A PLEA FOR CENTRALISED LIBRARY SERVICES — PLAN FOR ANDHRA PRADESH

By
Smt. K. SARADA

Libraries play an important role in dissemination of information and knowledge. Different types of libraries are working to cater to the needs of various segments of people in society. We have public libraries to cater to the needs of the Public. We have a number of school, college and University Libraries to serve the Academic Community, namely, Teachers, Students and Research Scholars. We have a number of special Libraries to serve the different Industrial, Technical, Administrative and other special Professional groups. At present all these Libraries are functioning independently without due co-ordination and co-operation.

At this stage of our argument, let us consider some of the developments that have bearing on librarianship.

(1) Individual libraries face the challenging task of serving the growing and varied demands of their clientele groups. (2) There is tremendous growth in the number of library users both in Public Libraries (growth in literacy rate and population) and Academic Libraries (increase in the number of students and Teachers). (3) There is unprecedented explosion in the publication of reading materials. (4) The prices of reading materials are increasing. (5) The charges of services in the Libraries have increased with the requirement that trained personnel be appointed to maintain standards in library profession. (6) Libraries have to function under the serious drawback of limited resources.

Under these restraining factors librarians find themselves ill-equipped to meet the demands of clientele groups. In the modern context, no library, however vast its collections and financial resources, can be self-sufficient to meet all the requirements of the clientele. Librarians are seized with the problem of providing people with access to books and services not available in their own institutions by means of sharing resources through co-operative undertakings. In order to be effective, library service today has to be based on co-operation between library and also other Institutions, capable of aiding in the provision of suitable services to readers. The basic idea of co-operation is not new. In developing countries like India, individual libraries are meagerly equipped to serve their own clientele. They are not in a position to participate in any effective co-operative enterprise. The only means of promoting library co-operation and co-ordination under these circumstances is provision of a centralised agency.

Co-operation and centralisation are two sides of the same coin. To undertake any co-operative programme a strong organisational structure and financial assistance from Government or any other agency are essential pre-requisities.

In some countries where the crucial role of library in society is realised, a number of co-operative and centralised services are established and maintained by Government. For example, the National Programme of Acquisitions and cataloguing of United States of America is created by an Act of the Congress and supported by financial sanction from the Federal Government. In small countries like Israel also, central agencies are established and these agencies are greatly contributing to the promotion of library services. It is not our argument that we should blindly copy their examples. But we may learn a great deal about effective library services and make our profession an instrument of popular education, by devising a programme of centralised library services suitable to our own conditions. Hence it becomes incumbent on our part to understand and analyse the projects of centralised library services that are operating in other countries.

India is a country with a number of Linguistic States. Each State has an official regional language. To begin a co-operative and centralised agency, we may start with each Linguistic State as a basic unit.

Andhra Pradesh is one such viable unit. There are a number of institutions and organisations interested in library service. We have a separate Minister for libraries in the cabinet. The Directorate of Public Libraries is in charge of the establishment and maintenance of Public Libraries. The Directorate of Higher Education and the Directorate of Public Instruction are responsible for the provision of college and school Libraries. Local Bodies like the Zilla Parishads, Panchayat Samithis, Municipalities and Private Committees also maintain a large number of school and college Libraries. The universities and professional colleges maintain university and special libraries. The Andhra Pradesh Library Association is interested in promotion of Library Movement in the State. The Andhra, Osmania and Sri Venkateswara univer-

sities are conducting Bachelor of Library Science courses to educate and train technical personnel to man the different types of libraries. The establishment, maintenance, Readers' requirements, financial and other resources and level of services of the university and Special Libraries are different from those of the public, college and school libraries. Hence, the schemes of co-operative programes for university and Special Libraries may be considered separately.

In this paper our attention is focussed on the establishment of a center for the Public, College and School libraries. There are a number of common features for these Libraries.

1. Majority of these Libraries are established and maintained by Government funds. 2. The level of development of these Libraries is somewhat similar. 3. They are chiefly concerned with books in regional languages (Telugu). 4. Their financial and other resources are meagre.

Effective library movement can be promoted if all these Institutions participate in co-operative programmes and establish an organisational frame-work with requisite financial support on a continued basis. The Ministry of Libraries, the Directorate of Public Libraries, the Directorate of Public Instruction, the Directorate of Higher Education, the Andhra Pradesh Library Association and the three university Departments of Library Science may join to promote this center. This center may act as a center for Public, College and School Libraries in Andhra Pradesh.

REQUIREMENTS OF A MODEL CENTRAL ORGANISATION;

Any such central organisation must have :

(1) Statutory basis for its establishment ;
(2) Permanent Head-Quarters with suitable buildings ;
(3) Expert staff ; and
(4) Financial support.

The over-all objectives of this center may be twofold :

(1) Improvement and standardisation of library services and

(2) complete bibliographical control over regional language publications. Its functions may broadly comprise the following :

INTER LIBRARY LOANS :

Sharing of resources through effective programmes of Inter Library Loan requires two basic conditions. The first is a well drafted code for Inter Library loan to be followed by participating libraries. The second requisite is a Union catalogue of the holdings of these libraries. The Center may draft an Inter Library loan code, maintain a union catalogue and act as a clearing house for information.

PROVISION OF CENTRALISED TECHNICAL SERVICES :

By the provision of centralised technical services to small libraries, the over burdened staff of the small Public, College and School Libraries may be relieved from technical work to improve readers services. Moreover, these Libraries can have catalogue cards prepared by experts working in the Center who have at their disposal a number of reference tools. Uniformity in cataloguing can be achieved. Legislation may be passed requiring that every book and periodical published in Telugu language be sent to the Center. The Center may catalogue these books and provide printed cards on requisition to individual Libraries.

CENTRALISED ACQUISITION :

It is common knowledge that bulk purchases will enable Institutions to bargain favourably. The Centre may enter into agreement with publishers and Book-sellers to supply books with standard physical get up at maximum discount.

Because of its bulk purchasing ability this Center may encourage Publishers to publsh books suitable to the reading tastes and interests of library clientele. They may maintain a list of authorised suppliers of books for Libraries, from which individual libraries may select agents and place orders for books and periodicals.

ASSISTANCE IN BOOK SELECTION & BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SERVICES :

Small libraries cannot subscribe to a number of book selection tools. To assist these libraries in book selection and bibliographical services to the readers, the center may publish once in every month a selection of book reviews reprinted from newspapers and magazines. They may publish bibliographies in different fields of readers interests.

STANDARDISATION IN PROVISION OF LIBRARY FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT :

Prominent gap in Library services is the lack of standardisation in provision of library equipment and furniture. Research investigation relating to these aspects of library services is too technical and expensive. This Center may promote standardisation of Library furniture and equipment best suited to the climatic and other conditions of our country.

STANDARDISATION IN LIBRARY BINDING :

This center may establish standards for Library Binding and arrange for centralished Binding services.

ACT AS LIAISON AGENCY :

This Center may act as a liaison agency in the exchange of duplicate copies of books and periodicals among libraries.

CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF PARTICIPATION AND EXCHANGE OF IDEAS FOR LIBRARIANS :

This Centre may create such an atmosphere by publishing

a professional journal in which Articles, Book reviews and Library news of Andhra Pradesh may be published. It may conduct seminars and workshops on topics of professional concern.

PROMOTE BOOK PUBLICATIONS :

In view of limited marketing opportunities for standard books in regional languages, commercial publishers do not undertake the publication of such works. This Centre may encourage Publishers to publish basic works and translation of basic works into Telugu language suitable to the needs of different levels of clientele groups.

PROVIDE EXPERT ADVISERS IN LIBRARY ORGANISATION AND LIBRARY PLANNING :

Promote research in user Studies :

This Centre may promote research investigations into the nature of library clientele groups and their actual requirements.

In establishing such Centre, each participating agency has its own role. The Ministry may help in passing of legislation and the provision of grants. The Library Association may promote Library consciousness among people. The University Departments of Library Science may promote research in Library problems and the three Directorates may promote co-operation among the Libraries maintained by them.

The establishment of such a Centre in each Linguistic State may foster the provision of proper Library Services to the vast population of our country. These State centres will take care of Bibliographic control and guidance of books published in regional languages. At the national level a

National Centre may be established to co-ordinate the activities of the various State Centers.

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About College Libraries....

Speech delivered by Dr. R. Y. DHARWADKAR

Sri D.R. Kalia, Sri B. L. Bharadwaj, Sri N.D. Bagari and distinguished delegates,

At the outset, I should express my thanks to Sri N. D. Bagari for giving me an opportunity to work on the Editorial Committee of the Souvenir. I also thank him for asking me to say a few words on college libraries. Although I worked as Principal of a big Arts and Science College for nearly 25 years, I should confess that I knew precious little about the technicalities of the library science. By going through the various learned articles, which I had to do as Editor of the souvenir, I am sure I have grown wiser. I should thank Sri Bagari for that.

I think we should all thank the dynamic Sri Bagari for the wholesome food he gave us all these three days and the excellent cultural programmes he got up. These two days, we were all transported to some ethereal world, where we could converse with Lord Srikrishna, Arjuna and Queen Shaanthala. We dreaded the mighty Bhasmaasura and were enchanted by the beautiful Mohini. It was a veritable dream world. As a great Kannada poet Prof. Bendre put it, ಕಲ್ಪವೃಕ್ಷ ವೃಂದಾವನಂಗಳಲಿ, ಹೇಗೊ ಹೊಕ್ಕು ಬಂದೆ; ಅಲ್ಲ ನಿದ್ರೆಯೂ, ಅಲ್ಲ ಎಚ್ಚರವು -ಎರಡು ಒಂದು ಎಂಬೆ" I do not know how I entered and came back from the enthralling world of ಕಲ್ಪವೃಕ್ಷ and ಮಂದಾರ. It was neither sleep, nor wakefulness. It was all bewitching magic"

The dancers in the Ballet of queen Shanthala looked like veritable dolls sculptured in stone, like figures flowered in wax, like the girls who greet you with a rose in their hand when you alight at the Honolulu airport. These two days. we almost lived in mythology.

But, I do not know what right I have to address the learned delegates this evening, unless Sri Bagari meant it as a small reward for the little work I did : There is in Kannada a Proverb : " ಎಲ್ಲಮ್ಮನ ಜಾತ್ರೆಲಿ ಮುಲ್ಲಾನದೇನಿದೆ ? " What has Mulla to do in Hindu Yellammaas fair ? Fools rush in, where angels fear to tread. I do not want to rush in your specialised fields. But, Sri Bagari has a knack of putting things in such a way that you do not know how to say 'No' to him. So, I am here. I do not pretend to know the technicalities of your science... But in a way... I have also some claim to say a few words. ONE : I am a frequent user of the Library. I borrowed books largely, from the State Library, since my office was just near and Sri Bagari, instead of protecting his property like Adishesha, used to lend his books willingly. Hence, as the poet Southey put it " My days among the Dead are passed; Around me I behold, Wherever these casual eyes are cast, The mighty minds of old " They are my unfailing friends with whom I converse day by day.

The SECOND claim is perhaps an *indirect* one. There was in Dharwar long back, a *Professor of Sanskrit* in a big well established college. After he became a Professor of Sanskrit, he felt that reading was a luxury for him. Most of his time was usefully utilised by him either in smoking his pipe or in attending the European Gymkhana. Students and the public began criticising the Professor's scholarship in Sanskrit. The annoyed Professor hit upon a new plan to prove that he was a *real* Sanskrit scholar. The Professor got a *male* baby (He was still going strong). He named the boy ' Kaalidasa '. Whenever anybody criticised him about Sanskrit

scholarship, he would say "Don't you know, who I am. Why Kalidasa? I am father of Kalidasa." It was factually correct. Likewise, I can also say "Why a librarian? I am father of a librarian.", since one of my sons happens to be a librarian. I can, therefore, in a reflected manner claim all knowledge of library science.

But having said that, I think I should confess something. Although I worked as Principal of a fairly big College for nearly 25 years, in retrospect, I think I should feel sorry for the way we, Principals, treated our Librarians. The College Librarian is a second rate citizen in the College. Although he has the same, or perhaps better qualifications than the lecturers, he is in *status and emoluments* inferior to the people who "stand up and lecture". I am afraid we have still not progressed much from the feeling that the Librarian is just a godown-keeper. Even though the librarian is a friend, philosopher and guide to the Research Scholars and students, we give priority, the 'Agrapuja' to the Teachers only, and the Librarian and the Physical Director form the second rank in this caste system. They are perhaps, just above the Head Clerk to be ordered about, and below even the Juniormost lecturer. Even notices of meetings are seldom sent to them. They are considered to be the fifth wheel to the coach. Their emoluments are fixed low both at the All India level and the State level. The Tukol Pay Commision appointed by the State Govt. in 1969-70 had put the College Librarian on par with the Lecturers. But the Pai Commission fixed the emoluments of College Librarians very much low. They are below even the Juniormost lecturers. Eminent intellectuals like Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Dr. C.D. Deshmukh, and the Central Govt. wanted that the salary and status of librarians should be upgraded. We should remember that true education is mostly library-centered. At present it is a sad state of affairs, all the more so, when the Librarian is supposed to be responsible for the valuable books in his charge.

More than that, we have seen that even a junior lecturer, while playing carrom or chess in the Staff Room, orders for a book from the library. If the Librarian asks for signature in token of the receipt of the book, the lecturer feels hurt. "Has he not that much faith in me? Go tell him." shouts the chess player.

Once again, the endless wrangles about books said to have been "returned" and not actually received in the library, are a common feature in all the colleges. This is true about colleges in the North Karnataka area atleast. I do not know how you fare elsewhere. If your lot is better, I am happy about it. As principal, I have seen 40-50 books standing in the names of some professors, who for years together have argued that they have 'returned' the books.

I do not know whether your conference had an occasion to consider the question of status and emoluments of college Librarians or whether it was felt that it was an inconsequential mundane matter unworthy of deliberations. Somebody has to provide adequate resources and status to the college librarian before his library shares its resources with others.

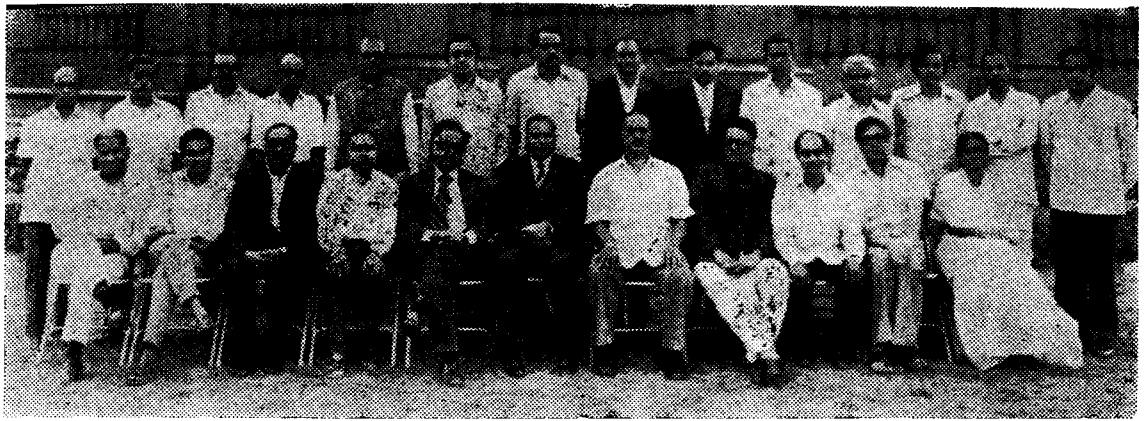
There is one more thing which needs urgent attention in a college library. In every library, there is a so called 'Professor', to whom the Librarian is directly subordinate. The librarian can not approach the Principal directly nor can he put up his proposals directly. He has to 'route' them all, through the so called 'Professor' in charge of the library. Even the leave applications of the Librarian are to be routed through the Professor. He is supposed to be the 'Brahaspathi' who can decide about books in all branches of knowledge. This is atrocious, humiliating and unnecessary. This arrangement may have been necessary at a time when a lower division

clerk used to look after the Library. Now everything is so specialised that you have a very highly qualified and responsible person in charge of the library. He is a person academically as qualified as, or some times more than the lecturer or Professor. To ask the librarian to run about the 'Professor' is meaningless and antiquated. This antiquated system of 'Zarina's Guard 'requires to be stopped forthwith.

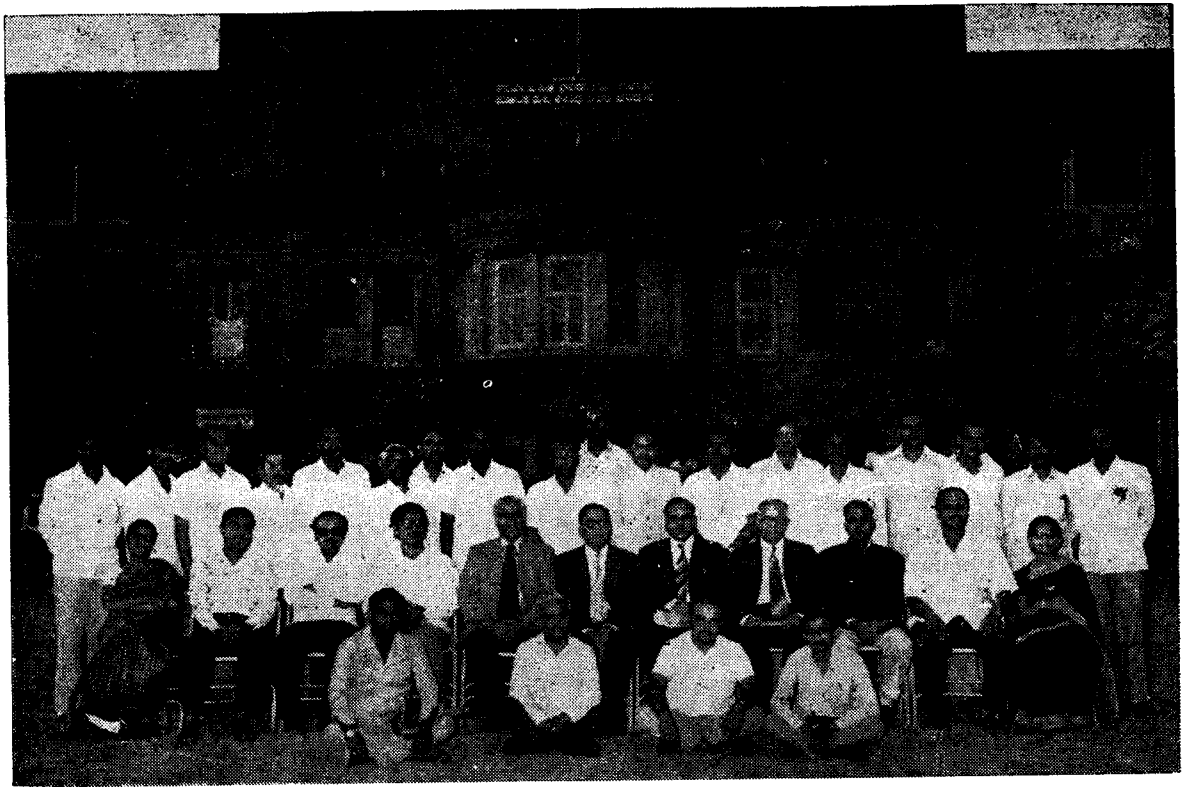
I am aware that 'the college Librarian' was not the subject for your conference. But, I do hope and trust that sometime, either the Universities or the University Grants Commission will take up this question as early as possible. I wish that the dynamic Sri Bagari who knows no failure, takes up the cause of college librarians also.

Once again, I thank Sri Bagari and the Organisers for giving me this opportunity to participate in the concluding session of your August Conference.

Thank you,



The Executive Committee of the Conference



Office–bearers of the Conference with the Chief Librarians of Karnataka



Sri N. D. Bagari and D. R. Kalia
with the Entertainment troupe

AN OVERVIEW OF PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF RESOURCES SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA

BY

T. S. RAJAGOPALAN & T. N. RAJAN

WHAT IS RESOURCE SHARING ?

'Resource' applies to things or actions to which one takes to a recourse at the time of need. As a general term, resource can include material, equipment, people, time and money. The term when used alone would not necessarily imply any reciprocity. 'Sharing' entails an opportunity of allotting or entributing to something that is owned to benefit others. It is to give or receive a part of something or to enjoy and assume something in common. 'Resource sharing, taken together entails certain reciprocity and implies a partnership in which each participant has something useful to contribute as well as to receive from others and there is willingness and ability to make available when needed.

In the context of libraries, resource sharing denotes a mode of operation whereby the functions are shared in common by a number of libraries. The age-old concept of library cooperation and the present-day approaches of consortium, network, and system are relative to the principle of resource sharing. They may be regarded more as labelling certain organisational arrangements to achieve a variety of resource sharing objectives than being synonymous to resource sharing itself. An effective network, integrated planning and a holistic approach are basic to the concept of resource sharing. The resource sharing is a means to maximise the accessibility of material and minimise costs and at the same time not lose individual identity. Although the significance of resource sharing is not new, and is regarded as a form of library cooperation, the impact of modern technology has afforded new ways and opportunities to develop library resource sharing networks which would not have been practicable in the past. Resource sharing has, thus, come into focus now-a-days.

WHY RESOURCE SHARING ?

The forces compelling to resort libraries to resource sharing are many. They have been intensifying also. The extraordinary dynamics of information gives rise to financial pressures upon libraries and information centres for coalescing into a network in order to share resources rather then duplicate, so that the sum total of the book purchase fund of the country is stretched to the farthest extent to obtain maximum number of titles, no matter where they may be actually held. The soaring cost of reading material as against tighter and inelastic budget, forces libraries to share resources. There are now more users to be served by libraries than before. The information requirements of users are becoming more and more diverse and complex. There is also a time pressure on the supply of information. There is, thus, an imperative need for widening information coverage, extending the sphere of service and accelerating the speed in the supply of information. A Library, whatever be its status or affluence cannot hope to be self sufficient in all its

resources and facilities. A multitude of individual libraries, without coordination and liason between them and viewing each other in a competitive spirit to go about in their own way cannot stand the strain of the environmental causes mentioned above. On the other hand, the spirit of sharing the resources would entail the participant libraries in a system to benefit for advancing their individual goals and objectives. Each library in this system is both a giver and a receiver and is strengthened by the mutual interaction and understanding.

The imperative need for practising resource sharing among libraries in India and other developing countries is even more urgent and necessary than in the industrialised countries. The resources of developing countries are naturally limited and they should be put to maximum use by the largest number of possible users. The developing countries may also have the advantage of planning their library system while in a stage of development, around the concept of resource sharing as they may not be facing any legacy adversely affecting such an approach.

SOME OBSERVATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL TRENDS:

(i) Resource sharing has come to mean sharing or polling of equipment and services, as well as library materials, as time sharing and computer-based library networking activity is becoming more and more prevalent. Resource sharing, interdependency, multiinstitutional governance and management are of greater concern now than ever in the past and more and more networks are developing.

(ii) The services of library oriented resource sharing network include shared cataloguing, remote catalogue-access, directed message routing, automatic hierarchical routing of inter-library loan message, circulation and inter library loan record control, serials control, and citation retrieval both for and by users.

(iii) Cooperative acquisition seems to be receiving less attention now in library science literature. On the other hand, document processing appears to be getting a greater emphasis. There is an increasing stockpile of bibliographic data bases in different disciplines, offering scope for organising SDI services. Global Information systems such as INIS, AGRIS, DEVSIS and SPINES are examples of sharing the burden of document processing in a decentralised manner.

(iv) Sharing of equipment and services is yet to be developed.

(v) Document availability is being accorded highest priority in many countries. The BLLD model is being attempted in Sweden, USA, and a few other countries.

(vi) Organisationally, the initiative has come from the national bodies. Countries, in general, plan their own type of structures for resource sharing.

(vii) International bodies such as UNESCO/PGI (UNISIST), FID IFLA and ISO are providing the much needed guidelines and also assistance in evolving international standards for ensuring greater compatibility between systems, thus fostering a greater measure of success in international exchange of information.

A REVIEW OF PROGRESS

International

The erstwhile UNISIST and NATIS programmes of Unesco which are now together dealt with as the General Information Programme (PGI) are aimed at the development of national and international systems on the philosophy of international cooperation and participation. The PGI has a catalytic role for development of national information and for international exchange of information by evolving methodological

guidance, normative principles and other tools. As a result of nitiating a number of programmes since its inception in 1973, a iseries of useful guidelines has been brought out by UNISIST on many aspects of information handling. A list of these guides is in Appendix 1. The UNISIST concept can be summed up in a schematic manner as shown in figures I and II.

The International Serials Data System (ISDS) is another example of cooperative endeavour to disseminate information about current serial publications of the world by setting up ISDS (international and national) files. For this purpose national centres are being created in many countries.

Other intergovernmental activities are the programmes of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Council of Mutual Economic Assitance (CMEA) of the Soviet Bloc.

Another patteren of ongoing collaboration in information and documentation relates to the role of international non-governmental bodies such as ICSU, IFLA, FID, IFIP, ISO, CODATA etc. Particular mention may be made of the two major programmes o f IFLA viz. Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) and Universal Availability of Publications (UAP). UBC aims at the creation of a worldwide scheme for exchange of bibliographic information for all Publications. By this, the basic bibliographic data on all publications issued in all countries are to be made available in internationally accepted form. The UPA concerns with a model for making documents avail-ab to users speedily and efficiently.

Apart from the programmes which are intended to promote universal resource sharing, international information systems have come into being with the support of and involvement of national governments and bodies. INIS and AGRIS are familiar examples. Similar model for development of science literature,

science policy, etc, are being conceived. International Patent Documentations Centre (INPADOC), Vienna, is yet another cooperative venture for organisation and dissemination of patent information. There are also programmes on the anvil for international exchange of ongoing research information.

Although on-line interactive information retrieval services are not necessarily operated by international agencies, they are international in scope and availability. The Lockheed Information Service, Palo Alto, California, System Development Corporation, Santa Monica, and the ESRIN Data Centre, Frascati, Italy, are the examples. The Lockheed System provides on-line, interactive search access to information held in a number of commercially-available data bases of interest to users in libraries, information centres, industry, government, universities and other organisations located at global distances. Retrospective searches, covering all the years that the data bases have been available in the centre concerned and SDI services for current literature search are offered by these centres.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESOURCE SHARING IN A FEW COUNTRIES

USA.- The United States has along tradition in resource sharing. Farmington Plan, Mid-west Inter-Library Centre, Library of Congress Cooperative Cataloguing, etc. are projects for the purpose of resource sharing. The Situation in USA is no longer the preliminary stage of examination of the concept of resource sharing, rather it is how best to achieve it. Already several library consortia and cooperatives are functioning. Modern technology has demonstrated the capabilities of its funding application in a variety of resource sharing networks. Remarkable success has been achieved in the area of bibliographic data processing in libraries. Outstanding examples are the Library of Congress MARC project, the Ohio College Library Centre (OCLC) and Bibliographic Automation of Large Library Operations using a Time Sharing System (BALLOTS), Stanford,

California. The latter two systems are in the area of bibliographic information processing in libraries.

OCLC was established in 1967 to increase the availability of academic library resources for use in educational and research programmes of Ohio Colleges and Universities, and to lower the unit cost per student. OCLC activities consist of research, development, implementation, and operation of computerised systems des gned to achieve the desired objectives. To date, five systems have been designed. They are 1) Shared catalogue based on a central computerised catalogue; 2) Remote catalogue access and circulation control; 3) Bibliographic information retrieval by subject; 4) Serial control and 5) A major technical processing computerised system which will permit users to locate new books before they have been completely catalogued. In a year ten million items are catalogued, one million new records are added to the base and sixty million catalogue cards are produced, surpassing even the Library of Congress card sales. 670 libraries in US are participating in the system with 1079 terminals, mainly for achieving greater cataloguing efficiency and or its on-line union catalogue of almost ten million locatiofns of resources. OCLC's aim, it is said, is to change the pattern and very nature of access to library resources.

BALLOTS is a generalised library technical processing system which maintains on-line access to several computerised files pertaining to the Stanford University Library. The library uses video terminals to perform a variety of functions, including material receipt, claiming, cancelling, cataloguing, added copies, added volumes, in process control, and relative activites and the system constantly updates the files.

MEDLARS, CAS, BIOSIS, COMPENDEX, ISI, etc. are some of the data bases—national in character but international in scope and coverage—that have played a very important role in promoting easy accessibility to literature, thereby contribut-

ing to resource sharing. Each one of these has becomo a gaint offering a wide variety of services.

UK.—The most important event in resource sharing in England has undoubtedly been the formation of the British Library. While USA has developed computerised data bases achieving great success in bibliographic control, UK has made an outstanding contribution in developing a document supply system. The British Library Lending Division (BLLD) is a model which has deeply impressed the library world. USA, Canada, and a few countries are planning to develop similar models for their document supply system.

West Germany—The Association of German Libraries (Verein Deutscher Bibliothekare—VDB) and the German Reserach Society are primarily engaged in this endeavour of resource sharing and some results are expected to flow.

Sweden—A major national cooperative effort in Sweden towards resource sharing in libraries is the development of LIBRIS (Information System for Libraries). The Caroline Institute, the Royal Institute of Technology, and the Chalmers Institute of Technology, along with the universities, are linked to LIBRIS that will provide a system where books and documents can be searched, located and catalogued on-line.

A recent investigation by a working group of the Research Library Council has led to proposals for the establishment of a national lending library, a Swedish Counterpart of National Lending library in England. It would hold some 20,000 periodicals. The Government controls public, school and other government-supported libraries through the National Board of Education in Stockholm. Some technical and administrative activites common to most public libraries have been centralised in the Library Services, Inc. which was initiated by Swedish Library Association. The main services are centralised cataloguing and printing of catalogue cards, binding of new

books, preliminary information about books to be published, printed reviews of new books and a number of bibliographic publications.

USSR and Socialist Countries—It is well known that USSR and other socialistic countries which follow a centralised pattern of governance and services have a well laid out library and information system for quite a long time. The current Five Year Plan of the USSR envisages the generation of a state automatic system of scientific and technical information in USSR. There is also a pressure to pull together as well as a pressure from the bottom and the top of the geopolitical pyramid to plan, organise, and manage various aspects of a nationwide library and information service network.

Australia—The appointment of the Scientific and Technological Services Enquiry Committee (STISEC) to plan a national system of library and information services is a landmark in the resource sharing activities in Australia. The report of STISEC envisages the establishment of library-based information services at all levels of the community, development of appropriate organisation for the purpose, ensuring that the collection and services of the National Library of Australia make a maximum contribution to meet the nation—wide needs at all levels.

Of particular interest, mention must be made of the development of the Australian Library Based Information System (ALBIS),—which is based on voluntary cooperation between federal, state, municipal, industrial, social, academic, artistic, humanistic, scientific, technological and other organisation' able and willing to contribute to a library based information system to meet the needs of the Australian community by developing traditional and computer-based services in the most effective way. A more recent development is the adoption of the MARC format for the ANB. The Australian MARC service (AMRS) has been operational for a relatively short time, but it already contains nearly a million records gathered from

various services. The National Library of Australia is proposing to offer through its BIBDATA, processing of catalogue records on behalf of the subscribing libraries and in effect produce catalogue for them. Many of the resource sharing programmes are taking shape and would become operational in the next few years.

The Indian Scene

Library cooperation, though much talked about, has all along remained the concern of only the library profession and its association. There had hardly been any government initiative or support. The topics of library cooperation, inter-library loan, union catalogue, shared cataloguing, etc. have been the theme of many library seminars and conferences in the past. But concrete action has yet to emerge for the practical implementation of library cooperation and resource sharing activities.

Inter-library loans within the city have been more or less accepted, here again due to the voluntary efforts and willingness of librarians. Inter-library loans with out station libraries are less frequent. Document procurement through reprographic copies is also limited as only a few libraries have reprography facilities Even there, the facilities may not be adequate to cate. to outside clientele. The Bombay Science Libraries Association had promoted a scheme to work out jointly the efforts involved in the operation of inter-library loan transactions in order to save time and effort. It may in due course extend the sphere of cooperation to other areas also. Academic institutions in Delhi like the Delhi University, the Jawaharlal Nehru University and the Indian Institute of Technology are contemplating a scheme to accept members of each other libraries for extending the library facilities. IASLIC, arising out of the deliberations of a seminar, had drafted a code for inter-library loan transactions.

Union catalogues as a tool for promoting inter-library loans are being brought out. Though we have a variety of union catalogues, holdings of many libraries still remain to be covered in the existing union catalogues. There is also no compatability in metohds and approaches to compile union catalogues by different agencies.

Cooperative acquisition has never been a strong point. There appears to have been no systematic plan for promoting cooperative acquisition. This issue is now-a-days forced upon the libraries in an indirect manner. Overabundance of materials for purchase and increasing cost as against inelastic library budget compel libraries to reduce their intake of material and this is being resorted to on the basis of availability of material in other nearby libraries. Rationalisation in acquisition is thus indirectly forced upon.

The Centralised Acquisition of periodicals Project (CAP) undertaken by Insdoe for processing of indents of periodicals on behalf of CSIRI aboratories is a successful effort in the area of sharing processing work though relating to aquisiton.

With regard to cooperative storage, the Inter-library Resourses Centre of ICSSR is to be regarded as the maiden attempt. The National Science Library of Insdoc has also plans to set up dormitories in some cities of older materials.

Shared cataloguing and cooperative processing are practically non-existent. Neither the National Library nor the Indian National Bibliography Unit has been able to take up the task.

Regional Centre concept is now gaining attention. The NISSAT Scehme envisages establishment of six regional centres in the near future. The UCC has als taken up a project to set up regional centres for academic libraries. The ICSSR has also a programme but of a different dimension. These regional centres would be of help to mobilise the titerature resources disbursed in the libraries in various parts of the country for providing access to scholar s.

The NISSAT scheme of the Department of Science and technology may be regarded as a landmark in our endeavour to establish a well laidout an co-ordinated information system for science and technology. The NISSAT scheme is a conceptual framework for marshalling of large number of sub-sets of information systems and sevices into a co-ordinated system. The scheme will optimise the utilisation of existing resources and facilities by all concerned, in addition to filling up the gaps in the existing facilities. The NISSAT Scheme is a multitier organisation. It has recently become operational. In the next 10 years, the NISSAT scheme would have made a great impact in co-ordinating out information centres and systems for sharing resources and facilities.

The National information Centre (NIC) of the Electronics Commission is a centralised facility for processing of data and management information for Government departments and organisations. The NICS work will be to help Government departments in planning and decision making, by the timely provision of data.

FACTORS IN RESOURCE SHARING

Firstly, the library should have resources to share. The resources to be share should also be useful to several institutions. It has to be also kept in view that a library may have its own limitations as well as valid reasons for not being able to share certain resources at one time or other. Secondly, there should be willingness to share the resources as well as develop necessary bibliographical apparatus. More than a formal arrangement, desire for voluntary participation is essential. There should be a suitable allocation of responsibilities by formal or informal agreements on currently owned material, acquisition policy, bibliographic control, borrowing privileges, etc. A suitable plan has to be also formulated to work out the mechanics of resource sharing. The plan may be in relation to several levels like national, regional and local, kinds of

libraries like public library system, academic library system and special library system, subject matter of material, type of material, form of material, etc. The means of financing, degree of automation and the question of profit or non-profit are important considerations. There should be system alternatives to take care of multilateral decision making and multi-directionality of service. The structure should ensure commitment to work towards a general plan of action and sharing of responsibilities. There should be proper understanding of the user community of the philosophy of resource sharing which also rests with the idea of satisfying needs by resorting to remote access in relation to local holdings. Acquisition of materials, the bibliographic apparatus to permit accessing the local buildings and the apparatus to access the holdings of others are essential for realising the goals of resource sharing. Resource sharing not only concentrates on problems of automation and mechanisation of technological processes, but also on problems of centralised planning and co-ordination of all their library and information activities.

COMPONENTS OF RESOURCE SHARING

At least five network components may be identified in the process of resource sharing. They are resources-documentary, manpower and technology ; management ; and users, Library resource sharing as a network interaction takes place in an open rather than in a closed environment. It requires special skill to run successfully the processes involved in networking. Organisational and behavioural factors are quit important. The extent of resource sharing activity is dependent on the technology in use.

Documentary resources include all primary publications of the participating libraries bibliographical access tools, special collections, non-book material, etc. The participating libraries may co-ordinate their acquisition based on mutually agreed upon profiles. This will enable libraries to hold only most

often used collection and depend upon some other constituent library for material not required frequently.

Manpower possessing adequate training and skills is necessary for the successful operation of library network. The logistics of interaction in a network are not only complex but also require change in technology and adjustment in management approach. The staff would require continuing education to update their knowledge of changing procedures and technology in order to obtain better results.

The very concept of co-operation has begun to receive a sophisticated approach under the label of networking, resource sharing etc, only after the advent of modern technology in library and information work. Advances in and increasing use of telecommunication facilities, computer technology, reprographics and micrographics and other technologies have all made resource sharing and networking effective and purposeful.

Management is the fourth component and is increasingly regarded as crucial to the successful functioning of resource sharing network. Modern management techniques, system analysis, operational research, adoption of sound and viable procedures, flexibility of the system to adjust itself to changing situations, etc. are essential to optimise the use of resources and facilities, bring about overall economy, improve efficiency and speed and obtain the desired output services and products Standardisation of techniques and procedures is of grate value in the management of system.

Users are the target for giving maximum satisfaction out of all the resource sharing activities. User studies which include user behaviour and opproach to information, and feed back mechanisms to interact properly with the user requirements and user education and training programs are essential for optimising the satisfaction ofusers while resorting to resource sharing.

DISCUSSION ON THE POSSIBLE AREAS OF RESOURCE SHARING

Material Sharing : Co-operative acquisition of material has been considered worthwhile for economic considerations, and attempts are, therefore, sought to be made. In this task, libraries form a consortium of their own to take up responsibility for acquisition of certain class of material and make them accessible to other constituents when required. This, in effect, means that the total book purchase grants of the libraries in the consortium will enable acquisition of the greatest number of titles for drawing maximum benefits and eliminate wasteful duplication. There are certain ways to operate the mechanics of co-operative acquisition. The Farmington Plan of USA and Sindi plan of the Scandinavian countries are familiar examples. Experience has shown that such attempts have not been quite successful. Though the concept sounds well, it is becoming evident that forming a network for co-operative acquisition is not now-a-days being considered seriouly as a practical proposition. No formal arrangement to have a network of libraries for practising co-operative acquisition seems to work well.

Against the above-mentioned background co-operative acquisition, in the Indian context, may remain more as a pious wish than as any worthwhile objective to be realised. Our libraries function under a variety of authority and jurisdiction. Most of them being state-owned, would find official methods and procedures cumbersome and unworkable for co-operative acquisition. It is also characteristic of our libraries to be obsessed with the idea to possese rather than to share. The plain fact is that our advocacy for co-operative acquisition in India has all along been in the idea and verbal plans only. It seems that we may find it difficult to establish any formal network for purpose of co-operative acquisition except perhaps on a selective or restricted basis. However, the basic idea of co-operative acquisition is being given attention somewhat

in an indirect manner and by force of circumstances by our libraries. As mentioned earlier, the budget of libraries does not get enhanced proportionate to the increase in the number of publications available for purchase now than before and to the escalation in the cost of publications to an extent as high as 25 percent. Consequently, the libraries are obliged to reduce their intake of material. While dropping out serials and other publications, the library concerned considers the availability of material to be dropped out in nearby libraries and take an appropriate decision. This, in fact, amounts to nationalization in acquisition.

Another method is to entrust the responsibility for specific areas to different tiers in the national library and information network. For example, in NISSAT scheme, National Science Library and other national centres will have responsibility to acquire residual material not likely to be acquired by other libraries. For Example, they will specilise in the acquisition of foreign language material, costly material, and difficult to locate and procure. The Sectoral information Centres are expected to acquire material relating to their disciplines or missions. Thus, there will be a certain amount of complementality as well as division of responsibilities in acquisition of material by libraries in the defferent tiers in the national network.

Document Availability : Whatever be the stage of development of co-operative acquisition, the existing resources in the country should be mobilised to the maximum extent for providing access to any user, wherever he may be located. In a country like ours, it is ecnonomical to develop information resources in a decentralised manner. It is desirable to hold the publications in actual places of their use, that is, in the various service libraries. At the same time, the collection should be accessible to any user. The union catalogue tool and reprographic facilities for making copies are essential prerequisites in making documents available. Theoretically speaking, even a

single copy of publication would be enough for meeting the demands of our entire user community, no matter where it is actually held. Therefore, in the matter of resources development from the national angle, the goal may be to have atleast one accessible copy of every worthwhile publication,no matter where it is held, for use by our scholars at all times to come. The underlying idea is that the libraries should, as far as possible, supplement each other's collectihn rather than duplicate it.

In this context, the concept of regional centres is getting recognition. The NISSAT scheme envisages estabilishment of regional centres in major cities, where there is a heavy concentration of libraries and collections, mainly for mobilising the resources available in the region in order to provide accessto distinct users. The University Grants Commission and the Indian Council of Social Science Research have also plans to set up regional centres.

Inter-Library Loans : Largely due to the credit of professional people, inter-library loan transactions take place in our country in a spirit of mutual co-operation. Libraries, in gereral, are willing to participate in inter-library loan transactions. However, the activity is mainly confined to the city limit because proximity is an advantage to locate the required material and to obtain it speedily. Inter-library loans with outstation libraries are less frequent. For that matter, using photocopying facilities wherever available would be a better alternative. In india, distances between places are too much. Postal rates are high There is also the risk of losing material in postal transit. Therefore, only in unavoidable cases inter-library loan may be resorted to from outstation libraries. There are always conditions governing to the inter-library loan transactions. The IASLIC had published a draft code for inter-library ioan transactions.

It is wondered if our country can afford to have a centralised collection mainly for purpose of inter-library loan,

especially of monograph publications, as at present available in BLLD in Britain. Distances between places, not so efficient postal communication system, high cost of maintaining a centralised collection mainly for loan and less frequent demand for monograph literature as against periodical literature are some factors to be considered in this connection.

Having considered that inter-library loan transactions are essential and can cope well, there seems to be scope to work out better methods of operating the transactions. The Bombay Science Library Association is able to arrange for transporation of material bundles on inter-library loans among their constituents by having a common transport arrangement. Likewise, arrangements can be made in all our major cities for having some common transport facility to make visits frequently to the various libraries for the purpose of transacting inter-library loans. Professional associations may perhaps take up this task as a service and may charge for it also. It will prove to be convenient and speedy.

Reprographic facilities: An important factor in utilising the resources presently available in the country is the need for adequate provision for reprographic facilities in all our libraries. Indigenous production of reprographic equipment is still in an early stage. Only some major libraries have had the advantage of importing equipment from abroad and maintain some. Even where reprographic equipment are available, facilities like trained manpower, physical facilities, air-conditioning, etc. are lacking sometimes and the equipment remain unutilised. In our pattern of decentralised collection building, reprographic facilities are very essential for making maximum use of our national collections. Adequate attention should therefore be paid to the development of indigenous reprographic equipment. The libraries should also have at least simple copying equipment. They should have facilities to make available reprographic copies to other users.

Union Catalogue : Union catalogue is an indispensable tool for locating the availability of documents in various libraries for purpose of inter-library loan, procurement of reprographic copies, etc. In this area, we have made a fair amount of progress, though the attempts are not comprehensive The Union Catalogue Projects of Insdoc. and of ICSSR are systematic efforts to cover the serial holdings of libraries in the country. In addition, there also regional union catalogues. The Union Catalogue Project of Insdoc would be completed before the end of 1979 and a mechanism is being evolved to maintain the information up-to-date. One serious drawback in our Union Catalogue efforts is no compatibility in approach, methodology, techniques, presentation, etc. in the various union catalogues that are being brought out. It is better if a standard practice is followed by all concerned for the compilation of union catalogues and certain bodies like Insdoc, ICSSR, UGC, the National Library, the State Central Libraries, etc. are designated to carry out the compilation of union catalogues using a uniform practice instead of a multiplicity of organisation bringing out union catalogues in an unco-ordinated and unstandardized manner. The library associations may be also commissioned to compile union calalogues.

Co-operative Storage : Most of our libraries face the chronic problem of shortage of space. Because of possesive attitude, the libraries keep on maintaining older and obsolete material on the shelves, no matter whether the material is frequently used or not. It would be enough if service libraries maintain only a live collection and discard obsolete material. We do not seem to realise that storage costs money and keeping back-sets of unused material is wasteful. If we establish dormitories or some co-operative storage facilities in different parts of the country it would help the service libraries to unload their less frequently used material to them. The material transferred to the dormitories can still remain the property of the owning library and can also be made avilable

to it for occasional demands through the provision of reprographic copies. As land cost in city limits is high, the dormitories can be set up at places away from the city. The point to be cosidered is whether one central storage facility for the entire country is adequate or we should have more of them located in important cities. As mentioned earlier the Inter-Library Services Centre of ICSSR is a first attempt in co-operative stage. The National Science Library has also plans to set up depositories in important cities.

PROCESSING :

As mentioned earlier, according to current library science literature in the matter of resources sharing, document processing seems to be receiving the greatest attention. Co-operative applications have also aided the process. This area seems to be workable as well as economical.

Acquisition : It may be possible to undertake centralised acquisition of publications on behalf of a group of librararies. It may bring down processing cost of acquisition, earn discount from the publishers and booksellers and avoid clerical labour and time on the part of individual libraries. The centralised acquisition may be particularly relevant and perhaps essential in the case of short-discount and nondiscount items as well as periodicals where our commercial booksellers are not known to offer efficient service.

Specialised literatures face difficulties in procuring such publications, and any solution to the problem by way of centralised processing of indents would be welcome. While the attempt of the State Trading Corporation may give a different picture, the project taken up by Insdoc for the Centralised Acquisition of periodicals on behalf of CSIR laboratories has not only worked well but also brought about greater economy and efficiency. Insdoc has resorted to computerisation in processing the indents. The measure of success achieved by Insdoc points out to the possibility of adopting such a scheme by others.

SHARED CATALOGUING:

The MARC project and the Library of Congress Shared Cataloguing project have shown the way how processing of library material could be effectively and economically undertaken and how individual libraries are saved a lot of effort and time. Other countries like Britain, Australia and Canada, are also following the example. It is well known that the major bottleneck in library work is processing of material. It is not only labor-intensive but also time-consuming. The advent of machine-readable catalogues has also shown the way for shared cataloguing efforts. This subject has been talked about in India time and again. However, it is unfortunate that we are far from taking any initiative towards concrete action. Even for the books produced in the country, the Indian National Bibliography Unit is not able to offer printed catalogue service. It would seem paradoxical that the processing done by the INB Unit is not made use of by even the National Library itself which is also under the same roof. The publishers in our country are not yet progressive to carry out pre-natal cataloguing of the publications being produced by them and provide printed card service. However, there is a stray example of one enterprising exporter of Indian books preparing catalogue card entries for the titles he offers for sale abroad. Document processing is a promising area for resource sharing and it is worth taking up this area earnestly.

Apart from book-like material, there is also a scope for sharing processing of information contained in micro-documents. It may be recalled that India is now inputting to the International systems such as INIS (by BARC) and AGRIS (by ICAR). These are examples of sharing processing work for an international system by individual countries. On the same analogy, co-operative processing can be resorted to by groups of libraries to enable them to offer specialised services, on a collective basis. One notable example is that the libraries in the BHEL complex which deal with the subject of power engineering are contri buting towards creating a data base for the current literature on the basis of decentralised input, centralised processing and

again decentralised output services such as SDI. Thus, libraries belonging to same discipline or mission can form a network of their own for sharing processing work to create data bases in the subject of their interest for purpose of current and retrospective search services.

AUTOMATION IN LIBRARIES:

Automation is still to be actively considered by our libraries. The environment is not yet conducive for widespread adoption of automation by our libraries. However, a few libraries have done mechanisation of certain processes and have developed softwares for the purpose. It is possible such softwares developed already by some can be shared by others.

CONCLUSION:

Resource sharing as attempted now in a sophisticated context in the advanced countries and which is gaining in importance due to advances in computer, telecommunication and reprographic technologies, is far from realisation in our country at the present time. We are still in the era of library cooperation; even here we cannot claim to have made much progress. The library profession has been expressing its concern to the problem in a feeble way. But not much has been accomplished because it has not got the attention of those in the government who are responsible for library development and service. However, development in modern technologies mentioned earlier are taking place in our country now to an appreciable extent. Future seems to offer promise for developing resource sharing library networks. As a prelude to this, we should start working toward the goal of a total national information system backed up by a national information policy. The national system may be not only in several tiers but also in many areas. The basic idea is that there should be a holistic approach and coordinated an integrated planning for developing our information infrastructure. Once this is accepted, the resource sharing concept would automatically follow from it. Resource sharing should be built into the design of our national system.

The data about our libraries, their resources, facilities and services are meager. In the absence of these essential data' planning of resource sharing activities will not be realistic. It has to be admitted that there has been no systematic attempt to collect library statistics in a manner similar to that of the Central Statistical Organisatin which collect stastistics in different fields. It has been mentioned earlier that our bibliographic appratus is inadequate. There has been no analysis of even whatever access tools we have now. For sound planning of resource sharing activities, we should give attention to the collection of data about our libraries—its resources, facilities and services.

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APPENDIX

LIST OF UNISIST DOCUMENTS

1. Information Policy Objectives (UNISIST Proposals). 26 p. (SC/74/WS/3) available in English or French.
2. A Study on the Problems of accessibility and Dissemination of Data for Science and Technology. 102p. (SC/74/WS/16) available in English only.
3. Guidelines on the Conduct of a National Inventory of Scientific and Technological Information and Documentation Facilities. 46p. (SC/75/WS/28), available in English, French or Spanish.
4. Guidelines on the Conduct of an Inventory of Current Research and Development Projects. 49p. (SC/75/WS/13), available in English, French or Spanish.
5. Guidelines on the Planning of National Scientific and Technological Information Systems. 55 p. (SC/75/WS/39).
6. Guidelines for the Evaluation of Training Courses, Workshops and Seminars in Scientific and Technical Information and Seminars in Scientific and Technical Information and Documentation. 107 p. (SC/75/WS/44), available in English, French or Spanish.
7. Guidelines for Organization of Training Courses, Workshops and Seminars in Scientific and Technical Information and Documentation. 88 p. (SC/75/WS/29), available in English, French or Spanish.
8. Reference Manual for Machine-Readable Bibliographic Descriptions. 71 p. (SC/74/WS/20), available in English and French (Spanish version in preparation).
9. Guidelines for ISDS (International Serials Data System). 67 p. (SC/WS/538), available in English, French or Spanish.

10. Guidelines for the Establishment and Development of Monolingual Thesauri. 67 p. (SC/WS/555), available in English or French (also available from ISO, No. ISO 2788).

11. Guide for the Presentation in the Primary Literature of Numerical Data Derived from Experiments. 7 p. (SC/74/WS/19), available in English, French or Spanish (Japanese edition available through BUTSURI, Physical Society of Japan, Tokyo; Swedish edition through the Royal Academy of Sciences, Stockholm; German and Russian versions in preparation).

12. List of Scientific and Technical Periodicals published in 32 African Countries from 1960 to 1970. 69 p. (SC/WS/508), available in English/French.

13. Indexing Principles. 15 p. (SC/75/WS/58), available in English or French.

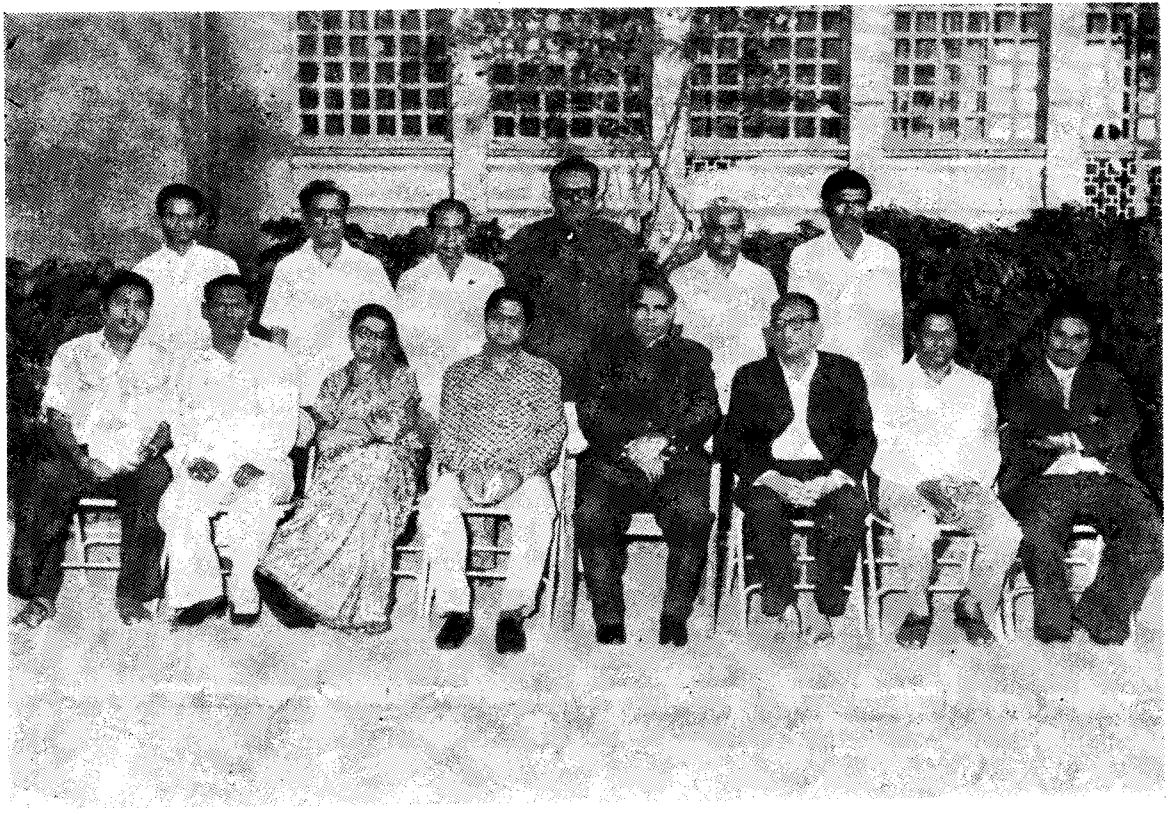
14. A Methodology for Testing and Evaluating Standards with Special Reference to Information, Documentation and Related Fields. 13 p. (SC/75/WS/102), available in English or French.

15. Format incompatibility and the exchange of bibliographic information: a comparative study. 60 p. (SC/76/WS/1), available in English only.

16. Guidelines for preparation of texts of dissertations for their presentation and publication. 18 p. (SC/76/WS/79), available in English only.

17. Guidelines for the Presentation of Publishers' Series. 17 p. (SC/76/WS/74), available in English or French.

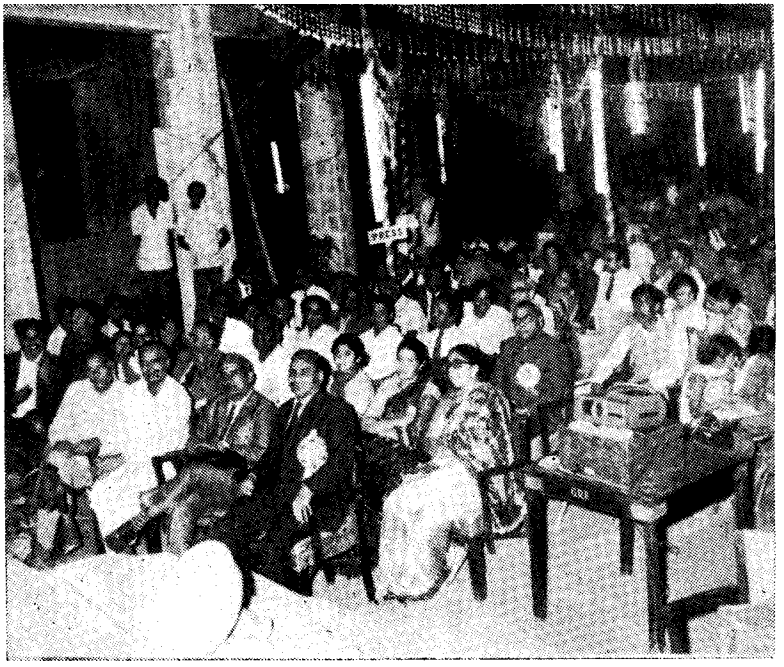
18. Handbook for Information Systems and Services. p. 245 ISBN 92-3-101457-9 (English), 92-3-201457-2 (French). 92-3-301457-6 (Spanish).



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A section of the distinguished audience

CO-OPERATION IN LIBRARIES

J. H. ADHVARYU

NEED FOR CO-OPERATION :

The place of a library in cultural life emphasises that libraries cannot remain isolated. Emphasis is laid on how in social, political and other fields they can fulfil their tasks, only when contact is maintained with officials, governmental departments, cultural institutes, press, radio, film and television. Development today can take place not in vacuum but in adjustment to and overcoming the conditions of our society. It is impossible for any library to be absolutely comprehensive in all the fields. The preconditions necessary for this is Co-ordination among the libraries and such Co-ordination demands mutual Co-operation.

ROLE OF CO-OPERATION :

Co-operation plays most important role in all spheres of our life and this we all have experienced in our day to day

activities. It saves time, money and energy and helps things done easier. Co-operation when applied to Library activities, gives wonderful and unimaginable results.

LIBRARY SYSTEM :

In urban and rural areas, the libraries should not be isolated from one another in their management but should form part of a well-organised library system, in which equilibrium is established among all types of libraries. This point of view is advocated by L. R. Mc COLVIN. The public Is also called upon to feel responsible for the proper upkeep of libraries. Public character rests not only on the library as an institution but also on the consciousness of the Librarian. Free lending of books creates opportunities for wide direct contact between librarian and books. CO-OPERATION can be aimed at creating an atmosphere of trust and sympathy through the art of talking with fellowmen, groups and circles and at tact in dealing with readers. Late Dr. S. R. Ranganathan has said, 'Books are the heralds of light'. Selection of books, therefore, plays an important role in Co-operation. This has become difficult owing to the vast scale of annual book production. Mr. McColvin has also said that the three Fs of modern architecture, viz. functionality, flexibility and friendliness can be applied in the building of a library. Late Dr. S. R. Ranganathan has rightly pointed that library is a place of light, knowledge and wisdom in place of darkness, ignorance and intolerance.

INDIAN SCENE :

Inter-library loan can easily be included in co-operative measures. We have experienced that libraries in India are yet to be well organised on the same level as their Western counterparts are. In India, inter-library loan service exists undoubtedly but there is no written code for it. Many libraries sometimes lend just out of courtesy and often this courtesy is withheld. With the realisation of civic sense

more and more by the people in general, the atmosphere for improvement in library services will more appropriately set in. With the increase in the number of academic people engaged in research and the mounting cost of the books and periodicals, it has become necessary to explore all the means whereby all types of libraries can co-operate with each other without impairing their own efficiency.

AN IDEAL LIBRARY SERVICE :

An ideal library service would be one in which every book in any library in City, State or Nation would be available if needed, without delay or complexity. Under this system, a reader in a remote village corner should get access to the literature of any subject books etc., in which he may be interested, at a cost not more than that borne by a city dweller. Such an ideal can be achieved only if there is proper organisation, cataloguing and transport facilities. Government should exempt such dealings from postal charges. All the States must accept the Library Acts which can solve this problem. They maintain that if the libraries were incharge of a special government department, requiring everywhere a minimum standard of efficiency as a result of qualified inspection and adequate monetary grants, then every library might be made branch of homogenous national library system. Then we can have special reservoirs of books wanted only sparingly, central book selection based on local demands, co-operative buying, publicity methods, reading lists, bibliographical films and talking book collections and special postal, telephone and telegraph charges and a central inquiry service for the libraries. In India, this can only happen, if all the states accept the Library Acts with the result that an ideal and efficient national library system is established. All types of other libraries like public, institutional, industrial and private can participate voluntarily in such co-operative scheme. National library must acquire all

kinds of reading literature on all subjects and pass them on through regional libraries to the readers everywhere in the nation. This serves the purpose of supplying at no extra cost books and reading material to individual readers in areas where there is inadequate library service.

TYPES OF CO-OPERATIVE ACTIVITIES :

As Gelfard has said, even the largest libraries must engage in co-operative activities to augment their resources. For today, it is impossible for any library to be absolutely comprehensive in all fields.

The main types of co-operative activities are :-

(i) **Inter Library Lending** :

Of all types of co-operative activities inter-library lending is the most important one. This should be developed as the central clearing house of a national lending network. National library maintains union catalogues of the holdings of all the libraries including regional library systems. A loan request from one library is despatched by the National Library to whichever other library is shown in the union catalogues as possessing the item. The loaning library then sends the item direct to the borrowing library.

(ii) **Joint Publications** :

The most outstanding example in Britain of joint publication is the British Union Catalogue of Periodicals a record of the periodicals of the world, from 17th century to the present day in the British Libraries (4 vols. 1958). The second one is Ramage's A finding list of English books to 1640 in the libraries in the British Isles. We can conveniently adopt this in India.

(iii) **Inter library study facilities** :

The use by the members of one library of the resources of other libraries also, is a logical extension of the idea of all

libraries in the country being regarded only as a component of what is really a national system. If a student of Delhi University returns for the summer vacation to his home in Bhavnagar, for example, it ought to be made possible for him to continue his studies by allowing him to use the library facilities of Bhavnagar University. Similarly any visiting scholar or researcher must be extended the courtesy of being allowed to use the specialist resources in his field in any library in the country.

(iv) **Co-operative acquisitions schemes** :

In America, according to the Farmington Plan, many libraries have adopted the co-operative acquisition scheme. It has proved successful and many more libraries are thinking of joining the said scheme. The aim of this scheme is that at least one copy of every new publication of interest to research workers and readers in the country sould be available in one or all the libraries taking part in this scheme. We can adopt this scheme as well.

(v) **Co-operative and centralized cataloguing** :

Library of Congress in the United States and British National Bibliography in Britain have started centralized cataloguing services. Many libraries of the world have joined this project. This is neverthless a disturbing thought that at any one period, up and down the county, the same title is being catalogued independently and expensively by many libraries. D. S. FOSKETT has criticized this situation as "Waste of people's Lives". R. E. Ellsworth has said that cataloguing must be centralized, because until this is the case, each library will be saddled with cataloguing costs that are unforgivably high. Library of Congress has introduced MARC PROJECT (Machine Readable Cataloguing) and supplies cataloguing data of the books in the form of magnetic tape which the libraries can use through the medium of a computer to produce their own catalogue entries. Individual

library can select only what it considers relevant for its own catalogue. This system, at present, controls more than 5 lakh titles published annually in the world today. A.J. Wells has considered this scheme or project as "new look at an old problem". In india, Indian National Bibliography can adopt this project as well.

(vi) **Co-operative Storage Schemes** :

All types of libraries in the world are facing the acute problem of non-use materials or little-used materials. Ellsworth has rightly pointed out that we, librarians, must retire our less lively materials to cheap storage warehouses, either on outer edge of our campuses or in some nearby city. First such storage library was started in 1942 in New England Deposit Library in America, the second in Hampshire Inter-library Center and the third in Mid-West Inter library center in 1951 and so on. India can adopt this scheme to overcome the problem of space in all kinds of libraries in India.

(vii) **Transfer of Materials** :

Another facet of co-operative activity to improve library collections is the transfer or redistribution of materials. In Britain, there is British National Book Center which accepts the materials of the libraries which wish to dispose. This center circulates the lists of items for disposal and it is sent direct to the recipient library from the donor library. Many new and impoverished libraries have benefitted by this new scheme. India is facing the space problem today and hence it can start this scheme as well.

(viii) **Regional Co-operation** :

Such co-operation can be of two types :

(A) Where all, or many types of libraries of a region University, Public, Municipal, District Research co-operate.

(B) Where a number of libraries of the same type in a particular region co-operate.

Each region should be regarded as a pool from which each individual library could draw. This can help the extension of coverage and the reduction of expenditure and avoid unnecessary duplication.

(ix) **Professional Associations** :

It would be difficult to overestimate the value of the meetings of the librarians of various associations. Constant and frequent opportunities to exchange information and experience are considered essential. They can discuss, debate and decide their common problems and preoccupations formally and informally.

FRUITFUL RESULTS OF CO-OPERATION :

The main and useful result will be that a very wide coverage of old and new printed books and journals will be available at least in one of the major libraries of the country and this coupled with an efficient system of the inter-library co-operation would allow better reader's service as far as the provision of published materials goes without straining the present or possibly augmented library budgets. This will help the growth of more understanding and friendship among the libraries, educationists, research workers and the like for the greater development of the country, particularly in the sphere of higher education.

In spite of the preliminary difficulties in the way, the co-operative scheme may become successful because we can expect more materials in the different subject fields which naturally will not be possible to acquire single-handed by a library with its limited resources. It is growing healthily. But, this requires to be formalised, co-ordinated and controlled.

CO-OPERATIVE ACQUISITION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL BOOKS IN RESEARCH LIBRARIES IN INDIA

SURENDRA NATH MEHTA
AND
SATYAPAL GUPTA

ABSTRACT :

Discusses the problems in acquisition of scientific and technical books in research libraries in India due to tremendous increase in their number and cost all over the world, and the need for co-operative acquisitions has been established. Co-operative subjects coverage method for co-operative acquisition of scientific and technical books in Research libraries in India at regional level has been outlined which suggests the need for a regional co-ordination centre responsible for the allocation of subject fields to be covered by

individual libraries in the co-operative acquisition programme and the co-ordination of their acquisitions through lists of accessions issued by individual libraries.

1. INTRODUCTION :

It is almost impossible for any library to be comprehensive these days since the amount of literature published is so enormous and so costly. The output of scientific literature grows so rapidly that it would be neither feasible nor indeed, reasonable, for research libraries to acquire and stock all the scientific and technical literature produced throughout the world. Under the circumstances, particularly when limited funds are available, a system must be evolved to maximise the benefits of limited investments without hampering the work of scientific research and development owing to non-availability of the latest information. This aim can be achieved by ensuring that at least one copy of each document produced all over the world required for scientific and technical development, is available for use in one of the libraries in the locality or region.

1.1 Scope of the paper :

The present paper aims at providing a frame-work for establishing such a system among research libraries in India at the local or regional level in respect of acquisition of scientific and technical books of Indian and foreign origin. The term 'research library' has been used in this paper for all scientific and technical libraries in governmental or non-governmental organisations/institutions.

2. NEED FOR CO-OPERATIVE ACQUISITION :

2.1 Increase in the number of publications :

After the second World War, the output of literature as a whole is increasing exponentially. Recently it was estimated that the scientific and technical literature as a whole is doub-

ling every ten years or so. A statistical review of the documents generated in the world's technical literature (given at Appendix 'A') shows that the output of literature in all scientific and technical fields has been almost doubled in a decade 1961-70.

2.2 **Increase in the cost of publications :**

Due to the increasing costs of printing materials and technology, the cost of the publications has been rising tremendously. In the fields of science and technology,especially the costs of publications are much higher than those in social sciences and humanties. According to G. E. Randall, the average cost of science book has increased from $ 10.99 to $ 17.34 betwen 1964 and 1973 and Publishers Weekly reported average cost of science book in 1974 as $ 20.83, while the average cost of technical book as $ 17.74 in the same year. The rising trend in the cost of scientific and technical books in the UK, USA and Germany can be judged from the statistics provided in appendix B.

2.3 **Need for comprehensive and uptodate information :**

Lack of comprehensive and uptodate information will result in duplication of research efforts and waste of time and money. Therefore it is necessary for a research library to provide comprehensive and uptodate information to the users in time.

2.4 **Lack of adequate funds for acquisition of books :**

In India, due recognition is not being paid to the development of research libraries, and therefore adequate funds are not provided by the parent organisations. Moreover, a great amount of funds, allocated for a research library goes for acquisition of periodicals, staff, and for the services rendered by the library, and a small amount is left for acquisition of books.

2.5 **Co-operative acquisition :**

Co-operative acquisition tends to solve all such problems faced by the librarians in research libraries to a great extent. It is a rational distribution of the obligation to acquire relevant reading materials by a number of libraries to socialise the maximum proportion of the world's output of literature, within their limited financial resources. The function of the individual library is to give its users access to as extensive a collection as the local circumstances require and permit; the function of co-operation may be said by extension to be that of providing the users with access to any document which may be needed, no matter in which library it is available. The following are some of the objectives of co-operative acquisition :

(a) To increase the sum total of library resources and to bring to every one the benefit of resources far greater than each could tap singly.

(b) To achieve a greater coverage of the world's diverse reading materials which is coming out in large quantities.

(c) To eliminate unnecessary and undesirable duplication of expensive and infrequently used materials.

(d) To help subject specialization and institutional specialization.

(e) To meet increased demands due to trends in research and scholarship viz. Area research, team research, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research.

3. CO-OPERATIVE ACQUISITION PLAN FOR INDIA :

3.1 **Forms of Co-operative Acquisitions :**

Co-operation in acquisition of books may take several

forms, viz. (i) division of responsibility for subject coverage, (ii) sharing in a co-operative purchasing agreement, (iii) participation in a centralised purchasing agreement. Few libraries can afford co-operative acquisitions in all its forms.

3.2 Co-operative Subject Coverage :

One form of co-operative acquisition is subject specialization which means sharing of responsibility by each participating library for developing a strong collection on some assigned specific subject or subjects most concerned to it. Different types of libraries can form regional groups and make suitable agreements to participate in common co-ordinated acquisition programmes. The primary purpose of such regional schemes is co-operative book-selection, subject specialization, co-operative purchasing and sharing of collections through exchange of publications. The participating libraries will circulate regularly list of their acquisitions to all other member-libraries. In some cases certain types of specialization agreements may also be made between university libraries situated within the region. A number of schemes of subject specialization have been initiated in Great Britain and the United States where agreements exist between different types of libraries including public, special and academic libraries. In India so far no scheme for co-operative or centralised acquisitions exists at national or regional level. There is an urgent need to organise co-operative activities among research libraries in the field of acquisitions of scientific and technical books. Subject specialization is the most feasible scheme within regions.

3.3 Need for Regional Co-ordination Centre :

To initiate and develop co-operative acquisition activities among research libraries in different regions in India, an effective Regional Co-ordinating Centre is essential. The centre will co-ordinate the co-operative activities of member libraries and will have its headquarters at one of the participa-

ting libraries. The functions of the proposed Regional Co-ordinating Centre may be stated as follows :

(i) To allocate responsibilities to participating libraries for collecting books in special subject fields most concerned to them.

(ii) To organise a permanent machinery to co-ordinate acquisitions of expensive and bulky purchases among member libraries.

(iii) To maintain uptodate bibliographical tools to facilitate book selection and acquisition.

(iv) To provide funds for inter-library service to users in all participating libraries in the region.

(v) To communicate allocation of subject responsibilities to all institutions and organisations served by the member libraries.

(vi) To compile union catalogues to facilitate the users about the availability of books and their location in respective libraries.

(vii) To maintain liaison between member libraries to organise co-operative book selection and make purchase agreements.

(viii) To develop long range plans with regard to co-operation and centralisation in acquisitions.

4. CONCLUSION :

Keeping in view the rate of increase in number of scientific publications, rise in their cost of acquisitions, urgent need for exhaustive and uptodate information for day

to day research and development activities, and lack of adequate funds for acquisition, it has become necessary for the research libraries in India to co-operative in their acquisition activities. Co-operation at regional level with the responsibility of covering special subject fields by participating libraries and co-ordinating their acquisition activities by a Regional Co-ordination Centre seems to be the most feasible system for research libraries in India. The individual libraries are also required to circulate their list of accession of books to all the participating libraries and institutions to make the users aware of the availability of books in respective libraries.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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APPENDIX—'A'

DOCUMENTS GENERATED IN THE WORLD'S TECHNICAL LITERATURE

Subject	Number of Significant Documents, Estimated Annual Volume		
	1961	1965	1970
Aero/space	10,000	30 000	50,000
Astronomy	6,000	8,000	10,000
Biological Chemistry	30,000	40,000	50,000
Biology	1,50,000	20,00,000	2,50,000
Chemistry	1,50,000	2,25,000	3,00,000
Engineering (aeronautical, civil, electrical, marine, mechanical, military)	1,50,000	1,75,000	2,00,000
Geodesy	5,000	6,500	8,000
Geography	30 000	40,000	50,000
Geology	20 000	25,000	30,000
Geophysics	10,000	15,000	20,000
Mathematics	10,000	12,500	15,000
Mechanics	5,000	7,500	10,000
Metallurgy	30,000	40,000	50 000
Nuclear Science	10,000	20,000	30 000
Physics	30 000	40,000	50,000
Psychology	12,000	16,000	20,000
TOTAL	6,58,000	9,00,500	11,43,000

APPENDIX—'B'

Average prices and price Indexes for Scientific and Technical Books in U.K., U.S.A. and Germany

1. U. S. HARD COVER TRADE TECHNICAL BOOKS: AVERAGE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES FOR 1967-69, 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975

(Index of 100.0 equivalent to average price for 1967-69) (Prices are given in US $)

Category	1967-69 Average Price	1972 Average Price	Index	1973 Average Price	Index	1974 Average Price	Index	1975 Average Price	Index
General works	15.28	25.19	164.9	18.42	120.5	23.02	150.06	21.60	141.4
Agriculture	19.71	10.94	112.7	11.79	121.4	13.21	136	13.72	141.3
Medicine	13.41	16.19	120.7	15.92	118.7	18.92	141.1	22.15	165.5
Science	12.67	16.05	126.07	17.34	136.9	20.83	164.4	22.81	180.00
Technology	13.03	16.11	123.6	15.38	118.0	17.74	136.1	19.66	150.9

APPENDIX—'B'

2. BRITISH BOOKS: AVERAGE PRICE AND PRICE INDEXES FOR 1969-70 — 1974-75

Index 1966-67_100 (Prices are given in Sterling £)

Category	1969-70 Average Price	Index	1970-71 Average Price	Index	1971-72 Average Price	Index	1972-73 Average price	Index	1973-74 Average price	Index	1974-75 Average price	Index
General works	4.40	84.5	5.27	101.2	6.09½	117.0	5.14	98.7	4.55	87.3	6 40	122.8
Social Sciences	4.71	320.4	5.26	375.7	3.50½	238.4	3.71½	253.3	3.67	249.7	4.39	298.6
Science	4.41	138.5	4.54	151.8	4.78½	160.3	4.97	166.5	5.60½	187.8	6.26	209.4
Technology	3.50	141.7	3.77	152.6	3.89	157.5	3.89	157.5	4 03½	163.0	4.71	190.7

APPENDIX—'B'

3. GERMAN BOOKS : AVERAGE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES FOR 1967-69, 1970, 1971, 1972/73, 1974

(Prices are given in German Marks)

Category	1967-69 Average price	1970 Average price	1970 Index	1971 Average price	1971 Index	1972-73 Average price	1972-73 Index	1974 Average price	1974 Index
General works	32.66	35.02	107.2	36.43	111.5	44.62	136.7	42.25	130.0
Military science	16.47	14.90	90.5	16.22	98.5	21.24	129.0	17.63	107.0
Medicine	40.60	37.22	91.7	37.39	92.1	46.74	115.1	47.38	116.7
Natural sciences	34.73	34.97	100.7	52.59	151.4	55.46	159.7	58.50	168.4
Mathematics	25.40	27.03	106.4	23.84	93.9	28.17	110.4	26.59	104.7
Technology	21.89	22.67	103.6	27.37	125	32.63	149.1	25.94	118.5
Home Economics and Agriculture	12.31	11.79	95.8	14.53	118.0	19.17	155.5	19.00	154.3

DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN THE KARNATAKA STATE

ENACTMENT OF LIBRARY LEGISLATION :

The Karnataka Public Libraries Act, 1965, was passed in the year 1965, and given effect from 1-4-1966. The Act provides for the establishment and maintenance of Public Libraries and the organisation of a comprehensive Rural and Urban Library Service in the State and for matters connected therewith.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES :

In order to carry out the provision of the Act, a Department of Public Libraries has been started with State Librarian as its Head. The Department started functioning with effect from 1-11-1966 with the following skeleton staff of the Office of the former Curator of Libraries which was merged with State Central Library, *Vide* Govt. Order No. ED 16 SLS 66, dated 26-7-1966.

(1)	Curator of Libraries (converted into State Librarian)	1
(2)	Head Clerk	1
(3)	First Division Clerks	2
(4)	Second Division Clerks	2
(5)	Peons	2
	Total	8

Besides 17 posts were sanctioned by the Government mainly in the ministerial cadres and a few posts of Heads of Technical Sections and other professional staff.

As envisaged in the Karnataka Public Libraries Act, 1965, the former Public Libraries at Bangalore and similar Public Libraries in Mysore, Dharwar, Mangalore, Bellary, and Mercara, were taken over by the Department of Public Libraries along with the staff working in these Libraries.

FUNCTIONS OF THE STATE CENTRAL LIBRARY

The State Central Library in the capital of Karnataka is maintained as a Reservoir of Books and other reading materials for proper functioning of the State Library System.

In addition to a General Library, the State Central Library consists of the following sections, *viz.* :

(1) a State Bureau of Copy Right Collections ;
(2) a State Library for the Blind ;
(3) a State Bureau of Inter Library Loans ;
(4) a State Bibliographical Bureau ;
(5) a State Bureau of Technical Service ; and
(6) such other sections as may be specified.

Structure of the Administrative agencies for Libraries at different levels :

There are three authorities which are empowered to establish and organise Libraries under Karnataka Public Libraries Act, 1965, at various levels.

(i) The State Library Authority :

It manages the State Central Library which is established and maintained at the capital of the State. The State Librarian is Ex-Officio Secretary of this Authority and also Head of the Department of Public Libraries and the Education Minister is the Ex-Officio Chairman of the said Authority. The State Library Authority is responsible for all the transactions and working of the State Central Library, Bangalore. The State Library Authority generally advises Government

on all matters connected with the implementation of the provisions of the Karnataka Public Libraries Act, 1965.

(ii) **City Library Authority** :

The City Library Authority which is constituted for the Cities having a population of One Lakh and above, considered to be a viable Unit, exercises powers and performs functions in establishing a City Central Library and its Branches. The Chief Librarian of the City Central Library is Ex-Officio Secretary of the City Library Authority and the Mayor or Municipal President, is the Ex- officio Chairman of the said Authority. The City Library Authorities are responsible for all the transactions and administration of the City Central Libraries and their Branches in furnishing the respective Libraries with Books, Furniture, Equipment, Lands and Buildings, etc , within their jurisdiction.

(iii) **District Library Authority** :

District Library Authority is constituted by Government for each of the Revenue Districts of the State, exercises powers, and performs functions in establishing District Central Library and its Branches independently. The Chief Librarian of the District Central Library is the Ex-officio Secretary of the said authority and the Deputy Commissioner is the Ex-officio Chairman of the said Authority. The District Central Libraries are responsible for all the transactions and administration of the District Central Libraries and their Branches in furnishing respective Libraries with Books, Furniture, Equipment, Lands, and Buildings, etc.

SOURCES OF INCOME :

The source of income of a City Library Authority is the Library Cess collected under clause (a) of Sub-Section (i) of Section 30. In case of District Library Authority, the fund comprises of the Library Cess levied under clause (b) of Sub-Section (i) of Section 30, and the grants sanctioned to it by the State Government under Section 31 of the Act.

Contributions, Gifts, and income from endowments made to the Local Library Authority under the Act shall also form the part of the funds of the Local Library Authorities.

THE STATE LIBRARY FUND :

The State Library Authority Fund consists of the following sums, *viz.* :

(a) Grants made by the State Government ;
(b) Grants where Central Government may make ;
(c) Contributions and Gifts made to the State Library Authority ; and
(d) Funds and other amounts collected by the State Library Authority under the Rules or Byelaws made under the Act.

Working of the Department under the various provisions of the Karnataka Public Libraries Act, 1965, is as follows :

(1) The State Central Library is managed by the managing Committee of the State Library Authority.

The City or District Central Library is managed by the Local Library Authority with the Chief Librarian being the Ex-officio Secretary of the Local Library Authority and Executive Head of the City or the District Central Library. The State Librarian who is the Ex-officio Secretary of the State Library Authority and Head of the Department of Public Libraries shall be responsible for the administration of the provisions of the Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, the Department shall :

(a) Superintend and direct all matters relating to all Public Libraries ;
(b) Promote the establishment of Public Library Service so as to achieve the purpose of this Act ;
(c) Supervise and direct all matters relating to Libraries receiving aid from the State Government ;
(d) Maintain State Registers of Libraries and of Librarians ;

(e) Superintend, direct, and deal with the exercise of powers and performance of duties by Local Library Authorities under this Act :

(f) Ensure the proper utilisation of the Library Funds and Library man power of the State ; and

(g) Perform such other functions as may be entrusted to the Department by or under the provisions of the Act.

EXPANSION OF LIBRARY SERVICE :

The Department formulated a Scheme of Library Service called "Expansion of Library Service" under the Fourth Five Year Plan (now continued in Fifth Five Year Plan) which envisages the opening of 5 City Central Libraries, 19 District Central Libraries, 408 Branch Libraries, and 5,248 Book Delivery Stations, all over the State. This programme is being implemented in phased programme under the provisions of the Act. The Department has so far opened City Central Libraries and District Central Libraries and their Branches as indicated below :

(a)	State Central Library	1
(b)	City Central Libraries	10
(c)	District Central Libraries	19
(d)	Branches etc.	320
(e)	Under Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation Schemes (Village Centres)	1926
(f)	Grant-in-Aid Libraries	204

The Private Libraries at Chitradurga, Chikkamagalur, Shimoga, Chintamani, and Tumkur, were taken over to the Department along with the Assets and Liabilities including the staff working in these Libraries.

Sri N. D. Bagari, State Librarian and Head of the Department, due to his social contacts and dynamism has been able to acquire to the Department private properties such as buildings, books and other equipment worth about Rs. One Crore.

Cadre Strength of the Deparment as on 1-4-1979 is as follows :

(a)	Class	I	1	State Librarian and Head of the Department of Public Libraries.
(b)	Class	II	30	Chief Librarians and Deputy Librarian-Professionals.
			2	Administrative Assistants.
(c)	Class	III	466	Professionals.
			127	Semi-Professionals.
(d)	Class	IV	332	
(e)	Part Time		53	

BUDGET OF THE DEPARTMENT:

The Budget provisions to the Department of Public Libraries under the consolidated fund and Local Library Authorities fund, is as follows :

1)	Plan and Non-Plan	Rs. 1,05,00,000
2)	Collections from Library Cess towards Local Library Authorities (Approximately)	Rs. 64,00,000
	TOTAL	Rs. 1,69,00,000

CESS COLLECTIONS :

Library cess collections in the Cities and Towns under the provisions of the Karnataka Public Libraries Act, 1965, works out to about Rs. 50 Lakhs. Further, the grant due at 3% (Three Percent) of the Land Revenue collections under Section 31 of the Act, to the District Central Libraries was about Rs. 25 lakhs. It usually depends upon the Land Revenue Collections.

The Department has started Intensive Library Service by distributing the Books in Rural areas in the State under

Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Fondation Scheme. This is Five Year Scheme and has been implemented from the year 1973–74. The Scheme envisaged the coverage of 1926 Village Centres for supply of books, costing Rs. 26,53,375. The State Government is contributing Rs. 2 lakhs per year and the Foundation Authorities are also giving an equal amount per year for the purchase of books. The said Scheme has since been continued beyond the period of five years.

Text Book corners have also been opened in most of the District and City Central Libraries in order to help the poor students who are preparing for their various examinations.

To equip the Library staff, a Library Training School attached to the Department of Public Libraries has been established in the State and the same is preparing candidates at the Lower Levels of Library Science.

BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE LIBRARIES :

So far as the buildings, furniture and equipment required for the Libraries, the Local Library Authorities, have to provide suitable lands and buildings, out of their funds. They are also required to provide the furniture, fittings, and other equipment required for the Central Libraries and Branch Libraries thereon.

The State Central Library, Bangalore, City Central Lrbraries at Mangalore and Mysore, and the District. Central Libraries, Uttara Kannada, Dakshina Kannada, Tumkur, Bijapur, Kolar, Chikkamagalur, Belgaum, Chitradurga, Hassan, Shimoga, and Mercara have their own buildings. In respect of other City Central Libraries and District Central Libraries and their Branches, buildings have been secured rent free in 103 places and with rent in the remaining places.

GENERAL :

The Library movement in India as a whole started very late. Even to-day, it is felt that Library Legislation in the Country is noteffective. But it is interesting to note that Karnataka

has achieved a far reaching result in the field of Library Development. Thanks are due to our Government and the general public for their co-operation and help in making the programme a success and marching ahead towards the quick development of Karnataka Public Library Service.

N. D. BAGARI
State Librarian

STATISTICS PERTAINING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES FOR THE YEAR 1978-79

Sl. No.	Name of the Library	Total Number of		Total No. of books in the Library as on 31-3-78	No. of books added during the year 1978-79	Expenditure incurred on books and periodicals during 1978-79	Total No. of Members as on 31-3-79	Members enrolled during 1978-79	Ave. No. of daily visitors to the Library per day	Ave. No. of books issued per day for home reading	Ave. No. of books consulted in the permises of the Library per day
		Branches	Service stations								
1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	State Central Library	—	—	1,48,978	5,949	2,12,999	10,798	968	1,800	1,130	2,050
2.	Mangalore C.C.L.	4	—	76,015	2,150	5,612	5,625	315	1,110	2,109	1,150
3.	Belgaum ,,	8	—	69,311	13,185	1,50,000	5,426	910	4,000	2,700	1,290
4.	Mysore ,,	3	9	1,10,709	12 602	1,30,000	4,410	492	5,016	3,102	2,015
5.	Davangere ,,	—	—	9,915	3,165	50,000	256	76	250	95	200
6.	Bangalore ,,	8	40	9,33,581	92,206	17,21,000	28,616	910	39,000	12,305	49,910
7.	Hubli-Dharwar ,,	18	—	1,31,900	7,980	2,25,441	8,022	850	15,100	8,125	15,000
8.	Uttara Kannada D.C L.	4	—	49,051	6,126	80,000	1,011	315	906	235	550
9.	Mandya ,,	10	—	73,615	9,150	76,000	2,185	515	1,951	1,100	812
10.	Dakshina Kannada ,,	11	35	1,97,082	1,112	72,651	17.890	1,140	7,526	2,523	3,840
11.	Bellary ,,	17	6	93,300	1,150	36,170	8,150	350	2,410	1,208	1,800
12.	Tumkur ,,	5	—	86,810	1.002	1,20,000	4,117	705	1,450	906	1,709
13.	Mysore ,,	3	—	12,603	2.109	1,10,000	313	98	525	105	196
14.	Bijapur ,,	8	—	57,302	10,108	1,25,000	2,785	658	3,155	1,515	2,060
15.	Chintamani (Kolar Dist.) ,,	12	—	69,582	8,908	74,007	2,900	800	3,908	898	1,834
16.	Bidar ,,	4	—	35,108	10,108	1,25,000	975	250	1,910	405	615
17.	Chickkamagalur ,,	8	—	46,308	5,115	57,000	3,363	310	2,015	862	912
18.	Raichur ,,	6	2	23,765	9,815	2,32,000	990	330	1,875	594	792
19.	Belgaum ,,	6	—	16,935	2,420	53,358	863	250	1,780	500	1,450
20.	Chitradurga ,,	9	—	69,402	4,160	48,000	6,000	3,645	1,645	1,148	912
21.	Hassan ,,	7	—	64,048	3,127	22,500	2,500	4,201	1,210	1,815	1,150
22.	Bangalore ,,	9	3	38,182	2,100	44,554	2,042	362	1,250	800	750
23.	Shimoga ,,	7	—	60,357	9,516	60,000	3,838	745	2,150	1,300	1,800
24.	Gulbarga ,,	5	1	24,438	10,546	72,166	1.247	530	1,840	750	912
25.	Dharwar ,,	16	—	46,388	10,200	1,25,000	2 050	800	2,150	910	1,258
26.	Madekeri ,,	4	24	27,843	6,600	23,350	995	105	1,612	350	412
	Grand Total	192	119	25,73,128	2,50,609	40,51,808	1,27,367	20,630	1,08,544	46,382	95,379

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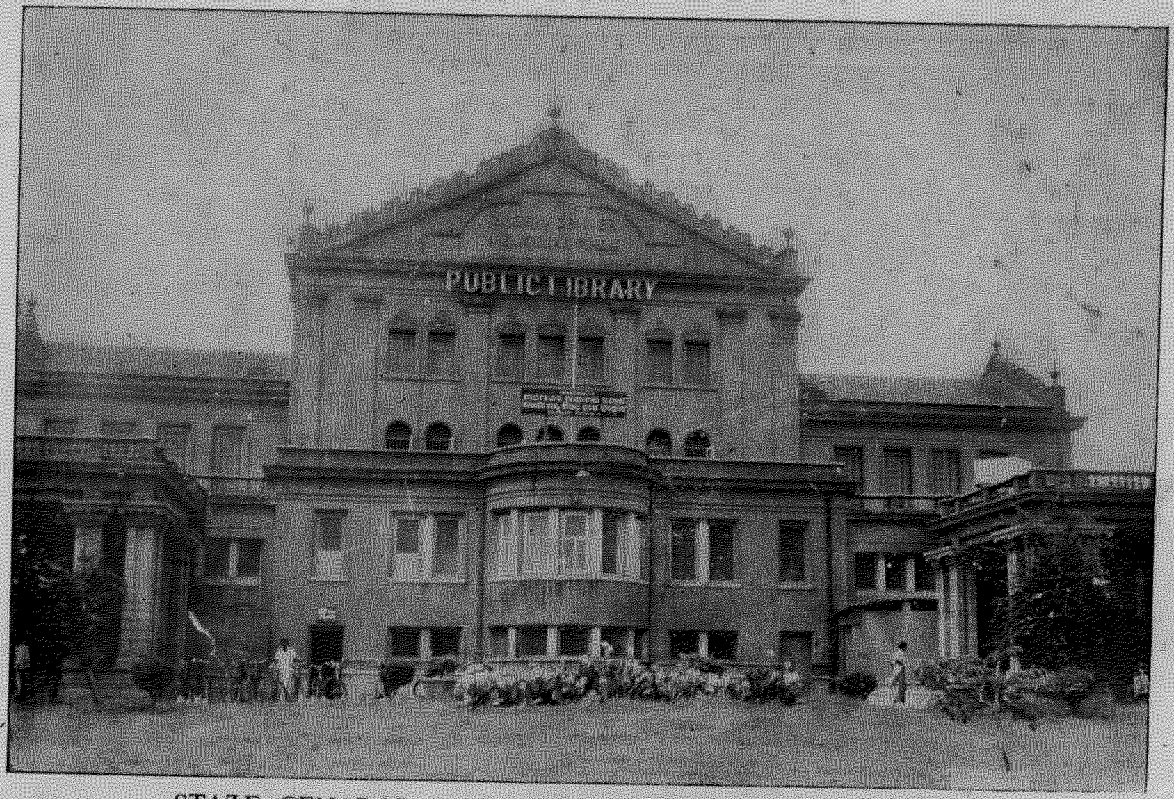
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STATE CENTRAL LIBRARY, CUBBON PARK, BANGALORE

FOUR DAYS OF THE CONFERENCE

(A Report of the XXIV All-India Library Conference)

The XXIV All India Library Conference was held at the Garden City of Bangalore from January 29 to February 1, 1978. The weather was fine and climate salubrious. The conference was sponsored by the Department of Public Libraries, Government of Karnataka. The venue of the conference was Gandhi Bhavan, Kumara Park East. The deliberations were held in a specially erected shamiana most tastefully decorated. The Conference looked like a veritable festival. Delegates from all over India,, from Hariyana to Cape Camorin, participated very enthusiastically in the deliberations. Apart from the stalwarts in the library field who participated, there was a sizeable number of lady delegates also. The Reception Committee headed by Sri N. Laxman Rau, I.A.S., Administrator Bangalore City Corporation and Sri N.D. Bagari, State Librarian and Head of the Department of Public Libraries in Karnataka as Member-Secretary, attended to all the details of the Conference.

At the outset, Sri N. Laxman Rau, Chairman of the Reception Committee welcomed all the delegates to the Conference. Sri N. D. Bagari, State Librarian and Head of the Department of Public Libraries in Karnataka, Member-Secretary of the Conference and Vice-President of the ILA, gave an account of the progress of the Library movement in Karnataka and associated himself with the welcome.

Conference was inaugurated by His Excellency Sri Govind Narain, Governor of Karnataka. During the course

of his inaugural speech His Excellency paid glowing tributes to the progress of the Library movement in Karnataka. He was very happy that almost every nook and corner of the State was covered by the Library movement. He expressed the hope that the Conference would have fruitful deliberations and that at this crucial period of further development of the Library movement proper guidance would be given.

Smt. Chandra Govind Narain released the Souvenir called "Sreegandha", appropriately named after the famous Sandal wood of Mysore. The souvenir is a well brought out publication with important articles on libraries and library movement. It also consists of articles on Karnataka, its History, Literature and Culture.

The exhibition of books was inaugurated by Sri K.Gurudutt former Director of Public Instruction, Government of Karnataka. As many as fifty publishers and book-sellers participated in the book exhibition.

Prof. T. Reuben, former Member of the Public Service Commission, spoke about the importance of books and the services to be rendered by Libraries. He also paid eloquent tributes to the dynamism and organisational capacity of Sri N. D. Bagari, the State Librarian, who in a very short time has set up a net work of libraries throughout Karnataka. He called these libraries as nerve centres of knowledge. He wished Sri Bagari greater succcess in his efforts.

Sri D. R. Kalia Director of central secratariat Library and the President of the Indian Library Association, associated himself with the welcome and made a reference to sharing of library resources in the context of rising prices of books etc. He also congratulated the State Librarian Sri N.D. Bagari, for the excellent work he has done for organising, developing and administering the Library Service in the State of Karnataka.

Sri O. P. Trikha, Secretary of the Indian Library Association also welcomed the delegates on behalf of the I.L.A.

Sri T. R. Jayaraman, I. A. S. Vice-chancellor, Bangalore University delivered the Presidential address.

Sri T. K. S. Iyengar, Librarian, Indian Institute of Science proposed a vote of thanks.

On Monday the 30th January, the sessions started with Sri T. S. Rajagopalan presenting a paper on " An overview of problems & prospects of Resource sharing among libraries in India". This was followed by general discussion. The participants were divided into 13 groups and each group had a Chairman and a Rapporteur. The discussions were carried on in a very healthy spirit and with a constructive attitude.

The plenary session was held on Tuesday, 31st January from 10 A. M. to 1 P. M. and the recommendations and the resolutions were adopted. The General Body Meeting of the Indian Library Association was held at 2 P. M. and the minutes of previous General Body meeting held at Sreenagar on 11-10-1976 were confirmed. Annual report for 1976-77 was adopted. The amendments proposed by the President, I. L. A. to the election resolution were accepted. Sri B. L. Bharadwaj was elected as the new president of the I. L. A. in place of Sri D. R. Kalia. Sri D. R. Kalia, out-going President handed over charge to Sri D. L. Bharadwaj and wished him all success in his efforts. He also said that his services were always at his disposal for the progress of the Library movement in India.

The valedictory function was held from 4-15 p. m. to 5-30 p. m. Sri N. D. Bagari, who was elected as the Vice-President of the I.L.A. while thanking the delegates for having elected him, welcomed the gathering. Sri D.R. Kalia presided. Dr. R.Y. Dharwadkar, Member, Official Language (Legislative) Commision, Sri H. J. Lakkappa Gowda, Member, Official Language (Legislative) Commission and Sri O. P. Ghai spoke about their experiences with regard to Libraries and the Library

movement. Sri N. D. Bagari proposed a vote of thanks tc all the delegates and the participants.

Several organisations came forth enthusiastically to host the delegates. On the first day, the Department of Public Libraries Government of Karnataka, hosted tea and supper. On the second day M/s Sterling Publishers, Delhi hosted tea and M/s Concept Book Co., Delhi hosted the dinner. On the third day tea was hosted by Indian Society for Information Science and Karnataka State Publishers and Book Traders Association, Bangalore.

Entertainment programmes were put up by the students of the Department of Drama and Music of Bangalore University on the 29th and it was followed by programmes of mimicry and shadow play. On the 30th, Cultural Programme was put up by M/s Prabhata Kalavidaru, Bangalore.

On the final day excursions were arranged in two batches, one to the famous historical places Sreerangapatna. Mysore etc., and the second to places of art treasure Belur, Halebidu etc.

The Department of Public Libraries, Government of Karnataka is thankful to Officers of the All India Library Association for giving an opportunity to conduct the XXIV All India Library Conference at Bangalore.

R. Y. DHARWADKAR
H. J. LAKKAPPAGOWDA



Sri N. D. Bagari, State Librarian Head of the Department of Public Libraries in Karnataka and Member-Secretary submitting the Report



The Conference in progress –
From left to right : Smt. Chandra Govind Narain, H. E. Sri Govind Narain, Sri T. R. Jayaraman, Sri N. D. Bagari

Inaugural Address Delivered by

His Excellency GOVIND NARAIN

Shri Jayaraman, Shri Gurudutt, Shri Laxman Rau, Shri Kalia, Shri Bagari, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My wife and I are very heppy to associate ourselves with this 24th All India Library Conference. I deem it an honour to have been asked to inaugurate the Conference and my wife has great pleasure in releasing the Souvenir.

Karnataka in Buddhist times had a well-known library at Nagai. In middle Ages it developed, among others, the famous Mohamed Gawan College Library at Bidar. Tippu Sultan was a lover of books and had built up a fine Library, a large part of which passed to the British Museum after his fall. Even in modern times, Karnataka has been a pioneer in the library movement in the country. Next only to Maharaja Sayyaji Rao Gaekwad of Baroda who established the first State Library aud the first State Department of libraries and the first library school in the country, was Dr. Visveswarayya in 1913 who advised the Education Committee of the Economic Conference held under his inspiration to set up a Department of libraries and a State Central Library with branches in Districts and Tahsils so as to promote a programme of free book service for all in the then State of Mysore. He set up two Public Libraries next year and drew up plans for mobile libraries for rural areas. In 1924, an All India Library Conference was held at Belgaum along with the A.I.C.C. session with Shri C.R. Das presiding over it. The role that libraries could play in promoting national unity and development was stressed. The Mysore

State Adult Education Council developed rural libraries primarily for neoliterates in the early 40's. In 1961, Karnataka University started degree courses in library science to be followed later by the other Universities in the State and by post-graduate courses. In the same year, the Documentation Research and Training Centre was established at Bangalore. Karnataka is one of the few States which have passed a State Library Act and which have been taking action under it. A State Central Library, several City Central Libraries and District Central Libraries have been established along with their branches to cover a large part of the state both urban and rural. The Karnataka Adult Education Council has set up nearly 2,500 library units mostly in rural areas for neo-literates and over 2,000 Village Library centres have been opened under the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation. A Bureau of copyright collections is also in existence. Provision has been made under the Act for adequate finances for the development of libraries in the State. I am happy to learn that one of the five regional libraries which the U.G.C. is proposing to set up will be located in Bangalore and would be functioning in collaboration with the Bangalore University Library. It is in the fitness of things that the All India Library Conference should meet in this progressive and beautiful capital of Karnataka.

It was 45 years ago that the first All India Library Conference was held in Calcutta. Significantly, in the same year, an All India Rural Library Conference was also held in Madras. Since then the All India Library Conference has been providing a forum for the exchange of ideas on the development of libraries in the country and for creating an awareness of the vital importance of libraries for national development. As part of the development of library movement, the Conference has also been discussing effective measures to extend and improve library science education and making valuable suggestions. It has been meeting at places all over the country with distinguished educationists like Sir John Sargent,

Dr.V. K. R. V. Rao, and Dr. K.M. Munshi and experts in Library management like Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, who has been rightly called the Father of the Library Movement in India, Shri B. S. Keshavan, Dr. Nihar Ranjan Roy and Shri D. R. Kalia in the chair. The All India Library Association which was constituted at the time of the first All India Library Conference has been organising National Library Weeks every year since 1968 during the third week of November and has been publishing a quarterly Bulletin to promote library science and management and in general the development of libraries in the country.

The Imperial Library set up at the beginning of the century, though its origin can be traced to the beginning of the 19th Century, came to be renamed as the National Library 30 years ago. A Directory of Indian Libraries was compiled in 1938 and the first issue of the Indian National Bibliography was released 20 years later. Dr. Ranganathan made the first attempt at documentation service 50 years ago and as a result of collaboration between UNESCO and the Government of India, the INSDOC came into existence in 1952 and issued its first list two years later. It was the Andhra pioneer, Iyyanki Venkataramaiah who tried to popularise Libraries in the country side. The Government of India sponsored a scheme for the development of 60,000 village libraries in the country 20 years ago and established for the same purpose the Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation a little over 5 years ago. Dr. Ranganathan drew up many years ago a 30 year perspective plan for the development of libraries. Some years later as a One-Man Committee, he also suggested the setting up of a National Science Library.A National Agricultural Library has already been set up. The development plan for libraries envisages a National Library Grid providing free channels for the flow of books in such a manner as to make the country 'a land of libraries'. There is also a proposal to set up regional National Libraries. I expect that computer technology will also be utilised to

maximise and regulate the sharing of library resources all over the country. In view of these developments, I feel that India which had in earlier times illustrious libraries at Universities, courts and temples will see a rennaisance of library development which will cover not only University and scientific centres, but will also provide services for people in urban concentrations and in remote rural areas.

The fundamental importance of libraries for national development cannot be overstressed. Progress in various fields is contingent on new ideas. It is libraries that help to propagate the latest ideas and techniques. As a great thinker, Voltaire, put it, "Books rule the world or atleast those nations which have written-language". Our institutions of science and technology should be able to get at the latest ideas and techniques to expedite the modernisation of India's economy. It is in this direction that INSDOC is playing a most valuable part. Similarly, Universities should have the latest literature both in books and periodicals for the benefit of their faculty and students. It was Carlyle who said, "The true University of these days is a collection of books". A University president in an advanced country once observed, "Give me a good library, I shall build a University around it". One cannot emphasise too much the importance of technology percolating to the lowest levels of farmers' fields and of entrepreneurs in small-scale industries. India is deeply engaged in a socio-economic revolution of gigantic proportions. A massive and active popular participation is essential to its success. It is only when our huge human resources are trained and harnessed to the tasks of development that we can achieve satisfactory results. When our large and increasing population becomes also well-informed it will become a tremendous asset in this process instead of being as at present in certain ways, in view of our own failure to reach out to them with modern technology, something of a drag. Not only should there be training in skills but there has to be a transformation of attitudes and behavioural patterns. Right

from the top levels of our intellectual institutions and down to the people in remote villages such a change has to be brought about if our traditional norms have to be transformed into a value-structure distinctive of an egalitarian society assuring citizens equality of status and opportunities socially, educationally and economically. In this vital task a National Library Service from matropolitan to the remotest rural areas is essential and has to be built up without much delay. The necessary financial provision needs to be made as under the library legislation passed in four States including Karnataka. It is to be hoped that all the remaining states will also enact similar legislation soon enough. It is not a very happy state of affairs that only 1% or less of educational budgets is being allocated for the development of libraries. This needs to be enhanced if library services have to be extended to more than 9% of the country's villages to which it would appear that they are at present limited.

A basic educational level for each child is essential whether for maintenance and development of political democracy on the right lines or for social and economic development. The programme of universal and free primary education is under implementation. A system of higher secondary education which should be terminal for the bulk of the young is also being promoted. Efforts are also being made to improve the quality of University education. All schools and Universities need adequate library facilities. Government of India considered it desirable as early as in 1964 that full-time librarians should de appointed in all schools. However, it is understood that only a negligible percentage, 10% or less, of schools have proper libraries under qualified librarians and that only a fifth of our total student population at all levels in the country have the benefit of adequate library facilities.[1] This is a situation that calls for speedy reformative action.

We have recently adopted a policy of encouraging non-formal education. Our Universities have started correspond-

ence courses to help a large number of people who have missed higher education for various reasons. In point of fact, non-formal education is conducive to modernisation of the social structure since it opens up very widely indeed the opportunities for education for all classes and sections of people. Libraries are of central importance in making a success of non-formal education. The librarian becomes practically a teacher surrogate and a guide.

For the general public, it is necessary to foster what has been called continuing education besides providing recreation and relief after their strenuous work in various spheres. Libraries help to raise the intellectual tone and purify the taste of society. Macaulay once said that he would rather be a poor man in a garret with plenty of books than a king who did not love reading.

If, as a layman but a life-long beneficiary of libraries, I might make a suggestion, I would urge more effective steps to be taken to acquire the best and most relevant books, ancient or modern for our libraries of all kinds and at all levels. Lord Lytton advised that in science one should read by preference the newest works, but in literature the oldest, the classics being always modern. To quote the great poet Milton " A good book is the precious life-blood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life." It is in books that the accumulated knowledge and wisdom of the ages are treasured for the benefit of succeeding generations of mankind. Another poet, Shelley claimed poets to be the unacknowledged legislators of the world. It was observed by another writer that he would not mind who made the laws as long as he made the ballads for the country. While agreeing with Lord Lytton about the master-pieces of literature of earlier times, I would, however, add that the literary classics of modern times should be widely available for the public to read as they imaginatively apprehend and express the spirit of our time, a project, a vivid picture of the social and cultural transformation in process. Libraries would be play-

ing their due role most effectively if adequate care is taken for equipping them with the best that has been thought and written in the world.

Substantial progress has been made over the last few decades in training librarians for their exacting job requirements. Certificate courses, diploma courses and degree and post-graduate courses are being conducted at various insiitutions in the country. While adequate places are available at degree levels, there is pressing need for enlarging training facilities at lower levels, particularly, at diploma level for boys. I hope the Conference will discuss steps to meet this requirement.

It is of fundamental importance that we provide the basic necessities of life for every citizen in the country. Ideas on the technical side need to be propagated for achieving the necessary social and economic progress for meeting the immediate needs of our people. For this purpose, libraries should serve as an extension agency and, particularly in rural areas in view of the illiteracy of the bulk of the population, be equipped not only with printed literature, but with audio-visual aids. The librarian should serve like the school teacher or the village level worker as an extension agent. Additionally, he should aid formal and non-formal educational processes to be fully effective. Further, with books on social science and works of art and literature he should promote a new cultural consciousness in society. Since the quality of life is as important as its economic aspect and since man does not live by bread alone, I would say that libraries which feed the spirit and the intellect serve the society and contribute to nation-building both as channels of communication of technical knowledge and as carriers of the culture of our and earlier times.

I am very happy to inaugurate this 24th All India Library Conference and wish that its deliberations lead to ideas that will promote a more rapid development of libraries in the country. My wife is also very happy to release "Srigandha",

the Souvenir so attractively prepared by the Department of Public Libraries in Karnataka. Srigandha, as you know, is the most exquisitely sweet-smelling sandal for which Karnataka is celebrated. I hope not only that the Conference will produce most useful ideas but the delegates will also carry with them when they go back fragrant memories of their visit to Karnataka.

JAI HIND

Sunday
29th January, 1978

LIBRARY CO-OPERATION AND ITS FIELD

UPENDRA PRASAD YADAV

The term "Co-operation" has been defined as "joint effort to a common end". This definition when applied to field of librarianship or Information scientists would mean joint effort of several libraries to achieve our goal of maximum services to the readers. Co-operation among librarians in the forms of Inter Library lending was advocated as early as in the first issue of library journal in 1876 by S. S. Green. As a matter of facf co-operation among libraries has been found indispensable because today it is virtually impossible for any library, however great, to acquire all the retrospective publications that are required for comprehensive coverage of subject-field or to keep up with the massive rising flow of publications.

Co-operation will be helpful :

1. for maximum coverage of reading materials on different subjects,
2. to avoid duplication of less useful materials,
3. for maximum use of the funds available,
4. to satisfy maximum demands of the readers,
5. to increase the efficiency of the services rendered. by the libraries,
6. to enjoy all those facilities, which cannot be fulfilled by a single library,
7. to have uniformity in processing,
8. to avoid duplication,
9. to save precious foreign exchange, time and energy of the library staff,
10. with minimum effort, maximum benefit may be achieved.

All these benefits can be achieved with the help of modern technique. There must be some library system in the country.

Other than the Inter Library Loan or co-operation, there have been many new fields in the field of librarianship and information science. Co-operation should be not only at the national level but it should be also at the International level. There must be some system.

1. National system
2. Regional system
3. Local system

System like NISBAT & others should work properly.

Main factors in it

1. Information Needs and uses.
2. Acquisition
3. Union Catalogues & Regional Union Catalogues
4. Current Awareness Services
5. S. D. I.
6. Information analysis, state of the Art Reports.
7. Information Services to Industries
8. Referral Services
9. Promoting use of Information
10. Training in Information Science
11. Research in Information Fields
12. Translation Bank

Like MARC—a pilot project in 1966 for machine-readable Cataloguing data, MARC II has been developed and adopted by B.N.B. The MARC project is a remarkable achievement and is likely to revolutionize the field of bibliography.

Other systems which are most helpful in the co-operation are as below:

1. Transfer Process
3. Xerography
3. Thermofox
4. Mechanical Sorting system
5. Filofux system
6. Filmsort
7. Mechanical Translation
8. Computer
9. An automated slide classification system

A bird's eye survey of the readers services performed by special librarian in any art of the world will reveal that without the help of the above described methods, a special library or any library cannot satisfy the needs of their readers. The massive growth of literature and the vast ocean of knowledge can only be conquered by the help of scienctific inventions.

Some Methods of Reproduction :

1. Photostat ;
2. Peflex ;
3. Xerography ;
4. Electrofax ;
5. Microfilm ;
6. Copy from Model 2000 ;
7. Super Micro Reproduction, etc.

Some Papers were not received for inclusion in the 'Proceedings'; their abstracts, however, are given below:

RESOURCE SHARING IN INDIA: CO-OPERATIVE ACQUISITION

Dr. ANIRUDH PRASAD

What and why of co-operative acquisition are discussed? Suggests that co-operative acquisition in India should be introduced within university, among universities and other libraries and on international level. Apart from the Inter-library loan, co-operation among libraries can be achieved by centralised acquisition, centralised cataloguing, development of union catalogues and bibliographical centres, documentation centres, compilation and distribution of bibliographies and union lists, co-operative photographic services and international activities and services. Problem of co-operative acquisition in university and special libraries, Farmington plan, co-operative acquisition programme of the German Research Association for research libraries in the Federal Republic of Germany are discussed. It is concluded that co-operation among libraries is an essential aspect of smooth library services in developed and developing countries. It is still more important for the developing countries as they neither have adequate technical manpower nor the financial

resources to provide the desired service to its users independently.

RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA FOR PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

V. K. MATHUR

The author has taken view of the growing reproduction facilities and value of periodicals over books. He stresses that for librarians to achieve status, they should organise libraries in such a way that they may be appreciated by the Government and the society. The foreign exchange and national money can be saved through resource sharing. Fuller utilisation of resources, conservation of total financial space and technical manpower of libraries in a region are the objective of inter-library co-operation and fulfilment of the laws of Library Science. Pointing out the usefulness of back-volumes of journals for research and inability to procure every type of journal in a library, the need of regional joint acquisition is suggested. The idea of co-operative and union cataloguing to achieve success in this direction is also suggested.

Inter library loan is lacking in academic libraries and service for concessional rates to make the service inexpensive is suggested. Resource sharing in periodicals saves unnecessary duplication and the money thus saved can be utilised for subscribing other new periodicals. It also enlists the role of INSDOC in resource sharing of periodicals in the compilation of union catalogue using IBM 1620 computer. The resource sharing will save time, money, manpower, problem of storage and dissemination etc. Mechanical, electro-mechanical electronic systems ; union catalogue, data banks and reproduction methods to boost resource sharing is suggested. Total centralisation the best solution for 'resource sharing' success is concluded.

CONSTRAINTS IN CO-OPERATIVE ACQUISITION: A CASE STUDY

Mrs. PRABHA KRISHNAN

The author draws the attention towards the need of co-operative acquisition by selected group of libraries arisen out of publication explosion and rising cost of publication. Three libraries: 1) Ministry of External Affairs Library, 2) Jawaharlal Nehru University Library (School of International Studies) and 3) Indian Council of World Affairs Library are chosen and their respective problems are studied. The scope and utility of co-operative acquisition is discussed for various types of reading materials i.e. periodicals, newspapers, reports, pamphlets, documents, maps, atlases etc. It is concluded though co-operative acquisition can gain ground in various categories of materials, it has many cosstraints, restraints among special libraries.

RESOURCE SHARING IN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN INDIA

Dr. CHANDRA KANTH SHARMA

Resource sharing in university libraries is discussed. Each university library is primarily responsible for having adequate resources, administrative capability, efficient communications, appropriate share of responsibility and attitude of flexibility and experimentation. A chart has been given showing the various aspects of library work in a University Library in which resource sharing can be effectively applied. It is suggested that a Planning and Organisation Council on Computerized Information Retrieval Services should be formed for solving various service problems in university libraries.

RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA

ARATI KAR

After the second world war there has been a spurt in the research activity and more and more libraries are being called to handle increasing amounts of information. It is not possible for a library to acquire everything individually and therefore they have to seek assistance from other libraries, The participating libraries should come to an agreement involving co-operation in acquisition, storing, man-power sharing and inter-library tendency. Libraries can share services as well, like providing current awareness services, compiling bibliographies, translation services. The author also suggests the establishment of centralised computer based SDI and retrieval services and also recommends building up of national collection with copying facilities.

CONCEPT OF RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES

K. R. SOUNDARARAJAN

Defines the term resource sharing. The State of libraries in India and the need of resource sharing and organised library systems are discussed. To ensure uniformity, continuity and usefulness, the establishment of co-ordinated region-wise Library Systems have been suggested. To illustrate, the District has been taken as Basic Unit for Library Systems and named Co-operative Library Union. Various activities of these Co-operative Library Unions at local, state and national level have been discussed under the headings : book selection and book purchase ; area specialisation ; centralized processing ; preparation of union catalogues : weeding out of unwarranted materials ; purchase of equipment ; reference service ; holding of seminars and conferences ; provision of

extension service ; bibliographic and documentation services etc. Effective co-operation among various library authorities. In these, Co-operative Library Unions is stressed for the success of resource sharing.

RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA

K. L. SHAH

The author has stated that resource sharing has become essential due to limited financial sources, growth of multi-disciplinary literature and increase in the prices of books and equipment. Co-operation is both a process and means through which two or more separate entities accommodate each other to approach a mutually satisfactory condition. To ensure effective co-operation, the setting up of a central agency either by UGC or Government is suggested. Areas of co-operation and prerequisites on voluntary basis are pointed out.

RESOURCES SHARING AMONG MANUSCRIPT LIBRARIES OF INDIA

Dr. NARINDER KUMAR
A. S. CHANDEL

Manuscript collection requires a proper linking by establishing a manuscript library system for the entire country. Planning of an integrated National Manuscript Libraries System (INMALIS) is suggested and guidelines to cover important aspects of the System are formulated. The components of INMALIS system are enumerated and discussed under the following headings and sub-headings : manuscript resources and facilities for their utilization with reference to sanskrit manuscript libraries, publication capabilities of the library, institutional resources, general features of the system, objectives of the national manuscript library, features and

functions of national library grid, role of local library units, factors affecting the performance of the INMALIS, measures for adoption and development, subject field of manuscripts, functional organization of the national manuscript library grid, organization chart, supporting function, library and pocumentation services, action plan, survey of manuscript resources and potential, expenditure and time schedule.

REGIONAL INFORMATION CENTRE: A MECHANISM OF SHARING RESOURCES OF THE LIBRARIES IN BIHAR

DR. S. F. RAB

Various organizations are attempting to build a national infrastructure of libraries for accumulation, dissemination and protection of information and data, relevant to the needs of potential users The success of such national system of libraries depends upon the establishment of Regional Information Centre (RIC) in every state capital. The author recommends that the ICSSR should have such centres. These centres will attempt to identify the needs, interests and problems of the users. Another important task of the RIC would be to make thorough survey of the existing library resources which are available in different libraries, and which are not well known. The RIC will also establish a Regional Inter-library Resource Centre by collecting duplicate, unused and other resources from various libraries. The RIC will also prepare both 'current' and 'retrospective' bibliographies as step towards bibliographical control. The RIC will make co-ordinated effort to plan and determine the responsibility of each participating library for preparing bibliographies, indexes, abstracts and documentation lists. It will also prepare union-catalogues, and help establishing data banks, and will promote co-operation among participating libraries.

SHARING OF READING MATERIALS AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA: INTER LIBRARY CO-OPERATION

Dr. D. B. KRISHNA RAO

Continuous growth of and unprecedented demand for reading material of all kind and at all standards in all kinds of libraries demands for an effective library co-operation. Resource sharing has also become necessary due to the contemporary sociological climate which has resulted from the cumulative effect of the changing educational, scientific, technological, industrial and political developments and progress. Following aspects are attributed to library co-operation: to derive maximum benefit from the minimum financial resources, to make maximum amount of reading materials, available to the maximum number of interested readers, to reduce duplication of reading material, increase the nations capacity as a whole to acquire the largest number of documents, and savings of funds. Three levels of co-operation, namely, regional or local, national, and international, and three stages of co-operation, namely co-operation in acquisition, co-operation in processing and co-operation in Services are discussed. Nine recommendations for effective library co-operation are made.

Editorial Board



(L to R) Sri Kempanna, Dr. R. Y. Dharwadkar, Sri N. D. Bagari,
Sri H. J. Lakkappagowda, Sri A. Parthasarathi

On the use of Books

K. GURU DUTT

When my friend Mr. Bagari invited me to open this Book Exhibition, I felt flattered. I am a lover of books, and this was indeed a rare occasion. But at the same time I had my own doubts. What with the Governor opening an All-India Conference, the Vice-Chancellor presiding, and five hundred expert delegates from all over India, where did I come into the show?

So I suggested to Bagari that he should go in for some V.I.P. But he said: Sir, you are a V.I.P. in our eyes. I agreed, provided V.I.P. is interpreted as "Very Insignificant Person" So here I am. It certainly is my good fortune (*Adrishta*); but I am afraid it is your fate (*Praarabdha*).

If I have used the word 'insignificant' that is only from an external point of view. But from within I feel that my long life has been full of significance (*Artha*): it has been *Saarthaka*. It is God's Grace. I have been spared that meaninglessness (*Anartha*) which is said to be a characteristic of modern civilization notwithstanding all its material advantages. For this replenishing of the inner life, I owe a great deal to the judicious use of books.

On an occasion like this, speaking of libraries and books, I must first pay a tribute to the memory of the late Dr. S. Ranganathan, first National Professor of Library Science. He was the pioneer who put India on the map of

the library world. His Five laws of Library Science are known the world over. Most of the librarians in India, including Bagari, are his disciples either directly or at one remove. He had travelled widely, and left his impress wherever he went, not merely for his intellectual distinction, but also for his humility, simplicity, and other very human traits. I had the privilege of his close friendship during his years of retirement when he had settled down at Bangalore.

Dr. Ranganathan's classifying mind was rooted in an integral philosophy of life. At first sight, classification may look simple and even mechanical. But at heart it is a mystery. As Aristotle pointed out, it was the origin of all ordered knowledge or science. I am not competent to hold out on it, nor is this the occasion.

All the same, while inaugurating a Book Exhibition, it might be in order for me to offer some light-hearted comments on the Five Laws. They are simple and profound, but not fool-proof. That may be the reason why I am tempted to tilt at them.

The First Law states: "Books are for use". Most certainly. But what is a book? Is everything confined between two covers to be called a book? Again, like the pages bound together, the reader too runs the risk of being held in rigid bondage by the contents and losing his intellectual freedom. In Sanskrit, a book is called a *Grantha*. It may also prove to be a *Granthi*, meaning an entanglement or knot.

There seems to be a faint general awareness of this, as indicated by the derogatory sense of the words 'bookish' and 'bookworm'. Some of you might have heard this one. One lady asked another: "Is it true that your husband is a book-worm?" Pat came the reply "Oh! no. He is an ordinary worm!".

As for use, there are uses and uses. Also wherever there can be use, there is also the possibility of misuse. When I was a student residing in the Central College Hostel, I had a room-mate who was the proud owner of a copy of Webster's Dictionary. It was a bulky tome which he used to place under his pillow to reinforce its height. That was certainly putting a book to use. And now in the light of modern findings about sleep-learning and extra-sensory perception, who knows, he might have effortlessly imbibed all the knowledge contained in the volume.

Regarding the Second Law: " Every reader his or her book ", I only wish to point out that no reader is a wholly consistent person ; and has his (or her) moods ; and moods are notoriously variable. So I would amend the law to read : " Every mood its own book ".

As regards the Third Law : " Every book its reader ", it has to be remembered that not all books are meant to be read through. Some are only for casual reference. In regard to reading, old Bacon's maxim has always to be kept in mind: " Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and only some few to be chewed and digested". Besides, all parts of a book are not of equal value, and hence do not deserve equal attention. Has it not been said that even Homer nods ?

I rather think that the idea or sentence is the real unit. As Emerson said, even in regard to a master like Plato, a dozen memorable sentences could carry the quintessence of his teaching. In this context we may recollect the *Mahavakyas* of the *Upanishads.*

The Fourth Law says : "Save the reader's time." But what if the reader does not want to save it, but merely wishes to pass it, or even to kill time ?

The Fifth Law declares: "A library is a growing organism." I am afraid it is; indeed very much so. The number of books is multiplying so fast that man may soon be crushed under their weight. The poor fellow may one day need a book-proof shelter on the model of an air-raid shelter.

I have a sneaking sympathy with the redoubtable Khalif Omar who ordered the destruction of the great library at Alexandria. His argument was irrefutable: "If the books agree with the Koran, they are superfluous. If on the other hand they do not, then they deserve to be burned"! So up they went in flames.

These days we are hearing a great deal about the evils of all kinds of inflation. But inflation in the sphere of words may even be more hazardous than inflation elsewhere. Perhaps the knowledge explosion is the root cause of all other explosions. Who knows, but some day a dictator may come round and declare a moratorium on publication or declare another Emergency. But not quite yet.

Having said this much, my conscience is clear: the still small voice has been stilled. I may now safely confess that I am addicted to books and am an unrepentant bookworm. Let me assure you that I do not believe in practising what I preach. There is a time for everything. I am confident that on this point all the warring political parties in our country are of one mind. I am in good company.

Once again, I thank Mr. Bagari for having given me this unique opportunity. Karnataka is lucky to have a State Librarian of his calibre. I thank you all for your remarkable patience. Now I have great pleasure in declaring this Book Exhibition open....

PREFACE

About The Lingering Fragrance.....

We are grateful to Sri N. D. Bagari, State Librarian, Head of the Department of Public Libraries and Vice-President I.L.A. for giving us the opportunity to edit 'Sreegandha', the Souvenir brought out on the occasion of the XXIV All India Library Conference.

We are also thankful to him for entrusting the work of bringing out this volume of 'The Lingering Fragrance', the proceedings of the conference.

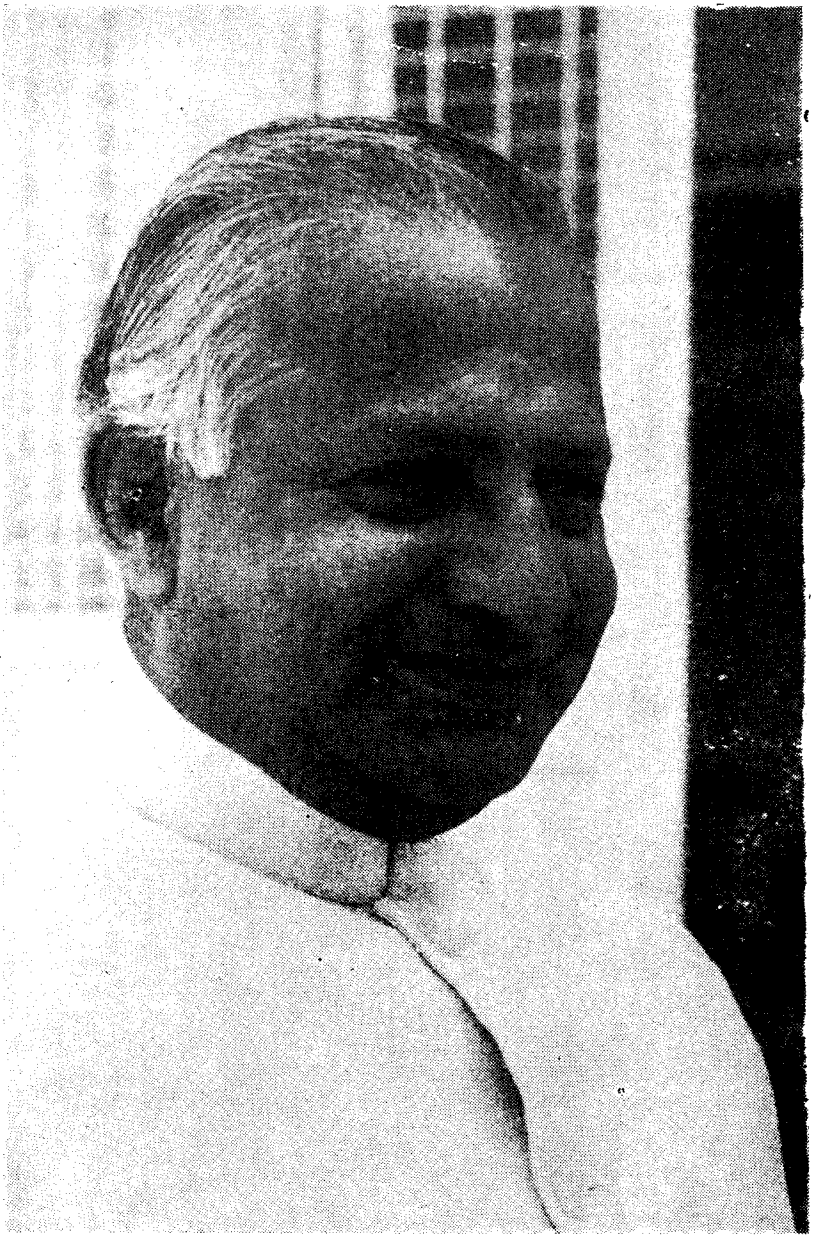
Our thanks are also due to M/s Jaya Karnataka Printers and particularly to Sri S. Ramachandra, who spared no pains in making the volume beautiful.

Bangalore
May 10, 1979

R. Y. DHARWADKAR
H. J. LAKKAPPAGOWDA



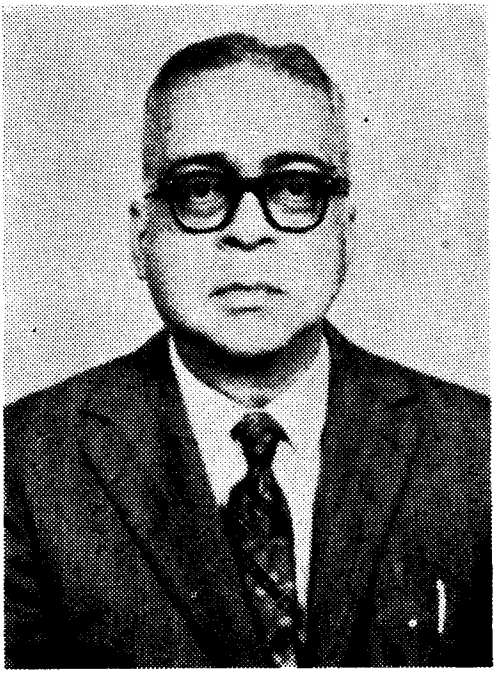
His Excellency
Sri GOVIND NARAIN
Governor of Karnataka



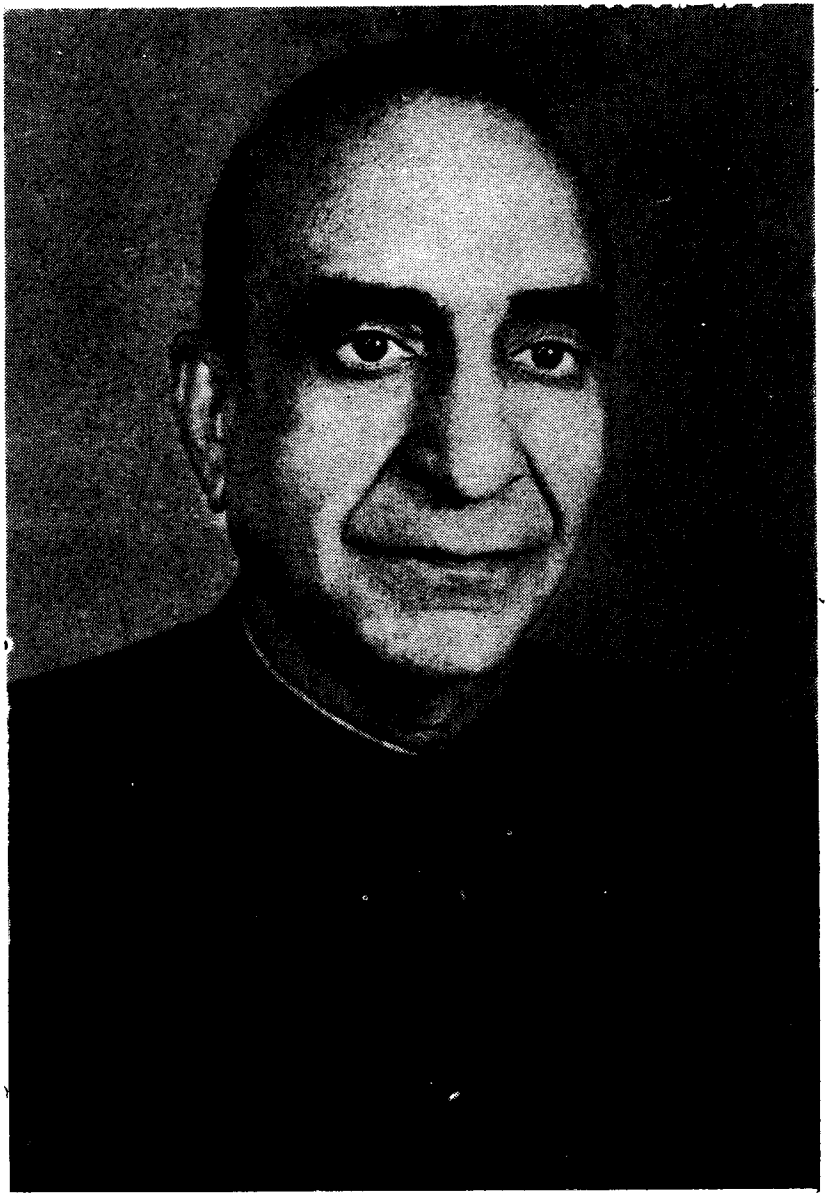
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Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka



Sri SUBBAYYA SHETTY
Hon'ble Education Minister of Karnataka



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Sri N. D. BAGARI
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Dr. H. Narasimhaiah, Ex-Vice Chancellor, Bangalore University	Member
Sri J. B. Mallaradya, Ex-D.P.I.	Member
Dr. A. C. Devegowda, Ex-D.P.I. and President, Karnataka Library Assn.	Member
Sri Khadri Shamanna, Editor in Chief Samyukta Karnataka	Member
Sri G. Narayana, President, Kannada Sahitya Parishat	Member
Prof. T. Rouben, Ex-Member, A.P.S.C.	Member
Dr. R. Y. Dharwadkar, Member, Official Language Commission	Member
Sri H. J. Lakkappa Gowda, Member, Official Language Commission	Member

Sri N. M. K. Sogi, Ex-Dy. Edn. Minister,	Member
Smt. Nirupama. Novelist & Social Worker,	Member
Sri S. Manchaiah, Director of Public Instruction	Member
Sri H. S. Renuka Prasad, Advocate	Member
Sri Kamalanath, President, Karnataka Book Sellers and Publishers Association	Member
Sri S. M. Saiyeed, Coffee Planter	Member
Sri Jogindra Singh, Director of Youth Service	Member
Sri N. D. Bagari Chairman, ILA, State Committee, Karnataka and State Librarian (Dept. of Public Libraries) Bangalore-560 001	Member Secretary
Prof T. K. S. Iyengar, Librarian, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	Addl. Member Secretary

REPORT

By

Sri N. D. BAGARI

State Librarian and Head of the Department of Public Libraries in Karnataka, Bangalore

May it please your Excellency the Governor of Karnataka Sri Govind Narain, Madame Chandra Narain, Sri T. R. Jayaraman, Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University, Sri N. Laxman Rau, Chairman, Local Reception Committee, distinguisned guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, that I be pleased to present this report.

The development of Library Movement in the State of Karnataka can be divided into :

1. Social forces ; 2. Agency for Promotion ; 3. Library Legislation ; 4. Government Expenditure ; and 5. Achievement.

SOCIAL FORCES :

Under this heading, the work done regarding the independence movement, literacy, and printing of books are to be carefully watched. The Indian Independence Movement although started as early as in the middle of the 19th century, gained momentum only by about the beginning of the 20th century. Apart from the political activities, the Indian National Congress and its leaders found libraries to be an important medium for their work. Another social force that led to the cause of development of libraries was literacy campaign. Literacy classes were conducted in various centres and small libraries were attached to such literacy centres. As a follow up work of the adult literacy movement.

a number of books were published in regional languages for the Neo literates.

Under the heading of the Agency for promotion the recommendations of the State re-organisation commission are important. For the present Karnataka formation took place in the year 1956 with the merging of Bombay Karnataka Districts, Hyderabad Karnataka Districts, Madras-Karnataka Districts and Coorg. By then there were small libraries run by some local Associations and bodies in various centres. The Karnataka Library Association was an Association which was founded in 1921. It had become inactive for quite some time. But it regained activity some time during 1948. Conferences were being held under the auspices of the Association.

An Education Committee was constituted as early as 1913 in order to set-up Libraries after considering the various aspects of development of free books service for all in the State. The Committee also placed its recommendations in which it was reiterated to organise a net work of Public Libraries in the state and establish Central Libraries with branch libraries in Districts and Taluks in the state.

Late M. Visweshwaraiah took pains to see that action was taken early on the recommendations of the committee. With the result two Public Libraries were started one at Bangalore and the other at Mysore.

LIBRARY LEGISLATION :

In the Bombay Karnataka Districts Libraries were set up under an executive order of 1948. In Coorg there was neither any statutory sanction nor any executive sanction for the provision of free book service for all. In the Hyderabad Karnataka Districts, the Hyderabad Public Libraries act, 1954 was in force and it continued till the Mysore Public Libraries Act, 1965 was passed. Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948 was in operation in the Madras-Karnataka Districts.

In 1958 at the suggestion of Late B. Vaikunta Baliga the then Law Minister for the State passed a resolution calling for framing a Library Legislation in the State. Late Dr. S. R. Ranganathan was eagerly watching for the right opportunity to put the idea of Library Legislation in the minds of the General Public. He had the wanted opportunity, and spoke to Vaikunta Baliga. In 1960 the Mysore Government was pleased to appoint a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Ranganathan to draft a Public Libraries Bill for Mysore. In 1963 the Committee submitted its report. Finally the bill was passed for enactment in 1965 which came into force on 1st April, 1966.

The act provides for the establishment and maintenance of Public Library and organisation of comprahensive rural and urban Library services in the State of Karnataka and for the matters connected therewith.

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE:

The Government expenditure on Public Libraries for the years are:

	Rs.
1961-62	2,13,000
1962-63	2,14,000
1963-64	2,72,000
1964-65	2,85,000

In 1966 Department of Public Libraries in Karnataka came into existence as the first leg of implementation programme of the said Act. The Public Library, Bangalore was converted into that of the State Central Library, situated at Sir Seshadri Iyer Memorial Hall, Cubbon Park, Bangalore. Public Libraries at Mysore, Mangalore and Mercara were taken over by the Department under the Act.

The Department of Public Libraries started functioning with effect from 1-11-1966 with a skeleton staff of five members with the State Librarian as its head. The Department took steps to start District Central Libraries now at all

the district Head-quarters under the provisions of the Act. City Central Libraries have also been started in ten important cities.

Since the Library Cess was being collected under Section 30 of the Karnataka Public Libraries Act, there was lot of agitation from the reading public, particularly the residents of Bangalore City and headquarters of the Districts in the State to start the Libraries. Shri M. S. Shankara Rao, the then administrator, Bangalore City Municipal Corporation and Ex-officio Chairman, City Library Authority, Bangalore insisted to start City Central Library and that Branches should be opened in the various Divisions of the Bangalore City as the citizens, who were paying Library cess, were demanding Library Service to be provided in their areas. With a view to start City Central Libraries and District Central Libraries and their Branches and Service Stations, a great necessity was felt to have adequate staff to man these libraries and Branches. Since the existing staff then was found not at all adequate to cater to the needs of the readers and as the additional posts required to man the proposed City and District Central Libraries were not sanctioned by the Government, there was no other alternative but to find out a way to give the required man power to manage the affairs of the City and District Central Libraries including branches thereof. In view of this, the staff was required to be employed on casual basis as suggested by Sri M. S. Shankar Rao in the absence of adequate regular staff.

Ultimately, the question of selection of staff on Casual basis was decided in the meeting of the State Library Authority held on 21-10-1967 in the Chambers of the then Minister for education. Subsequently, in the meeting of the Managing Committee of the State Library Authority held on 24-6-1968, a resolution was passed for making casual appointments to man the Libraries as and when the necessity arose in the Department due to the following factors :

1. There were no adequate sanctioned posts to manage the work in the office of the State Central Library, Bangalore, City and District Central Libraries ;
2. There were no C and R Rules sanctioned for the Department ;
3. Some of the Technical posts though sanctioned could not be filled up due to the non-finalisation of C and R Rules.

ACHIEVEMENTS :

Though there had been considerable increase in the number of staff including that of private libraries taken over to the control of the Department, the same was not commensurate to the staff required to meet the demands. A comparative study of the staff position from 1973-74 to 1977-78 will reveal this fact. There were 327 permanent employees as on 31-3-1974, now there are 636 employees as on 1-1-78. The number of casual employees at the end of 1973-74 was 423 while the present strength is 603.

There were 9,76,963 books in stock at the end of 1973-74, now the same is put at 16,00,000 during 1977-78. There are 10 City Central Libraries, 19 District Central Libraries, about 265 Branch Libraries including Book Delivery Stations, 2041 Rural Library Centres are functioning under the RRRLF Scheme. Further, about 175 Grant-in-aid Libraries are functioning with the Government assistance in the State. As such it is observed that there is substantial Progress in rendering services to the reading public which shows the rapid growth in the Library movements in the state of Karnataka.

In order to facilitate small Publishers and writers, bulk purchase of Kannada books from the year 1976-77 and onwards has been introduced. Accordingly 300 copies of each title published in Kannada costing less than Rs. 10 is being purchased under the Scheme and 200 copies of the title costing above Rs. 10 as recommended by the subject experts.

FUTURE PLANS :

Future plans have been drawn up with a view to implement in the near future :

1. **Decentralisation of District Central Libraries :**

District Central Libraries to be split into three to four in each District for the better administration and smooth management. The divisions may be called as Sub-Divisions.

2. **Mobile Unit :**

Pickup vans for supplying books to all taluks and Hobli headquarters is the motto.

3. One Rural Branch to be set-up for every 5,000 population and one branch of City Central Library for a unit of 25,000 population, for every rural 1,000 population One Book Delivery Station is the target.

4. RRRLF Scheme continues in order to encourage Kannada Publications and Kannada Authors and rural mass to have easy access to Reading materials.

5. The question of enhancing the number of copies to be purchased under the Bulk purchase scheme from 300 to 500 copies of the Kannada Books is also being considered.

6. **Extension Service Programme :**

In order to attract the readers, audio visual aids are to be provided.

7. Improvement in reference service to guidance seekers by trained officials at all levels.

8. Inter Library Loan system in the State.

9. Starting of lecture series under extension programme.

10. Centralised catalogue system throughout the State.

Public Library Movement in Karnataka though started very recently, has gained momentum very rapidly and is considered to be the model in the country.

Now coming to the point of holding the XXIV All India Library Conference at Bangalore, I would like to mention here

that there are two aspects involved. It is a Conference of persons connected with the management of Libraries to discus the manifold problems that may arise in the management and maintenance of libraries, and collection of books, etc. The other aspect is to promote the Library Movement in the state and the country. According to Dr. A.S.Woolner, "The Library Movement as it is, demands more libraries and better libraries all over the country, not only to meet the existing demands of the people who can read but also to increase that demand and foster the reading habit".

The Indian Library Associaton was founded in 1933. The aims and objects of the Association are :

1. The promotion of Library Movement and improvement in service in all its aspects of India ;
2. Promotion of Library Service, education and improvement in the training of Libraries and Librarians in India ; and,
3. Improvement in the Status and service conditions of Librarians.

During the fortyfour years of its existance, the Association has at its credit some notable achievements. It has considerably succeded in arousing the Library consciousness of our countrymen and has given a fillip to the Library Movement. The Association publishes a quarterly journal as its organ, which serves as a clearing house of ideas on all matters connected with the organisation, development and running of Libraries and library services, and the various matters connected therewith.

The Conference is being held for the first time in the garden city of Bangalore and incidentally that is sponsored by the Department of Public Libraries. It is the 24th All India Library Conference. Local Reception Committee was constituted for the purpose under the Chairmanship of Sri N. Laxman Rau, Administrator, Bangalore City Corporation. There is an Executive Committee headed by Sri N. D. Bagari, Vice-President of Indian Library Association, under

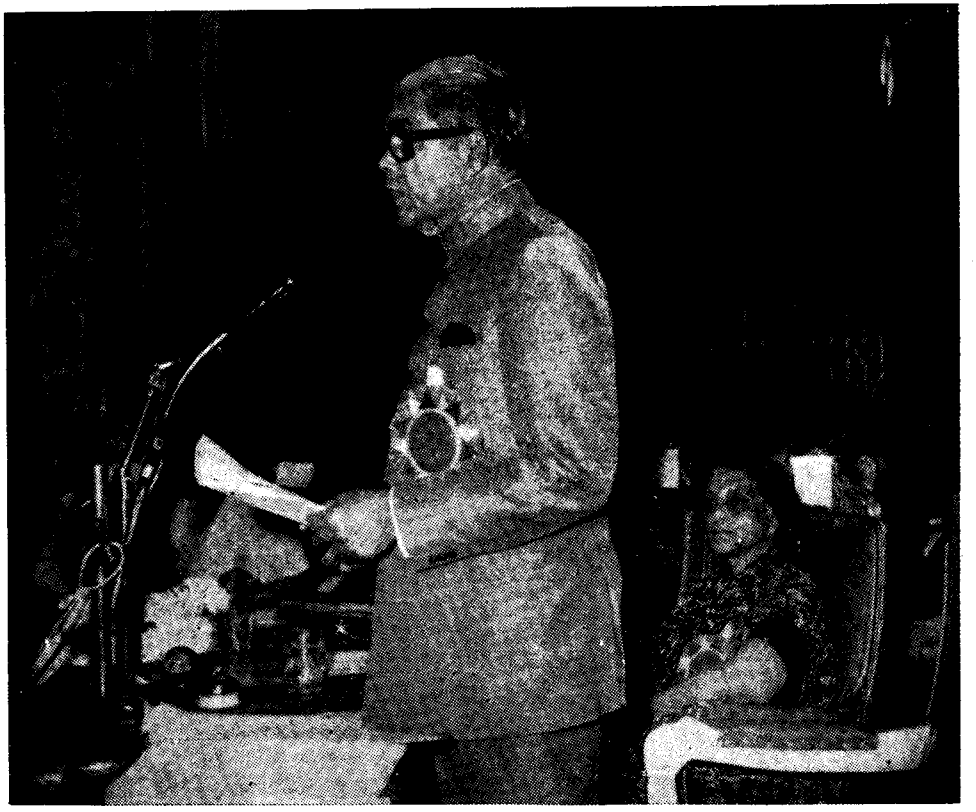
whose direct guidance there were eleven sub-committees formed to supervise and execute the necessary arrangements in this behalf. All the necessary arrangements have been made for the delegates. Topics for disccusion during conference will be "Resouce sharing among libraries in India." The deliberations of the Conference will go a long way in the development and organisation of Library Service. The delegates of the northern states will carry the sweet memory of their stay in Bangalore and try to get Library act passed in the respective states.

The Conference will now be inaugurated by his Excellency the Governor of Karnataka under the Chairmanship of Sri T.R. Jayaraman, Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore Unizersity and Smt. Chandra Govind Narain will release the Souvenir to commemorate this happy occasion of the Conference. Sri K. Guru Dutt, will declare open the book exhibition etc. I request the Chairman to direct the Conference.

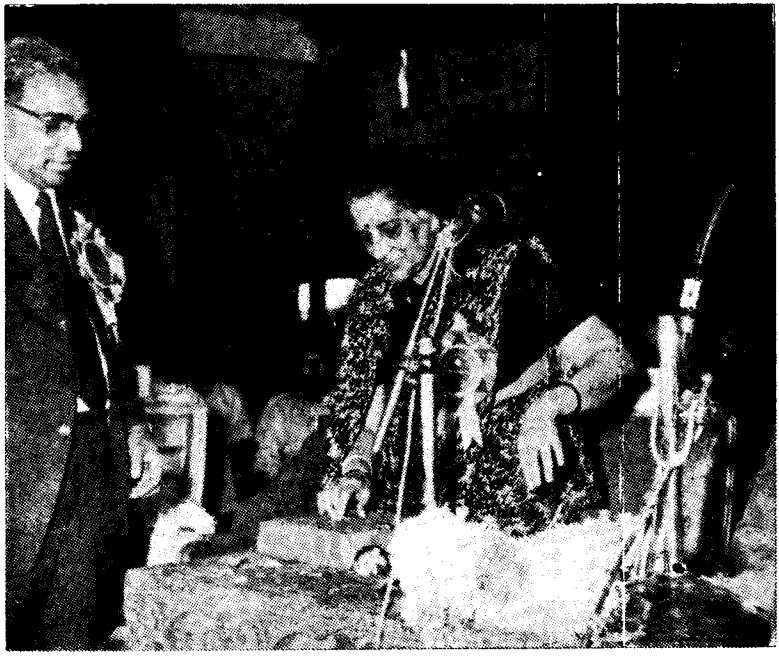
N. D. BAGARI
State Librarian,
Head of the Department of Public Libraries
Vice-President of ILA and
Local Organising Member Secretary



H. E. Sri Govind Narain and Smt. Govind Narain being welcome by Sri N. D. Bagari and Sri O. P. Trikha



H. E. Sri Govind Narain Governor of Karnataka
delivering the inaugural address



Smt. Chandra Govind Narain releasing
'Srigandha', the Souvenir



Sri D. R. Kalia, President, I. L. A.
Delivering the Keynote address

RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA "BOOK PROCESSING CENTRE"

BY
M. M. ANSARI
Bihar University Library, Muzaffarpur

The library deals with the universe of knowledge which is itself continuum and makes the institution an evergrowing organism. No single library, however strong in financial resources, can afford to be sufficient in itself by purchasing millions of books and other reading materials that are being published every year. The heavy publication of reading materials and demands of readers pose problems; and therefore, 'resource sharing' is the only way to solve the problems.

The subject of Conference 'Resource Sharing' which we are going to discuss here is the most important demand

of the day. This can be possible only when the work will be performed on regional and national basis. The sharing of resources has today become an unavoidable necessity. It has taken its place in wide circle in Indian Libraries. The 'Book processing Centre' one aspect of the 'resource sharing' which I am going to deal with here, can be dicussed on many different levels. What do we mean by Sharing Resources for processing activities? Co-operative efforts in this area can include all of the various library functions and the materials which are selected for processing and made available to the users. Such traditional functions are: ordering, accessioning, cataloguing, classification and subject analysis, pasting book and spinelabels and so on. All these can be considered proper activities of co-operative processing centres[1]. The variety of arrangements throughout the country today is very great and, ultimately, each co-operative system will have to decide which activites it wishes to accept for maximum benefit.

'Resource Sharing' has different aspects. The most important are centralised procurement and processing, on the one hand, cataloguing of books on the other. Centralized activities such as procurement, cataloguing and preparation of books for the shelves are generally restricted for maximum benefit to geographical proximity, and by the willingness and ability of a certain number of libraries thus to pool their resources, while they use in the cataloguing process of biographic data already available through national or regional channels is less limited by geographical factors and not as bound by the many constrains that, especially in the use of academic libraries seem to make such arrangement and processing exceedingly difficult[2].

Resource Sharing is not a new thing. In 1851 Charles C Jewett proposed an organisation of Libraries in the United States with the Smithsonian Institution as national centre, which would engage in co-operative enterprises, including

co-operative cataloguing.[3] After Jewett's ill-fated plan for preparing stereotype blocks for the cards produced by the Smithsonian Institute Library and titles to be reported by other Libraries, no successful service appeared until the Library of Congress began to distribute printed cards in 1901. The Library Journal started a cataloguing service in 1869 but the enterprise failed within a year.[4] In 1902 the first really Centralized System of producing Cards was started at the Library of Congress. A Co-operative agreement for acquiring cards copy from other government document libraries was also put into effect.[5]

The Library Service Act in the USA encouraged the development of book processing centres to speed both the ordering and cataloguing of books available from public funds. By 1949, twenty-one states had established one or more processing centres and the number has continued to grow. More than sixty centres were noted in the Southeastern Pennsylvania Processing Centre Feasibility Study in 1967. The services vary from reproducing catalogue cards from LC proof slips to the entire process of assistance in selection, ordering, accounting, payment, production of cards sets for filing and preparing and mounting the labels and book pockets.[6]

But the resource sharing among the Indian libraries is negligible. It does not mean that resource sharing is not in practice. We are already in touch with 'Inter Library Loan' a very good way of co-operation. The 'book processing', at present, in Indian libraries is being done individually and separately by each library and the desired consistency is not achieved; besides, there is much duplication of work. Thus huge wastage can very well be saved by establishing "Book Processing Centre". The processing of documents centrally on co-operative basis and the stock of the participating libraries in the scheme may be better attended to all

at one place. The expenditure so saved can be utilized in meeting the other local demands with which the libraries are already over burdened.

But this scheme has preconditioned obligation on the libraries that they all should adhere to one and the same pattern of classification and cataloguing uniformity. Otherwise incompatibilities of systems may be invoked as an obstacle to resource sharing. Our libraries, of course do use different classification schemes, such as Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme, Colon Classification, Universal Decimal Classification or some specialized arrangements of cataloguing systems. There may also be significant differences in processing procedures which can be minimized through intelligent planning and responsive administrative procedures. The business of changing from one classification system to another presents appreciable problems which should not be camouflaged in discussing the ideals of resource sharing. Some libraries may even withdraw from a cooperative venture because of the difficulty.

Arrangements for ordering and processing books on a co-operative basis need not be confined to those intended for libraries in educational institutions. Allthough every library authority will wish to retain full control over its own book selection policies, this is not inconsistent with the provision of co-operative facilities for purchasing, processing and, above all, cataloguing. The provision for centralized facilities for this purpose would make it possible to obtain maximum benefit and economy for the use of computerized method.

However, 'book processing centre' is essential for Indian libraries. The extra cost and labour can be considerably minimized. We know that the centralized processing Centre run by University of Massachusetts library

started this work. The centre processed 610,000 volumes and 78,000 micro forms and produced 3,200,000 catalogues cards in three years. The cost of first year was 85 5 cents per volume for an average of 12 copies per title, and for the second year it rose to 93 cents per volume for an average of four copies per title. These amounts covered the development and programming costs as well as the entire processing cycle.[7] At present processing work in Indian library is done on the individual basis. The processing cost of one volume from acquisition to cataloguing and spine writing will be not less than three or four rupees. And this cost is less than that in other developed countries. This processing cost can be minimized if we start this work through a Centralized co-operative basis. The expenditure and labour rendered surplus can be directed towards more and more research and documentation work. But some people have objection that such activities may bring unemployment problems in libraries which is a headache for India Government. Such people seem to have a point when they raise these objections. Some people may certainly lose their jobs because they will become superfluous. But we can utilize them in other places such as removing illiteracy among adults and for other development of society. However, that is not a sufficient reason to avoid the scheme.

It seems, however, that when we talk today about resource sharing, especially in the area of cataloguing, we must face up to the fact that our horizons have considerably expanded in recent years. The sharing of cataloguing data across the country and across the world is no longer something projected.[8]

In conclusion I should like to stress that "Book processing Centre", despite all the organizational and technical problems that still remain to be solved, is a

good thing. It is for us to understand and solve the problem. For this well-planned national system can emerge for the benefit of all libraries. I would like to suggest that this work can be performed easily by the National Library. This work can also be done through the UGC for academic libraries.

COLLECTERIAL READING

1. KENT (Allen) : Resource Sharing in Libraries. New York, Marcel Dekker, INC, 1974, p 110
2. ..... do..... : P 111
3. WILSON (Lonis Round) and TAUBER (Maurice F.) : University Library, New York, Columbia University Press, 1956, P 457.
4. KRAUS (Joe W.) : Prologue to library co-operation. Libraray Trends 24 : 2, Oct. 1975, PP 176—177.
5. WILLSON & TAUBER : P 457.
6. KRAUS (Joe W.) : Library Trends (24 : 2) P 457.
7. KENT (Allen) : Resource Sharing in Libraries, P 112.
8. ..... do..... : P 111.

RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA

B. N. SHRIVASTAVA

The present age is an age of co-operation, characterised by co-operative ventures in field of human endeavour, for it is increasingly believed that better and satisfactory results can be guaranteed in a co-operative effort. Infact co-operation implies inadequacy of individual effort to achieve the set goal and more so in case of libraries in India where chimera of self sufficiency, rugged individualism in acquisition of books and lack of enthusiasm to co-operate, have resulted in illplanned and inadequate library service to their clientele. No matter how big a library may claim to be, it cannot meet all and varied demands of its users, unless it agrees to share the resources of its neighbouring libraries. Moreover, the rapid expansion both in quantity and in range of subjects of books and periodicals has made libraries to

realise their incapacity to deal with it individually. Besides this, every library has its limitations of space, stock and the finances which favours its expansion upto a certain limit only. As a consequence of all this resource sharing appears to be the only solution to face such challenges of a modern library system. The principle of resource sharing "is a joint or collaborative behaviour that is directed towards some goal and in which there is common interest or hope of reward. Co-operation may be voluntary, direct or indirect, formal or informal, but always there is a combination of efforts towards a specific end in which all the participants have a stake, real or imagined". Thus it is co-operation which underlines the principle of Resource sharing. A Library if it wants to continue as "the centre of intellectual life of the area which it serves" or "a collection of information in various forms" or "a living force for popular education and for the growth of international understanding" etc. cannot function any longer in isolation. The sharing of library resources through co-operation among libraries can certainly help them to overcome their various limitations and increase their efficiency to the satisfaction of their clientele.

However, before proceeding further, it would be in the fitness of things to consider at this point, the connotation of 'Library resources' in the context of the principle of resource sharing. Library resources being a composite term comprises functions, materials and services of a library. The functions include—'collection, organisation and distribution, interpretation and guidance'. The materials include 'in addition to books,...pamphlets, documents, and other non-book sources in printed form, and films, tapes, discs and other non-print stores of knowledge and opinion; where as the services incorporate the organisation of material, lending procedures, guidance and a programme of public information to make its resources not only available but eagerly sought by its community. Thus to limit the scope of library resources to

the collection of a library is to reduce the fecundity of resource sharing to one-third only.

In the past the concept of library service was totally missing. But twentieth century with its research and development activities, has brought about a total change in the notion of a library. The research activities in the field of Science & Technology which had a small beginning in the 18th century and developed during 19th century have made a speedy spectacular progress In the 20th century. With the result new techniques of processing and methods of service have been evolved and implemented to deal with the various problems of a modern library.

It was after the II World War that enormous increase in the budget for scientific research resulted in tremendous growth of scientific literature. The governments of developing countries also felt the vital importance of research and development in science and technology and boosted up research in industrial and scientific complexes. This increased the demand for information services and utilisation of resources. Thus unlimited needs of readers and research scholars with limited resources have made us aware of our feigned self-sufficiency.

Further, population pressure has immensely affected even our basic nacessities of life i.e. food, clothing, shelter, transport etc., so much so that technological conversion of unconsummable raw materials into consummeble commodities has become imperative. Thus team research has largely taken place of solo research and parallel research has given place to relay research. This inter-disciplinary team work has further precipitated the growth of literature, and as a result dependence on a library for information and access to comprehensive coverage of literature has grown beyond our imagination.

Besides these, we know that the aim of a library is to cater to the various demands of a reader and for that all types of libraries, whether academic, special or public acquire more and more books and periodicals to build up their stock. The growth in the stock of a library is a natural phenomenon. But despite all the good intentions of a library it is almost impossible to achieve comprehensive coverage. The mounting costs of books and periodicals and difficulty in anticipating the demands of readers make it impracticable for any library to procure more than the basic requirements of its clientele.

Then there is the problem of storage of various publications. With the unprecedented explosion of knowledge, the research findings on a particular subject may be traced in a variety of publications such as books, pamphlets, periodicals, technical reports and conference proceedings etc. This scatter and seepage of information has made it difficult to have all the information on a subject in one document or even in one library.

Thus summarising the various factors responsible for high-lighting the necessity of resource sharing among libraries in India, it can be said that knowledge explosion, growth in different forms of publications, the increasing complexity of relationship between subjects, paucity of financial resources, the problem of space and rising cost of books and periodicals, lack of trained hands, attempts to achieve self-sufficiency in services and other operation performed in a modern library, unanimously proclaim that the libraries working together, sharing their services and materials can satisfy the various demands of their users.

Various programmes implemented in various countries based on the principle of resource sharing can hold testimony to its success and fruitfulness. The Farmington Plan and

Public Law 480 of USA, Scandia Plan including Scandinavian countries, Northern Regional Library Bureau in England which operates a co-oprative Book Purchase Scheme are all familiar examples of resource sharing.

But in our country, the sporadic attempts made here and there have hardly made any impact. The INSDOC, ICAR, CSIR, ICSSR have no doubt compiled union catalogues and directories but in the absence of necessary facilities for making a convenient use of the literature the researcher feels helpless. The knowledge of what is where of his interest has not solved the real problem. However it is encouraging to note that the Regional Conference on co-operation in University Libraries Chandigarh and the inter-library Resource Centre, a joint project taken up by ICSSR & JNU are making efforts in this direction.

To conclude, it may be suggested that the establishment of a National Lending Library and a National Processing Centre have become a necessity, and for that professional bodies like IASLIC & ILA can do much by attracting the attention of concerned ministries.

RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA

GHANINDAR SINGH

CONCEPT AND BACKGROUND :

Knowledge is universal in form and spirit. Only geographical barriers and monopolistic instincts in us tend to limit and isolate it. These two factors have already wrought much havoc as a whole and specially in our context the information structure has not been able to yield the desired results and efficiency. Duke of Edinburgh in one of his essays in a prescribed text book for graduates rightly brings out the causes of the vanished civilizations in many parts of the world. These civilizations flourished like a small oasis and remained contained and condenced. They never spread beyond

their canvas. Later on Greeks appeard to be wiser and they encouraged cross-country inter-play of thought and intelligence. Scholars were allowed to visit neighbouring countries and the usual restrictions in their case were either relaxed or waived. But unfortunately 20th century developing India which has a pride of place in the world of today in the field of ancient teaching, philosophy and culture and also second to none in accepting modern technological advancement has not been able to intermingle this ancient philosophy of knowledge sharing. This lacuna is manifest in our information network which has yet to find a national policy, direction and definition. The loss is tremendous but not irreparable. It is quite encouraging that we have now thought of involving this humane manure in the cultivation and flowering of a national information on a co-operative system.

We are already very late in introducing this vital aspect in our information structure. The damage can be seen and assessed by all concerned. There is no denying the fact that we have very good libraries and information centres but a sense of insufficiency prevails among our academic community. Even the best organised information centres feel that there is a scope to do something much more and it is possible to achieve much better results. It would have been much better had we spelt an organised national information policy including national acquisition centres which would ultimately feed the zonal information centres. We would discuss these aspects in different chapters.

THE CASE :

The tremendous growth of books and periodicals is well known to all of us. The material is pouring in from all quarters and the problem is to organise it and disseminate it so that we may have the best results. It is impossible for one single institution to organise the entire material. The specialised centres which are concentrating on single subjects also

find it difficult to cope with the material and are not in a position to say that they have everything available on a given subject. This situation has already been felt by the library community and the users. The system of inter-library loan is perhaps a very small answer towards a very big need. That is why this system has not been able to help much even those libraries which are undertaking inter-library loan system.

It is estimated that one lakh books and a similar number of periodicals are published every year all over the world. The periodicals contain atleast three to four lakhs of articles in them. The information is huge and uncontrollable. This is the physical aspect of the information.

Next step is that of a regulated channelisation of the proper information at all levels of research and enquiry for general uplift and prosperity. We have this purpose in our mind when we set up a library or an information centre. But in practice this laudable aim is lost sight of. Major libraries remain busy in acquisition, processing and other related indoor operations. Energy and attention on these jobs weaken the focus on an efficient and full-blooded reference service, the keynote of such centres of information.

Moreover the avoidable sense of insufficiency, unnecessary duplication and resultant imbalances in various centres of information are the inbuilt eyesores of the present isolated growth of the libraries.

Not only these conditions have adversely affected the pace of progress in industrial growth, agricultural production and overall decline in general life style, but also resulted in stagnation and inefficiency among the personnel engaged in the profession. Both the factors have reflected

each other in lowering the quality and quantum of information service.

ACTION :

The time has come when we should spell out a well-defined national policy of information service regulating the establishment of co-operative libraries promoting the use of collections on shared basis. For this, induction of a scientific methodology has to be evolved. We should take into account the complete resources and plan, the establishment of co-operative units of book acquisition, book processing and co-operative sharing. The hierarchy of this co-operative establishment should be under an apex body to be established at the centre, controlling various regional centres.

Knowledge, it is said, is indivisible but it has various branches, each requiring wholesale attention and specialisation for fuller development. The regional demacration of co-operative libraries is not enough. The development of libraries on specialised basis is much more important. Hence the geographical or zonal centres of co-operative libraries are not to be divided area-wise. Their entity is to be established on fields of common areas of interest. This is the point where different centres of information should meet, mix, co-operate and merge their individual personalities into a unified potential store house or specialised knowledge with scientific collection, methodical arrangement and efficient retrieval. These temples of learning should be open for one and all and should be agog with undiminished strength of service for all.

To convert this philosophy into action we require a blueprint of a national agency to propel, engineer and beam out a floodlight of organised knowledge efficiently and effectively. It would be better, to begin with, to intorduce this plan in a limited area of co-operation both in terms of specialis-

ation and location like the capital and other metropolitan cities of our country. Docking of the exisiting libraries specialising in common fields of study into one organised unit would be the first step in this direction. Their funding capacity and the present collections are to be merged and a larger canvas of a particular field of specialisation is to take shape. A union catalogue of the participating units is to be built up. Central Secretariat Libarary, perhaps, has already taken action in this direction so far as libraries under the Ministry/Departments of Education are concerned. This experience should form the nucleus of a major structure.

Good causes have two-fold blessings. This unity and co-operative system will automatically imply the creation of common roasters of different types of staff manning such unified centres of information, thusr poviding new and better avenues of promotion and prosperity for a stagnated lot of trained personnel. But the most important blessing of the integrated system would be most efficient. complete and rich resources of reference service through out the country, opening flood-gates of information for information seekers in general and research scholars in particular.

RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA

K. J. SHARMA

The need to share resources is almost as old as libraries themselves, because we know that it is not possible for the Libraries to be self-sufficient, particularly in this late 20th century, when there is too much of information explosion specially in scientific and technical fields. The records show that about 30 million titles have been published since Gutenberg. How many we have come across, I suppose not more than between 2 and 5%. The statistics show that about 100 thousand journals are being published currently. How many we subscribe and how many we read, perhaps not more than between 5 and 10%, and there are Libraries which may not be subscribing more than 1/2 per cent. Approximately more than 500 thousand books are being published in one

year and how many we might be buying, perhaps not more than between 5 and 10% and some even very little.

It goes to prove that under any circumstances, no library can be self-sufficient. Thus, we have to pick the 'right' materials that will be useful and used. Even with this situation the Libraries sometimes are confronted by the students and faculty-readers who demand a better acquisition. Thus, can the given budget relieve their frustrations? Perhaps the answer will be 'no'. Hence, instead of allotting more money for buying materials, it will be advisable to grant budget for resource sharing and for developing mechanism for getting the required materials from other Libraries. Thus, it is impossible for libraries to be self-sufficient in modern times with whatever material the libraries might be possessing. Because, apart from Library materials required in connection with specific courses, it is seldom possible to predict precisely which material will be useful and for how long. Therefore the need for Resource sharing among libraries is felt.

Here the term "Resource sharing" has not been considered only of the sharing of printed books and periodicals and non-printed material such as microforms, films and machine readable data bases possessed by the Libraries, but also the functions and services rendered in a modern library system. "Functions" means the activities in respect of purchase, process, store and retrieving the material, and 'Services', here means how the readers and the materials are connected. And also the expertise of the professional and non-professional staff. Libraries are the combination of readers, processes, ideas, materials and money and therefore this can be named as resources. John Fetterman describes that "a Library can be compared to a person. Both acquire, process, store, and retrieve information. Both possess 'personalities'. Both develop their capabilities through interaction with others".

We see that in modern times the amount of material and the kind and number of users have changed. The time is ripe now, and we are at a point where we have to adopt methods which may be helpful to the readers. Heavy and often unpredictable demands of the readers can only be met with, if there is Resource sharing among the libraries, and this is one of the ways for libraries to survive. Attempts at self-sufficiency will prove an impossible response to the demands of the present environment. Therefore, resource sharing can provide the best information to most readers at the most reasonable cost.This implies that each library remains dependent upon the other for fulfilling the needs of its clientele.Our country, in the field of library science, also has to keep pace with the modern world and modern techniques in spreading knowledge, because the ancient ways of libraries are breaking down. We notice that there is a growing recognition of the need for major change in the personalities of libraries, and there is a need for adaptation to a new environment—'A National System'.

If we look into the old records,we do find some evidence indicating that there existed the system of resource sharing among libraries. The library at Alexandria loaned books to the library at Pergamum around 200 B. C. World War II has played a very important role so far as the interchange of scientific and technical literature is concerned. The National Science Foundation Act (1950) of America has stressed fostering the interchange of scientific information among scientists in the United States and in foreign countries. Resource sharing among libraries in India involves a number of problems, such as documentation, indexing and retrieval. Resource sharing does not cover only the libraries of the educational institutes, but also involves the libraries in Government, industry, etc. etc. There should be a regular co-ordination for the sharing of information on current scientific research and development. There should be a committee

which should form certain norms for resources sharing among libraries in India. In India there is critical dependence on science and technology and the success of science and technology is dependent on information, and complete information means "Resource sharing". Therefore, we have to accept the idea of resource sharing among libraries in India. Libraries working together, sharing their services and materials can meet the full needs of the users/readers, and the co-operative approach on the part of libraries is most important. Furthermore, co-operation among the libraries of the colleges, universities, schools, public libraries in the region, State and Nation for the benefit of the students and faculty will be most useful.

This is a universally accepted idea that no library can be self-sufficient, and the libraries acting together can more effectively satisfy users' needs. However, before inter-library loan co-operation can be established, we have to keep in mind some important points.

(1) Each library will have to be defined, its primary responsibilites to its special clientele fixed before inter-library co-operation can be established.

(2) In each library, there should be adequate resources, administrative capability and efficient communication for the effective resource sharing.

(3) Each library must respect the primary responsibility to each other and should co-operate in the network in the State and Nation.

(4) Each library must maintain the attitude of flexibility to each other.

Further, there will be a problem among the smaller and larger libraries. A library cannot succeed by itself, although

it may be a larger library, however, the smaller library shall not afford to lose its identity by becoming part of a larger resource sharing activity. Nevertheless such situation, will arise. The smaller library will definitely get due consideration of its needs and efforts in the resource sharing activities. As stated previously the effective co-operation depends also on administrative capability and efficient communications. Therefore, inter-library co-operation i.e. Resource sharing stands for encouraging colleges and universities to share to a satisfactory extent, through a co-operative arrangement. their technical and other educational and administrative facilities and resources. In U. S. A. special funds are provided, under Library Services and Construction Act, to the States to establish and maintain local, regional, State or inter-state networks of libraries for systematic and effective co-ordination of the resources of school, public, academic and special libraries. Therefore it is suggested that in India, there should be linkage of existing resources and services, and a more creative approach to library problems than just more money for more books.

As I have discussed above, no library can be self-suffi cient. Imperfect resources sharing also will create problems, because it will also not be possible to collect all the material on any subject into one local defined area. Thus question will arise how much then to share. Therefore, to the libraries resource sharing means making the proper use of library materials possessed by any library. Though we are thinking in the direction of resource sharing among libraries in India, there are all forces and a great deal of pressure *to develop self-sufficiency,* because to some extent Resource sharing among libraries involves so many formalities. There may be delays, financial involvements, and one's own request subordinated to the lending library. As I feel, we should not think in the direction of a prestige issue of self-sufficiency, because it will prove to be a futile exercise. Self-

sufficiency and Resource sharing, these two issues are thesis and anti-thesis without applying synthesis. The choice of spending more and more money in behalf of self-sufficiency will prove to be less goods and services. We can meet the users needs by reprography and photocopying of the material in respect of self-sufficiency. However, it is not advisable.

Already reference has been made previously to the rate of change of the needs of the users of this technological society. The needs of users are continually changing, the number and kind of books and periodicals are increasing. Thus to make the information fluid, computer application comes to our aid and for better services. In this technological society, there are many ways to share resources, but there should be will to share. If the libraries fail to supply the right kind of material for those who need it then it is a fault on our part. The question is only our willingness to do what is possible.

To orient the activities of resource sharing, we should keep in mind certain objectives :

(1) Reciprocal assistance should be there among Member Libraries in the selection of materials, purchase, catalogue classification and process, etc.

(2) Member libraries should co-ordinate in respect of acquisition, inter-library loans and the reproduction of materials.

(3) Reciprocal promotion for the optimum use of library resources, facilities and services.

(4) The material beyond the reach of individual library should be provided by co-operative acquisition to introduce economy.

(5) In short, the goal of the resource sharing activity is obviously to make the greatest amount of the best information available to the most users at the most reasonable cost possible.

Whatsoever the facilities which come into existence by the activity of Resource sharing, there also may be certain objections and barriers, such as fear of loss of autonomy, indifference, unwillingness to experiment, unpredictable demands of the users, lack of funds, delays in satisfying the needs and requests of the users, lack of communication, lack of bibliographical tools, prevailing rigid rules and procedures, lack of trained staff and lack of creative leadership etc.

We agree that the information should be fluid and reference has been made to photocopying, which helps the users. Here the question is that there is more temptation of contemporary academic life to photocopy rather than buy, and there is no control on it. The authors and publishers who have invested considerable amount, time and talent in producing their works get less reward, which should be balanced with the free flow of information. Photocopying should be limited only upto Resource sharing that is of making a single copy by a library for traditional library service, because some time it is essential. This method shall also not damage the right of publishers and authors.

Further, there are some technical difficulties to resource sharing that is different classification systems, different-processing procedures etc. Therefore for easy flow of information, there should be standardization in the libraries. Keeping every objection and obstacle aside, we come to the conclusion that resource sharing will definitely be more informative. However, before putting the resource sharing into practice, we have to analyse some of the points such as :

(1) More effective organizational pattern.

(2) Professional and non-professional library staff functioning more effectively.

(3) Improvement in access to materials

(4) Streamlining of standardisation in the libraries

(5) Improvement in existing library services.

These are some of the principles for making the resource sharing more effective and also for good library service. Thus it depends upon the attitude of the libraries to look forward to new ideas for better service, better programmes etc. In the libraries, the information transfer will have to be modernised through the application of technical advance in data processing, storage and re-production etc. Thus, in future we have to emphasise upon resource sharing and not on self-sufficiency. Attempts at self-sufficiency will not allow the library organism to survive in this changing environment. Therefore for resource sharing we shall have to adopt some scheme, that is (i) there should be an agreement between the organisations to lend their books to one another (ii) A list of all available literature should be kept at a central place.

Summing up this paper, I should say that I have made out that resource sharing among libraries in India will be very useful and beneficial to all, and there is great need to share resources, because of the great increase in the volume of information etc.

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RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA

Miss SULEKHA GUPTA

Indian Libraries have limited resources. We are a poor nation, we have not enough riches; though as in any undeveloped capitalist country we have some big capitalists who are controlling our economic life. The sources in the hand of common people are limited. They are petty office staff, small businessmen, farmers workers etc. Among the educated middle class, there is a tendency to buy some important essential books. Some have more reading habits, some like to purphase very small books convering all the necessary expenses in every day life.

Among the educated enlightened pupils, there is a tendency to organise an area library on co-operative scheme. They collect books from donation from fellow-citizens and

membership subscription. Some party-minded people organise their zonal libraries.

Most of the area libraries which are on co-operative basis have very limited resources. Some of the libraries manage some amount of contributions from the Government. Most of the area libraries are unorganised, mostly they purchase fiction, and light books. There are mostly fiction readers in area library. Generally, for serious books the readers have to go to big libraries, institutional libraries, public libraries, national library and University libraries. The readers get the privilege by being members of libraries, and by some deposit. The libraries have the resource through deposit scheme. The readers in area libraries are mostly house wives and light readers.

In the area libraries, with their limited resources, the authorities buy books after proper book selection ; they may have good libraries though with limited books. There is a tendency now to organise text book libraries. Our student community has not enough money to purchase all the text books prescribed for their curriculum. The number of text book libraries is very limited compared to area libraries. In every area, there are at least some clubs and they organise unplanned libraries.

Some enlightened people have their own small personal collections. If the educated people exchange books among them, then that will also serve co-operative scheme.

Generally our countrymen are not yet sufficiently library-minded. They lack library usage. But it is a good sign with the popularisation of library science course in India. The library personnel try their best to popularise library. They pay attention to the development of library habits among the countrymen. It is rather a misfortune that

about 70 percent people in our country are illiterate. So the library personnel should pay more and more attention to literacy drive, often voluntarily. I think, in every area library, in every zonal library there should be at least a neo-literate centre. The reading habit among the people, the library-mindedness, are not less powerful resources, rather these are the basic sources. Now we should search for resources. The big capitalists and industrialists should contribute a heavy amount for library development. The Birlas have Lakshmi mandir. They may organise big libraries like national library, institutional library and public libraries. They should contribute without any profit and loss, just sharing their resources with the ordinary common people. All the libraries in India should come under a net-work scheme. All should have mutual communication. There should be a scheme for inter-library loan.

There should be centres organised by the Govt. to have total lists of books in different libraries, on Zonal basis. For fiction, one may go to area library, for text book one may go to area text book library, for serious books one may go to public library, institutional library, University library and national library. But generally university libraries are restricted to members of the university. Every one may not have the facility to go and consult or have any deserving book which he wants. The reading habit, the library-mindedness, the enthusiasm to collect books according to planned scheme are the main sources for library development in India. From some sources comes the question of resources. The co-operative tendency among the citizens is very helpful for organising small or big library. Five to ten men through co-operative acquisition can organise a small library. The readers with the reading habit and usage of library in different areas can knot libraries in a chain privately.

The money resources of the big capitalists can be shared by ordinary common people through purchase of

books. The books are the resource material for all the common people. The storage of books is no proper solution, rather there is need for proper distribution. The Govt. has central libraries and Zonal libraries and they have ties ; but there is more and more need of proper circulation of books.

The neo-literates in every library are to be accustomed to neo-literature. They should have the privilege to share audiovisual means.

I hope in near future even a farmer or worker may have, say 20-40 books in his personal collection, a lower middle class family may have 4-5 hundred books, besides taking advantage of the zonal library, area library, institutional library, university library, and national library.

There should be one *neo-literate main centre,* which will control the neo-literate centres in every library. Every library should have besides neo-literate centres, a text book section that will be very beneficial for our student community. We should encourage more and more text book libraries.

For resource sharing among libraries in India, I think the main source of resource is the Govt. The Govt. by organising libraries in a planned way from lower strata to upper strata, from upper strata to the uppermost centre, can properly knot all the libraries in India. All the private zonal libraries should be members of one Govt. organised library of a specific zone.

All the eminest educationists and learned people in our country have at least a selected personal collection which in course of time enriches the national library and institutional library. Some benevolent people donate their personal collections to area library or libraries organised by a few.

The Govt. can collect money by imposing some tax which is bearable by most citizens. And Govt. can by imposing laws share a portion of the capitals of big capitalists throughout the country for library purposes. We can not depend on gifts or donations from foreign countries, which are voluntary and missionary. Rather we with library habits and library-mindedness can expect a large sum from our own rich countrymen.

The main source is the enthusiasm for reading and for knowledge, and from that the resources will then increase in time.

RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES OF TEACHERS' TRAINING COLLEGES IN INDIA

P. S. KAWATRA

INTRODUCTION :

A resource includes anything which may be an object of study or stimulus for the pupil and includes books, periodicals, newspapers, press cuttings, pictures, diagrams, maps, charts, photocopies and microforms, slides, film strips, film loops, films, records, audio-tapes, radio and television programmes, videotapes, slidetape filmstrip record combinations, multimedia kits, programmed materials and models.

PRESENT POSITION :

The state of libraries in most of our Teacher's Training colleges is unsatisfactory. They do not contain the adequate

number of books and journals for meeting the educational requirements of Colleges of Education students. There are no reading rooms. Other facilities too are conspicuous by their absence. In most of the libraries adequate attention has not been paid to appoint qualified and competent librarians.

SCOPE

1. Since no library is complete in itself there is always scope for inter-library co-operation. It is all the more important amongst training colleges libraries since none of them is fully equipped to satisfy the needs of the readers.

2. Inter-Library co-operation may be in the field of inter-lending reading materials as well as on the administrative and organisational levels. In training college libraries certain basic needs should be met immediately before venturing on any scheme for a systematized inter-library co-operation.

INTER LIBRARY COLLABORATION :

When the basic needs are met and the co-ordination amongst Training college libraries guaranteed, inter-library co-operation may work on the following lines :

1. **Inter library lending** : i. e. transaction of any document available in a library, subject to the convenience of the lending library, This may be :

(a) Between teachers training college libraries, i.e. between libraries of the same category.

(b) Amongst training colleges libraries, and other libraries in India and

(c) Amongst training colleges libraries and other libraries outside India.

There is a need for a Central Agency responsible for co-ordination which can be like the library and documentation unit of N. I. E., National Council of Educational Research and Training, New-Delhi. It may be connected with Regional Centres established at Regional College of Education at Ajmer, Bhopal, Bhuvaneshwar & Mysore. NCERT can start compilation of Union catalogue of documents available in different Libraries of Teachers Training colleges in India.

Apart from inter-library loan, inter-library co-operation may be extended to the following cases :

2. **Inter transfer ability of tickets :** This system was practised by the author as Librarian of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Bhopal. Borrower's tickets were issued to the Librarians of the participating libraries of the region, so that a member of one library may avail the borrowing facilities from the other libraries in the region. This system worked very satisfactorily.

3. **Organisation of materials :** The NCERT may advise upon the classification and cataloguing of documents. It is desirable that the same classification system and cataloguing code be followed in all the libraries. The advantages of centralised cataloguing and classification will be great saving in labour in all the libraries of Teachers training colleges. It will result in uniformity of cataloguing and classification.

4. **Co-opertive Acquisition :** A co-ordinated library may specialise in one or two subjects. The co-operating units must have in any case the basic books needed and reference books. In case the list of the Journals subscribed by the NCERT and its four Regional colleges are examined, there is duplication of 50% of the Journals subscribed. This could be avoided and funds thus saved may be utilised for some other activities. The teachers training colleges run

by the State Govt. and universities may avail the facilities if the resources available at Regional colleges in the region.

5. Storage: On analysis of the use of existing libraries resources it has been observed that 20% of the books are used for 80% of the time and the remaining 80% of the books are used for 20% of the time. The infrequently used materials may be stored at NCERT.

6. Co-operation concerning the discarding of stock: Books which are unwanted in one library may be useful to some other libraries. Therefore, libraries can always exchange their discarded stock.

Four Regional colleges of Education have rich collection of books on Technology and its allied aspects. Technical Education courses run by these colleges were discontinued. The books of Technology, if transferred to Technical teachers Trarning Institute or polytechnics in the region will serve a better use of the resources.

7. Staff training & exchange of staff: NCERT or Regional colleges may hold annual conference of Teachers training librarians to discuss matters of common interest. At the same time library staff can visit the other libraries and work with them for a few days. This will be refreshing for them. At the same time they will learn about the collection and the method of work in other libraries.

Libraries can be co-operative in organising book exhibitions, seminars, conferences, surveys, compilation of bibliagraphies etc.

The teachers training colleges may take advantage of the Regional college of Education Library in the region. They may also avail the services rendered by libraries run by

foreign offices and cultural organisations, like U. S. I. S., the British Council etc.

8. Circulation of documents on list/accession lists: Accessions list and documentation list " Current literature in education " brought out by Library and documentation unit of NIE, NCERT may be circulated among Teachers Training colleges in India.

The librarian has to know the sources of the information which the readers require, or at least where such information could be sought.

The role is not only facilitating the access and usage of resources, but also promoting utilisation of resources in the curriculum.

PRINCIPAL RECOMMENDATION :

1. All Teachers training libraries should come under a co-ordinated library system and NCERT should be a central agency fulfilling the needs of a teacher in the form of information materials, and consultency, with advisory personnel of experience and long standing in the field of education.

2. Teachers training colleges should also be linked up with the other special libraries of the region concerned. A close relation with the professional organizations is also important.

3. To promote inter-library loan and co-ordination of selection of materials the NCERT should promote the production and publication of union catalogues of periodicals and books. The centre can take up the project in hand and teachers training college libraries of the state should contribute complete cards of their holdings to this centre.

4. The NCERT may establish Inter-library resource centre at which different libraries (Teachers training colleges) could deposit their infrequently used material and make this Centre responsible for organizing this material and providing service to all the scholars.

5. The library and documentation unit of NCERT should help towards the establishment of atleast one centre at the Regional level at RCEs giving microfilming, photo copying and other reprographical facilities.

6. The NCERT should establish a Regional resource centre at RCEs and should have close liaison with these centres. The main purpose of the centre would be to provide a liaison point to maximise co-operation on the spread of advice, information and materials wherever they will be needed.

RESOURCE SHARING AMONG RESEARCH LIBRARIES IN INDIA

N. M. VAIDYA

SUMMARY :

The ever increasing need of current and specialised information by research workers for immediate use poses problems to research libraries due to paucity of funds and limited space.

The problems can be well solved by understanding the inevitability of interdependence among research libraries for various aspects of catering efficient information services to research workers or to their clientele. In this paper, the long felt need for a co-operative movement among research libraries and some useful solutions of evolving an efficient co-ordinated information service by adopting the following ways, is suggested :-

(1) Regional Co-operation
(2) National Co-operation
(3) Co-operative Acquisition
(4) Co-operative Book Stores
(5) Central Classification and cataloguing
(6) Inter-library loan
(7) Documentation services
(8) Reprographic services
(9) International Co-operation

It is expected that every research organisation establishes well equipped and up-to-date library which can satisfy the demands of research workers. However, it is our experience that research workers are always on the look out for recent developments in their field of research and for that they always demand the published work immediately for their use. The publication from any part of the world should be provided to them without much of time lag. Their needs of information that may be from books, periodicals, patents, newspapers and other documents are also to be procured for the proper use by research workers when such information is in language other than the languages known by the user. Usually each research organisation tries to keep the library well-equipped in their field for catering the needed information to their clientele. But there are many problems which hamper down the activities of a research library. The need to have a plan to utliise the funds to the best possible way is an important and urgent problem. This requires co-operation and co-ordination among research libraries in the same town, region or country. The following areas can be considered for co-operation :

(A) **Technical Services**
(1) Co-operative acquisition

(2) Co-operative classification

(3) Co-operative cataloguing

(B) **Documentation Services**

(1) Abstracting

(2) Indexing

(3) List of Current acquisitions

(4) Bibliographics on specific subjects

(5) Translations

(6) Reprographic services, microfilms, microfishe, microcards, photocopies, Xerox copies etc.

Due to the fact that every day enormous literature is published, it goes out of capacity of any library to procure each and every published literature for the use of its readers. Moreover, increase in price of scientific and technical publications including journals is so high that every year restrictions in acquisition of them are required to be imposed to meet with the budget of the organisation.

The following examples are enough to visualise the enormous rise in subscription prices during the last 17 years:

1. "Chemical Abstracts". a publication of American Chemical Society. In 1960 the subscription price which was $ 350 has reached to $ 4,770 in current years. This amounts to 15 times rise in the last 17 years.

2. Tetrahedron. In 1960 subscription price was $ 17 Tetrahedron In 1973 subscription price is $ 460 —an enormous rise by 30 times.

3. Tetrahedron letters. 1970 subscription price was $ 20. Tetrahedron letters, in 1978 subscription price is $ 400.

This again amounts to 20 times rise. This enormous rise in subscription rates can be tackled by proper co-operation and co-ordination by libraries atleast in the same town. Co-operation is possible at the following levels:

1. Local or regional co-operation
2. National co-operation
3. International co-operation,

REGIONAL CO-OPERATION:

Research libraries in a region can co-operate in many ways for providing better library facilities to their clientele. Areas and terms of co-operation can be worked out on the basis of the requirement of the libraries. The first and fundamental factor of the scheme is a close study of user requirements. A vigilant supervision on the growth of the scheme comes next.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATION:

There should be a national library of Science and Technology. We are happy to note that National Information System for Science and Technology (NISSAT) is looking after this aspect actively. This national library can serve as a repository as well as a national lending library for science and technology.

ACQUISITION:

In addition to the systematic collection of science literature published in the country, planned acquisition of foreign literature is the first and foremost task. The National Library should bear the ultimate responsibility for making available to the research libraries In the country an adequate collection of foreign literature.

CO-OPERATIVE ACQUISITION OF PERIODICALS:

There should be one Body which can process to acquire the foreign as well as Indian periodicals collectively. By

this way one can save some amount, by way of getting the discount from the publishers, if this Body books the orders collectively. Secondly, they can guide the individual library in the same town, informing that the journal which he has asked for, is being received by the other library. It saves duplication in acquiring the costly journals and saves some amount of money which enables library to manage in the available budget. It also saves the space problem without hampering the need of the clientele.

CO-OPERATIVE BOOK STORES :

Research libraries can form a co-operative book store for the purchase of scientific and technical literature. Under the guidance of co-operative store the member libraries will get the usual discount from the publishers. For the libraries of government research institutes, I feel there will be no objection from the government, and research libraries. They will be able to get the material required by them without duplicating rarely used books.

CATALOGUING :

For foreign literature, many national and research libraries order library of congress catalogue cards. The National Science Library should concern itself with the study of cataloguing and classification rules for the scientific literature produced in the country.

INTER-LIBRARY BORROWINGS :

On the basis of its collection, bibliographical tools, its knowledge of the library holdings of research libraries in the country, National Science Library can serve as a centre for Inter-library loans. This does not mean that lending activities must go thorugh the national library. Very often direct contact between libraries is more efficient, but the National library is the information centre and has to fix rules and conditions for loans.

DOCUMENTATION SERVICES :

INSDOC and SENDOC provide abstracting, indexing and reprographic service to research libraries. The activities have to be expanded to fulfil the requirements of all research libraries. It is wellknown that considerable time of research workers is wasted in noting down the reference literature required and hence every possible effort should be made to provide photostat copies or Xerox copies of the references to the research workers so that they can devote more time for their research.

REPROGRAPHIC SERVICES :

For easy & proper use of scientific publications, rare books and manuscripts, it is necessary that reprographic and translation services be introduced in the holding libraries. And if that is not possible, regional centres should be set up and equipped for rendering necessary services in the premises of the holding libraries.

Reprographic services should at the same time, be cheap and effective. These should be supplemented by conces sional postal rates.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION :

National Science Library should not only serve as the library at the national level, but also serve as the International Exchange and Loan Centre. The National Science library should establish contacts with international cells by becoming their member.

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RESOURCE SHARING IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES *

By
P. K. PATIL

Due to rapid explosion of information in the recent years, libraries have become pivotal centres for informational and educational tasks. Academic libraries are expected to marshall their resources and services to fulfil the objectives of the institutions and organizations where libraries and information centres are considered to be appendages. In order to achieve these objectives and also to enhance the efficiency of library services, 'resource sharing' forms one of the important activities of the academic libraries.

The term 'resource' usually refers to any 'person' or 'action' to which one usually turns in times of need. 'Library

* The above paper was received late; still, from point of view of allsided treatment of the subject, it is included here.

resource' implies materials, functions and services which constitute a modren academic library system.

Resource sharing in the libraries in the recent years has assumed great importance, mainly due to inflation and budget reduction. It is perceived in a number of ways such as relating to inner library loan, shared cataloguing, co-operative acquisition, and shared storage. It includes inter-institutional sharing of books, journals and other library resources. It denotes a mode of operation whereby functions are shared in common by a number of libraries so as to increase the availability of materials and resources at a comparatively less cost. It also implies that participating libraries should have resources to share and willingness to share the resources.

In order to achieve the objectives of resources sharing Allent Kent has suggested four requirements namely,

(a) Precise understanding of the use of collection,

(b) Bibliographic apparatus to permit appropriate access,

(c) An efficient system for delivering materials,

(d) Influence on the purchasing of materials in a co-ordinated manner and on administrative functions which assure consistent service.

As mentioned earlier, library resources usually refer to materials, functions and services. Materials generally constitute reference volumes, audio-visual aids, periodicals and text books. Reference materials are important in the sense that they act as informative tools as well as surrogates in information retrieval. Encyclopaedias, dictionaries, atlases, charts etc, form live entities for information needs, and indexes, abstracts, bibliographies form key to the source materials. Secondly, audio-visual materials have to play a great role in information dissemination both to the laymen of

the society and to the academic community. They are a means for orientation programmes and also for information dissemination for mass users in an effective manner.

Periodicals are the most essential material for research activities and to trace the current trends and developments in specific fields. Academic libraries have to acquire a wide variety of journals in various subjects in order to satisfy the needs of different readers. Secondary sources such as indexes and abstracts are also necessary, which collocate the articles scattered in a number of journals. Also, usually academic institutions of our country prescribe text books for study. Students are mainly dependent on text books and therefore libraries have to take into consideration these criteria and organise the resources. Academic libraries however rich their collection, cannot afford to have all these resources on their holdings and therefore have to resort to sharing the resources with the resources of other libraries.

' Functions and services ' of a library refers to purchase, process, store and retrieving the information materials. The acquisition of materials for a library being the first step, should be based on the needs of the academic readers and staff members. Readers will not be in a position to state needs at times and therefore, it is the responsibility of the library staff to collect the needs of readers by means of ' user studies ' at regular intervals. Secondly, the processing of materials should be in a standard format based on manuals suitable in order to maintain the uniformity throughout. This helps library co-operative ventures (eg. Co-operative Cataloguing etc). Processing constitutes accessioning. classifying, tooling, cataloguing, shelving and so on. These, carried on a co-operative basis can be shared by various libraries in an area. Thirdly, care should be taken to see that the materials are free from fungus infection damage, and other damages caused by arthropods. Delegation of soiled

and less used materials and fumigation should be carried on from time to time to see that materials are in good condition without hampering the use of materials. This has the implication of building a 'core collection' in any subject. Fourthly, Library staff being the catalytic agent between materials and readers should act in promoting the use of materials in an effective manner. Functions relating to the retrievals should be taken note of to see that the readers are able to trace the documents or to track down information according to desired recall and precision standards.

All these functions carried out in a co-operative manner will enable the libraries to finish of their work at a comparatively faster rate and at a lower cost. This becomes more clear due to the fact that usually academic libraries have less human resource than what they actually deserve.

The objectives of resource sharing can be achieved by a number of ways. Important among them are network and co-operation. It is observed that—

> " Powerful inflationary trends on the one hand coupled with increasingly effective technological and resource sharing capabilities on the other hand, are causing all academic research libraries to undergo a fundamental reassessment and reorientation of their traditional collection development goals and service strategies as they make the painful transition from the affluent sixties to the austere seventies and eighties".

These resource sharing programmes have changed the philosophy of librarianship from augmentation of local holdings to that of providing access to the holdings of other libraries.

Resource sharing in libraries can work successfully if the participating libraries have certain common agreements in

respect of acquisition policy, limitations and priorities of libraries collection, loan periods, renewal procedures etc. Maintaining a record of these activities helps a longway in making the resource sharing programme a successful one.

A striking feature which we have noticed among the librarians, is the lack of co-operation among themselves in extending library facilities. Librarians working in different types of libraries in a region or state, seldom work together systematically to plan and put into effect the inter-library loan system and other usual exchange programmes. Here, we may also point out that there is no state level planning or planning at the University level to co-ordinate efforts in making materials easily available to students who are engaged in correspondence study or in continuing education courses. This is also a very important problem which should be tackled at the Government level. There is need to establish a good library system, where public, special and academic libraries pool their resources and tap other collection for the benefit of people in the region covered by such a system.

RESOURCE SHARING IN THE CONTEXT OF SCIENTIFIC SERIALS A REGIONAL APPROACH

BY
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RODUCTION

Resources available in different libraries of a particular on are varied in nature. But in this paper the intention is liscuss some of the important aspects of resource sharing he context of scientific serials among the 55 libraries the Calcutta Region. It has been experienced while I s working as Co-ordinator of INSDOC Union Catalogue ject (West Bengal) for the collection of data from 149 aries in West Bangal that the libraries in Calcutta region d the richer collection of Scientific Serials in the subject field of Botany, Geology, Zoology, Glass and Ceramics, Anthropology, and Indology than any other region of the country. The Scientific Serial collection held in the libraries

of this region in the subject fields of Bio-chemistry, Chemistry, Biology, Medical Sciences, Mathematics, Nuclear Physics, Public Health and Hygiene, Agriculture and the collection of standards and patents literatures are worth mentioning. The Regional Union Catalogue of Scientific Serials-West Bengal is going to be brought out by the INSDOC shortly. The compilation work of this catalogue has just been completed. So the ground has already been prepared for the development of Resource sharing in the context of scientific serials among the libraries in the Calcutta Region.

The library cooperation in a particular region assures sharing of varied resources available in different libraries. This sharing of Resources has many aspects which can be brought under Library Cooperation and Coordination such as building up an effective collection of materials, efficient acquisition of serials of different disciplines and inter-disciplinary serials, promotion of inter-library loan system, compilation of Union Catalogue, Cooperative Storage facility, expertising the experiences of library personnel and so on.

1. NEED FOR LIBRARY CO-OPERATION IN RESOURCE SHARING OF SERIAL PUBLICATIONS

There are many factors involved in the need for library cooperation in sharing resources of serial publications among the participating libraries of a region. The cooperation is inevitable because of growing increase of the subscription rate of serials, tremendous exploration of micro scientific literature, paucity of fund and above all frequent reduction of book budget in real value.

The resources available in 55 important libraries in Calcutta region could be mobilised advantageously to serve the information needs of the scientific community with a minimum financial outlay for building up the necessary infrastructure through sharing the resources among the libraries.

2. IMPORTANCE OF UNION CATALOGUE

Union Catalogue is of vital importance for effective utilisation of serial publications. The compilation of Union Catalogue is a continuous process of work. It has been rightly said that "Union Catalogue is not an end in itself but only a means to an end". So once a union catalogue is compiled, it is necessary to keep the Union Catalogue updated constantly. This task of updating is possible only through the active cooperation of the participating libraries and one agency must take the responsibility of keeping the catalogue updated.

3. REGIONAL UNION CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC SERIALS-WEST BENGAL

INSDOC has already compiled the Regional Union Catalogue of Scientific Serials held in the libraries in West Bengal with the cooperation of IASLIC and National Library. This catalogue is an important tool for promoting inter-library lending facilities. The holdings of 149 libraries in West Bengal covering 16,263 titles have been recorded in this catalogue. Out of 16,263 titles held in 149 participating libraries 9,755 titles are current. An analysis of the serials recorded in the Regional Union Catalogue of Scientific Serials - West Bengal by subject and publishing country is shown in the tables 1 and 2 below :

3.1. TABLE—1
SUBJECT-WISE BREAKDOWN OF SERIALS HELD IN 149 LIBRARIES IN WEST BENGAL

Subject	Total No. of title	Current title
i) Library Science and Documentation	223	155
ii) Science and Technology in general	1239	600

	Subject	Total No. of title	Current title
iii)	Mathematics, Astronomy, Geodesy and surveying	575	384
iv)	Physics and Chemistry	1253	825
v)	Geology and Geography Meterology and Palaeontology	2252	1235
vi)	Biological sciences	1892	1183
vii)	Medicine	2447	1491
viii)	Engineering	2568	1555
ix)	Agriculture	1606	951
x)	Management Science	497	294
xi)	Chemical Technology	889	527
xii)	Others	862	575
	Total	16263	9775

3.2 Table—2

COUNTRY-WISE BREAKDOWN OF SERIALS HELD IN 149 LIBRARIES IN WEST BENGAL

Country	No. of serial	Percentage
U. S. A.	2671	26.39
India	1608	16.49
Great Britain	1582	16.22
Germany	499	5.11
Japan	365	3.75
France	297	3.04
Netherlands	264	2.70
U. S. S. R	203	2 08
Australia	192	1.96
Canada	184	1 88
Others (80 countries)	1663	18.07
International bodies	227	2.32

4. LIBRARY CO-OPERATION FOR PROMOTING INTER-LIBRARY LENDING FACILITIES

Inter-library lending facilities are considered to be the main and important aspect of library co-operation for sharing inter-library resources. In view of the ever-rising cost of the scientific serials no library in the country is able to keep pace and the libraries have been forced to curtail the subscription gradually in recent time.

4.1. INTER LIBRARY LENDING FACILITIES IN THE CALCUTTA REGION

Inter library loan of serials is being practised in an informal manner and in a strictly limited way by most libraries in this region and that is also dependent on personal relationship. The security problem is perhaps the reason for limitation on the issue of inter library loan. No common code is being followed by the practising libraries. The libraries in this region are following their own code.

4.2. PROMOTION OF INTER LIBRARY LOAN CODE

Some time in 1972 National Library issued circular letters inviting comments from 33 important libraries in the Calcutta Region on the Draft Code prepared by IASLIC in 1964. Comments from 16 Libraries had been received. Most of these 16 Libraries have given their views in favour of this code, while some had reservations. This code had been prepared in 1964. So this old draft code will be of little use under the changing situation of the libraries. It will be worthwhile if IASLIC takes up again the responsiblity of drafting a new inter-library loan code and invites discussion on all aspects of the code among the participating libraries to make it agreeable to all.

4.3. DEVELOPMENT OF INTER-LIBRARY LENDING SYSTEM

It is an advantage that National Library is situated in this region. So it would be worthwhile if National Library

explores the possibility of integrating the library facilities of the important organisations dealing with science and technology in the Calcutta Region. The National Library in consultation with all participating libraries may work out an integrated policy of furnishing facilities to each library as well as developing and administering an efficient inter library lending service. A committee of representatives from all participating libraries may be constituted for this purpose so that the policy may be worked out and can be put into operation as soon as the Regional Union Catalogue of Scientific Serials—West Bengal has been published. The National Library can take the initiative for setting up a mechanism for providing inter-library lending facilities for the benefit of the scientific community of this region. This library may take the responsibility to provide a daily transport for collecting and distributing the serials requisitioned by the readers from various libraries. This will, no doubt, provide an efficient lending service to the scientific community of this region.

The area-wise distribution of 55 important libraries in Calcutta Region and the approximate number of titles (both back and current) held in these libraries is given in Annexure-I. This has been conveniently grouped under six zones, for organising inter-library lending facilities.

5. CO-OPERATIVE ACQUISITION OF SERIALS

Co-operative acquisition here does not mean sharing subcription of a particular serial by more than one library. It means to share the responsibilities of acquiring the serials on the basis of 'interest' of different libraries. There are three types of interest to serials in the context of procurement. These interests are .-(a) primary interest, (b) secondary interest, (c) generic interest. The participating libraries should decide themselves which of the libraries will subscribe which of the serials on the basis of their interest. So the distribution of titles for their procurement should be done

on the basis of funds available with them. This will ensure not only the effective application of sharing the resources of existing budgetary funds for serials but also will ensure avoiding duplication in subscribing the serials by any of the participating libraries. It is estimated that 30% of total budgetary funds of 55 libraries in this region is being spent on duplication. So the savings by avoiding duplication would make the serial collection of the participating libraries more prosperous collectively without increasing its present budgetary funds and space for storage too.

5.1. SHARING THE COST OF PROCUREMENT OF SERIALS BY AIR MAIL

The participating libraries should decide themselves which of the serials that contain the information / reports of the latest researches in various scientific disciplines, to be procured by air mail. The participating libraries should adjust themselves on this issue mutually.

5.2. SUBSCRIPTION TO NEW SPECIALISED SERIALS ON TRIAL BASIS

A good number of new serials in any specialised field are being published every year. One of the participating libraries preferably National Library in this region should subscribe to such serials on trial basis. If certain serials are considered to be worth purchasing, procurement of these serials is to be assigned to the libraries which would be found under the primary interest category.

6. REPOSITORY OF THESES ON SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES

There is no library in the country to have an exhaustive collection of theses submitted to the various universities/ Institutions of the country for the doctoral degrees. These theses are an important source material of information that is needed by research scientists and scholars. National Library may take initiative to reach an agreement with

the universities and institutions concerned for getting a full size or microfilm copy of the thesis submitted to them. So in this way National Library may function as the Repositary library for theses.

6 1. LIBRARY CO-OPERATION FOR STIMULATING TRAINED LIBRARY MANPOWER

The promotion and practice technique for helpful use of micro-documents by the users need trained library personnel who will share the responsibilities of making the bridges in between the gaps of incoming users and the universe of micro documents for its effective utilisation by developing specialised information services such as abstracting, indexing, current awareness, SDI ; trend report, etc. This cannot be achieved without an active co-operation and understanding between libraries and schools of library science. Such co-operation may cover the following aspects :

i) Planning of curriculum and teaching method jointly by the libraries and the schools of library science

ii) Conducting refresher courses on specialised aspects by professional bodies in co-operation with the library teachers and working librarians.

iii) Arranging for student apprenticeship for a definite period in different types of libraries to bridge the gap between theory and practice with mutual agreement between libraries and schools of library science.

7. SHARING THE REPROGRAPHIC FACILITIES

In the Calcutta Region the most sophisticated reprograhic equipments are available in the Indian Statistical Institute, Geological Survey of India, National Library, Indian Institute of Experimental Medicine, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics

and Anthropological Survey of India. The Document Reproduction/Reprographic Service are being rendered to a great extent through modern copying technique by the National Atlas Organisation, Indian Association of Cultivation of Sciences, Zoological Survey of India, Botanical Survey of India, Patent Office Library, Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute and Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya.

So an integrated effort should be made available for building up an efficient reprographic service and necessary infrastructure through sharing of the reprogrophic resources among the libraries in the region.

8. STORAGE AND BINDING OF BACK VOLUMES OF SERIALS

Insufficient space is an acute problem in almost all the libraries in the Calcutta Region. In many libraries the back volumes of serials are resting in heaps either on the floor or on the top of book shelves with a difficult servicing condition. On an average seven years back run issues of serials in most libraries of this region were found loose and unbound due to poor binding facilities. Co-operative building for central storage facility and setting up co-operative binderies may be the right answer to these problems and these can be gained by successful establishment of co-operative society for library building and bindery by the participating libraries.

9. CONCLUSION

Inter library co-operation in the context of resource sharing is a vital issue for effective utilisation of both library book fund and collection. The failure of library co-operative efforts in our country is due to lack of confidence and true willingness to co-operate with each other. So we must give a careful thought on the issue how much the library authorities are mentally prepared to enter into the co-operative venture like this.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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ANNEXURE — I

MAJOR HOLDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SERIALS IN AND AROUND CALCUTTA LIBRARIES

(Area-wise Distribution of Libraries)

CALCUTTA SOUTH ZONE

Jadavpore University-2000
Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute-1848
Calcutta University-Science Colleges (Ballygunge)
10 Departments-1883
Indian Association of Cultivation of Sciences-1285
Indian Institute of Experimental Medicine-722
Jute Technological Research Laboratory-541

CALCUTTA CENTRAL ZONE—1 (Alipore/Chowringhee)

National Library-6300
Geological Survey of India-5353
Asiatic Society-1962
Zoological Survey of India-1500
Institute of Engineers, Bengal Circle-935
Journal of Indian Medical Association-550
Patent Office Library-509
Director of Jute Development-471
East India Pharmaceutical Works-327
Anthropological Survey of India-401
Institute of Post-Graduate Medical Education and Research-393
Calcutta University-Institute of Basic Medical Sciences-164

CALCUTTA CENTRAL ZONE —2 (College Street Area)

All India Institute of Hygiene & Public Health-1400
School of Tropical Medicine-868

Medical College, Calcutta-610
Calcutta Medical Club-586
Presidency College-340
Calcutta University Central Library-324
Calcutta University-Department of Medicine (Goenka Hospital)-300

CALCUTTA NORTH ZONE

Calcutta University Science Colleges-10 Departments-1170 (92, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road)
Indian Chemical Society-954
Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics-880
Bose Institute-322

BARRACKPORE/KALYANI ZONE

Indian Statistical Institute-1368
National Dairy Research Institute-120
Jute Agricultural Research Institute-457
Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute-488
Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya-753

HOWRAH ZONE

Botanical Survey of India-2700
Bengal Engineering College-471
Shalimar Paint Ltd., 35

N. B.: Figure indicates the number of titles both current and back held in the libraries.

RESOURCE SHARING NETWORKS: AN ALTERNATIVE FOR INCREASING ACCESS TO SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

S. M. DHAWAN
S. K. PHULL
S. P. JAIN

About 40,000 journals of significance for research are currently being published. No library, not even the largest can afford to subscribe to more than a small fraction of the total needed by its users. This forces libraries to make selection from among those published. Every library desires that the chief aim of its accession policy should be to acquire the material indispensable to persons engaged in

research, teaching or scholarly work. But this can only be possible if there is no shortage of funds, resources and space available to a library. Writing about British Libraries which have rich resources, McColvin and Revie say : "There is no one library not even the British museum in which a reader could find every thing he might require".

Scientific literature alone, for example, is so abundant that no researcher can read every thing Published, even in his own field. On the other hand the number of titles keeps on growing four per cent per year (8). Besides the cost of journal subscriptions is also increasing continuously. The growth in subscription rates and Patmour's estimated increase (8) in the number of titles per year have been depicted in Table (1) and Table (2). (Please see next page for Table 1 and below for Table 2).

TABLE 2

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF WORTH WHILE JOURNALS

(in thousands)

YEAR	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Number of Titles	40 00	41.6	43.26	45.0	46.79	48.67	50.62	52.64	54.75	56.94	59.21

Any increase in the cost of journal susbcription can only further reduce the number of titles a library can subscribe. Then the big question arises how will libraries be in a position to satisfy the intellectual hunger of its users.

RESOURCE SHARING :

An alternative for this question is resource sharing, which means co-ordinating of existing resrources and facilities into a suitable network so that one library can depend upon the resources of other libraries in the network without incurring extra expenditure in a big way. Such participation by libraries entails co-ordination in the acquisi-

TABLE 1

US PERIODICALS: AVERAGE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES FOR 1967-1969, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975 & 1976.

(Index of 100.0 equivalent to average price for 1967-1968)

SUBJECT AREA	1967-68	1972		1973		1974		1975		1976	
	Average Price	Average Price	Index	Average Price	Index	Average Price	Index	Average Price	Index	Average Price	Index
U. S. Periodicals	$ 8.66	13.23	152.8	16.20	187.1	17.71	204.5	19.94	230.3	22.52	260.0
Agriculture	4.68	6.35	135.7	7.21	154.1	8.12	173.5	9.70	207.3	10.75	229.7
Business & Economics	7.54	9.95	132.0	12.25	162.5	13.90	184.4	15.26	202 4	16.98	225.2
Chemistry & Physics	24.48	45.46	185.7	56.61	231.5	65.47	267.4	76.84	313.9	86.72	354.2
Children's Periodicals	2.60	3.24	124.6	3.27	125.8	3.72	143.1	4.69	180.4	5.32	204.6
Education	6.34	9.51	150.0	11.34	178.9	12.64	199.4	14.72	232.2	16.00	252.4
Engineering	10.03	16.04	160.0	23.37	233 0	24.38	243.8	26.64	265.6	32.87	317.7
Fine & Applied Arts	6.71	6.42	125.5	9.16	136.5	9.84	146.7	11.09	165.3	12 42	185.1
General Interest Periodicals	7.28	9.62	132.1	10.05	138.5	11.43	157.0	14.36	197.3	15.24	209.3
History	6.04	8.25	136.6	8.95	148.2	9.57	158.4	11.14	184.4	11.94	197.7
Home Economics	6.45	10.25	158.9	12.21	189.3	12.31	190.9	14.24	220.8	17.86	276.9
Industrial Arts	6.87	8.98	130 7	9.57	139.3	9.63	140.2	10.59	154.2	12.51	182.1
Journalism & Communication	5.72	8.68	151.7	13.05	228.2	13.13	229.6	14.70	257.0	15.90	270.0
Labour & Industrial relations	3.01	3.92	130.2	6.02	200.0	6.71	222.9	7.40	245.9	10.33	343.2
Law	8.71	11.15	128.0	13.19	151.4	14.56	167.2	15.00	172.2	16.21	186.1
Library Science	6.27	9.40	150.0	10.48	167.2	12.53	199 8	14.18	226.2	15.96	254.5
Literature & Language	5.38	7.45	138.5	8.14	151.3	9.16	170.3	10.41	193.5	11.60	215.6
Maths, Botany, Geology & General Science	15.30	22.63	148.0	26.99	176.4	30.27	197.8	35.95	235.9	42.51	277.8
Medicine	19.38	29.59	152.7	33.60	173.4	36.31	187.3	42.38	218.7	47.47	244.9
Philosophy & Religion	5.27	7.16	135.9	8.12	154.1	8.84	167.7	9.05	171.7	9.94	188.6
Physical Education & Recreation	4.89	6.39	130.7	6.83	139.7	7.17	146.6	7.80	159.5	9.27	189.6
Political Science	6.18	8.47	137.1	9.69	156.8	10.79	174.6	12 79	207.0	13.09	211.0
Psychology	14.55	20.98	144.2	23.17	159.2	25.79	177.3	27.51	189.1	29.39	202.0
Sociology & Anthropology	6.11	9.12	149.3	11.28	184.6	13.03	213.3	14.85	243.0	17.11	280.0
Zoology	13.39	22.39	167.2	24.07	179.8	24 78	185.1	27.37	204.1	31.34	234.1

tion policy for periodical materials so as to eliminate avoidable duplication, wherever possible, and savings so achieved be utilized, if possible, in improving the resources for better services.

The success in resource sharing is governed by the dynamics of mutual benefit (9), adequate reprographic facilities, efficient communication and postal facilities, adequate bibliographical control over the resources available in the libraries participating in the network.

Another variable expected to play an important role in the success of resource sharing network is the user's demand for periodical material, which in turn is connected with the type of periodicals held in the collections of various libraries. Studies undertaken so far (8) reveal that demand is—

(i) a function of age of periodical material requested.

(ii) a function of number of titles.

Using the studies and result of Wood (15), BLLD (16) and his own (7) Palmour (8) displayed the distribution of demands a function of age of periodical material requested as given in fig. (1)

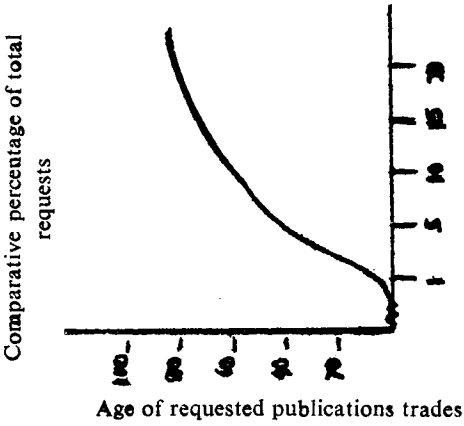


Figure 1 : Frequency of periodical loan—requests versus age of requested publications.

Regarding demand as a function of number of titles Palmour (8) has estimated that

(i) 1000 titles satisfy 50% of the total demand :

(ii) 3000 titles satisfy 75% of the total demand :

(iii) 10,000 titles satisfy 95% of the total demand.

These results are useful in planning the selection of configuration for resource sharing network. National sharing can be achieved by these configurations as given below :

(i) A National Resources Centre

(ii) A Regional Resources Network

(iii) Sectoral Resources Network

NATIONAL RESOURCES CENTRE :

A single centralized facility in which all worth while material in science and technology is acquired, stored and made available to users directly or through libraries. The model working of such a centre is represented using a network model as given in the appendix (A). The advantages of having such a centre over other configurations can be summarized in the following points :

(1) Subject coverage will be comprehensive ;

(2) Both heavily used and little used titles will be available ;

(3) Service will be efficient and comprehensive since it will be looked after by one administrative agency ;

(4) Centre has not to depend upon the resources of other libraries.

Centralised facility has also certain disadvantages which are given below :

(1) Resources already existing have also certain duplicates involving huge investments ;

(2) Back volumes of periodicals may not be available ;

(3) Limited funds ;

(4) Geographical distances ;

(5) Possibility that demand will reach a level that would saturate a single centre ;

(6) Poor postal service.

As per Palmour studies and results at least 10,000 titles published during the last 20 years are required in a National Resources Centre to satisfy 95% demand. The estimated cost for raising such a collection, computed Rs. 1,000 as the average price per title per year, comes to Rs. 20 Crores and the annual expenditure comes to Rs. 1 crore only. If we consider the cost of raising the building, furniture and staff also the entire investment would be too tremendous and beyond our reach also.

REGIONAL RESOURCES NETWORKS :

A decentralised system is based on the resources available in libraries located in various regions in the country. It is a three level system with the libraries of the region at the basic level, the designated operating centre at the middle level and the national back up centre at the upper level. The operating centre located in the region would utilize the resources held in various libraries of the region and the national centre would co-ordinate the activities of regional centres and also

provide the back up service, if necessary. The model working of regional networks is depicted by using networks models as given in the appendix 'S'. Advantages of such a system over the national centre are :

(1) Existing resources can be fully utilised ;

(2) It can be implemented immediately without effecting major changes in the existing infrastructure ;

(3) Services will be comprehensive ;

(4) It is comparatively inexpensive.

There are certain disadvantages in this system which are enumerated below :

(1) It requires large investment in bibliographical tools ;

(2) It has low efficiency ;

(3) Poor postal services :

(4) It does not provide guaranteed access to titles ;

(5) Lack of co-ordination in the acquisition policy :

(6) Lack of administrative co-ordination ;

(7) Poor racks—facilities existing in the participating libraries :

(8) Geographicl distances.

SECTORAL RESOURCES NETWORKS :

Sectoral resources networks involve the participation of only those libraries spread all over the country which have

common fields of specialisations like physics, chemistry, drugs, leather, aerodynamics etc. This system will also have three levels with the participating libraries at the lower level, the designated operating centre at middle level and the national co-ordinating centre at the upper level. The operating centre in the sector would utilize the resources held in the participating libraries and acquire, store and make available those titles not held in the collections of any library, and the national centre would co-ordinate the activities of sectoral operating centres. The model working of the sectoral networks is depicted by using network models as given in appendix 'B'. The overall advantages of this system can be summarised in the following points :—

(1) Existing resources can be fully utilised ;

(2) It can be implemented without effecting major changes in the existing infrastructure ;

(3) Services will be comprehensive ;

(4) It succeeds in achieving what is envisaged in the NISSAT ;

(5) It is comparatively inexpensive.

The disadvantages in this system are as given below :

(1) It requires large investment in bibliographical tools;

(2) It has low efficiency ;

(3) Poor postal services ;

(4) It does not provide guaranteed access to titles ;

(5) Lack of coordination in the acquisition policy ;

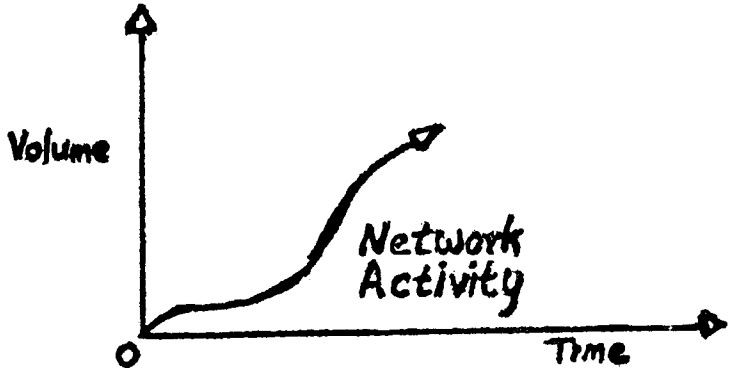
(6) Lack of administrative coordination ;

(7) Poor xerox facilities existing in the participating libraries ;

(8) Geographical distances.

RESOURCE SHARING AND MECHANISATION:

The nature of technology utilised in resource sharing networks will have lasting impact on the efficiency of a system. With time the demand function for periodical materials will grow. In case the existing technology utilised in the resource sharing networks is unable to cope with the growth in the demand for periodical materials, the technology itself must undergo change for mechanisation. While planning the resource sharing networks it is therefore utmost necessary that operations involved in implementing the resource sharing should be so designed as are capable of accommodating changes for modernisation such as computer storage and retrieval.



CONCLUSIONS:

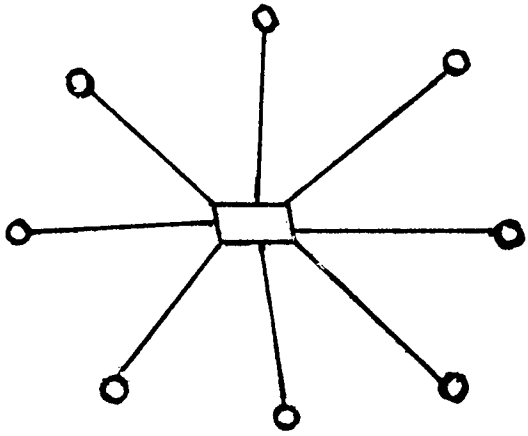
The concept of resource sharing provides an alternative for increasing access to periodicals. Of the three configura-

tions available only sectoral Resources Networks is worth considering. The National Resources Centre requires huge investments and is not worth considering. Regional Resource Networks permits the exploitation of existing rescources in the same way as does the Sectoral Resources Networks. But the big advantage in opting for Sectoral Resources Networks is that it provides enough scope for homogeneous growth of library collections in a particular discipline and as such falls within the philosophy of the NISSAT programme which has been tailored to develop information centres in basic, industrial and mission-oriented disciplines in the country. It is therefore opined that the development of Sectoral Resources Networks in various basic, industrial and mission-oriented disciplines holds promise for providing an alternative for increasing access to scientific journals.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS :

The authors are thankful to Shri B. N. Mehta, Assistant Director, DESIDOC and his staff for conducting bibliograhic survey. The authors are also grateful to Dr. A. R. Varma, Director, N. P. L. for permission to submit this paper to the XIXV All India Library Conference at Bangalore.

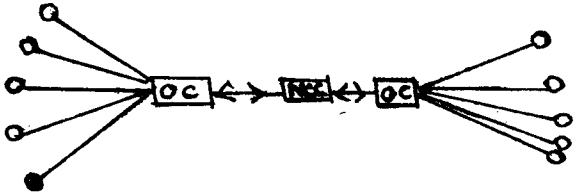
APPENDIX 'A'



O Library, ▱ National Resources Centre

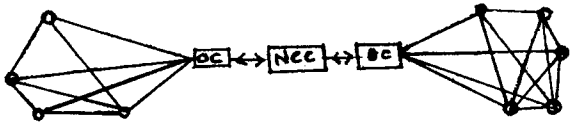
Directed Network with seven Nodes

APPENDIX 'B'



O Library, OC Operating Centre,
NCC National Co-ordinating Centre

Two Directed Networks Interlinked through a National Co-ordinating Centre



Two Non-Directed Networks interlinked through a National Co-ordinating Centre

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RESOURCES SHARING AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES IN INDIA

SAKTI PADA DAS

Today it is virtually impossible for any library, however great, to acquire all the retrospective publications that are required for comprehensive coverage of all subject-fields or to keep up with the massive, rising flow of new publications. But building resources constitutes only one aspect of the larger problem inherent in the central purpose of libraries that is facilitating access to knowledge. The idea of resources sharing is not new. The provision of services to users, through mutual co-operation and co-ordination of resources, has bsen in operation for decades now. However with the accelerated growth of information sources and with the growing realization of the need to use resources economically, the idea of resource sharing is being consci-

ously thought of and planned for developing efficient and effective services.

Facilitating access to knowledge poses two problems : (a) Acquiring all the resources that are needed in the country and (b) providing access to these resources. To solve these problems require more money, staff and housing capacity than any single institution, however rich, can hope to have. Resource sharing specially in the acquisition of material is absolutely necessary. The purpose of this article is to find out ways and means of co-operative acquisition in research libraries in India.

WHY OF RESOURCE SHARING :

Research libraries are experiencing the impact of increasing and sophisticated demands of library users, stemming from expanding research emphasis. The kind and amount of material and the kind and number of users have changed radically over the centuries. The characteristics of libraray operations in recent times together with the heavy, and often unpredictable demands of users indicate that resource sharing is the only way for libraries to optimise the use of total resources in a country. Resource sharing can provide the best information to most users at the most reasonable cost. This imperative need holds good within the assumption that *no library can be self-sufficient* and *libraries acting together can more effectively satisfy users' needs.* This is a paradoxical situation. The resolution of this situation is no easy task. But it may be resolved if we look at the problem from a different angle. The real problem may be looked upon *as the will* to share. It is the willingness to do what is possible. The true issue is not *whether or not to share* but *how much to share.*

WHAT OF RESOURCE SHARING :

A group of libraries working together to the same end, purpose and effect in a co-operative manner may be called a Co-operative Network or Resource Sharing System.

The implication of the above definition makes it imperative to establish full agreement between the participants of the co-operative on the exact aims and objectives of the proposed activity; and it should be done before any co-operative activity begins.

It is to be noted that proposals for co-operation are put forward with vague understanding and feeling in professional meetings of librarians who accept the concept of co-operation but find it difficult to put it into action. Sinclair has rightly pointed out that "lack of clear goals" and "initial over-enthusiasm later too much tempered by dismay at real difficulties" are two major obstacles to effective co-operation. He states "a postulate of co-operative activity must be that all but one participant in the co-operative shall be atleast as well off as before participation, and that atleast one participant shall be better off. In the event that all participants remain only with their initial advantages, or that one or more of the participants is worse off, we may suppose the co-operative to be a failure". Sinclair's postulate would seem to be vaild. Irrespective of operational goals, criteria of minimum mutual advantage, as expressed by Sinclair, that "no participant shall be worse off than before participation and at least one shall be better off" should be fulfilled, failing which changes of breaking up the co-operative are imminent.

LIBRARY RESOURCES :

The term "Library resources" means any and all of the materials, functions and services which constitute a modern library system. This includes also the expertise of the professional and non-professional Staff.

Resource sharing may be viewed from the basic functions of acquisition, preservation and dissemination of knowledge and experience. All library operations are related to these three basic functions which form a logical framework

to examine the possibilities of resource sharing activity. The library operations related to the first two functions have as their ultimate objective the effective performance of the third function i.e. making documents available for use. Libraries acquire and preserve in order to make available for use. Hence the effectiveness of the third function is always dependent upon the efficiency with which the first two are performed. It must be kept in mind, therefore, that these functions are means to an end and not ends in themselves. Particular attention must be paid to their real contribution to that end.

CO-OPERATIVE ACQUISITION :

Since the scope of the paper permits to discuss co-operation in acquisition only,it is worthwhile to note down certain implications of the concept of co-operative acquisition.

The librarian acquires material to ensure best possible coverage relevant to his users' needs. Financial and other constraints stand as bottle-neck in self-sufficiency. Librarians all over the world, therefore, have opted for co-operative acquisition scheme to achieve better coverage and to avoid unnecessary duplication of expensive materials. Such schemes are worth-considering in a developing country like ours,where financial stringency is acute ; and though it seems paradoxical, it is the acuteness of the problem that makes effective participation so difficult to achieve. Since the needs of all participants are great in volume and diversity, participation in a scheme must entail the acquisition of quantities of expensive and little-used materials not required to meet the needs of their own users. The more inadequate the resources of an individual participant, the greater the burden of participation and less the ability to meet the needs of its own users.

It may be pointed out here that the costs of participation do not end with the purchase of the required materials. There is no point in acquiring material if it is not preserved and

made available to other participants when required. It, thus, implies co-operative storage and inter-library lending. The costs of not only acquiring but also of storing and supplying the materials are involved in the scheme. Disappointment in borrowing caused by delay may sometimes occur. This participation in a scheme cannot be taken lightly and this may, perhaps, explain why it is so difficult to find such schemes in operation in India. Non-existence of such schemes may be due to lack of realisation of causes that may lead to failures.

The possible causes of failure have aptly been identified by Parker in the context of regional co-operation ; and they seem to be appropriate in local co-operation too. "If failure is to be avoided, either the costs of obtaining a particular service from the co-operative must be lower than the existing alternative means of obtaining the same service or the service obtained from the co-operative at a given cost must be superior in quantity, quality or in some other way to the service obtainable at the same cost by existing alternative means. A participant with better developed library services than the others, particularly in co-operation where responsibility is allocated in proportion to resources, may find that the demand from other participants for the material is much greater than its own needs for acquisitions. A participant with very limited resources, on the other, may be unable to meet its responsibilities under the scheme without great difficulty and for the same reason be unable to obtain full benefit therefrom". It is the perception of the causes that may make or mar efforts at resource sharing.

HOW OF RESOURCE SHARING :

In India, research libraries are scattered over a vast territory. They cater to a variety of needs. It may not be, therefore, feasible to adopt initially a scheme on national level. The scheme may by tried on a local level, because local

efforts are the basis for National plan. To start with, a systematic scheme can be initiated between research libraries in Delhi or any other metropolitan cities.

Co-operative acquisition with regard to all kinds of literature amongst all kinds of research libraries will be difficult. It is, therefore, proposed that all the research libraries in social sciences may be divided into small groups on the basis of subject specialisation. Formation of groups may be considered as follows :

1. Libraries specialising in Economics ;
2. Libraries specialising in History ;
3. Libraries whose concern is social system etc.,

The sharing of resources for a group can be most effective if one library in a group is opted for acting as a co-ordinating centre. Formation of such centre may be decided by each of the participating libraries. It is desirable that the responsibility of the centre may be entrusted to a key library in the group. The following factors shall have to be considered before any decision. is taken for selection of a key library.

(a) Strength of the resources

(b) Efficiency of staff

(c) Number of Clientele

The duties and functions of the centre may be as follows :

1. Sharing the resources available in member libraries to ensure optimum use of the material available.

2. Acting as an exchange centre ;

3. Centralising acquisition of little-used and expensive publications by virtue of its being a co-ordinating centre ;

4. Collecting all materials for the member libraries and advising them to avoid buying publication on the same subject except those oft required ;

5. Maintaining an up-dated union catalogue of holdings of member libraries ;

6. Provision of reprographic facilities to the member libraries.

It may also be necessary for some form of ''On order/in-process'' file to be held in a union fashion so that member libraries would know if some one else had already ordered any book or journal. The Government may be persuaded to sanction an additional budget for the purpose. This is one way of sharing resources between the member libraries.

The other alternative will be to establish a separate centralised agency to look after the work of coordinating centre. The function of the agency will be the same as has been said in the foregoing paragraphs. But the creation of a separate agency will be an additional burden which will require more finance. Hence, it will be better to upgrade the exisitng one which may be considered to act as a coordinating centre in a group.

CONCLUSION :

It is expected that the scheme will offer a high degree of applicability to the problems and needs of a developing country like India. But it can operate only in continuous

adjustment of the existing condition of our research libraries. There may arise human problem of the smaller institution not being able to identify its role in the larger scheme of things when it becomes a part of a resource sharing activity. The smaller institution must be able to perceive that its needs and its efforts will receive due consideration in the system. The precondition necessary for this is coordination among libraries and such a coordination demands mutual co-operation. Co-operation in acquisition is a necessity in this age of prolific publishing activity. Thus the research libraries would fit into the modern concepts of evolving library networks. The immediate need is to set the ball rolling. Perhaps, the Indian Library Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres could explore the possibility of such co-operation and take positive steps to implement them. The paper will achieve its purpose if it succeeds in charting out the system, seriously lacking in India.

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SEMINAR

ON RESOURCE SHARING AMONG LIBRARIES IN INDIA

BY
D. R. KALIA

Resource—sharing among libraries is no longer confined to borrowing of books by one library from the other. It involves much more than that. Resource—sharing today means pooling of resources and services of all types of libraries and information centres to meet total needs of the country more effectively and economically. Such an arrangement does not imply abolition of existing library authorities and having instead only one library authority for the entire country. Resource—sharing is a voluntary effort and is achieved through persuasion and funding incentives. It is based on enlightened self-interest on the part of participating agencies.

Resources should be shared by libraries and information centers in the following manners:—

1. Co-operative book acquisition.
2. Book processing centres.
3. Co-operative storage and delivery.
4. Computerisation.

Each one is discussed below:

1. CO-OPERATIVE BOOK ACQUISITION:

The incidence of demand varies from book to book. Some books are in constant demand whereas others are demanded only infrequently. In the absence of any cooperation each library has to buy even those books which are infrequently in demand known as "less used books". Such a situation leads to a waste of resources on the part of all libraries.

With the publication explosion, no library can afford to be self-sufficient and has to depend upon other libraries for less used material. Resource—sharing, therefore, must start with acquisition of material for which Cooperative Book Acquisition Centres (CBAC) should be established. Each participating library is assigned a subject in which it specialises and tries to build up as comprehensive a collection as possible and agrees to share its resources with others. The smaller libraries authorise larger libraries to acquire the material on their behalf against payment. The participating libraries are thus spared of the botheration of calling for terms of supply from the vendors, purchase of book selection tools, ordering of books and payment of bills etc. The CBAC prepares a list of suggested titles after consulting available book selection tools. The participating libraries select the titles from the suggested lists and transmit their requirements to the Centre which acquires them on their behalf. The participating libraries place at the disposal of CBAC adequate funds in advance against which the value of purchases is debited. Since the Centre makes purchases in bulk, it is able to obtain more favourable terms of supply than possible

otherwise. The CBACs are switching over to computerised systems of book acquisition. It has been rendered easier with the adoption of ISBN (International Standard Book Numbering). Under this system each country is assigned a particular code number and within the country a serial number is assigned to each publisher who in turn serialises his publications. While ordering books only ISBN for the title is communicated to the vendor.

Ordering itself is computerised, so is its billing and payment. Each participating library pays handling charges to the CBAC as mutually agreed upon. At present only two such centres are operating in India, namely U.S. Library of Congress and the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, and they are foreign agencies.

The USLC is acquiring Indian publications on behalf of 28 American research libraries and the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute serves 13 Canadian libraries. Indian libraries have yet to establish such centres within the country or abroad.

2. BOOK PROCESSING CENTRES:

A Book Processing Centre may be defined as an agency to supply fully processed books to the constituent units along with the printed catalogue cards so that wasteful duplication of work is eliminated.

Processing centres undertake classification and cataloguing of books and inscribe call numbers in more than one classification system on the catalogue cards so that the participating libraries may have a wide choice in adopting or adopting one of them.

At present only certain university libaries are acting as processing centres for their departmental libraries but none of them is supplying catalogue cards. The library of Congress has been supplying printed catalogue cards for the last fifty years

and the British National Bibliography (now the responsibility of the British Library formerly known as British Museum Library) for the last ten years. Several countries around the world have taken to the supply of printed cards to the great advantage of all.

3. CO-OPERATIVE STORAGE AND DELIVERY :

Large Libraries end up with enormous collections of books which are not constantly in demand. Such books clutter up the shelves creating thereby a serious shortage of shelving space.

Very few libraries in the World have been lucky enough to find additional shelving space to cope with its rate of new acquisitions. The solution lies in establishing storage libraries which receive less used material for deposit from the participating libraries. Unless it is decided otherwise, the books deposited by the participating libraries continue to be their property and can be withdrawn at any time. The storage libraries provide facilities for delivery of material free of cost to participating libraries.

In USA and UK, such storage libraries have been operating for the last several decades. India established its first storage library in 1974 called the Inter-Library Resources Centre at 35, Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi, under the auspices of Indian Council of Social Science Research. Already about 25,000 back-files of periodicals have been deposited with the Centre. The Centre has its own van for the delivery of books.

4. COMPUTERISATION :

During the last two decades library services have been computerised. The computerised processes today include book selection, book ordering, billing and disbursements, machine readable catalogues, national and subject bibliographies, book circulation etc.

Computerisation has considerably facilitated resource—sharing among libraries.

CONCLUSION :

As a result of innumerable technical developments resource sharing among libraries has become a matter of common practice in many a part of the world. India is lagging far behind in this respect even in comparison with smaller Asian and African countries.

Net-working of libraries by area and by fields of specialisation is a prerequisite of resource—sharing. The Department of Science and Technology has recently adopted a plan NISSAT to establish a net work of information—centres in the field of science and technology. There is a need for broad basing this plan so as to include all types of libraries and all aspects of knowledge to be named as NATIS.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION :

1. Review of the present state of resource—sharing in India by area and by fields of specialisation.

2. A plan for national network of libraries and information centres.

3. What should be the organisation and structure of Co-operative Book Acquisition Centres in India?

4. What should be the organisation and structure of Book Processing Centres in India?

5. What should be the organisation and structure of Co-operative Book Storage and Delivery systems in India?

6. What should be the organisation and structure of computerisation programmes in India as a part of NATIS ?

7. Financial implications of the proposals.

8. Text of resolutions for consideration.

SHARING OF LIBRARY RESOURCES IN INDIA

By
L. K. SHRIVASTAVA

ABSTRACT:

Defines the concept. Gives historical development. Describes types of sharing resources. Gives an outline of the scheme for India with case study of Shillong.

INTRODUCTION:

Sharing of library resources means that one library uses the resources of other libraries for its clientele and vice versa. Broadly speaking, library resources consist of all what a library possesses; e.g., Reading materials such as books, Periodicals, Maps, Charts, Microfilms, etc., etc., furniture and equipment such as Xerox, Card Duplicater, Microfilm reader etc., etc., even technical personnel and

budget. But generally accepted meaning of library resources is Reading Materials only.

It is true that unless there is co-operation and co-ordination there will be no sharing of their resources among the libraries. In India so far no efforts have been made for such co-operation or sharing the library resources worth mentioning. But in United States the efforts have been made to study the feasibility of co-operative centralized processing. Not going into deep and details, a few examples may be mentioned hereunder.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Charls Coffin Jewett in 1850 urged the Smithsonian Institution to begin accumulating stereotype blocks of its cataloguing and that other contributing libraries be used in producing printed catalogues of different libraries, joint catalogues of two or more libraries, and possibly a union catalogue of all libraries in the Country. No positive action was taken by the Smithsonian, but Jewett's proposal influenced the thinking of Dewey and his contemporaries, and through their action and that of Herbert Putman, then librarian of Congress, led to the card catalogue service.

In October 1966, the National Science Foundation (U.S.A.) awarded a grant for library research in the area of centralised processing to the University of Colorado Libraries and the Colorado Council of Librarians, a Committee of the Association State Institution of Higher Education, Colorado. Phase I of the study began in February 1967, examined the feasibility of establishing a book processing centre to serve the nine State supported college and university libraries in Colorado.

United States planned processing centers on regional basis in July 1966. But this was discontinued due to some reasons.

In U. K. also the council on library resources awrded grants to the New England Board of Higher Education to design and develop a mechanised Regional Library Cataloguing and processing section for six academic institutions in the New England Region. But these efforts were confined to cataloguing only.

CENTRALIZED PROCESSING:

Centralised processing can be defined as the steps whereby library materials for several independent libraries. either by contract or informal agreement are ordered, catalogued and physically prepared for use by library patrons. These operations being performed in one location with billing, packing and distribution to these same Libraries. Centralized processing is, by scope, by definition and by calendar a more recent phenomenon than a co-operating catalogue.

The processing can be defined as "A single agency which processes materials for a wider group of libraries. This may be, among other types, a library system with its branch or department libraries, a central agency such as a state or country library agency, some arrangement among group of independent library systems whereby they agree to set up and operate such center co-operatively, or where independent libraries contract to purchase this service from some other established library."

CO-OPERATIVE CATALOGUING:

Melvil Dewey in an article on co-operative cataloguing which appeared in "Library Journal" in 1877 stated, "At the present time, if a specially valuable book is published it finds its way to at least a thousand different Libraries, in all of which it must be catalogued. One of the highest salaried officers of each of these thousand Libraries must take this book and examine it for the scores of points that only a cataloguey can appreciate the necessity of looking up. Then

title must be copied and served. Perhaps a half day is spent in preparing satisfactory note to append for the benefit of the readers, etc., etc., And all this work is repeated to a certain extent in each of the thousand Libraries. Can Librarians complain if a practical businessman calls this sheer extravagance ?"

SUGGESTIONS FOR INDIA, ROLE OF THE PUBLISHER:

Whatever he said about cataloguing is true and applicable to the processing of which catalogue is a part. When a publisher takes the responsibility of publishing a book, why can he not take the responsibility to get the same classified in one or two prevailing schemes such as colon, Dewey and U.D.C., and catalogue as per prevailing catalogue codes such as classified Catalogue Code of Ranganathan or Anglo–American Catalogue Rules ? A set of catalogue cards can be printed and supplied along with a book. In the same way annotation may also be printed in the books. For the publishers it is not a very difficult task. They can hire the services of Librarians. A separate unit of highly qualified Librarians may be established by the government to render such type of services. Union catalogue may also be prepared by this unit. This can be done for Indian books at least. Thus a great economy of money, staff, and time can be achieved at National level. Union Catalogue makes inter Library loan effective. Without union catalogue the Inter–Library loan is just like a Library without its catalogue.

In the same way a National Co-operative centralized acquisition unit may be established. This unit will take the responsibility to acquire foreign books and periodicals for the libraries, institutions and even individuals. For the library which has small staff it is not possible to purchase books direct from publishers and arrange payment in foreign currency, because it involves a lot of correspondence.

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Whatever he said about cataloguing is true and applicable to the processing of which catalogue is a part. When a publisher takes the responsibility of publishing a book, why can he not take the responsibility to get the same classified in one or two prevailing schemes such as colon, Dewey and U.D.C., and catalogue as per prevailing catalogue codes such as classified Catalogue Code of Ranganathan or Anglo–American Catalogue Rules ? A set of catalogue cards can be printed and supplied along with a book. In the same way annotation may also be printed in the books. For the publishers it is not a very difficult task. They can hire the services of Librarians. A separate unit of highly qualified Librarians may be established by the government to render such type of services. Union catalogue may also be prepared by this unit. This can be done for Indian books at least. Thus a great economy of money, staff, and time can be achieved at National level. Union Catalogue makes inter Library loan effective. Without union catalogue the Inter–Library loan is just like a Library without its catalogue.

In the same way a National Co-operative centralized acquisition unit may be established. This unit will take the responsibility to acquire foreign books and periodicals for the libraries, institutions and even individuals. For the library which has small staff it is not possible to purchase books direct from publishers and arrange payment in foreign currency, because it involves a lot of correspondence.

If this national co-operative centralised unit receives the requisitions from the Libraries and institutions and organises in a systematic way, procures the materials, classifies catalogues and distributes, it will be definitely a great help to the participating Libraries. And a great deal of National Economy of money, time and personnel can be achieved. The foreign currency may be saved by way of earning more discount. The center may take its service charge. S. T. C. has already taken this work in its hands, but its services to the Libraries are not very efficient. This is the experience of most of the Librarians. The government should grant a project to study the feasibility and analyse the cost of the centralised processing efforts. Co-operatives and centralised processing of foreign books can be experimented at the National level. It will be very helpful because all higher institutions and research institutions are buying most of the foreign books.

CO-OPERATIVE CENTRALISED PROCESSING:

Co-operative centralised processing can also be experimented at other various levels, etc., etc.

INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

Suppose there is one organisation which is having many institutions in various places under it and financing and controlling them. the aims and objectives of all these institutions are the same. So, naturally they require the same type of materials to their clientele. They may constitute a co-operative centralised unit for selecting, buying, classifying, cataloguing and distributing the reading materials for the participating or supporting Libraries. Participating Libraries may establish a deposit account with central unit so that orders can be placed directly and paid by this Unit. For instance, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanghatan can establish processing unit for its supporting Kendriya Vidyalayas; Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (ICSAR)

may establish a center for its institutions ; D.P.I. can establish a center for the supported District Libraries ; U.G.C can establish a centre for the Universities, etc., etc. This centralised processing will be most practicable and easy at local level.

CITY LEVEL :

In India there are many big cities in which there are many Educational and Research Institutions having their own Libraries for their clientele. All these Libraries can co-operate and share their resources. It will be economical for the Nation as well as for the individual Libraries.

Foreign Journals of learned societies are too costly for a Library to afford. Specially the indexing and abstracting of Journals are very costly. They are consulted or referred and not read thoroughly. It is not wise for all the Libraries in the same locality to buy them. There may be institutions which may have hardly a few readers. If the Libraries of the same localities co-operate they can take maximum benefit out of their limited financial resources.

CASE STUDY OF SHILLONG :

Shillong is a big educational city having many Educational, Research and Industrial institutions. There will be much reading material of common interest, as in Department of Sociology and Anthropology of the University, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology of colleges and Anthoropological survey of India. They will have many books and journals of common interest. Department of Physics of the University and Department of Atomic Energy will have books and reading materials of common interest. Department of Botany of the University, Forest Department, Botanical Survey of India and Botanical Garden and I. C. A. R. will have the books and journals of common interest. Department of Zoology of the University and colleges and Zoological Survey

of India will have some books and journals of common interest. Department of English and Institute of English and Foreign Languages will have some books and journals of common interest and so on. These are a few examples. There may be many other institutions. They should come forward by contract or informal agreement to establish a centralised processing unint where they will share their personnel for this joint effort for selection, buying, processing, indexing and abstracting the reading materials.

All participating libraries will shift some fund to this unit for buying books and journals. Journals can be circulated among the participating libraries. Less used books in one library can be lent out to another library. And thus a great deal of economy can be acheived by the participating libraries. Borrower card of one library should be allowed in other particpating libraries. The University being the highest institution may initiate to organise and establish such center, or first start a project to study the feasibility of the establishment of the center.

CONCLUSION :

Advantages : The establishment of such co-operative centralised processing unit will produce multiple advantages to the participating libraries :

The unit cost of acquiring and processing will be reduced.

Foreign currency will be saved by way of earning more discount.

Processing center will enable the libraries to improve utilising of professional librarians. First, Processing center can employ cataloguer and classifiers with special subject knowledge to process otherwise the libraries cannot employ the persons expert in the field either due to nonavailability of

such persons or due to lack of funds to pay adequately to such persons.

Second, as the technical processing work load is reduced, the participating libraries will be able to concentrate on eliminating cataloguing arrearage, selecting books and or developing specialised renderence services to faculty and students.

The need to employ additional technical service personnel should all but disappear unless book budgets are greatly increased in the near future. Even more important is that the pressure to expand physical facilities should be reduced as work loads are shifted to the central faculty.

The independent libraries can participate in central processing without seriously disrupting their present procedure and policies. Minor adjustment will have to be made, but the vast majority of books can be processed certainly and added to collections without creating substantial conflicts.