



GREEN LIBRARY ; A STUDY

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ABSTRACT

Green Library is otherwise known as sustainable library. In 21st century the Green libraries are being build all over the world, along with library 2.0 green design is an emerging trend. The creation of green library is approaching a tipping point and transforming into a library movement by building green library buildings, by greening existing library facilities, providing green library services and embracing environmentally supportive and sustainable practices with in the library. A study of Green libraries in 2008 revealed that not only has energy conservation become important, but that spaces designed for users rather than books.

KEY WORDS

Green Library, Sustainable Library, Green Building, LEED- India, Major Green Library Initiatives.

INTRODUCTION

Now-a-days the word GREEN has become buzz word in all fields. Green is very much concerned over Global warming and its abuses. So we want everything to be GREEN to save the planet. Green library management emphasizes a new midset of taking responsibility for the stability of nature, health of library users, faculties and catering for the needs and interest of future generations of users. Libraries as non-commercial and service oriented public buildings are particularly suited to give examples to illustrate the idea of sustainability to distribute and to disseminate this idea to the people.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this paper is

- To analyze the importance of Green libraries.
- To know about the Green designing elements for library building.
- To identify the major Green library Initiatives.
- To know about the Green building situation in India.

GREEN DESIGNING ELEMENTS FOR LIBRARY BUILDING

Green libraries combine the needs of a library sustainable design and real cost savings in energy consumption. (Brown 2008) The main goal of green building is to develop and use sustainable energy – efficient resources in construction, maintenance and over all life of the structure. Brown identified the following green designing elements, which can be incorporated into libraries.

- Community collaboration
- Daylight
- Green materials (wood, bamboo)
- Green Roofs
- Raised floor systems.
- Green power and renewable energy.
- Energy efficiency.
- Natural ventilation.
- Indoor environmental quality.

What is Green Building?

The organization of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) developed the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system in the year 2000. The Green building can be categorized in four levels are

- Certified = 25- 40 points
- Silver = 41-50 points
- Gold = 51-60 points
- Platinum = 61-80 points

LEED India promotes a whole building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in the following five key areas namely,

1. Site location
2. Water conservation
3. Energy efficiency
4. Building materials
5. Indoor air quality and bonus category for innovation and design.

1. Site Location

Selection of the site must be chosen first. The library site has a large impact and ecologically friendly. The site should be located in a densely populated area, near a number of other service related buildings. People should be able to reach the building by public transportation and the parking lots should give priority parking to those driving energy efficient vehicle.

2. Water conservation

Use of roof water harvesting, green toilets, water recycling, etc. to save lot of water for properly.

3. Energy efficiency

Energy efficiency is most important aspects. The natural resources will be helpful in reducing global warming.

4. Building materials

Use of waste products will reduce damage to natural environment. Less use of locally available wood materials will save many trees, cost and fuel. Many modern building technologies have emerged which are more eco friendly and used in new library buildings.

5. Indoor air quality

Lack of ventilation at public places can cause many harmful diseases like bacterial and fungus infections. Least use of air conditioners will reduce emission of harmful gases responsible for holes in Ozone layer and intern global warming.

Major Green Library Initiatives

Name of the Library	Place	Country	Features
Anything Brighton	Brighton	USA	First carbon-positive library
Crowfoot branch, Calgary Public Library	Calgary	Canada	Incorporates energy and daylight harvesting, reduce the use of water and recycled materials.
Anna-Centenary Library	Chennai	India	Library block at angle that allows maximum daylight and eco-friendly
Karnataka University Library	Dharward	India	No books shelves, chairs or tables but benches are installed under the trees so that students can sit and read the books taken from the university library.
The National Library	Singapore	Singapore	First green library for kids.

Situation in India

TERI has been in the forefront of the green building movement in India. The organization has assisted the first USGBC rated green building in India, namely the CII - Godrej Green Business Centre way back in 2001, to get the coveted platinum rating. Having worked on several green building projects in the country, TERI envisioned the need for development of an indigenous tool for rating of green buildings in India. This rating system - GRIHA – has been adapted by the government of India as the National rating system. Globally, green building rating systems have been instrumental in raising awareness and popularizing green building designs. Keeping in view of the Indian agro-climatic conditions and in particular the preponderance of non-AC buildings, GRIHA has been developed as a rating system which is suitable for all kinds of buildings in different climatic

zones of the country. TERI was formally established in 1974 with the purpose of tackling and dealing with the immense and acute problems that mankind is likely to face within in the years ahead on account of the gradual depletion of the earth's finite energy resources which are largely non-renewable and on account of the existing methods of their use which are polluting. TERI fulfills its mandate of sustainable development by advocating the concept of green buildings, which register minimal impact on the environment. TERI has constructed its buildings, in Gurgaon, Bangalore and Mukteshwar which includes resource- and energy-efficient, demonstrating the sustainable implementation of green practices.

In Kerala COSTFORD (Centre of Science and Technology for Rural Development) a nonprofit organization established in 1985 focus on improvement of housing and made significant gains in providing alternative philosophy and technologies for providing cost- effective ,energy efficient and more appropriate housing for all groups. Similarly, Habitat Technology Group established in 1987 is a non-governmental organization is totally committed to theconcept of green and human architecture. It has been accepted as a nodal agency to carry out green buildings in Kerala.

CONCLUSION

Green Library is a long term Institution and it also product our health and environmental. The way of GOING GREEN to promote a powerful green image towards their stake holders and users. In future, the library professionals should move beyond environmental sustainability exemplified by various practices of GREENING LIBRARIES and focus on proactive strps to development of sustainable libraries.

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