

Green Library: Features, Elements, Standards and Green Library initiatives in India

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ABSTRACT

The 'green concept' is widely discussed in the field of basic library professions and other fields of serious environmental problems faced by mankind. The library is ubiquitous and useful. Libraries play a role in this universal program. Libraries are life learning platforms and they provide information and knowledge. Environmental challenges such as energy reduction and global climate change influence the ranking of data resources and program libraries provided to their users. The green library movement began in the early 1990s as libraries became increasingly interested in environmental issues. The green library movement led to the development of literature on green libraries and consequently increased awareness of the topic.

Today's society and the world as a whole are becoming sensitive towards the environment. The paper highlights the concept of green library, standards, features and components of green library. The report also describes green library initiatives in India and the role of green librarians.

KEYWORDS: Green Library, Green Library Elements, Green Library Standards, Sustainability, Green Library Characteristics etc.

INTRODUCTION

Libraries are an institution that plays a role in a developed society. According to Shera, the library plays an important role in the social system created by the people to fulfill the social needs. Libraries also act as custodians of environmental organizations, strengthening the role of libraries in sustainable development and highlighting environmental issues in terms of possible action. He tried to create a green library to create his environmental guide. Green libraries are gaining popularity in the library and information science professions. A green library, called as a sustainable library too, is built with the environment concern. Green libraries are chunk of the higher green structure programme. Libraries, especially public and academic libraries, are lifelong learning centers for people of all ages in the local population.

Libraries are not only repositories of knowledge but also important information resources for creating awareness about environmental concerns. Green libraries educate people about environmental issues through their collections, sustainable and eco-friendly services, and public library programs. Among other things, green libraries exploit the effects of natural sunlight and natural airflow; Green libraries are designed by considering site selection considering design, energy consumption, materials used and impacts on human health.

Green concept

Today mankind has realized that one important thing has been missed and it has come in this age of technology. Therefore, making the world green again has become a trend in many countries, regions, institutions, universities, companies, organizations, institutions and libraries. Henceforth, the “green library” model or the “sustainable library” model came into discussion. It is also a new vision and challenge for librarians.

Green Library

There is no clear definition of the term 'green library'. When we say 'green library', we mean the entire library operations and building. So the concept seems to be quite broad. In simple words, a 'Green Library' is an environment-friendly or eco-library. A 'green' or 'sustainable library' is a structure designed, built, renovated, operated or reused in an environmentally and resource-efficient manner.

According to the Online Dictionary of Library and Information Science (ODLIS), “Green Library a sustainable library is defined as a library considered to decrease adverse effects on the natural environment and to take benefit of the environmental superiority of the building through careful site selection, natural building materials, and natural building materials. Conservation of resources like recyclable products, water, energy, paper and responsible waste disposal recycling etc.

According to the New World Encyclopedia, a 'green library', or a 'sustainable library', is "a library considered with environmental awareness." Here, the Online Dictionary of Library and Information Science (ODLIS) define the term 'sustainability' as "the capacity to meet the requirements of the current without negotiating the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." It has economic, social and environmental aspects. And a green library completes its purposes and shows its role in an ecologically friendly method. In a new building and library renovation, the U.S. Sustainability is gradually achieved through the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, an evaluation scheme developed and regulated by the Green Building Council (USGBC).

Libraries need to go green?

First, libraries are expanding their mission statements to include work for the advancement of the humanities; second, technology is no longer a barricade. Third, it is unlimited for library images. Finally, sustainability gives libraries a degree of individuality because maintenance costs are reduced, such as those dependent on the volatile fossil fuel market.

International Standards of Green Libraries

We have international standards such as LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification system and BREEM.

a) LEED is considered a performance standard, allowing building owners or planners to choose how to meet specific benchmark numbers without prescribing specific measures. It is a points-based scheme in which projects receive LEED points for meeting green building regulations. The six credit types for new building are supportable locations, water efficacy, energy and environment, materials and resources, indoor environmental superiority and invention in design.

b) BREEAM is an important and commonly used environmental assessment technique for constructions. It arrays the norms for best performs in supportable project and allows to measurement of a building's environmental presentation. Ecological features contain low-carbon machinery for heating and cooling, low-energy light and a water preservation system. Eden Prairie Library, Eden Prairie- First in the US to build a natural gas fuel cell to generate power and heat on site. It is made of recycled materials, low VOC materials and streamlined lighting provisions. Container-Batu, East Jawa, Indonesia- is a combination of two words: Container and Entertainer which reflects its aim to provide an improved class of life. Enfield Town Library, Britain - Floor-to-ceiling windows bring in adequately light though providing outlooks of the library's new green. It is built around BREEAM ratings.

Indian Standards for Assessing Green Libraries

In India, we have GRIHA and IGBC. Government of India has adopted GRIHA as the national rating system. The Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) was established in 2001 to promote and rate green buildings in India.

a) Government of India has adopted Griha as national rating system. Keeping in mind the Indian agro-climatic conditions and especially the predominance of non-AC buildings, GRIHA has been developed as a rating system suitable for all types of facilities in different climatic zones of the country.

b) Indian Green Building Council (IGBC): Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) was established in the year 2001 to promote and rate green buildings in India. There are about 2190 recorded constructions, 398 ranked constructions and 1082 IGBC accumulated commercial.

Features of Green Library

Green libraries are defined as conservation or sustainable libraries. And each green library must have specific features, such as

1. Use of natural, renewable and readily available resources;
2. Reflective roof and land use;
3. Use of insulating windows for water, energy and paper repair;
4. Use of energy-efficient lighting to reduce consumption;
5. System for optimized cooling;
6. Appropriate planting inside and outside the building;
7. Fresh and healthy air rotation;
8. Use of environment friendly technology.

Green Library Initiative in India

According to the latest report by the US Green Building Council, India ranks third among the top ten countries leading energy and environmental design outside the US. Various green library initiatives have been taken up in different parts of the country, some of which are mentioned below:

Anna Centenary Library, Chennai: This library was established in 2010. It is equipped with modern technology, and light, air would have been used properly. Gold rating by LEED.

Karnataka University Library, Dharwad: The library was started in 1950. The Green Library initiative started with the need to facilitate the gurukul system and provide space for group discussions.

Mumbai University Library: Mumbai University Library was established in 1880. The library has been developed using eco-friendly products and proper lighting by providing open spaces for readers.

Madras University Library: It was built in 1907 in Indo-British style. The windows are designed in such a way that proper lighting of the reading area and fresh air circulation is ensured.

Parma Karpo Library, Ladakh, in the Indian Himalayas: The library uses solar panels and is surrounded by a white lotus garden and innovative technology.

Role of the Green Librarian

The role of librarians is important in the "Green Library Movement". They should always be aware that a green library is not just about taking care of the environment; It is about caring for and protecting the health and well-being of those who work in them. In the mission of building a green library, librarians should always strive to promote the green library movement –

- Users can access e-books, e-journals etc. Encouraging use, can act as tools to save space and paper and reduce costs. Practices such as making soft copies, microfilming old and obsolete books and getting rid of old and outdated textbooks, which help in optimal space utilization.
- Using various electronic media and online communication tools such as social media provides many benefits to library management and users.
- Working within an eco-library system and identifying those willing to work in such an environment can strengthen the movement.
- Encouraging green library tools and methods and cheering others to practice them can confirm active contribution in all these matters.
- Encouraging other librarians to go green library through talks, seminars and conferences can help them join hands.
- Handle and manage library budgets to support institutions; it can ensure optimum utilization of financial resources and ensure economy in operation.
- Using wooden furniture and other recyclable materials makes the place completely eco-friendly and sustainable.
- Use of wool bricks instead of burnt bricks as construction material is considered environment friendly.

- To ensure maximum use of renewable energy, using solar tiles or panels for library roofs, i.e. reflective materials.
- Using recyclable paper insulation is considered to be the ultimate trick to making a building eco-friendly.
- Replacing steel material with bamboo, fiber etc.; It is also considered an environmentally friendly material.
- Taking necessary steps to conserve energy, water, paper, etc. not only saves resources and costs significantly but also brings sustainability.
- Rooftop planting can be a good idea and provides better temperature control.
- Appropriate planting with lawns inside and outside the library to reduce dust and keep the environment cool.

Thus, to be seen as a "green librarian", a librarian must play a multifaceted role in the green library movement.

CONCLUSION

Green building plays an important role in environmental protection. Libraries and librarians are directly related to the community and their green buildings provide a great opportunity for citizen education. The duty of the librarian is not only to provide information to the users but also to be a leader in building modern green buildings to save our natural environment. For the next generation, library professionals must go beyond environmental sustainability, exemplify through various "greening library" practices, and focus on proactive steps to guarantee the future sustainable development of libraries. The upcoming LIS generation, future librarians are called upon to take up the "Green Library of Tomorrow" initiative and seize the opportunity to market libraries in a new, customer-oriented and sustainable way.

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