

A STUDY TO IDENTIFY THE PROBLEMS IN ORGANIZING INFORMATION IN SCHOOL LIBRARIES: A CASE STUDY BASED ON THE NATIONAL SCHOOLS IN MANMUNAI NORTH EDUCATIONAL DIVISION IN BATTICALOA EDUCATIONAL ZONE.



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Abstract

The main aim of this research was to identify the problems in organizing information in school libraries. A case study based on the selected National schools in Manmunai North Educational Division in Batticaloa Educational Zone.

The problems were analyzed from different angles and the different group of users and library personals were given questionnaire to collect the data. These data were mainly used to identify the problems in school libraries.

Main findings of the research:

- 1) 75% of the school libraries have no cataloging system.
- 2) Dewey Decimal Classification system has been followed in all schools.
- 3) 57% of the students have faced difficulties in collecting information from the libraries due to complicated arrangement of information, improper location of information, and lack of shelf guide.
- 4) 69% of the academic staff and 2% of the students have knowledge of cataloguing system whereas 17% of the academic staff only used catalogue to get information. But none of the students used cataloguing in school libraries.
- 5) All school libraries have classification systems. Only 40% of the academic staff and 29% of students have knowledge about the classification system.
- 6) Library personals were not given proper training to maintain school libraries with classification and cataloguing systems and the school administrative body does not provide financial assistance to keep the library in order.
- 7) 75% of school libraries don't have information technology facilities.

To overcome these problems proper training to library personals, awareness programme to school community about cataloguing and classification system, discussion between the school administrative body and the library personals are suggested to improve the standard of the school libraries.

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