

# **Collection Development and Management of Information Resources at Central Library of Central University of South Bihar, Gaya, Bihar**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This paper aims to examine the collection development and management activities of the central library at the Central University of South Bihar. The study adopts a survey method, and data were collected using a web-based questionnaire. The findings highlight that a well-defined collection development policy is essential for any library, as it guides and supports the selection of resources. Such a policy plays a vital role in shaping library collections and managing information resources effectively, ultimately enhancing user satisfaction. The study also explores the library's physical and electronic resources, documentation and information services, as well as its overall collection and infrastructure.

**KEYWORDS:** Collection Development, University Library, Central University of South Bihar.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has become an essential component in almost every sector, whether related to products or services. Libraries and information centres, being service-oriented institutions, are no exception. Their primary function is to provide information in a variety of forms and formats to meet the diverse needs of users. The integration of ICT in libraries strongly supports the fourth law of library science given by S. R. Ranganathan, which states, "Save the time of the user." By using modern technologies such as digital catalogues, online databases, and automated systems, libraries are able to deliver faster, more accurate, and user-friendly services.

Traditionally, information systems in libraries were designed mainly for the convenience of information professionals rather than the end-users. As a result, users often faced difficulties in accessing and retrieving relevant information. However, with the advancement of ICT, there has been a significant shift in focus toward user-centric services. Modern libraries now aim to create systems that are simple, intuitive, and accessible to all categories of users, regardless of their level of expertise or the type of resources they seek.

Libraries develop their collections with a clear purpose: to support the educational, research, and informational needs of their users. Over the past few decades, there has been a remarkable growth in electronic resources such as e-books, e-journals, online databases, and institutional repositories. These resources now complement traditional materials like printed books, journals, and microfilms. This transformation has made it necessary for libraries to revise and update their collection development policies so that they can effectively include and manage both print and digital resources.

Collection development is a continuous and dynamic process that forms the backbone of any library. It includes activities such as formulating selection policies, identifying the needs of users, selecting and acquiring relevant materials, resource sharing, and managing the budget efficiently. Regular evaluation of the collection is also an important aspect, as it helps in maintaining the quality, relevance, and balance of the resources. Library professionals play a crucial role in this process by making informed decisions and ensuring that the collection remains up-to-date and useful.

The ultimate goal of collection development is to build a well-balanced and user-oriented collection that satisfies the needs of the library's community. Libraries must continuously assess user requirements and develop their collections accordingly to provide accurate and relevant information. A good library collection should include materials in all possible formats—print, non-print, and electronic—so that users can access information in the form that best suits their needs

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.

## **2. 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 South Bihar, Gaya. The other objectives are as follows:

1. To know the availability of the collection development policy at the Central Library, Central University of South Bihar, Gaya
2. To know about the print and electronic services being offered by the Central Library, Central University of South Bihar, Gaya
3. Library resources and various equipment acquired by the Central Library, Central University of South Bihar, Gaya

## **3. DATA COLLECTION AND INTERPRETATION**

### **1. 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 South Bihar, Gaya, has a written collection development policy and also a governing body for collection development

**2. What library services are offered by the library?**

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

**Table 3.1:** Information and Documentation Services

Sr. No.	Services	Yes	No
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	✓	

**3. Electronic services offered by the library**

In addition to the above-mentioned information and documentation services, As per the table no. 3.2, the Central Library of the Central University of South Bihar, Gaya, provides a range of electronic services. These include an Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), an online catalogue for theses, a single-window search facility with both simple and advanced search options, access to electronic resources, remote access services, open access resources, press clipping services, and consortia-based resources. However, the library does not currently offer trial resources, data portals, or institutional repository services.

**Table 3.2:** 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.)		

#### **4. Library Resources**

The Central library of Central University of South Bihar boasts a rich and diverse collection, encompassing both print and electronic resources, which effectively supports the academic and research needs of its users. With 55283 print books and 8,032 e-books, the collection reflects a healthy balance between traditional and digital formats. The availability of 13000+ electronic journals, compared to only 35 print journals, indicates a clear shift toward digital access for scholarly content. Additionally, the library subscribes to eight newspapers and maintains 190 printed theses, ensuring access to both current and academic information. The inclusion 4 Databases and 12 Newspaper further enhances the collection. Overall, the library demonstrates strong collection development and adaptability, aligning with contemporary academic trends and the evolving needs of learners and researchers.

#### **Total 3.3: Library Resources**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Types of Resources</b>	<b>Total no. of Electronic Resources</b>	<b>Total no. of Print Resources</b>
1.	Books	8032	55283
2.	Journals/ Periodicals	13000+	35
3.	Database		4
4.	Newspaper		12
5.	Thesis		190
6.	Donated Books		
7.	Any other (name them with no.)		
<b>Total</b>		21,032	55, 524

#### **5. 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 The table presents the availability of equipment in the Central Library of the Central University of South Bihar, indicating the level of technological and infrastructural support provided to users. The library is reasonably well-equipped with 55 computers, which suggests a strong emphasis on providing digital access to users for activities such as online searching, accessing e-resources, and academic work. The presence of 4 TV/LCD units indicates facilities for presentations, digital displays, or user awareness programmes.

In terms of document reproduction and management, the library has 2 photocopiers, 5 printers, and 2 scanners, which support users in copying, printing, and digitizing documents. These facilities are essential for both students and researchers in handling academic materials.

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Additionally, the availability of 3 barcode readers reflects the adoption of automation in library operations, such as circulation and inventory management, improving efficiency and accuracy.

However, the table shows no available data for projectors, which may indicate either their absence or missing information. Similarly, no details are provided under “any other equipment,” suggesting that either there are no additional resources or they have not been reported.

Overall, the library appears to have a good range of basic ICT and reprographic equipment, supporting both traditional and digital library services, though there may be scope for improvement in certain areas such as presentation tools and additional advanced infrastructure

**Table 3.4:** Availability of various equipment in the library

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Equipment's</b>	<b>Availability</b>
1.	Computer	55
2.	TV / LCD	04
3.	Photocopier	02
4.	Projector	
5.	Scanner	02
6.	Printer	05
7.	Barcode Reader	03
8...	Any other (name them with no.)	

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

**Table 3.5:** 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 South Bihar, Gaya, 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, The availability of photocopiers improves operational efficiency; however, the lack of projectors, barcode readers, and multimedia tools highlights the need for further technological advancement. The library's collection—consisting of more than 55,283 printed books, 8,032 e-books, and over 13,000 e-journals—reflects a strong commitment to digital transformation while maintaining traditional resources. The subscription to ONOS ensures extensive coverage across disciplines such as science, technology, and the humanities. Nevertheless, the absence of interdisciplinary databases and digitized theses indicates areas that require attention and development. Overall, the library demonstrates steady progress toward modernization, diversification of resources, and user-centered services, aligning well with current academic and technological trends.

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