Chapter 5
Green and Sustainable Academic Library:
A Literature Review

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ABSTRACT

Environmental friendliness and sustainability are not a novel concept in libraries. The history of it can be traced back from 50 years ago. Despite it was not being followed as a continuous practice. In the 1960's and 70's people living in wartime were faced scarcity in resources so they balanced their expenditure and everything possible was recycled. But in later generations consumption habits changed thus the sustainability form a short time of temporal cycle. The amount of waste created nowadays is significantly higher, with a rising share coming from information technology gadgets. Now it's been a great challenge towards nation building. Nation Building is a multifaceted concept that entails the active participation of its citizens in all aspects of life. A robust and powerful nation is founded on the dedication and hard work of its citizens, as well as some foresight on the part of the government.

INTRODUCTION

Libraries have long been regarded as bastions of knowledge and culture, playing a pivotal role in the academic world. In recent years, libraries have become increasingly conscious of their environmental impact and sustainability. This heightened awareness is not only a reflection of the global concern over climate change and resource depletion but also a response to the evolving needs and expectations of the academic community and society at large. In the context of academic institutions in South India, libraries are undergoing a transformation, and their commitment to sustainable and green practices is being explored with renewed interest.

This chapter delves into the extensive body of literature that has accumulated on the subject of sustainable and green efforts in libraries, with a specific focus on academic libraries within the South Indian region. The significance of this review lies in its ability to provide a comprehensive understanding of the prevailing trends, challenges, and innovations in the quest for greener and more sustainable libraries in this specific geographical context.

The literature gathered for this review was meticulously collected from major databases and Google Scholar. The search included a variety of relevant keywords, such as "sustainable libraries," "green libraries," "academic libraries in South India," and related terms. This multi-faceted approach allowed for a comprehensive examination of the subject matter, bringing to light a diverse range of perspectives, best practices, and case studies from both the global and regional contexts.

The subsequent sections of this chapter will analyze the literature on sustainable and green initiatives in libraries, highlighting key themes and findings that have emerged in the academic discourse. Ultimately, synthesising these ideas will contribute to a deeper appreciation of the ongoing efforts and future possibilities for libraries in South India to become leaders in sustainable practices, not just in the academic world but in the broader context of environmental and societal well-being.

Concept of Green Library and Its Importance

Environmental protection is a growing concern all around the world. Among the growing environmental issues are ozone depletion, the greenhouse effect, global climate change, and global warming (Mwanzu et. al., 2023). Because of the growing number of environmentally concerned customers, there have been various Go Green campaigns and a Go Green movement, as well as solutions and demands for consumers, corporations, and governments to be more proactive in going green in all aspects. Libraries are no different. Despite its importance, little is known about the green-library concept in Africa and among Kenyan libraries. Kenya, like many other developing countries, has responded to climate change in a variety of ways due

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