

Best Practices in Sant Dnyaneshwar Library, Law College Osmanabad: A Study

^a Sharad Gulabsing Yandayat, ^b Madansing D. Golwal

^a Assistant Professor Mauli College, Jalna Maharashtra India

^b Librarian Law College, Osmanabad, Maharashtra India

Abstract

This paper is a case study of Sant Dnyaneshwar Library (SDL), Law College, Osmanabad (Maharashtra). The paper describes in detail about the college, its management, vision and mission, status of library automation and services & facilities provide to students and teachers and other external users. The Paper also highlights on Book Bank Facilitates to the weaker section of the Society.

KEYWORDS: Best Practices, College Library, Library Automation, ICT, Library Website, Collection Development, OPAC, Library Automation Software, SOUL& N-LIST.

1. INTRODUCTION

We all know about we live in an information age and each and every libraries willing to use Information and Communication Technologies [ICT] to deliver information / knowledge more expeditiously and exhaustively in time. In present day era, it has been increasingly felt that information needs and users must become the central focus of attention, to serve users better. Success of information service is more likely to be achieved by adjusting the services to meet the specific needs of an individual rather than trying to adapt the individual user to match with the output of the information system.

Libraries have to play important / crucial role in the educational, cultural, economical and technological progress of a nation. Progress of the nation depends upon advance knowledge gained by end users of the country. Therefore the role of college libraries in educational institutions is to active a free flow of information from the point of generation to the point of utilization of information efficiently and effectively on time. The present Maharashtra University Act, 2018 and other educational policy emphasizes on self-study, experiments, field study and research rather than classroom study. Therefore, library has to play vital role in the higher education to meet user requirements (Rice James, 1984).

2. COLLEGE LIBRARY

Colleges form the integral part of Higher education and libraries in colleges are the primary source for learning process. The college library is a making available link between teaching, research and learning is beyond scope of class room. College libraries will make aware and play an crucial role in the educational history of both the students as well as the faculty members. It serves the user by providing specific information to the user. But how far the college libraries are successful in implementing their goals into its reality is a big question (Waghmode, 2009). The college libraries not only provides stimulus to reading by procuring materials for study and research, by introducing online

access / remote access, open access system, by organizing the library resources in a systematic way, but also feeds the intellect of the student, encourage the researches of the faculty and thus serve the teaching and research needs of the faculty. The automated library can provide extended services to the users of the library.

3. LAW COLLEGE: A PROFILE

Law College, Osmanabad is affiliated to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, (BAMU) Aurangabad. Osmanabad is considered as semi-urban area. Our Management (Shri Swami Vivekanand Shikshan Swantha, Kolhapur) started in 1984 under the leadership of Honourable Bapuji Salunkhe. The Law College to cater the needs of Legal Education in backward area. This College is 250 Km away from University Headquarters. To provide Legal Education to the needy & poor people of this area in terms of fees & expenses, this college location is beneficial to all the people here. We also conduct Legal Aid & Legal Literacy Camps to have the Legal Awareness as well as National & State Level Moot Court Competition. The College has following full-fledged facilities -

- Library with 11063 books
- 16 Journals + 04 Newspapers
- BAMU (UGC-INFONET)
- N-LIST E-resources
- Computer Lab with 10 computers
- Ladies Hostel
- Gymkhana

3.1 Our Mission

- ❖ To instill research culture and positive attitude among the law students for the progress and development of the nation.
- ❖ To inculcate good moral and ethical values among the law students necessary for socio-economic and professional commitment to achieve.

In short the mission of our college is to spread the fragrance of law and to ensure the real taste of justice to the masses.

3.2 Our Objectives

- In realizing the mission our sincere efforts are directed to achieve the following objectives
- ❖ To provide legal education to the students belonging to districts surrounding Osmanabad District with special emphasis on rural and economically weaker sections.
 - ❖ To provide state-of-the-art infrastructure and competent faculty to impart quality legal education.
 - ❖ To provide high quality legal knowledge and skill with student friendly and disciplined ambience.

4. SANT DNYANESHWAR LIBRARY (SDL): AN OVERVIEW

The library is the lung of every educational institute, which breathes knowledge and information into the minds of the students. The SDL has well-equipped Library and Information Centre with an elaborate collection of books, e-books, CD-ROMs, journals, e-journals, project reports, audio-visual materials and other resources to serve its users. The Library Advisory Committee considers the development proposals of the library and budget allocations and policy decisions. It also provides directions for a structured and balanced growth of the library and to provide improved facilities and innovative services. Allocation and utilization of funds and introduction of developmental programs and requirements of the users are addressed and approved by the Library Advisory Committee.

4.1 Collection development

The Library and Information Centre came into existence in the year 1984. The main Library is equipped with a good number of national and international books, journals in the field of Family Law, Company Law, Labour Law, CRPC, CPC, ADR, Human Right, English, Management and General reading, etc. and also with the modern and latest technology to cope up with latest development to provide quality and quick services to its users.

4.2 SDL Collection Statistics

Table No.1 SDL Statistics of the year 2013 - 2018

Sr. No	Year	No. of Books	Expenditure(Rs.)	No. of Journals	Expenditure (Rs.)
1	2013 - 14	206	97,691	7	16490
2	2014 – 15	352	1,44,325	11	16880
3	2015 – 16	267	90,562	16	26400
4	2016 – 17	585	1,34,740	16	35200
5	2017 – 18	821	2,85,372	19	84505

4.3 Library Staff

LC's Library and Information Centre has good team of qualified Professional Staff.

4.4 Library Services

ASPC's Library and Information Centre is providing the following services to its users.

- Circulation
- Reference Service
- Current Awareness Service
- Selective Dissemination Service
- Reprographic Service
- Audio-Visual service
- News Paper Clipping Service
- OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue)
- Interlibrary Loan

4.5 Automation of SDL

The term "Automation" describes the way in which a machine is programmed to do a job that a person might normally do. Automation is often used to assist with jobs, which must be repeated over and over again.

"Library Automation" is a process of using computer- based system to do house - Keeping operations. Such as acquisition, circulation, classification, cataloguing, stock verification, etc. *Law College, Osmanabad is one of the Best College of its kind in Marathwada Region to have a computerized Library Services.* Computerization started since January, 2013 and built a complete database of over 11,063 books. Further we have Online Services provided to our users through UGC & INFLIBNET N-LIST program with INTER LIBRARY LAN SYSTEM consisting of 7 terminals connected to, the library and information center Server storing our database. The Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) is used to carry out online searches of library database by Author, Title; Keywords and Accession Numbers, which enables users to provide good reference service to staff and students (Kimber, 1968).

The project was implemented at the SDL, Law College, Osmanabad. It deals with the automation of the entire library system thereby reducing paperwork and increasing efficiency. A Library plays a vital role in any education. College has the latest and best possible books, magazines, journals, audio-visual aids for the student and faculty members. The students use these books for their academics, general knowledge etc. Our SDL has one of the best and wide collections of related Academic books and journals. The functioning of the existing system was studied and following details were determined.

4.5.1 SOUL Software

Software for University Libraries (SOUL) 2.0 is state-of-the-art integrated library management software designed and developed by the INFLIBNET Centre based is used. The latest version of the software i.e. SOUL 2.0 was released in January 2009. It is user-friendly software developed to work under client-server environment. The software is compliant to international standards for bibliographic formats and circulation protocols. After a comprehensive study, discussions and deliberations with the senior professionals of the country, the software was designed to automate all house-keeping operations of library. The database for new version of SOUL is designed for latest versions of MS-SQL and MySQL. SOUL 2.0 is compliant to international standards such as MARC 21 bibliographic format, and NCIP 2.0 & SIP 2 based protocols for RFID, electronic surveillance and control.

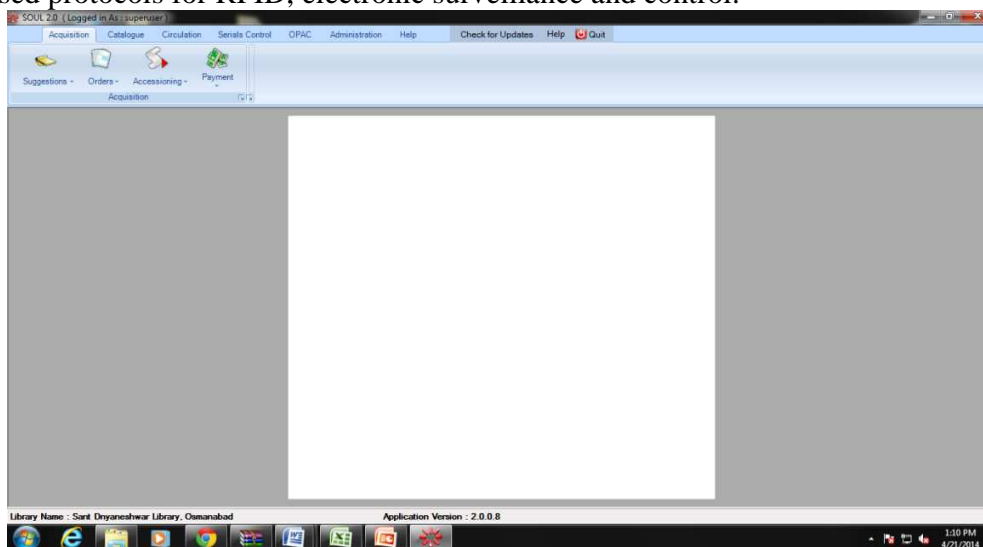


Fig. No. 1 SOUL Home Screen

The SOUL 2.0 consists of the following modules.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1) Acquisition | 4) Serial Control |
| 2) Catalogue | 5) OPAC |
| 3) Circulation | 6) Administration |

4.6 SDL Website (<https://sites.google.com/site/lawcollegelibraryosmanabad/>)

SDL has its separate website created using Google sites. It helps the users to find out the information about Management, College, Library Statistics, OPAC as well as Institutional Repository includes Faculty Publications, Syllabus and Previous Year Question Papers.

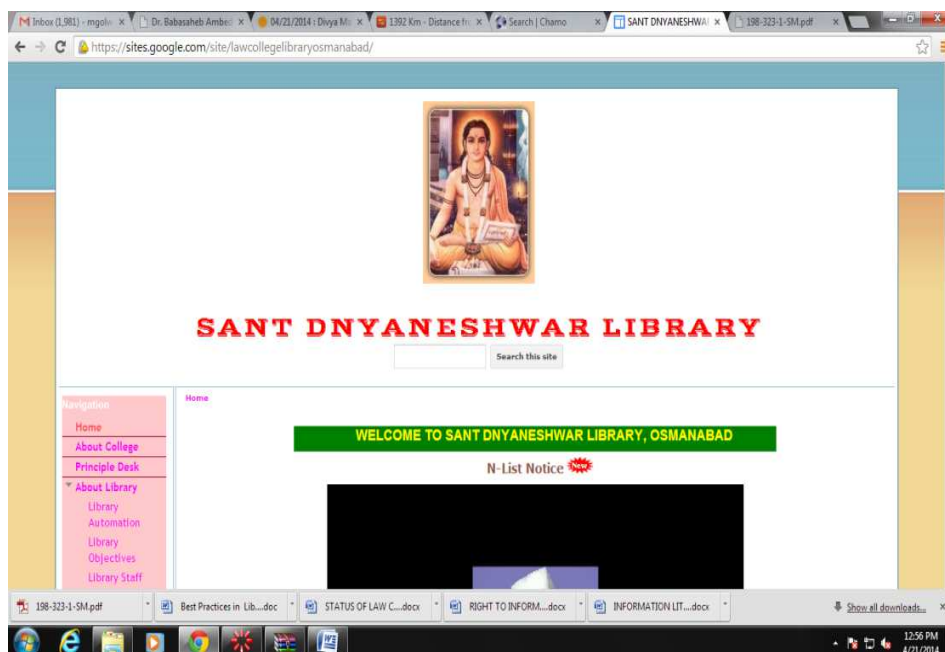


Fig. No.1 SDL Homepage

4.7 Book Bank Scheme

Law College runs a Book Bank having a collection of 9661 books intended to assist students, from the economically weaker sections of society, by giving text books on loan to deserving students for the whole academic semester according to the rules framed for the purpose. The College also runs a SC / ST Book Bank having a collection of 2,127 books specially meant for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students who can borrow books from the Bank for the whole academic semester according to the rules framed for this purpose.

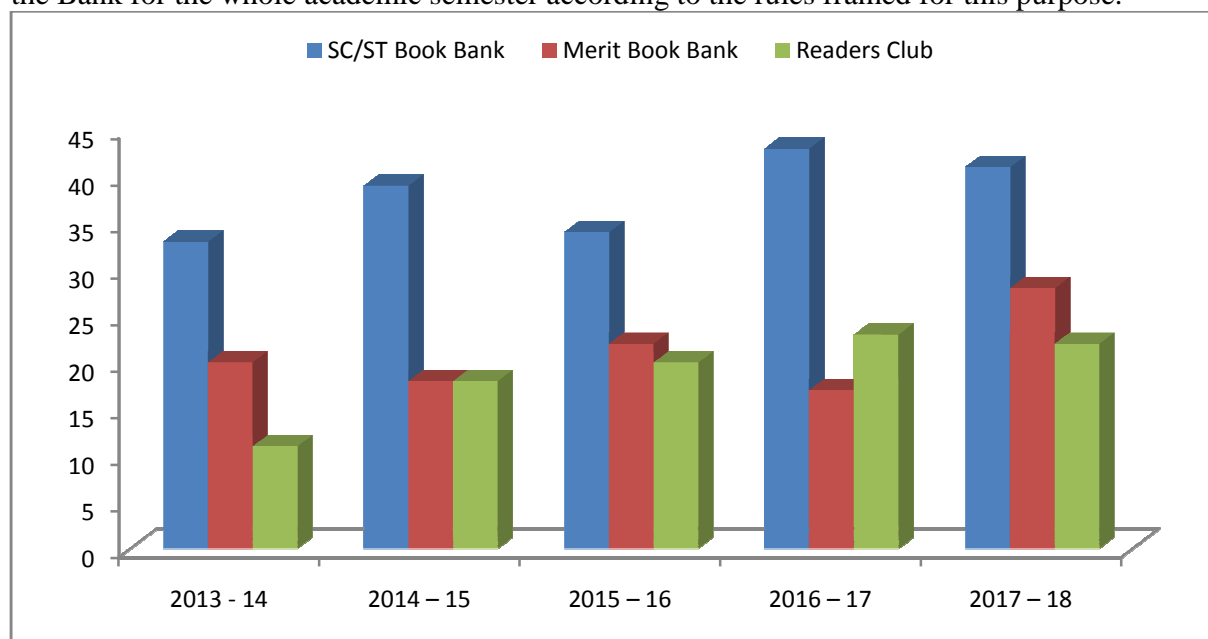


Fig. No.2 Book Bank Statistics

4.8 OTHER BEST PRACTICES IN SDL

While assessing the quality of Higher Education in the country, NAAC has providing the useful guidelines to improve the overall quality of Library & Information Center and services offered by these centers. In order to effectively meet the challenges posed by the global changes of technology, and to satisfy the multidimensional information needs of the library end users, NAAC has developed the set of forty eight best practices for the library and information centers. The data on best practices have been collected from the libraries across the country on a specific format developed by NAAC.

4.8.1 Counseling Center Regarding Competitive Examination

Users come to library for searching information regarding their carrier or educational development. Today competition is going on top level, students must aware of this situation. In this context Library and Librarian should play a important role to solve their problems. Library should have very rich collection of competitive examination. Library should invites to guest lecturer for guiding to students for preparing the competitive exam.

4.8.2 Institutional Repository

Library should develop institutional repository of Question paper, Syllabus, Research papers, Notes etc can be made available for students.

4.8.3 Assistance to poor and deserving students

Under this scheme the students who are from very weak economical back ground and promising can be granted two books free of cost for the complete academic years, so that it will result in increased performance in academic, by them.

4.8.4 Merit Book Bank

In this scheme Librarian may provide special concession to students like for the students getting more than 75% marks in the previous examination he can allow to take 5 books for the whole semester to study, accordingly 3 books for students getting 60 to 75% of marks and 2 books for students with 50 to 60% marks. This will lead to the increased merit & studies environment.

4.8.5 NPTEL Local Chapter

Librarian is the Course Coordinator of NPTEL and UGC Swayam Portal.

- ❖ Free of cost set of text books to the students of earn and learn scheme.
- ❖ User Orientation & Information Literacy to students.
- ❖ Displaying Newspaper Clippings & a Clipping file maintained periodically.
- ❖ Displaying new arrivals list.
- ❖ Updating and Maintain SDL websites.
- ❖ Organizing book exhibition.
- ❖ Suggestion box
 - Student having any suggestion or ideas in the progress of Library services they can put their suggestion in suggestion box.
 - Librarian open suggestion box on every Saturday & try to solve out suggestions discussing with Principal & Library Advisory Committee.

5. FUTURE PLAN

5.1 Training the staff and Students

Our Management is always ready to help for libraries. Therefore this year we are going to plan N-LIST one day workshop open for Research Scholars, Teachers and College Students. We

also were going to register our Faculty Members and Students on National Programme on Technological Enhance Learning (NPTEL).

5.2 Library and Information Services

SDL is providing various services to its users and faculty members. We will often to collect feedback from our users and also we put the suggestion box in reading room. The impact of that we are going though there needs.

5.3 Enhancements possible

Like all other systems, the Library Automation system has same aspects that can be improved upon. These are as follows:

- Students can be emailed when their reserved books are available.
- Mobile Alert / SMS Service on Users Mobile
- Reminders can also be mailed to students when the books issued to them are overdue.

6. CONCLUSION

The Law College, Osmanabad has a well-equipped Library with an elaborate collection of books, journals, project reports, AV- materials, e-books, e-journals and other resources to serve its users. Online Services provided to our users through our Inter Library LAN System in which users can access the library database from the OPAC and also helps to library staff to provide good reference service to staff and students.

Best practices of SDL are very useful in providing support to students, staff and other external readers. In accordance with NAAC standards, libraries should establish, promote, maintain, and evaluate a range of quality services that support the colleges, mission and goals.

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