INTRODUCTION

The word ‘library’ is rich in tradition, meaning, and usage. The definitions of ‘school library’ given by various library scientists and associations reflect this heritage. Throughout the world the Library of a school is considered as part and parcel of the academic set-up. It is created and maintained to serve and support the educational activities of the school. The recommendations of numerous commissions and committees established by the Government of India and various other states for the improvement of school education can bring in desired results provided the school has the full complement of library resources, personnel, and necessary infrastructure. So far the school library has not been given its rightful place in the scheme of things. Nevertheless, it can play a very important role and help the school in achieving the educational objectives. If we recognize the value and importance of informal system of education, then library method of self-education is sure to get its due place.

The school Library provides information, inculcates ideas, and develops knowledge that is so essential to functioning successfully in today’s information and knowledge based society. It is fundamental to school library to equip students with life long learning skills and develop in them creative thinking and imagination, and enabling them to live as ideal and responsible citizens.

Thus, the school library must be made the hub of all the activities planned and executed in school. It can be used by students to prepare for their next class period, home examination, general education, information, competitions, recreation and inspiration. To cater to the wide varieties of demands of students and teachers it has to judiciously select and procure the prescribed/recommended text-books and other reading material from different sources, technically process it by making use of a standard scheme of classification, catalogue it to provide various access points, organise the collection on scientific lines, circulate the documents and disseminate the information in the manner most liked by the students and teachers. In addition, the school library has to serve as a resource centre as well.

Harrods librarian glossary defines library as.

1) A collection of book and other literally material kept for reading study and consultation
2) A place building room or rooms set apart for keeping and use of collection of book etc.
3) A collection of films, photographs and other inn book materials. Plastic or metal tapes disk and other programs.

The Human achievement in intellectual and cultural field are recorded in various forms are of the different scripts and language on various forms are of the different scripts and language on various writing material all over the world. These records are well preserved in the libraries which literally mean the storehouse of such reading material they really from the intellectual and cultural heritage of mankind because they transmit to any seeker of the of the information, the enormous treasure of knowledge they possess they are the fountains of knowledge which the readers may use for instruction, inspiration, information or recreation (Breeding, Marshall, 2002).

Today’s picture of library is well developed having collection of documents and modern equipment like computer, microfilm, CD Rom, etc meant for the readers. Today the new concept of the paperless library is emerging.

Libraries are live organization. Their role is to provide information to its users. They collect the books and other information to its users.

They collect the books and other kinds of documents, process them and shelve them a systematic order so that they can be accessed easily by the users.

Libraries are growing organism, the basic constituent of libraries books readers and staff grow from time to time in a library that lives to its objective. As the collection grows, they needs to be organized in a systematic way, as the users grow, library system should help them to help them selves in locating the need documents, and the staff, as they grow should introduce new and efficient services (Cain, Mark, 2003).

**School Education System and Libraries:** The School is the most important institution in the life of an individual which is responsible for providing formal education. School education is provided at different levels, namely,

1. Pre-Primary level

2. Elementary level
3. Secondary level

4. Higher secondary level

Role of Library in School Education :

The role of the library in the light of the objectives mentioned above is desired to an active one. In fact, the realization of the role that the school library can play modeling the attitudes, personality and character has been realized in the writings and speeches of eminent educationists and has been often quoted by writers.

Purposes of School library:

To meet the intellectual challenges, the librarian must be ever aware that the growth and development of the boys and girls is of paramount importance and he must design the library to fulfill the specific purposes, which are:

- To participate effectively in the school programme as it strives to meet the needs of pupils, teachers, parents, and other community members.
- To provide boys and girls with the library materials and services most appropriate and most meaningful in their growth and development as individuals.
- To stimulate and guide pupils in all phases of their reading so that they may find increasing enjoyment and satisfaction and may grow in critical judgment and appreciation.
- To provide an opportunity through library experience for boys and girls to develop helpful interest, to make satisfactory personal adjustments and to acquire desirable social attitudes.
- To help children and young people to become skilful and discriminating users of libraries and audio-visual materials.
- To introduce pupils to community libraries as early as possible and cooperate with these libraries in their efforts to encourage continuing education and cultural growth.
• To work with teachers in the selection and use of all types of library materials which contributes to the teaching programme.

• To participate with teachers and administrators in programmes for continuing profession and cultural growth of the school staff.

• To cooperate with other libraries and community leaders in planning and developing an overall library programme for the community of the area.