

# EDUCATION RIGHTS AND THE ROLE OF MOBILE LIBRARY

Chanchal Kumar Das

In-charge, Department of Library, Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science  
Jadavpur, Kolkata-700 032, India.libckd@iacs.res.in

Delegation to the 1<sup>st</sup> International Congress on Human Rights & Duties  
(Regd: 07ICHRD2015)

## Abstracts:

The knowledge access and education is a fundamental right of every human. The mobile library exclusively gives us the information in multifarious area and its offered variety of services to the users. Today, library is open to all public so that they can search their reference thereby, fulfilling their requirements. The mobile library is an appropriate learning tool, that includes e- readers loaded with actual required resources of books, journals, documents, database, maps and others reading materials etc. In this context, trained and skilled professionals of library have been engaged in solving the problems not only at school level but also till college level. Thus it should help in the various fields of science and technology, information communication and management through electronic media. It has extended the services towards networking, literacy programme and also development of awareness to protect the human right in rural area.

**A** library on the vehicle is to provide service even at places far from the city and is open for all users without restriction. The mobile library is an extension of public library that is provided by all services to the users.

- It is a library carrying their resources by van to outside users.
- Public library is providing mobile library services through mobile vans.
- The mobile library provides services in rural area mostly.

## 2. History

It has been observed that the first mobile library services started in African and Arabian countries. India had started this service in 1953 with a specially designed vehicle. At that time mostly the said services were especially visually and physically handicapped peoples. After some time because of its demand and popularity for readers it started for common people.

Before the beginning of services needed to selection of place by the library professionals did a brief survey of the concerned place on various parameter and requirements.



1. Geographical feature
2. Local Administration: Head of Area, MLA, Panchayat Pradhan etc
3. Population: Male /Female ratio
4. Education label: School: Primary, Higher Secondary label, Co-ed College: Degree or Post graduate label Subject Study, Training Centre or Institution
5. Economic condition: Cultivation, Industry and employment
6. Hospital and Health Care Centre
7. Population
8. Distance from the nearest library
9. Interest of Local People
10. Suitable Timings of local peoples
11. Social Activities
12. NGO Service available
13. Shortest Route of the selected service place
14. Arrangement of Electricity or lighting source
15. Security and softy of service peoples.
16. Available of Networks

After observation of the above parameters they proceeded to the next steps which are most important of mobile library service.

### Arrangement of vehicle

The prescribed standard size of van is 5x12.5 feet with both side sliding doors and a pilot who must have a basic mechanical knowledge of vehicles and needed to check windows, doors and other parts of glass should be fixed properly to avoid the dust particles, sunlight, rain water and jerks.

### Next steps of the service

After consulting of the local authority/in charge of the concern place like Principal of school / Panchayat Pradhan/Councilor officially seeks the permission; settles the schedule, time and date before providing the services as convenience.

### 2. Selection of Man powers

Normally about two or three professionals are required in a team. The qualification of the library professional should be maintained accordingly.

1. The professionals must be qualified in the field of library and information science, also they should have sound knowledge of computer works.

2. The professionals should also have basic operating knowledge of electronic equipments like LCD projector, laptop, reprography, scanning and audio-video and sound systems etc.

3. Professionals should be well prepared to interact with the local people's knowledge of current affairs, capability to conduct seminars, workshop, exhibition and films show individually as per requirements and demands..

4. Children education programme: The principle objective of mobile library is the extension of education in rural areas, increase of literacy ratio of adult and women and provide the library services those who are not able to come at the public library due to long distance, transport problems, financial hardship or physical disabilities etc.



Through the mobile services people can get information from their required reading materials, employment, information of govt.scholarships,development programme, higher education scopes, skilled training and guidance for professional jobs etc.

### 3. Advantage of mobile services

There are so many advantages available in this service out of which the most helpful services is to remove the darkness of illiteracy and insist the people for developing reading habits. Comparatively this service is very cheap and more convenient as there are no administrative

complexities, requirements of infrastructures, more manpower and funds, furniture plus these equipments are more convenient to the readers as they get the books/reading materials as per their actual demands and interest .The users can also spare their time according to themselves.

It has been observed that the utility of mobile library is more helpful to convey the current awareness , information of new technology , research progress in agriculture , cattle, governments plans and programme, and employment related information, etc. to extend the service in rural areas as well as connect with the Country. In some time such a service shall be provided by the non government organizations also.

Comparison of Membership & Lending of Books for the Year – 2013-14

#### IN PUBLIC LIBRARY: -

**New Membership 2014**

**Male-77/Female88**

**No. of Users**

**Male-27/ Female-18**

**No of Users**

**Male-27/ Female-18**

Books to Aware to Rights

#### IN MOBILE LIBRARY

**New Membership-2014**

**Male-43/ Female-77**

**No. of Users**

**Male-39/ Female-68**

Consequently the mobile library services are too helpful with respect to remote access, common programme, education and development in rural areas.Thus, the access of library to enhance of knowledge should be a significant right of all.

### 4. References

- RTEDU-2012 National Conference on Right to Education: Challenges and Opportunities, Vatsal Dhar and others, pp 38, 31<sup>st</sup> August-01<sup>st</sup> Sep.2012.
- AURO University,Surat,Gujrat, National Conference On Law and Justice-2013(NCLJ-2013)
- Proceedings paper Human Rights & Women, Rekha Pahuja, pp 400-403