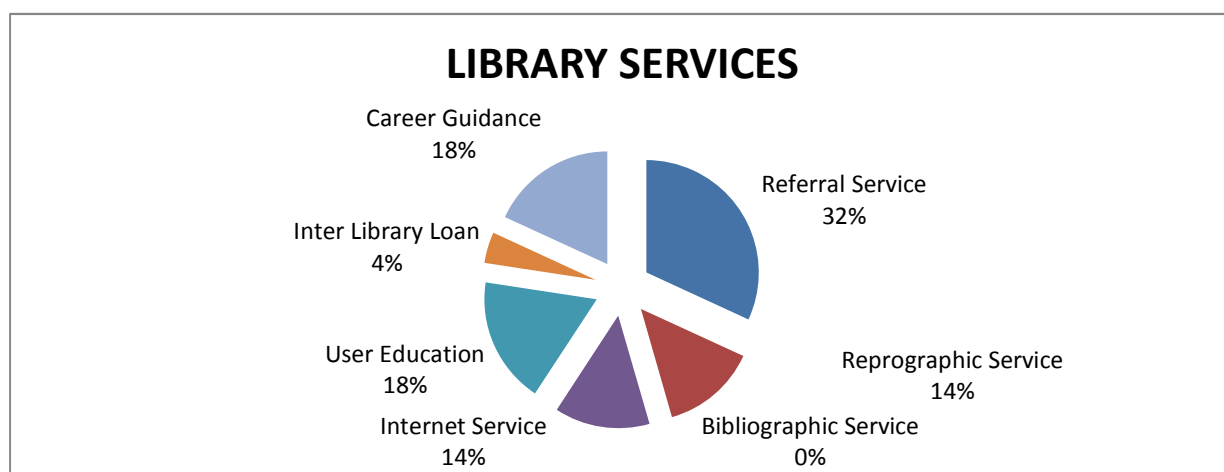


Diagram-1

6. Collection of references and information sources.

Total Collection	No. of Libraries	%
25000-30000	1	14%
20000-25000		00%
15000-20000		00%
10000-15000		00%
5000-10000	4	57%
1000-5000	2	29%

Table: 2

The table shows that 14% % of the surveyed libraries have more than 25000 collections; 57% of the surveyed libraries have 5000-10000 collection and 29% of the surveyed libraries have 1000-5000 collection.

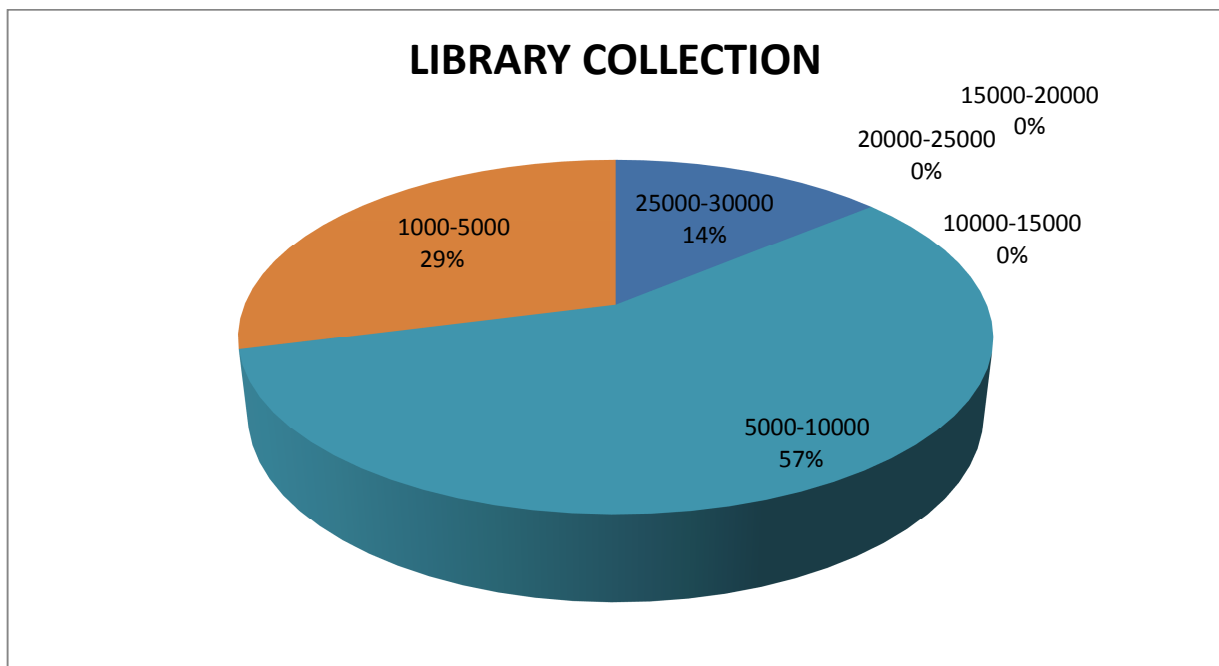


Diagram-2

7. Library staff informed about new services and collections & the library’s collection fulfill the user needs:

TNR	Library staff informed about new services and collections								The library’s collection fulfill the user needs							
	Always		Mostly		Some times		Never		Always		Mostly		Some time		Never	
100		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%
		6	6	12	12	42	42	40	40	10	10	24	24	52	52	14

Table: 3

The table shows that among 100 library users 6% are always, 12% are mostly, 42% are sometimes and 40% are never satisfied with new information given by the library staff on services and collection and 10% are always, 24% are mostly, 52% are some times and 14% are never satisfied with library’s collection.

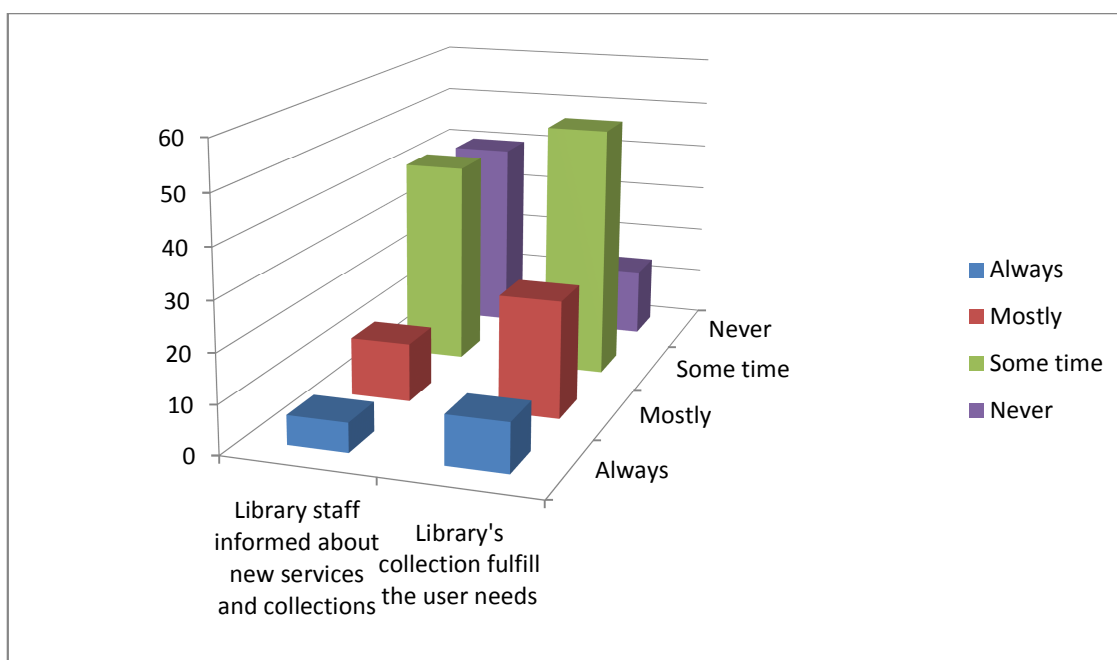


Diagram-3

8. Overall reader’s satisfaction on services, facilities and resources:

TNR	A++		A+		A		B++		B+		B		C++		C+		C	
100		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%
	4	4	4	4	6	6	2	2	20	20	20	20	18	18	26	26	0	0

Table:2

The table shows that among 100 library users only 4% are satisfied with A++,A+, and 6% with A ; 2%, 20% and 20% are satisfied with B++, B+ and B respectively; and 18% and 26% are satisfied with C++ and C+.

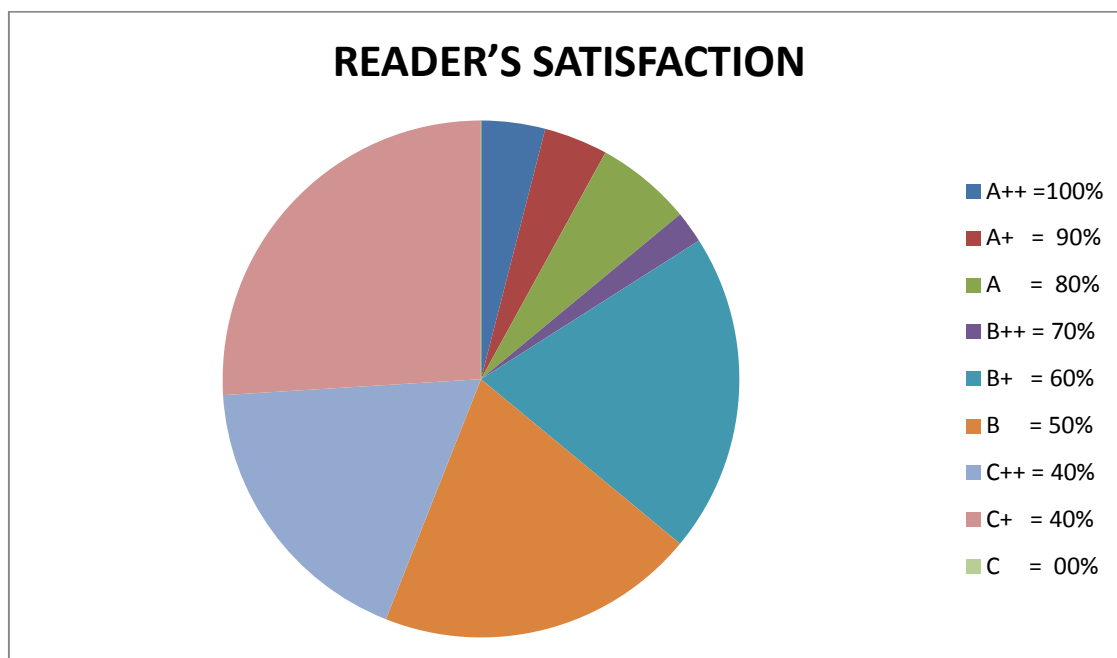


Diagram-4

Conclusions:

Thus, it becomes evident that the collection of reading materials and internet facility very poor in the libraries of higher educational institutions of Kokrajhar town. The students have also been found ignorant about the facilities provided by

the libraries of the institution to which they are enrolled. For challenging this difficult task, each of the libraries of the town need to convert itself to some kind of a hub, social gathering or resource center for the students. The students must be pulled towards the library in such a way that they spend maximum part of their leisure hour in the library. The library should arrange debates, symposiums, quizzes or the like to attract the students. Again, it is found in case of most of the libraries scrutinized that the taste of the users has not been adequately dealt with. This practice has further hindered the voluntary and willful orientation of the students towards the library. It is, thus, pertinent for the libraries of higher educational institutions of Kokrajhar town, to strike a balance between the user's needs and tastes in the process of collection of data.

Bibliography:

1. Balakrishnan, Shyama & Paliwal, P K., Academic Accreditation in Libraries, Delhi: Anmol Publication, 2001.
2. Baman, P., Studies on Information System, Services and Programmes in India and Abroad, Delhi: Ajanta Publication, 1993.
3. Bhatt, R K., History and Development of Libraries in India, Delhi: Mittal, 1995, pp201-202.
4. Chakraborty, Bhubaneswar (1993), library and information society, Calcutta:World press, p70.
5. Dhiman, Anil K and Sinha, Suresh C., Academic Libraries, Delhi: Ess Ess Publications, 2002.

#####