



The Green Library Concept And Initiatives In India: A New Era

Mr. Abhijit Mohanrao Patil^{1*}, Dr. Ravikumar Jani²

¹Ph.D. Scholar, Parul University, Vadodara, Gujarat, India. Librarian, Yashwant Ayurvedic College, P.G.T.& R.C., Kodoli, Maharashtra
Email: abhi5101patil@gmail.com Contact: 7588621150, Orcid ID-<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8233-9301>

²Ph.D. Supervisor, Parul University, Vadodara, Gujarat, India, Email: ravikumar.jani27349@paruluniversity.ac.in, Orcid ID-
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5637-3293>

Citation: Mr. Abhijit Mohanrao Patil, Dr. Ravikumar Jani, (2024), The Green Library Concept And Initiatives In India: A New Era, *Educational Administration: Theory And Practice*, 30(5), 3604 - 3609
Doi: 10.53555/kuey.v30i5.3497

ARTICLE INFO

Received: 25-03-2024

Accepted: 17-04-2024

ABSTRACT

A library that was designed with the environment in mind is known as a "green library." This paper's study on green libraries uses their resources and programmes to inform the public about environmental concerns. Early in the 1990s, India saw the emergence of the idea of a green library. This study makes an effort to define the green library idea. There is currently a Digital Knowledge Centre with 35 internet-connected Ubuntu PCs. There are more than 37 libraries involved in the Delhi University Library System (DULS). The campus network makes as many as 64 excellent electronic databases accessible to professors, students, and researchers. Ingenious information literacy programmes are frequently offered by DULS for the benefit of students, researchers, and faculty. A server with terminals inside the library is connected to a local network at Calcutta University Library. The library's Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) provides databases of books, journals, theses, and dissertations, among other things. The University also offers access to over 7,000 electronic journals in addition to the aforementioned resources.

Keywords: -Green Library, LEED, Eco-friendly, Indian Libraries,

1. INTRODUCTION:

A green library can be a library that uses the latest and most advanced technology to design the library building and provide services to its users in an environmentally friendly environment. Early in the 1990s, the concept of "green libraries" first emerged. Libraries, especially public libraries, are life-long learning centers for people of all ages in the local community. Libraries are not only repositories of knowledge but essential information resources for creating awareness about environmental concerns. Green libraries educate the public about environmental issues through their collections, sustainable and eco-friendly facilities, and public library programs.^[1]

Definition:

A green library, also known as a sustainable library, is a library designed with environmental concerns in mind. Green libraries are part of the larger green building movement.^[1]

The Oxford English Dictionary (2008) defines the word "green" as "relating to or advocating environmentalism". The term "sustainable" refers to "human economic activities and forms of culture that do not degrade the environment, i.e. avoid the long-term depletion of natural resources".^[1]

Online Dictionary of Library and Information Science: Libraries are designed to minimize negative impacts on the natural environment and maximize the indoor environment by using natural, quality building materials and biodegradable products, resource conservation (water, energy, paper) through careful site selection, responsible waste, disposal, recycling, etc.).

2. LIMITATION OF THE STUDY:

The green library concept is new in the field of library and information science. The study has been done by collecting information from websites and some well-known journals. An attempt has been made to provide adequate information about the Green Library.

3. REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

In this study, some literature related to the green library concept and its emerging trend is referred to. Some articles are presented in GreenLibrary. (Bangar, 2017) concludes that librarians should be keen to update themselves on sustainable trends in the field of librarianship and should provide awareness and create space in libraries to exemplify green practices. (Ingole, 2021) concept of green libraries in India, green library standards, needs, characteristics, development, and green library initiatives. This trend in India is not only growing in numbers but has spread across the country. (Kulkarni, 2018) the concept of a green library lists the features and discusses the components of a green library. (Purohit, 2019) Creating a green library movement, in which librarians, libraries, cities, towns, colleges, and university campuses commit to greening libraries and reducing their environmental impact. (Meher, Parabhoi, 2017) Environmental conditions, their impact on society and efforts of leading organizations towards eco-friendly earth, standards developed for improvement, green India, green library, the role of the librarian, features of the green library, and initiatives are highlighted. (Thrishala, 2017) Green library concepts in the Sri Lankan library system are a supporting document to fill the knowledge gap. (Mahawariya, 2019) The concept of a green library, its importance, how to achieve it, and the role of librarians to achieve it in modern times were studied. (Gupta, 2020) Analyzes the LEED and GRIHA green-building rating systems, green library initiatives undertaken in India, and the objectives of the IFLA Green Library Award. (Vasanthi, 2019) Highlights the efforts of leading institutions towards eco-friendly earth, standards developed for improvement, green India, green library, the role of the librarian, features of the green library, and initiatives in India and outside India. (Vaja, Sharma, 2020) The Green Library aims to work with the climate and reduce the use of new resources; all green principles should be embodied in a holistic approach to the built environment.

4. OBJECTIVE

The following objectives of this research paper are to:

- To explain the green library concept.
- To describe the elements of the green library.
- To examine the initiatives of Green Libraries in India.
- To suggest measures to promote green libraries.

5. METHODOLOGY

The growth of the green library structure in India has led to significant growth in librarianship, using a factual framework and narrative style in research. Firstly, the sources of global and Indian literature produced on the subject were examined and the information obtained was evaluated against the objectives of the investigation. Samples from the green library were analyzed relative to each other to make recommendations.

6. CONCEPT OF GREEN LIBRARY:

There is no single definition for the word "green library," but when we use the term, we refer to both the general operations and physical layout of the library. This concept, therefore, looks more thorough. Simply put, a "green library" is anything that isn't environmentally friendly or an eco-library. A building that has been built, refurbished, used again, or repurposed in an ecologically and resource-efficient manner is known as a "green" or "sustainable" library. A green library, also known as a sustainable library, is described by the Online Dictionary of Library and Information Science (ODLIS) as "a library designed to minimize negative impacts on the natural terrain and enhance the quality of the inner terrain through careful point selection;14 use of natural structure accouterments and biodegradable products; water, energy, conservation of funds like paper, and use of responsible waste disposal and recycling."

6.1 Main Elements of Green Library:



Image.1 Georgia Gwinnett College, USA

Area selection: Careful site selection, resource conservation and waste disposal using natural grade building materials and biodegradable products designed to minimize negative impacts on green libraries and maximize indoor environments. Libraries should be friendly Libraries should be located in densely populated areas, close to other service-related buildings and people should be able to reach the building by public transport.



2. Temple University's Charles Library. [12]

Constructional material: According to the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), a green library is "designed to reduce negative impacts on the natural environment and enhance indoor environmental quality through careful site selection, use of natural building materials and biodegradable products, resource *Image* conservation, and responsible indoor environmental quality." "We want to believe that even the best libraries can stand the test of time if built with durable construction materials.



Image 3. Water conservation [14]

Water conservation: Monitor your water bill changes to calculate savings as you make changes. Rain gardens should be planted to absorb rainwater from rooftops, driveways, sidewalks, and compact lawn areas. If you don't have automatic sprinkler, use soaker hoses and drip irrigation to water landscape plants efficiently. We are using native plants in your landscaping.



Image 4. Washoe County Library, Nevada [13]

Air and Ventilation: Green Library ventilation and air conditioning require a properly ventilated area. Proper air-conditioning and ventilation are an important aspect of both reading rooms, where many visitors read, study, or use computers, and library halls, where paper gradually smells; therefore, regular air exchange is essential. Large libraries have specific requirements for clean rooms or areas, where the required temperature and humidity levels must be carefully maintained, so that older archived books are properly cared for and, as a result, have a longer life.

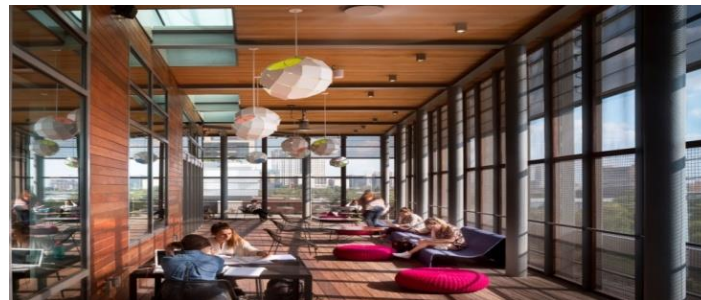


Image 5. The LEED Platinum Austin Central Library emphasizes day lighting.[12]

Energy consumption and saving: Day lighting is also emphasized at the LEED Platinum Austin Central Library, designed by Lake Flato and Shepley Bulfinch. At the heart of the 198,000-square-foot facility is a six-story atrium that provides daylight for more than 80% of the library's regularly occupied spaces. Daylight makes people happier and more productive. This makes people want to live there, before breaking ground, architects create models to find light in the space.

7. INDIAN STANDARDS FOR GREEN LIBRARY:

In India we have GRIHA and IGBC. GRIHA has been adapted by the government of India as the National rating system. Indian Green building Council (IGBC) was established in the year 2001 to promote and rate green buildings in India.

- **GRIHA** has been adapted by the government of India as the National rating system. Keeping in view of the Indian agro-climatic conditions and in particular the preponderance of non-AC buildings, GRIHA has been developed as a rating system which is suitable for all kinds of buildings in different climatic zones of the country. There are about 1722 IGBC certified projects buildings, 507 certified professionals and also 42 evaluators.
- **Indian Green building Council (IGBC)** is established in the year 2001 to promote and rate green buildings in India. The vision of the council is, "To enable a sustainable built environment for all and facilitate India to be one of the global leaders in the sustainable built environment by 2025". There are about 4289 registered buildings, 1125 IGBC certified projects buildings and also 2662 IGBC aggregated professionals.^[9]

8. INDIAN LIBRARIES INITIATIVES:

India placed third on the list of top ten countries in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design outside America, as per the latest US Green Building Council report. Various green library initiatives have been undertaken in different parts of the country, a few of which are mentioned. ^[5]

8.1 Anna Centenary Library, Chennai: The library was established in 2010. It is equipped with modern technology and proper use of light, air, and wood has been made. Gold rating by LEED.

8.2 Karnataka University Library, Dharwad: The library was started in 1950. The green library initiative started with the need to facilitate the system of Gurukul and to provide open spaces for group discussions.

8.3 Mumbai University Library: The Mumbai University Library was established in 1880. The library was developed using environment-friendly products and ensures proper lighting, providing open spaces for the readers.

8.4 Madras University Library: It was built in the year 1907 in the Indo-British style. The windows are designed in a manner that ensures proper lighting of the reading area and the circulation of fresh air.

8.5 Perma Karpo Library, Ladakh: In the Indian Himalayas: The library makes use of solar panels, and is surrounded by the white lotus garden, and innovative technologies.[8]

8.6 National Library of India, Kolkata: Indian Library of India is built in colonial style and its architecture looks very nice. The library is built in an impressive structure with Roman beams, tall Corinthian pillars, white roofs, and arches. The white building is decorated with red doors and windows, which is more attractive. Various small trees, green grass, and various statues have been arranged like a park on the facade of the library building, thus enhancing the beauty of this library.

8.7 NIT, Library Silchar Assam, India: National Institute of Technology Silchar Library was established in 1977. The library holds knowledge resources predominantly related to Science and Technology, Humanities & Social Sc, Management & other allied subjects. Recently, NIT Silchar has invested Rs. 44 Crore to create a world-class, innovative, inviting and flexible library system.

8.8 NITTTrichy – Library: The Institute has a modern Central Library with more than two and a half lakhs of documents. Web cameras have been fixed in the Central Library and the entire building is under camera surveillance. Digital Knowledge Centre has been established with 35 Ubuntu computers with an internet connection.

8.9 Delhi University Library: Delhi University Library System (DULS) has more than 37 libraries in its fold. As good as 64 high qualities electronic databases being made available through campus network to teachers, students and research scholars. DULS is regularly conducting innovative Information Literacy Programs for the benefit of students, researchers and Faculty.

8.10 Calcutta University Library: Calcutta University Library has its own local Network connected with a server with terminals inside the library. Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) of the library has databases of books, journals, theses, dissertations, etc. In addition to the above, the University provides access to 7,000 plus electronic journals.

9. SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION:

Regarding green building features available to patrons. This includes 'Going Green' library exhibits, publications and associated libraries. All colleges and universities are required to request permission from the University Grants Commission before visiting any green library. Government grants and financial assistance for the maintenance of such libraries should be used to promote green libraries. To ensure sustainability, the library can organize seminars on strategic planning and thinking. Wherever possible, governments and universities should make every effort to make libraries green structures. The library of any institution may face book and financial problems from time to time. Libraries require special maintenance as they are vulnerable to moisture, fungus, and dust. Global warming is already having adverse effects due to an increase in greenhouse gases, glacier retreats, and changes in seasonal climate. The most important issue in the world today is the environment, which is the protection and conservation of all life forms on Earth. Libraries can take some positive actions to motivate individuals to work for environmental conservation. The government should support efforts to establish green libraries. The green library movement should be joined by many libraries and librarians in India who are working to effectively build green libraries.

Libraries can use a variety of tools to popularize the “green concept” and educate their

REFERENCES:

1. Bangar, M. S. (2018). Green Libraries in India: An Overview. “Knowledge Librarian” An International Peer Reviewed Bilingual E-Journal of Library and Information Science, Special Issue. <http://www.klibjlis.com>
2. Ingole, A. R., & Kumari, S. (2021). Green Library: Concept, Sustainable Development, Features, Importance, Standards and Overview In Indian Scenario. International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts (IJCRT), 9 (12). www.ijcrt.org
3. Kulkarni, P. P. (2018). Green Library: Concept, Features and Elements. Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research (JETIR), 5 (1). www.jetir.org
4. Purohit, S. (n.d.). Green Library- A New Concept of Library.
5. Meher, P., & Parabhoi, L. (2017). Green Library: An Overview, Issues with Special Reference to Indian Libraries. International Journal of Digital Library Services, 7 (2). www.ijodls.in
6. Warnasooriya, W. W. S. T. (n.d.). A New Vision to LIS field: An Overview of Green Library Concept.

7. Mahawariya, K. (2019). Transformation of Modern Libraries in to Green Libraries to Attain Sustainability. *Journal of Indian Library Association*, 55 (2).
8. Gupta, S. (2020). Green Library: A Strategic Approach to Environmental Sustainability. *International Journal of Information Studies & Libraries*, 5 (2).
9. Vasanthi, R. (2019). Green Library Trends and Development In India: A Study. *Ijariie*, 5 (5). www.ijariie.com
10. Vaja, B. L., & Sharma, P. V. K. (2020). The development of concept of green library in the college education system & its implication: A system review. *International Journal of Advanced Academic Studies*, 2 (2). www.allstudyjournal.com
11. https://www.lkouniv.ac.in/site/writereaddata/siteContent/202004131501352746ranjana_sriv_lib_sc_Green_Library.pdf
12. <https://www.ifla.org/g/environment-sustainability-and-libraries/ifla-green-library-definition/>
13. Abdul Gaffar, S., & Sindhu, P. N. (2021). The Green Library Initiative in Indian perspective: A Stu. *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-Journal)*, 6189.
14. www.ifla.org/g/environment-sustainability-and-libraries/ifla-green-library-definition
15. Prasanth, M., & Vasudevan, T. M. (2019). Going Green: Libraries for Sustainable Development. National Conference on Innovations and Transformations in Libraries (NCITL 2019). https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331319223_Going_Green_Libraries_for_Sustainable_Development