

# **Collection Development and Management of Information Resources at Central Library of Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi**

## **Veer Bahadur Singh<sup>1</sup>; Dr Shyamdeo Gond<sup>2</sup>**

Research Scholar, YBN University, Ranchi, Jharkhand<sup>1</sup>; Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, YBN University, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India<sup>2</sup>

### **ABSTRACT**

*This paper aims to examine the collection development and management activities of the central library at the Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi. The survey method was opted for the research. A web questionnaire is used for data collection in this study. According to this study, a collection development policy is crucial for any library that directly or indirectly supports the selection process. It has a significant impact on library collections and information resources management, which in turn leads to increased user satisfaction with library resources. The study also examined the physical and electronic documentation and information services offered by the Library as well as the resources, collection and equipment of the Library.*

**KEYWORDS:** Collection Development, University Library, YBN University, Ranchi.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Information and communication technology plays a crucial role in all sectors, whether it involves products or services. Libraries and information centres are service organisations. It serves information in various forms and formats. The application of ICT in libraries and information centres aligns with Ranganathan's fourth law of library science, which is "Save the time of the User. However, the traditional system of information providers was often designed for information professionals rather than the end-user. Now, libraries and information centres are focusing on creating a system that is easy for all users to navigate, regardless of the resources they require. Libraries create their collection with a specific purpose to meet the research and educational needs of their patrons. In the last few decades, electronic resources have become increasingly common, complementing traditional media such as books and microfilm. This shift requires libraries to update their collection development policies to include these new formats.

Collection development is a dynamic and essential process in every library. It involves setting selection policies, identifying user needs, selecting materials, sharing resources, and budgeting effectively. Evaluating the collection is crucial, and library professionals play a key role in maintaining a balanced and high-quality collection.

The main goal of collection development is to build a collection that meets the needs of the library's users. Libraries must cater for their needs and develop their collections accordingly to provide relevant information. The library collection should have materials in all possible formats, including print, non-print, and electronic.

## **OBJECTIVE**

The primary objective of this study is to examine the collection development and management of information resources at the Central Library, Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi. The other objectives are as follows:

- ✓ To know the availability of the collection development policy at the Central Library, Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi
- ✓ To know about the print and electronic services being offered by the Central Library, Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi
- ✓ Library resources and various equipment acquired by the Central Library, Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi

## **DATA COLLECTION AND INTERPRETATION**

### **I. Collection Development Policy**

The collection development policy serves as a blueprint for the collection development and management of information resources as well as the operations of the Library. The Central Library, Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi, has a written collection development policy and also a governing body for collection development

### **II. What library services are offered by the library?**

As per the table no. 3.1 The Central Library, Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi, offers a wide range of information services to its users, including reference services, current awareness services, IT Services, reprographic services, an information desk, downloadable forms, Bibliographic service and plagiarism detection software. The Library does not offer indexing service, abstracting service, and interlibrary loan services.

**Table 1:** Information and Documentation Services

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Services</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1.	References Services	✓	
2.	Current Additions	✓	
3.	IT Facilities	✓	
4.	Information to PwDs		✓
5.	Imaging Service	✓	
6.	Inter Library Loan		✓
7.	Information Desk	✓	
8.	Download forms	✓	
9.	Plagiarism	✓	
10.	Bibliographic Service	✓	
11.	Indexing Service		✓
12.	Abstracting Service		✓

### III. Electronic services offered by the library

Apart from above above-mentioned information and documentation services, The Central Library, Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi, offer various electronic services, including an Online public access catalogue, an online catalogue for theses, Single window search with simple and advanced searching techniques, Electronic resources, remote access, open access, press clipping and consortia. Trail resources, Data portals, and institutional repositories are not offered by the library.

**Table 2:** Electronic Services

Sr. No.	Electronic Services	Yes	No
1.	Online catalogue (Internet)	✓	
2.	Online catalogue for thesis	✓	
3.	Single Window Search	✓	
4.	Electronic Resources	✓	
5.	Remote Access	✓	
6.	Trail Resources		✓
7.	Data Portal		✓
8.	Institutional Repository		✓
9.	Open Access	✓	
10.	Press Clippings	✓	
11.	ACH Digital Archive		✓
12.	Electronic Resources through consortia	✓	
14.	Any other (name them with no.)		

### IV. Library Resources

The library boasts a rich and diverse collection, encompassing both print and electronic resources, which effectively supports the academic and research needs of its users. With 42,325 print books and 5,784 e-books, the collection reflects a healthy balance between traditional and digital formats. The availability of 6,267 electronic journals, compared to only two in print, indicates a clear shift toward digital access for scholarly content. Additionally, the library subscribes to eight newspapers and maintains 133 printed theses, ensuring access to both current and academic information. The inclusion of 940 donated books further enhances the resource base. However, the absence of data on electronic databases and other special collections suggests potential areas for improvement, particularly in expanding digital infrastructure and resource digitisation. Overall, the library demonstrates strong collection development and adaptability, aligning with contemporary academic trends and the evolving needs of learners and researchers.

**Table: 3:** Library Resources

Sr. No.	Types of Resources	Total no. of Electronic Resources	Total no. of Print Resources
1.	Books	5784	42325
2.	Journals/ Periodicals	6267	02
3.	Database		
4.	Newspaper		8
5.	Thesis		133
6.	Donated Books		940
7.	Any other (name them with no.)		
Total		12,051	43,408

### V. Digital Infrastructure and Equipment

As per Table 3.4, the availability of equipment in the library is presented. It demonstrates that the library is equipped with essential devices, including computers, photocopiers, scanners, and printers, which support daily administrative and academic functions. However, equipment like TVs/LCDs, projectors, and barcode readers is not available, indicating limited technological infrastructure for multimedia presentations or automated circulation services. The presence of basic ICT tools ensures efficient document processing and user services, but the absence of advanced audiovisual and automation devices highlights the need for further technological upgradation to enhance learning experiences and streamline library operations.

**Table.4:** Availability of various equipment in the library

Sr. No.	Equipment's	Availability
1.	Computer	✓
2.	TV / LCD	
3.	Photocopier	✓
4.	Projector	
5.	Scanner	✓
6.	Printer	✓
7.	Barcode Reader	
8...	Any other (name them with no.)	

### VI. E-Journals

The table highlights the range of e-journals subscribed to by the library, reflecting its commitment to providing access to quality scholarly resources. The library subscribes to several major databases, including ScienceDirect, American Chemical Society, ACM Digital Library, Project MUSE, IEEE, SpringerLink, Wiley-Blackwell, and ONOS, ensuring comprehensive coverage across science, technology, and humanities disciplines. However, popular databases such as **JSTOR** and **J-GATE** are not subscribed to, indicating some gaps in access to interdisciplinary and social science resources. Overall, the collection demonstrates a strong emphasis on **STEM and research-**

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**oriented e-journals**, significantly enhancing digital access and supporting faculty, researchers, and students in staying updated with global academic advancements.

**Table 5:** E- E-Journals Subscribed by the Library

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>E-Journals</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1.	Science Direct	✓	
2.	American Chemical Society	✓	
3.	JSTOR		
4.	ACM digital library	✓	
5.	J-GATE		
6.	Project Muse	✓	
7.	IEEE	✓	
8.	Springer Link	✓	
9.	Wiley Blackwell	✓	
10.	ONOS	✓	
11.	Any other (please specify)		
Total			

## **CONCLUSION**

The Central Library of the Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi, plays a vital role in supporting academic, research, and learning activities through its well-defined collection development policy and diverse range of services. The library's structured policy framework ensures systematic growth and effective management of both print and electronic resources. Its service portfolio includes reference, current awareness, bibliographic, and IT-based services, reflecting user-oriented operations. The availability of facilities like computers, printers, scanners, and photocopiers enhances operational efficiency, though the absence of projectors, barcode readers, and multimedia tools indicates the need for further technological enhancement. The library's resource base—comprising over 42,000 print books, 5,784 e-books, and 6,267 e-journals—demonstrates a strong commitment to digital transformation while retaining traditional resources. Subscriptions to major databases such as ScienceDirect, IEEE, and SpringerLink strengthen access to global research, particularly in STEM fields. However, the lack of interdisciplinary databases and digitized theses highlights opportunities for improvement. Overall, the library exhibits continuous progress toward modernization, resource diversification, and user-centered services, aligning effectively with contemporary academic and technological trends.

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