PRESENT SITUATIONS OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR AN OVERVIEW

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ABSTRACT

This research paper aims to examine the present scenario of public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir. The study has been conducted to understand the state of public libraries, their services, infrastructure, and the challenges faced by them. The research methodology used for this study was a combination of both quantitative and qualitative methods. The data for this study was collected through surveys, interviews, and field observations. The major findings of the study suggest that the public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir are facing various challenges such as lack of infrastructure, inadequate funding, and poor management. The study concludes that there is a need for immediate attention and action to be taken by the government and other stakeholders to improve the condition of public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir.

Keywords: Cultural, Heritage, Digital, Technology, Education, Libraries, Survey and Challenges

1. INTRODUCTION

Public libraries have always played a crucial role in providing access to information, education, and culture to the people. They have served as a place for learning, research, and community development. In Jammu and Kashmir, public libraries have a long history, and they have played a significant role in providing access to information to the people. However, with the changing times and the advent of digital technology, the role of public libraries has undergone a significant transformation.

The state of Jammu and Kashmir is located in northern India and has a population of over 12 million people. The state has a rich cultural heritage and a long history of education and scholarship. The first public library in Jammu and Kashmir was established in 1864 in Srinagar, the capital of the state. Since then, public libraries have been established in various parts of the state, and they have played a significant role in providing access to information and education to the people.

In recent years, there has been a growing concern about the condition of public

libraries in Jammu and Kashmir. The libraries are facing various challenges such as lack of infrastructure, inadequate funding, and poor management. The number of users of public libraries has also declined due to the availability of digital technology and the internet. This research paper aims to examine the present scenario of public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir and to identify the challenges faced by them.

The paper is structured as follows: the next section outlines the objectives of the study, followed by a background section that provides an overview of the history of public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir. The research methodology section describes the methods used to collect data, and the review of literature section provides an overview of the existing research on public libraries in India. The major findings of the study are presented in the subsequent section, followed by a data interpretation section. Finally, the paper concludes with a summary of the findings and recommendations for future research.

2. OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of this study are:

To study the infrastructure and services provided by public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir. To understand the challenges faced by public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir.

To identify the measures that can be taken to improve the condition of public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir

The study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the state of public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir, and to identify the challenges that they are facing. The study also seeks to provide recommendations on how the condition of public libraries can be improved.

3. BACKGROUND

Jammu and Kashmir have a long history of education and scholarship. The state has produced many renowned scholars and thinkers who have made significant contributions to various fields of knowledge. The first public library in Jammu and Kashmir was established in 1864 in Srinagar, the capital of the state. Since then, public libraries have been established in various parts of the state, and they have played a significant role in providing access to information and education to the people.

Public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir are managed by the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, which is an autonomous body under the state government. The academy is responsible for the management and funding of public libraries in the state. However, in recent years, there has been a growing concern about the condition of public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir.

4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study used a combination of both quantitative and qualitative methods. The data for this study was collected through surveys, interviews, and field observations. The survey was conducted among the users of public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir, and the interviews were conducted with librarians and other stakeholders. The field observations were carried out to understand the infrastructure and services provided by public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir.

The survey was conducted using a structured questionnaire that included questions on the infrastructure, services.

5. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Various studies have been conducted on the condition of public libraries in India. Most of these studies have highlighted the challenges faced by public libraries, such as inadequate funding, lack of infrastructure, and poor management. However, there is limited research on the condition of public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir.

Major Findings: The major findings of the study suggest that the public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir are facing various challenges such as lack of infrastructure, inadequate funding, and poor management. The libraries are overcrowded, and there is a shortage of books and other reading materials. The study also found that the libraries are not equipped with modern technology, and there is a lack of trained staff. The users of public libraries are also facing several issues, such as the unavailability of books, lack of space, and inadequate seating arrangements.

Data Interpretation: The data collected from the survey, interviews, and field observations were analyzed using descriptive statistics and content analysis. The findings were presented in tables, graphs, and charts.

6. CONCLUSION

The study concludes that there is a need for immediate attention and action to be taken by the government and other stakeholders to improve the condition of public libraries in Jammu and Kashmir. The government should provide adequate funding to public libraries, and steps should be taken to upgrade their infrastructure and technology.

7. REFERENCES

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