

Capacity Building in Public Libraries

Jagtar Singh,

Professor,

DLIS, Punjabi University, Patiala

Email: jagtardeep@gmail.com

The Context

- False aise bureau honge..
- Water water everywhere...S.T. Coleridge
- Where is the life...T.S. Eliot
- National Scenario:
- Central, State and Local governments apathetic attitude
- National Mission on Libraries
- RRRLF
- BMGF, NASSCOM, MSSRF, DELNET, INFLIBNET and NGOs

Focus of CB

- Inclusion, empowerment and excellence for sustainable development of respective communities and society at large.
- Focus not only on technology, content and services. Rather focus on the emerging library innovators as well.
- BMGF, MSSRF, NASSCOM, DELNET and INFLIBNET are the front runners.
- NLM and RRRLF should also make concerted efforts.
- Let the focus of CB be the seven faces of information literacy.
- These are: ICT, Information Sources, Information Process, Information Control, Knowledge Construction, Knowledge Extension, and Wisdom Conception. CnD of K for progress.

Punjab Public Library Scenario

- No PL Act
- DPI (Colleges) looking after PLs
- 1 MM Central State Library, Patiala with a meager book selection budget of Rs. 18000/- (USD 250)
- 15 Districts libraries with only 4 professionals.
- No district libraries in 7 districts.
- In fact, these libraries are serving the respective towns.
- Municipal libraries
- Nothing beyond district libraries
- No recruitment since 1998. Innovators retiring.

Capacity Domains

- Environment
- Institutions
- Individual
- Personal
- Professional
- ICT and other drivers
- Management and leadership skills
- Soft skills

Gaps and Divides

- Digital divide
- Info-divide
- Gender divide
- Cultural divide
- Gap between tacit and explicit knowledge
- Capacity/competency gap

Focus of CB

- Have bots and information-poor.
- Not only technology but the seven faces of Information Literacy.
These are: ICT, Information Sources, Information process, Information Control, knowledge construction, Knowledge Extension, and Wisdom Conception.
- Let inclusion, empowerment and excellence be the hallmark of CB.

Thank you

- For your time and attention.
- Jagtar Singh