Preface

The 21st Century World, in which we are now living is changing very fast. This change is being noticed in all sphere of our life. The growth of population forced the World to exploit our exhaustible and non-renewable natural resources in order to get more consumer goods for hungry millions. It is become inevitable to expand the stock of natural resources with the help of science and technology. Wanton use of Science and Technology to exploit the natural resources, creates many problems in the environment.

The present study is an attempt to evaluate the present status of the under graduate (general) college libraries in North 24 Parganas. Today nobody can deny the importance of computer application in college libraries is the primary factor for the development of library services. So the present position of the college libraries should be reviewed to collect a comprehensive picture.

The attempts to make a complete and details assessment of the library and information facilities available in the college libraries and before presenting the analysis of the study findings, traces the historical development of the college libraries from the ancient time to the present day.

On the basis of the data collected through the questionnaire filled in by the librarian or the In-Charge of the library (in absence of librarian due to retirement or post not yet sanctioned) which included in the book describes detailed information about the aims and objectives, of the college libraries, their information resources, their management, their allocation of fund (sources), infrastructural provision and scope available for library automation which will provides better facilities to its users community.

The computer and Information and communication Technology and related devices have to be regarded as powerful agents for helping the college libraries to achieve their goal and rendered effective, quicker, and accurate information access and services to the teaching learning community. The computer and telecommunication technology revolutionized every function of the library and information centres to the benefit of both the professionals and the library users.
The prominent features of this study is the application of information and communication technology to upgrade and developed college library services with the existing staff pattern and create environment to maximum utilization of library resources. College should endeavor to achieve a modern library facilities and services with the help of computer, which could not possible by the manual method, for the users. In this context, college library services and the facilities available to users, their reaction to the traditional services and the attitude to the librarians, the college authority, the students, the teachers have been discussed in details.

The demands of the users of college libraries clearly analyzed and sort out the only way to implement the computer and ICT for library housekeeping work and operations. This is the age of knowledge and information explosion and no college library have the scope and provision (financial ability) to acquired all the documents that their users’ needed and other hand library is a growing organ and space is the vital part for providing modern library information storage, organized and disseminate when asked by the users.

The existing resources and services to the present students and the ex-students and the people of the locality (as desired by the NAAC team) are inadequate and insufficient to meet the increasing demands. This creates the and forced the library to share their resources and collects the printed as well as electronics documents for the use of the teaching learning community, it is only possible, if college library take advantages of modern technological development (computer and its related peripheral devices) by introducing in their libraries.

The network facilities create the scope to collects newly generated information which is provided on the website. Computer and internet connection can open the World of information and college library should avail the advantage of computer in the interest of its users.