



Festschrift in Honour of Dr. Namita B. Khot

INNOVATIVE BEST PRACTICES AND LIBRARY SERVICES IN LIBRARIANSHIP

ग्रंथपालनातील सर्वोत्तम नाविन्यपूर्ण उपक्रम आणि ग्रंथालयीन सेवा



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Dr. Namita Khot

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**Innovative Best Practices and
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© Editors

■ Publisher | Printer

Rangrao A. Patil (Prashant Publications)
3, Pratap Nagar, Dynaneshwar Mandir Road,
Near Nutan Maratha College, Jalgaon 425 001.

■ Phone | Web | Email

0257-2235520, 2232800
www.prashantpublication.com
prashantpublication.jal@gmail.com

■ Edition | ISBN | Price

June 2022
978-93-89493-96-2
₹ 650/-

■ Cover Design | Typesetting

Prashant Publications

Prashant Publications app for e-Books

e-Books are available online at [www.prashantpublications.com / kopykitab.com](http://www.prashantpublications.com/kopykitab.com)

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NAAC Best Practices in Library: Rural College

Mr. Sadashiv B. Warvate

Librarian, Mahatma Phule Mahavidyalaya, Kingaon, Tal. Ahmedpur, Dist Latur

Dr. Shivaji N. Sontakke

Librarian, Kai Rasika Mahavidyalaya, Deoni, Tal. Deoni, Dist. Latur

Abstract:

Role of libraries in the era of information explosion in 21st century is very important. Library tries to provide maximum service provide to students, staff, and external readers in minimum cost. In this paper researcher discussed the best practices in the library of Mahatma Phule Mahavidyalaya, Kingaon. Role of NAAC in college library development is very important, so NAAC tries to develop library through the library best practices in their publication "Best Practices Rural College Academic Libraries". In this paper researcher stated the current status of the library of Mahatma Phule Mahavidyalaya's collection development. Lastly give the best practices in the library, i.e. Library services to external readers, Internet Facility in the Library, Book Bank Facility and Information about Competitive Exams.

Keywords: Best Practices, NAAC, Revised Assessment and Accreditation, M.P. Mahavidyalaya

1. Introduction :

Colleges form the integral part of Higher education and libraries in colleges are the primary source for learning process. The college library is a connecting link between teaching and learning as well as place which supplements its resources what is beyond scope of class room. College libraries play an important 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. There must be some agency to have a proper vigilance on the functioning of college libraries and also to suggest certain measures to rectify the emerging needs, and for this kind of purpose NAAC was established for maintaining quality education of the institutions.

Definition of Best Practices -

ODLIS (Reitz, 2004) defined the term 'best practices' as follows: "In the application of theory to real-life situations, procedures that, when properly, applied consistently yield superior results and are therefore used as reference points in evaluation of the effectiveness of alternative methods of accomplishing the same task. Best practices are identified by examining empirical evidence of success."

2. Best Practices in library and NAAC:

Document prepared by NAAC for "Best Practices in Academic Libraries" (NAAC, 2007) says Best practice may be innovative and be a philosophy, policy, strategy, program, process or practice that solves a problem or create new opportunities and positively impact on organizations.

For college libraries NAAC has developed the following set of best practices for college libraries:


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- Computerization of libraries with standard software.
- Inclusion of sufficient information about the library in the college prospectus.
- Compiling student / teacher statistics
- Displaying newspaper clippings and a clipping file maintained periodically.
- Career/ employment information services
- Internet facility to different user groups
- Information literacy programmes
- Suggestion Box
- Displaying New Arrivals
- Conduct book exhibition on different occasions
- Organizing book talks
- Instituting Annual Best Use Award for students
- Organizing competitions annually
- Conduct user survey periodically
- S. D. Vyas (Vyas, 2009) add some best library practices in his article these are
- Making of a Path Finder to the library
- Keeping the library premises neat and clean
- Compiling a list of Current Serials/ catalogue of journals.
- Updating and maintaining library website
- Maintaining useful statistics regarding the use of the library and displaying them on the library walls
- Compiling checklists on different subject/topics as a part of documentation service
- Library Committee formation
- Distribution of useful handouts

3. Best Practices in the library Mahatma Phule Mahavidyalaya, Kingaon:

NAAC (NAAC, 2007) developed a set of best practices followed in academic libraries and presented under the following four broad areas:

- Management and Administration of Library:
- Collection and Services.
- Extent of User Services.
- Use of Technology.

4. Library Management:

Library management is an important thing for any type of library. All administrative work is important. In this library acquisition of reading materials, cataloguing, circulation of reading materials, serial control etc. all works are done. Library automated by SOUL 2.0 software and all modules are run very well. Library connected with internet broadband connection.

5. User services:

All types of user services are provided in the library. Few best practices in library are as follows:

I. Library services to external readers

Objectives of Library services to external readers:

- » To provide library facilities to Ex-Students of the college.
- » To provide library facilities/services to the members of the management members.


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- » To provide library facilities/services to the needy citizens.
- » To provide library facilities/services to YCMOU students.

II. Methodology of Library services to external readers:

- » The library membership is open to all.
- » If some reader wishes to use library facilities for some period, he/she has to apply for the same, and if the Principal has allowed it he is given the library membership.
- » He/she has to fill up the application form with his photo, Photo ID proof and detailed address with email id.
- » He/she is informed about the rules and regulations of the library.
- » Researchers try to find out his/her purpose/objectives of using library facilities and the period for which he/she has applied.
- » Teachers in the other colleges are provided 4-5 books for seven days at the request of their Principals.
- » Books are issued by the members of the college management.
- » Ex-Students, other readers and YCMOU students are provided library services with only the reading room facility.
- » No fees are charged from these readers.
- » The information from the Internet is provided free of cost.

III. Benefits of Library services to external readers:

- » As researchers provide library facilities without any charges the teachers in the neighboring colleges are benefitted.
- » Ex-Students make use of our facilities for competitive exams.
- » YCMOU students are also benefitted.
- » The management members also make use of the library.
- » As it is said that the library is a social institution by the Dr. S. R. Ranganathan the objectives of our library are being served.

IV. Requirement of Resources/Infrastructures of Library services to external readers:

- » Need of enriched library sources.
- » Need of spacious reading rooms
- » Cooperation of college employees, Principal and Management.
- » Cooperation of readers.
- » Need for BroadBand Internet Connection.
- » Computer terminals, etc.

V. Book Bank Facility:

Our college library has been participating in the Book Bank Scheme for Backward Class students run by SRTMU Nanded, from 2001-02. As per guidelines of the university, researchers have purchased text books and reference books and issued them to backward class students every year.

6. Conclusion :

Best practices of Mahatma Phule Mahavidyalaya library are very useful in providing support to students, staff and other external readers. There is no other big library in Kingaon or Near Kingaon. In this paper as per NAAC guidelines best practices are given. In accordance with NAAC standards, libraries should establish, promote, maintain, and evaluate a range of quality services that support the


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colleges, mission and goals.

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