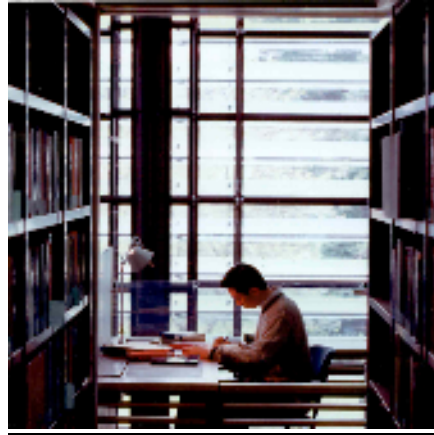


Consulting project on Library Development in the city of Ahmedabad



Libraries in general and public libraries in particular, have the potential to make our society a true “knowledge society.” Libraries serve as ideal platforms to bridge the gap between the ‘information rich’ and ‘information poor’ by ensuring that people from different strata of the society have easy access to knowledge they seek. Thus, they play an extremely important role in furthering the cause of ‘good governance’.

It is important that Library and Information Services sector is given the necessary fillip to ensure that people from all walks of life and all parts of the city have easy access to knowledge relevant to their needs and aspirations. Libraries should be so organized and the staff so trained that they become relevant to user communities (including special groups) in every respect, satisfy their reading needs and also instills in them the quest for knowledge.

The project to uplift, develop and revamp the current library sector of the city of Ahmedabad was commissioned by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation.

In this project, headed by Ms. Kanan Dhru, an extensive survey of all the 50 libraries being managed by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation in and around the city of Ahmedabad was conducted. Relevant stake-holders were consulted and final recommendations were submitted to the Municipal Corporation.

The recommendations were pertaining to:

- 1) Making the library services more efficient, user friendly and relevant to the needs of the society
- 2) Restructuring the governance-structure and financial-outlays of the existing libraries
- 3) Modernising and Digitising the current library-services

The process of helping the Corporation in creating the awareness about this issue, building consensus as well as implementing the recommendations is also ongoing.

The sample report can be made available on request.