

Secondary School Libraries in Uttar Pradesh: Present Scenario

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Abstract

The paper gives an overview of present scenario of secondary school libraries in India and Uttar Pradesh. Discuss the role of Secondary Education Commission in development of School Libraries. Suggestions have also been given to improve the conditions of school libraries in the state.

Introduction

The Constitution of India has enshrined free and compulsory education for all children up to the age of fourteen years. The efforts in this direction have been tremendous, by expanding the educational facilities, particularly in rural areas, by opening schools, attracting more children to school and retaining them. There has been a constant increase in the number of schools in the last few years. Though it is imperative to provide schooling facilities within a convenient walking distance to achieve the goal of Universal Elementary Education, it is also essential to provide a good quality of education to children to prepare them for the future. To impart good education to children we must provide good quality schools, which means providing certain minimum facilities in the schools to create a congenial atmosphere for the children to study in. The school library is such one of the important facilities, which should be available in each school.¹

Objectives of School Library

The school library is the heart of the school stimulating currents go out of it into every corner of the school. A school library does not exist for itself. It exists to serve the objectives of its parent organisations. A school library can play a very important role in helping the educational system to achieve its goals. The aim of a good school library is to become a force for educational excellence. School library also helps in developing reading interests in children when they are young so that books may serve as life long sources of knowledge for them.² The main objectives of school library are :-

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