TOP TEN USA AND INDIAN LAW SCHOOL LIBRARIES: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

Lagdhir Rabari

The library is a cornerstone of holistic education. This paper examines; the current status, collections, infrastructure, and the services of selected top ten law schools libraries in the United States of America (USA) and India. Libraries in the United States are more advanced, while its counterparts in India are still developing with the first national level autonomous law school yet to celebrate its silver jubilee. Big differences are seen between the law libraries of the two countries. Even then Indian law school libraries are striving to meet their users' needs.

INTRODUCTION

The study of law is extensive and practitioners range from legislators, bureaucrats, legal draftsmen, judicial bodies, academicians, advisors and litigators [1, 2]. Therefore, it is necessary that the library supplements the Socrates model of learning, to serve the needs of developing minds into disciplined and well informed professionals, who serve the society [3].

Legal education has been offered as a mainstream course since medieval years. But the development of a formal law school system came into existence only between the 18th and 19th century. Gustaniamam, the Swedish Uppsala University built in 1622-1625 and currently in existence as a museum was one of the pioneers in formal legal education. Since then the legal education system is growing as an important educational discipline in the world. USA and Europe have a rich heritage of legal system and legal education. Roman, Common laws and Catholic are the main traditions of world legal systems. Currently, thousands of law schools across the globe are imparting legal education to fulfill the demands of corporates, judiciary, administrative, legislative and public at large (Malik and Arora [4]).JD, JSD, SJD, LLB and LLM these are the internationally recognized law degrees offered by various institutions across the globe.

The Indian legal system is an inheritance of the common law legal tradition [5]. The Indian legal system, legal education is directly connected with the British legal system, since India was under British rule [6].

The first formal legal education institutions commenced during the British period in Kolkata, Madras and Mumbai. Post-independence, legal education gained importance and due to reforms in legal education, the government adopted the integrated five year law courses as a model system of education thereby establishing the first national law school, National Law School of India University, Bangalore in 1986. After successful implementation of this model, government decided to start similar schools of law, in other states. As on date, there are 18 national law schools imparting legal education in India on the framework of integrated courses.

These 18 law schools are in addition to thousands of law colleges and law departments in universities, which have been offering law degrees. Many private law colleges, law schools and law universities, also offer similar courses in India i.e. Jindal, NIRMA, KIIT, and Amity law schools [6] and many

Lagdhir Rabari
Gujarat National Law University,
Attalika Avenue,
Knowledge Corridor,
Koba-
Gandhinagar- 382007
(Gujarat) INDIA
lrabari@gnlu.ac.in

other private institutions. The government has also moved towards making the integrated courses the norm than an exception.

Well established library is a prerequisite for academic institute. Internationally, law librarianship has made big strides. India is coming to terms with the importance of librarianship [7]. This paper attempts to show the current status of national law school libraries in comparison with international law school libraries.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The available literature was reviewed on legal education, legal courses, legal system, and law librarianship at national and international level [8, 9].

Berring [10] presents the history of law librarianship. He says that law librarianship focuses on the content, the format and the research practice of legal information that shaped the profession. Law librarianship has closely tied to nature of legal information. The author explains that great law libraries grew in the middle of the twentieth century. Harvard, Yale, Columbia, and Michigan built huge collections. AALL had noted this trend and ranked libraries by their collections. Dean Christopher Columbus Landdell was the founder of modern version of Harvard law school.

Gruben [11] discusses three types of law libraries: court, private firm and academic law libraries. Each of these libraries is different in some aspects. They are different because of clients, contents and services, but similar in terms of LIS principles, practices and standards. Preservation and dissemination of law and legal materials is the mission of academic law libraries. Academic libraries have larger collections whereas in court libraries and law firm libraries collections are not big. Law firm libraries do not purchase case books, textbooks, and study materials, but their collections are working collections, updated and current development materials. Role and work of these libraries are different.

Butler [12] explores the administration of academic law libraries. Strategic planning, articulating a vision, maintaining the bar library standard, managing the key relationship, personnel, facilities, collections, budgets and services, these are the administrative works of law libraries. Important

role of law library director is in teaching, research and extension activities of law schools.

Rumsey [3] describes the concept of foreign, comparative and international law librarianship (FCIL). He explains their people, collections, services and organizations. He emphasizes on legal research skills, subject knowledge of foreign laws, knowledge of foreign languages, curiosity and intelligence these are the special quality qualifications are required to work in the FCIL library post.

Wertkin [13] says that law librarianship has a long tradition in the United States. He associates the American Association of Law Libraries, 1906 with the development of law libraries. Academic law libraries, Law firm libraries, Government law libraries, and special law libraries, are the main law libraries.

Broussard, Monaco and Seer [14] explore the issue of law library management; strategic plan and mission statements. Strategic plans help to define mission and are essential for library manager to define their development goals and strategies. The book lays emphasis on a written strategic plan that could help the manager to appropriate the performance of their work and appropriate professional developments.

Watson [15] describes the reference services of law library. Reference services are the heart of law libraries, whether is it academic libraries, government libraries, court libraries, law firm libraries or corporate law libraries. The author describes the reference transactions like personal interactions, reference service policies, virtual reference, in the paper.

Gee [16] conducted an extensive survey of major law libraries around the world. David Gee says that global legal information, needs and services are the recent discussion issues across the world in law libraries. It is a comprehensive world survey of 124 major law libraries, undertaken from April to June 2012.

At the National level there is limited literature on law librarianship. Bagavathi [17] conducted e-resources evolution study of the Ambedkar Law University, Tamil Nadu. Survey feedback was taken from 165 faculty, research scholars and PG, UG students. It was found that there was a difference in the level of awareness among the different category of users. Manupatra

was the highest ranked used database followed by LexisNexis and AIR. Awareness about HeinOnline, which is an international database of books, was less and, as the author noted, could also be attributed to the fact that the database was recently acquired by the library.

Mahr [18] studied law libraries in India from 1986 to 1987 during his fellowship visit from Indo-United States commission on education and culture. This is the first of its kind research conducted at national level by a foreign author. He discussed three branches of Indian government – the legislative, the executive and the judiciary. In his study of Delhi, Bangalore, Kashmir, Madras and Calcutta university libraries, the author's opinion was that the Delhi university was ranked as best library.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This paper compares top ten law schools of the United States of America and India. There are many organizations, agencies, which have carried out national and international ranking of law schools. But, here selection has been based on the authors' perception of well-known QS and US news agencies for top ten USA law schools ranking. For India, rankings have been based on *India Today* and Outlook best law schools ranking surveys.

Comparison is done based on three years data from 2012 to 2014. Faculty, infrastructure, research output, placement, quality related criteria, these are the comparison criteria. In libraries, comparison is done with collections, digital resources, ICT infrastructure, human resource strength and services.

QS World ranking on academic reputation (40%), Employer reputation (10%), Faculty student ratio (20%), Citations per faculty (20%), International student ratio (5%), and International staff ratio (5%). QS ranking is done faculty wise like Arts and Humanities, Engineering and Technology, Life science and Medicine, Natural science and social science. Law comes under social science category.

The U.S. News ranking is done on an average of 12 points measurement quality criteria set by the agency. The American Br Association accredited 198 law schools are selected in this ranking process. Quality assessment (weighted by 0.40), Assessment score by lawyers/judges (0.15),

Selectivity (weighted by 0.25), Median LSAT scores (0.125), Median undergraduate GPA (0.10), Acceptance rate (0.025), Placement success (weighted by 0.20), Bar passage rate (0.02), Faculty resources (weighted by 0.15), Expenditures per student (0.015), Student faculty ratio (0.03), Library resources (0.0075), these are the measurement criteria for assigning rank.

In India colleges and universities ranking is done by *India Today* and *Outlook*. *India today* has been doing an annual survey of top colleges in six disciplines, Arts, Science, Commerce, Engineering, Medicine and Law since last 14 years. For arts, science and commerce colleges ranking, only 13 major cities in India are considered, whereas for Engineering, Medicine and Law, all India colleges and universities are considered.

The Outlook ranking methodology is different. The process begins with extensive secondary research to set the criteria for selection of colleges in the master list. The detailed questionnaire is sent to 1400 colleges in nine streams; Engineering, Medicine, Dentists, Social Work, Law, Hotel Management Fashion Technology, Architecture, and Mass Communication. Expert panel analyses the data on the basis of set parameters and sub-parameters.

DATA COLLECTIONS

Data were collected by going through the individual web sites of each law school. Almost all law schools maintain informative web sites providing all information. In some cases efforts were made to verify the information with respective libraries via email communication and also an attempt was made to get remaining information which was not found on the web sites. Collected data are presented in two sections (USA and India), and three tables in each section.

The first table shows the top ten law schools list by ranks, second represents the data of law schools profile. This table covers the details of establishment, faculty strength, courses detail and research output. In third table data are presented specifically on the libraries. This table covers the data on libraries, library collections, services, infrastructure, digital resources, human resources and related information.

Top Ten Law Schools in USA

Table 1: USA Law School Ranking of 2013 to 2015

S. No.	Law Schools	QS Ranking (USA)			US News Ranking		
		2015	2014	2013	2015	2014	2013
1	Harvard University	1	1	1	2	2	2
2	Yale University	2	2	2	1	1	1
3	New York University	3	3	3	6	6	6
4	Stanford University	4	4	5	3	3	2
5	University of Chicago	6	5	6	4	4	4
6	University of California, Berkeley (UBC)	----	6	7	9	9	9
7	Columbia University	5	7	4	4	4	4
8	Georgetown University	---	8	8	---	----	----
9	University of Pennsylvania	8	9	9	7	7	7
10	Cornell University	9	10	---	---	----	----
11	University of Michigan	7	---	10	10	10	9
12	University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)	----	---	---		---	----
13	University of Virginia	-----	--	---	8	8	7
14	Duke University	10	--	---	10	---	---

Table 2: Top Ten Law Schools Profile, USA

S. No.	Law Schools	EST. Year	Courses	Faculty Strength (Full time)	Students
1	Harvard University	1817	JSD, LLM	123	1752
2	Yale University	1886	JD, JSD	70	607
3	New York University	1835	JD, JSD, LLM	113	1423
4	Stanford University	1893	JD, JSD	112	577
5	University of Chicago	1902	JD, JSD	76	604
6	University of California, Barkley	1949	JD, JSD	76	890
7	Columbia University	1858	JD, LLM/JSD	92	1170
8	Georgetown University	1870	JD, LLM	130	1719
9	University of Pennsylvania	1850	JD, LLM/SJD	55	756
10	Cornell University	1887	JD, LLM/JSD	57	595
11	University of Michigan law school	1867	JD, LLM, SJD	81	1000
12	University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)	1949	JD, LLM/SJD	120	992
13	University of Virginia	1819	JD, LLM, SJD	90	1005
14	Duke University	1924	JD, LLM, Ph.D		

QS Rankings show that Harvard University remains on first rank in all three years, followed by Yale and New York law school while as per the US news ranking Yale, Harvard and Stanford are the top three law schools. All top law schools are very old.

Table 3: Top Ten Law Schools' USA, Library and Library Resources

S. No.	Law Schools	Collections	Digital Resources/Services	Staff	Discovery	Web OPAC
1	Harvard University	More than 10,000,000 print volumes Digital collection, rich historical collection, special collection, 70,000 images 2,000,00 rare books	Find articles, find books, find database, research a topic, empirical research study, teaching, learning curriculum solution. The case studies, State of the art, user friendly library website.	86	Yes	Yes
2	Yale University	1,000,000 print resources with huge digital collection/resources, 200,000 volumes, foreign and international law collection, Rare books collection,	Excellent, informative web site, scanner, printers, scan on demand,	35	Yes	Yes
3	New York University	7,500,00 print collection Digital collection, institution repository, Audio, microform collection, video collection,	Research guide, exam archives, faculty services, library services,	36	Yes	Yes
4	Stanford University	6, 422,477 Print Collection Online1, 644,714 Digital collection, scholarly resources	Well-designed website, service focused, research focused direct names/link, faculty services, course support		Yes	Yes
5	University of Chicago	Special collection and research center, collection with collection development policy, scholarly repository	Database finders, research guide,	24	Yes	Yes
6	University of California, Barkley	875,000 print volumes, rich historical collection, World renowned Robbins Collection of rare books and manuscripts in civil and religious law.	Research classes, research services, library guide, tour, excellent website, single window OPAC, floor map	40	Yes	Yes
7	Columbia University	------------	-------------	--	----	-----

8	Georgetown University	601,596 Print volumes Historical collection, faculty resources, alumni resources, students' resources. One library two locations. One general and other international and comparative law library	Research desk, research consultancy, A to Z database list, search catalogue by category wise and all together.	56	Yes	Yes
9	University of Pennsylvania	10,000,00 print volumes Archives and special collection	Digital resources, scholarly depository, Well organized library website, quick link, my library account, FAQ, Twit, news and highlights	30	Yes	Yes
10	Cornell University	700,000 Collection polity and guidelines, Rare books collections, scholarly collections	Huge digital collection, archives, historical collection, digital repository	38	Yes	Yes
11	University of Michigan	712,000 Print volumes and 318,000 non-print Rare collection Faculty publication Law school history collection	Scholarly repository, Hugest digital collection, world online databases, ask librarian, copies and scanner services, well organized library resources and services information on library web site, Audio tour.	30	Yes	Yes
12	University of California, Los Angeles	6,000,00 print volumes 30,000 e titles Digital collection (E Resources)	All advance services, special services for researcher, faculty members, ready and easy guide for users to find, brows and search library's digital resources.	35	Yes	Yes
13	University of Virginia	803,815 volumes print collection Digital collection, special collection, DVD collection, historical collection, law school archives (IR), media library, rare books collection	Maps, directions, group study rooms, help line number of any need, research guide, spaces guide, and services guide in details.	25	Yes	Yes
14	Duke University					

Clearly the libraries have very rich and extensive collections. In addition to the core collections of books, reports, journals, thesis, dissertations, these libraries possess rich historical collections, rare collections and special collections. These top law school libraries also acquired and subscribe to excellent digital collections, thousands of e-Journals, eBooks, huge number of online

database and similar digital collections. Almost law schools subscribe to between 60 to 150 online databases, exclusively on their core subjects. The libraries have well designed, well organized; everything is available on the website starting from basic information about, library history, collections, acquisition policies, scholarly repository, ILL, and DDL request link, digital resources access links, facts and figures, web OPAC on discovery platform, subscribed database list, easy link, virtual tour, video tour, library maps, collections descriptions, Journals list, research guide, special services, faculty services, students services, beginning for new users, walking users, ask librarian, know your library, library personnel with contact details, job profile, designations and qualifications, updated library hours on daily basis, library news, what is new, research trends. On an average, 40 to 80 staff members are working in these top law schools libraries. In this technology age when digital resources are increasing day by day, libraries are known as a "library without wall" and which can be accessible from anywhere. Working hours are observed up to 2100, 2200, 2400 HRS and in some cases, during end semester exams, libraries remain open round the clock. Some libraries offer only reading facilities for long hours i.e. 24 hours. There is one university library that keeps its reading rooms open round the clock. All libraries offer scan and print services in addition to reprographic services and other normal library services. The reprographic services are offered within the restrictions of copyright law. Library users are also trained and educated to respect the copyright provisions.

Table 4: Top Ten Indian Law School, Ranking for 2013 to 2015

S. No.	Law School India	India Today Rank			Outlook Rank		
		2015	2014	2013	2015	2014	2013
1	NLSIU, Bangalore	1	1	2	1	1	1
2	NALSAR, Hyderabad	2	2	1	2	2	2
3	Law Centre, Delhi University, Delhi	3	3	3	---	---	----
4	Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar	4	8	6	6	8	8
5	Symbiosis Law College, Pune	5	4	7	7	7	7
6	National Law Institute University, Bhopal	----	5	5	4	3	3
7	Faculty of Law, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh	6	6	10	---	--	---
8	ILS Law College, Pune	7	7	9	5	6	5
9	Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	8	9	----	----	----	----
10	National Law Institute University, Jodhpur	----	10	8	---	5	6
11	The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS), Kolkata	---	-----	4	3	4	4
12	Hidayatullah National University of Law, Raipur	9	----	-----	**---**	**----**	**----**
13	New Law college (Bharati Vidyapeeth), Pune	10	----	----	9	9	10
14	Amity Law School, Delhi				**---**	10	9
15	National Law University, Delhi				8	**---**	**---**
16	Faculty of Law Jamia Milia, Delhi				10	**--**	**--**

Table 5: Top Ten Indian Law Schools/Universities Profile

S. No.	Law Schools	Est. Year	Courses	Faculty Strength(Full time)	Students
1	NLSIU, Bangalore	1987	LLB, LLM, Ph.D	29	455
2	NALSAR, Hyderabad	1998	LLB, LLM, Ph.D	41	390
3	Law Department, Delhi University	1924	LLB, LLM, Ph.D	52	2719
4	Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar	2003	LLB, LLM, Ph.D, Diplomas	41	860
5	Symbiosis Law College, Pune	1977	LLB (3/5), LLM, Diplomas	24	1740
6	National Law Institute University, Bhopal	1997	LLB, LLM, Ph.D	21	647
7	Faculty of Law, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh	1920	LLB, LLM, Ph.D	19	550
8	ILS Law College, Pune	1924	LLB (3/5), LLM, Ph.D	16	1800
9	Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	1921	LLB, LLM, Ph.D	39	-----
10	National Law Institute University, Jodhpur	1999	LLB, LLM, LLD, Ph.d	42	675
11	The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS), Kolkata	1999	LLB, LLM, M. Phil, LLD	32	667
12	Hidayatullah National University of Law, Raipur	2003	LLB, LLM, Ph.D	37	
13	New Law college (Bharati Vidyapeeth), Pune	1978	LLB, LLM	22	2300
14	Amity Law School, Delhi	2003	LLB, LLM, M. Phil, Ph.D	33	-----
15	National Law University, Delhi	2008	LLB, LLM, Ph.D	35	450
16	Faculty of Law Jamia Milia, Delhi	1989	LLB, LLM, Ph.D	11	------

Of the sixteen being studied here, four were established in between 1920-1950, whereas model national law schools came into existence recently after 1987. The oldest law school among the top ten is law School of Aligarh Muslim University, which was established in 1920 and the oldest national law school is NLSIU, Bangalore, which was established in 1987. Faculty strength is between 20 and 45. The highest numbers of faculty members are in law School of Delhi University; 52 and the lowest faculty members are in ISL law school Pune; 16. Indian legal system follows the common law tradition so, law degrees in Indian law schools known as a LLB, LLM and Ph.D. there are two types of LLB degrees offered by these law schools, one is three years after graduation and other is five years integrated law degree. Almost all top ten law schools offer five years integrated law degrees. There are a few law schools, which offer both three years as well as five year law degree programmes. In addition to these LLB degrees law schools offer LLM as a master level degree and certificates courses, Ph.D degree etc. LLM is two years degree but there are a few National Law schools, which offer LLM as a one year course.

Table 6: Library infrastructure and Resources at Top Ten Indian Law schools/Universities

S. No.	Law Schools	Collections	Digital Resources/Services	Library Staff	Discovery Services	Web OPAC
1	NLS, Bangalore	48000 Print volumes Digital collection	12 databases	10	No	Yes
2	NALSAR, Hyderabad	27000 Print volumes UN Repository status, collection development policies	6 CD ROM and 6 online database, well designed library webpages,	8	No	Yes on VTLS
3	Law Centre, Delhi University	150000 Print volumes	20 online databases	10	No	TROODON: 4, Web OPAC
4	Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar	35000 Print volumes 150 current print journals	12 online database, Centrally AC, Wi-Fi	5	No	Yes on Libsys with RFID/EM
5	Symbiosis Law College, Pune	34962 Print volumes 126 current print journals	8 online databases	11	No	Yes
6	National Law Institute University, Bhopal		6 online databases		No	Yes on Koha
7	Faculty of Law, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh	35000 Print volumes	4 online database	10	No (Nimbus federate services)	Yes, on Libsys
8	ILS Law College, Pune	52030 Print volumes	6 online database	8	No	No web OPAC
9	Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	80000 Print volumes	4 online database,	8	No	Yes, no separate but integrated with central university's library

10	National Law Institute University, Jodhpur	25000 Print volumes 120 Current print Journals	Wi-Fi 8 online database	11	No	SOUL
11	The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS), Kolkata	40000 Print volumes	7 online databases Wi-Fi, centrally AC,	10	No	Yes on VTLS
12	Hidayatullah National University of Law, Raipur	22778 Print volumes	6 online databases	-----	No	No
13	New Law college (Bharati Vidyapeeth), Pune	28569 Print volumes	5 online databases	---	No	-----
14	Amity Law School, Delhi	16080 Print volumes	3 online database	----	No	No
15	National Law University, Delhi	45000 Print volumes	13 online databases	15	No	Yes
16	Faculty of Law Jamia Milia, Delhi	----	-----	---	----	-----

FINDINGS

Older law schools libraries have good print collections compare to new law schools. The library at Banaras Hindu University has big print collection; 150,000, whereas the first national law school NLUIU library collection is about 40,000 volumes. NLU libraries are acquiring and subscribe to good digital collections, and have modern library infrastructure. Delhi university law school library subscribes highest number of online databases; 20 in compare to others law schools libraries. All law schools libraries are fully automated libraries and they use different-different LMS software. Some libraries use LIBSYS, Some SOUL, Two libraries use VTLS, one library use Trozon LMS software and one use Koha. Three libraries maintain base information about libraries on their institution web sites [19]. There is one library, which does not have web page and two libraries providing only statistical details. Except one law school of Delhi University library, there is no separate library website. NLU libraries maintain web pages on their institutions' web site but no separate library websites. Almost all libraries remain open till late hours. NLSIU, Bangalore remains open till morning 3 am.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

History and Development

In USA, out of 14 top law schools, 9 law schools are 150 to 200 hundred years old. The oldest being Harvard law school, which was established in 1817, since then, others law schools have emerged. Other distinguishing facts about the law schools of USA is, these law schools were not established as separate law schools only, but have established as department of the parent university, i.e. Harvard law school part of Harvard University etc. In India, the oldest law school is law school of Aligarh Muslim University established in 1920. Many top Indian law schools have been established during the last 25 years. There is also a significant difference in faculty strength between US and Indian law schools.

Academic Programs (Courses)

Law schools in the United States of America offer JD, JDS, and LLM courses as a core law degrees and other certificates, diploma and Ph.D degrees. Admission is given based on the LST score in these American law schools. India law schools offer five years integrated LLB course after higher secondary. However, two law schools - Delhi and Symbiosis offer three years LLB degree in addition

to five years integrated LLB degree. Almost all law schools offer LLM degrees as a master level (PG) degree after LLB. In addition to these courses, law schools also offer certificate, diploma, and PhD programmes.

Library Collections (Print Resources)

The law school libraries in USA have developed large and rich collections including its own repositories, historical collections and rare books collection. Indian law schools collections are comparatively small. Delhi University law school library is the largest with 150,000 print volumes followed by Banaras Hind University. Remaining law schools have collections in the range of 20,000 to 45,000 volumes. The law schools in United States of America also subscribe to many digital resources. They subscribe to all major 60 to 80 online databases, thousands of e-Journals, and millions of e-Books. They have developed digital archives, institutions repositories (IRs), and built collections of rare literature in digital formats. Considerable amount of information is available for access in digital format. On the other hand, Indian law school libraries are still in developing stage in so far as digital resources are concerned. Many subscribe to about ten to twelve online databases, and limited number e-Journals and very few eBooks. There are no initiatives at present for building digital archives, developing historical and rare collections and creating IRs.

Library's Reading Space (Learning Space)

Even in terms of physical infrastructure the law schools in USA are way ahead. Most libraries are housed in large buildings with huge space for reading, reference and digital access. The library is viewed as a learning space. Major Indian law schools have been established only recently and are provided with adequate space for the libraries as per the current need.

Human Resources Strength (Library)

Human resource is the main factor to manage library and offer better, proper library services. Of 12 US law schools 6 law schools have more than 70 staff members working in the libraries. In Indian law schools, library staff is always a concern. Recommendations made by various commissions, government agencies (UGC etc.) or other bodies are not followed. The highest number of library staff 15 is at NLU, Delhi; NLS, Bangalore has 13 staff members. In most of the law schools librarian's positions is vacant.

Library Working Hours

In this digital age library is accessible from anywhere and most US law schools remain open till 2200 or 2400 hrs. Some libraries remain open till 3 am or round the clock during examination time. Indian law school libraries remain open for relatively lesser hours. They work extended hours during Monday to Friday and 9 to 8 pm on Saturday, Sunday and public holidays. They remain open for longer hours only for reading, reference purposes.

Library Services

Technology has changed library services. Now, library services are not limited to circulation, reading facilities, and reference only. Law schools in the United States of America offer library services, which support the teaching, research and extension activities of their schools. Libraries are fully engaged along with all academic, research and extension activities. Special services to researcher, faculty members and project work, teaching work on research methodology, services by round the clock, services on current update, these are the types of services offered by the law libraries. Indian law schools also offer such modern technology-based services. But as stated above Indian law schools have limitations mainly on part of library personnel and under those limitations these law schools libraries are working under tremendous pressure to fulfill the needs of users.

Library Websites

Library website is an attractive feature of US law schools. Their websites specify everything. Starting from the virtual tour to online reservation, user history, account, and everything is accessible on their website. Well-designed, well-maintained and updated websites are the main attraction of these USA law schools libraries.

Whereas Indian law schools library web sites have a limited number of static web pages within the University website. Except for a few law schools

like Delhi University, NLS Bangalore, NALSAR Hyderabad and GNLU, Gandhinagar others do not have even provide sufficient basic information on the library website.

Web OPAC/Discovery Services

All 12 USA law schools libraries have well developed web OPAC and other discovery [20] tools accessible even on mobiles. Indian law schools are offering Web OPAC. Two law schools offer federated search services. But as far as discovery tools are concerned it is not at operational level in any law school in India [21]. The difficulties Indian law schools face includes the fact that Indian literature is not easily available in digital format.

Users Education/Awareness Programs

Law libraries in the United States of America have well developed user education and user awareness program modules; these services are offered on ICT platform. These law schools have developed virtual tour of libraries. Topics include on how to start research, how to explore the library resources, research guide, timings etc. Libraries also provide and host additional services to users on their web sites, including, regular training sessions through video conferencing, webinar and in-house training sessions. Indian law schools have developed in-house training and awareness program, which are provided to their users.

CONCLUSION

Law school libraries in US have a long history of growth and development and offer a number of services based on well-developed in-house collection as also digital resources. Indian law schools are still in the initial stages of development and have to go a long way in meeting adequately the needs of their users.

REFERENCES

[1]   Kiralfy, A. *Potter's historical introduction to English law* (4th ed.). New Delhi: Universal Law Publishing, 1958.

[2]   Kritzer, H. M. (Ed.). *Legal systems of the world: a political and social encyclopedia in 4 vols.* New Delhi: Pentagon Press, 2008.

[3]   Rumsey, M. Foreign, comparative and international law librarianship. In: *Law librarianship in the twenty first century* (pp. 165–180). Lanham: The Scarecrow Press, 2014.

[4]   Malik, L. & Arora, M. (Eds.). *Legal education in India: Essays in honour of Professor Ranbir Singh*. Delhi: Universal Law Publishing, (2014).

[5]   Minattur, J. *Indian legal system* (2nd ed.). New Delhi: Indian Law Institute, 2006.

[6]   *Centres of legal education in India*. New Delhi: Bar Council of India, 2011.

[7]   Shrivastava, R. K. Law Librarianship in India with Special Reference to the Judicial Library System. *International Journal of Legal Information. 36*(2), 2009, 275–299.

[8]   Oberoi, G. *Developing the judicial education discourse*. New Delhi: Thomson Reuters. 2013.

[9]   Rao, G. Manoher & Rao, K. Shrinivas (Eds.). *Legal education in India- challenges & prospectives.* Hyderabad: Asia Law House, 2007.

[10]   Berring, R. C. A brief history of law librarianship. In *Law librarianship in the twenty first century* (pp. 1–14). Lanham: The Scarecrow Press, 2014.

[11]   Gruben, K. T. Working at the law library: a practical guide. In: *Law librarianship in the twenty first century* (pp. 15–44). Lanham: The Scarecrow Press, (2014).

[12]   Butler, L. S. The administration of the academic law library: the glue that binds. In: *Law librarianship in the twenty first century* (pp. 45–70). Lanham: The Scarecrow Press, 2014.

[13]   Wertkin, J. Law librarianship 2.0. In: Law *librarianship in the digital age* (pp. 3–12), 2014.

[14] Broussard, C., Monaco, R. & See, G. Law library management. In: *Law librarianship in the digital age* (pp. 89–108). Lehmann: The Scarecrow Press, 2014.

[15] Watson, C. A. Reference services in a law library. In *Law librarianship in the digital age* (pp. 235–252). Lanham: The Scarecrow Press, 2014.

[16] Gee, D. A survey of major law libraries around the world. *International Journal of Legal Information.* 41 (2), 2013, 108–161.

[17] Bagavathi, A., Parthiban, M. & Srinath, M. Evaluation of e-resources in Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University: a survey. In: *International conference on access to legal information and research in digital age* (pp. 374–386). New Delhi: National Law University Delhi, 2012.

[18] Mahr, T. A. An introduction to law and law libraries in India. *Law Library Journal.* 82, 1990, 91–128.

[19] Plumblarrick, A. The law library website. In: *Law librarianship in the digital age* (pp. 157–182). Lanham: The Scarecrow Press, 2014.

[20] Craigle, V. Web scale discovery and federated search. In: *Law librarianship in the digital age* (pp. 183–198). Lanham: The Scarecrow Press, 2014.

[21] Rabari, L. Library catalogue to discovery services; innovation in information retrieval technology. *International Journal of Information Sources and Services*, 2(2), 2015, 65–70.