

COUNTRY REPORT – JAPAN

(For CDNLAO Meeting on 20 October 2008)

1. General Overview in FY2007

The National Diet Library (NDL) has been continuing its efforts to provide better service through its three facilities, that is, the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan and the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL). In November 2007, the NDL formulated its new vision which subsumed NDL Vision 2004 (for details, please see "1. National Library > Vision, activity evaluation" (p.3).

Founded in 1948, the NDL celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. As commemorative events, the NDL will hold a symposium, an exhibition and lecture meetings including one marking the anniversary of the branch library system. CDNLAO international symposium is also one of the important events. As this year also marks the 60th anniversary of the legal deposit system, we set May 25 as the Day of the Legal Deposit System and held an open discussion meeting to better inform the general public of the legal deposit, and are conducting public relations activities through the year.

In October 2007, NDL officially launched a web archive portal called "PORTA." It provides integrated search for and direct access to the digital contents in the 13 databases of other cooperating institutions as well as the NDL's 12 databases. Search requests can also be made from systems outside through the application program interface equipped in the PORTA system. The NDL Digital Archiving System, NDL's future infrastructure of digital information, is now being developed aiming at full-scale operation in FY2009. For web archiving, for which the Web ARchiving Project (WARP) is currently in operation, the NDL seeks the necessary legislation. To enhance coordination relating to digital information with other institutions, we formulated and published the NDL metadata standards.

The NDL supports and cooperates with other libraries/institutions in many ways. National union catalogues and the Collaborative Reference Database System have been developed in cooperation with many libraries. The Current Awareness Portal, which plays a certain role in providing library-related information, continues to enhance its functions. The NDL is also keeping a close relationship with library associations and it co-hosted their annual conferences in 2007 and 2008.

As the sole national library, NDL has been contributing to other domestic libraries by providing bibliographic information of publications issued in Japan. Responding to the change of the information environment, we formulated and published a policy for creating and providing bibliographic data for the next five years from 2008.

One of the NDL's Priority Objectives for FY2008 is "to deepen coordination and cooperation among national libraries in Asia and Oceania." The NDL will continue to work with this objective in the future.

1. National Library

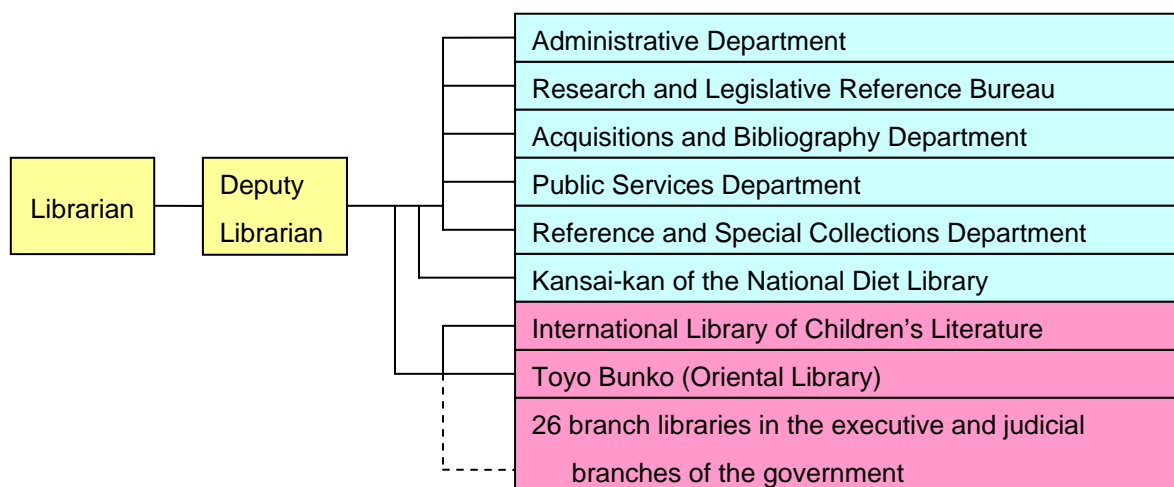
● Organizational structure

The National Diet Library (NDL) is the only national library in Japan. It belongs to the National Diet (the country's legislature) and is supervised by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the House of Councillors, or more specifically by the Standing Committees on Rules and Administration of the two Houses. The presiding officers of the two Houses appoint the Librarian of the NDL with the approval of the Houses, and the Standing Committees on Rules and Administration examine and approve NDL's management rules, operations and budget.

The NDL consists of the following libraries:

- (1) The Main Library comprising the Administrative Department, Research and Legislative Reference Bureau, Acquisitions and Bibliography Department, Public Services Department, Reference and Special Collections Department, and the Kansai-kan.
- (2) The International Library of Children's Literature
- (3) The Toyo Bunko (Oriental Library)
- (4) Twenty-six branch libraries in the executive and judicial branches of the government

The Branch Libraries in the government ministries, agencies and the Supreme Court not only provide library services but also acquire government publications for the NDL. This unique function of the Branch Library System has no counterpart in other countries.



● Vision, activity evaluation

The NDL formulated its new vision in November 2007: Vision for the NDL's 60th anniversary, called "Nagao Vision" after our Librarian's name. Reconfirming its mission and setting again a vision for which it should aim in future, the NDL sets seven goals under the slogan: "Through knowledge we prosper." Concrete targets are as follows:

- Enhance our legislative support function by improving services for the National Diet
- Make an exhaustive collection of results of intellectual activities in Japan to preserve them as common resources of the nation
- Provide prompt and precise access or links to information needed by users
- Seek to provide equally good service to all users regardless of where they are
- Offer a variety of appealing services to society and increase NDL's visibility
- Promote closer cooperation with libraries of various kinds in Japan including public libraries
- Try to share and exchange information by maintaining close relationships with overseas libraries

To achieve the vision, the NDL has an "Activity Evaluation" system. The aims of Activity Evaluation are (1) to establish an appropriate management system using a PLAN - DO - SEE cycle, and (2) to achieve accountability in our activities and programs as a national organization. The NDL sets up "Priority Objectives" and "Service Standards" every year, and evaluates them after the end of the fiscal year. "Priority Objectives" and "Service Standards" are available via the NDL website: <http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/ndl_vision.html>.

- **Manpower**

As of April 2008, the NDL has 908 staff including the Librarian and Deputy Librarian. Regular staff are recruited through open competitive examinations.

- **Library users**

The NDL serves three types of users: the Diet members, the executive and judicial branches of the Japanese government, and the general public.

(1) Diet members

The Research and Legislative Reference Bureau is specialized in the principal function of providing research services to the Diet. The main work of the Bureau is research for formulating draft laws. This work is divided into "research on request" based on requests from the Diet (i.e., the Houses, Committees and Diet Members) and "anticipatory research" based on the prediction of future requests from the Diet.

(2) Executive and judicial branches

The NDL provides library services to the executive and judicial branches through the Branch Library System, which is a library network formed by the NDL as the central library and its branch libraries in government ministries and agencies and the Supreme Court. The network is intended to facilitate the exchange of publications among the government ministries and agencies, reciprocal lending of materials, conduct of various researches, and wide-ranging cooperation among the libraries. The NDL provides training for Branch Library staff members and carries out activities to keep the network operating effectively.

(3) General public

The NDL provides on-site library services, including reading and photocopying services, at three facilities: the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan and the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL). The NDL also offers remote user services which are available without visiting the NDL in person, such as online photocopying requests.

Anybody 18 years of age or older can use the services in the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan. People under the age of 18 can also use the ILCL except for some rooms for researchers of children's literature.

The number of visitors to each facility in FY 2007 was as follows:

	Total	Daily average
Tokyo Main Library	432,431	1,544
Kansai-kan	61,336	219
ILCL	117,807	411

Reference: Annual Report of the National Diet Library (FY2007)

User Registration System

The NDL has combined its library services and online book catalogs into an integrated electronic system. In this system, users can register their names, addresses, etc. to use the NDL services more conveniently.

- ◇ User registration is valid for the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan, and the ILCL.
- ◇ User registration is free of charge.
- ◇ There are two registration systems: one for individuals and the other for institutions.

The number of registrants (as individuals, FY2007) is 99,778.

● Collection

➤ Total Collection

Number of collections (as of FY2007):

Books	9,052,998 volumes
Japanese, Chinese	6,562,454 volumes
Western	2,490,544 volumes
Serial publications	12,474,489 items
Periodicals	8,514,226 items
Japanese	5,457,783 items
Overseas	3,056,443 items
Newspapers	3,960,263 items
Japanese	2,704,650 items
Overseas	1,255,613 items
Microforms	8,771,828 items

Sound recordings	615,622 items
Maps	459,453 sheets
Doctoral dissertations	489,446 titles

Reference: Annual Report of the National Diet Library (FY2007)

Major collections of the National Diet Library:

Modern Japanese Political History Documents

Collections of private papers which trace Japanese modern political history in and after the latter half of the 19th century. The 300,000 items comprise mainly diaries, letters, drafts and memorandums once owned by eminent statesmen and women, diplomats, military men, government officials and businessmen and women who were involved in modern Japanese politics.

Materials on the Allied Occupation of Japan

A microform collection of documents concerning the Allied Occupation of Japan in the post-WW II period. The main part of the collection comprises documents of GHQ/SCAP (General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers) currently owned by the U.S. National Archives & Records Administration. Also included are the documents of the Far Eastern Commission and the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey Team and the Prange Collection held by the University of Maryland. All of the documents in this collection are stored in microfilms.

Laws and Parliamentary Records

Collection of laws and parliamentary materials in and out of Japan. They include minutes and other parliamentary documents of about 70 countries and areas, and official gazettes, statutes, court reports and treaties of about 150 countries. The collection of parliamentary and statutory documents is one of the greatest collections in Japan.

Map Collection

The NDL has approximately 500,000 domestic and foreign maps, consisting of official maps of Japan since the Meiji Era, such as topographic maps, geological maps and hydrographic charts, and topographic and other kinds of maps of foreign countries.

Foreign Books on Japan

Since the era of the Imperial Library, the predecessor of the NDL, books on Japan written in foreign languages have been given high priority in the acquisition policy (see also “Books on Japan” (p.9)).

Science and Technology Materials

The collection includes technical reports, doctoral dissertations of foreign countries, papers of academic associations, proceedings in western languages, national and international standards, and patents of foreign countries.

➤ **Unique and rare collections**

Rare Books and Old Materials

The NDL holds about 300,000 volumes of rare books, semi-rare books, Japanese old books up to the Edo Period, Chinese old books up to the Ch'ing Dynasty, Dutch books, etc. They include special collections such as *The Tokugawa Shogunate Government Succession Documents*, *Ito Bunko*, *Shirai Bunko*, and *Shinjo Bunko*.

"Ito Bunko, Shirai Bunko"

These two collections comprise a combined total of about 8,000 handwritten and block-printed books produced from the Edo to the Meiji Period on the subject of "honzo" or medicinal herbs.

"Shinjo Bunko"

This is a collection of 12,000 items of old writings on astronomy and calendars.

Asian Materials

The collection contains materials in Chinese, Korean and other Asian languages as well as Japanese and Western languages concerning East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa.

Reference: National Diet Library booklet (October 2007)

➤ **Secondary publication, e.g. bibliographies, indexes**

Bibliographies and indexes published by the National Diet Library in FY 2007:

a) Catalog of Books

CD-R

JAPAN/MARC(M) [Japanese National Bibliography (Books)] (1977-) (Weekly)

CD-ROM

J-BISC [Japanese National Bibliography (Books)] Current Edition (1992-) (6/Y)

DVD-ROM

J-BISC [Japanese National Bibliography (Books)] DVD Update Edition (Meiji Era - 2007)

b) Catalog of Serials

CD-R

JAPAN/MARC(S) [Japanese National Bibliography (Serials)] (2/Y)

c) Japanese Periodicals Index

CD-R

National Diet Library Japanese Periodicals Index CD-R (25/Y)

d) Special Bibliographies

NDL CD-ROM Line: National Union Catalog of Braille and Recorded Books (2/Y)

➤ **Digitized materials**

Rare Books Image Database <http://rarebook.ndl.go.jp/pre/servlet/pre_com_menu.jsp>

Unique materials selected from rare books and other materials held by the NDL are provided in digitized color images. In total, 949 titles (about 49,000 images) are available as of August 2008.

Digital Library from the Meiji Era <<http://kindai.ndl.go.jp/index.html>>

The NDL provides on the Internet digitized texts from its collection of books published in the Meiji and Taisho eras. As of July 2007, about 143,000 volumes of 97,000 titles are available (see also “Digital library”(p.12)).

➤ **Audio-visual materials**

The NDL holds approximately 600,000 copies of phonographic records and CDs issued in Japan, most of which have been deposited by member companies of the Recording Industry Association of Japan since 1949, and 66,000 visual media such as DVDs and VHS videos acquired since 2000, the year in which the National Diet Library Law was revised to include offline digital publications in the scope of the legal deposit system. These materials are available in the Audio-Visual Materials Room, Tokyo Main Library, where seats, indexes, search terminals and players are provided for users.

➤ **National and special databases**

a) Web-accessible NDL databases and information services

NDL-OPAC (National Diet Library Online Public Access Catalog)

<http://opac.ndl.go.jp/index_e.html> covers books, serials and newspapers in Japanese and Western languages, Japanese Periodicals Index, Japanese doctoral dissertations, digital resources, standards, technical reports, etc. Registered users can request online copying service.

NDL Asian Language Materials OPAC <http://asiaopac.ndl.go.jp/index_e.html> covers Asian books and periodicals in 14 languages.

Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List

(See “National bibliographic services” (p.11).)

Books on Japan <http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/publication/books_on_japan/boj_top_E.html> provides bibliographic information of books on Japan in Western languages processed by the National Diet Library (NDL) in and after 2002 on a quarterly basis.

Directory of Japanese Scientific Periodicals Database

<http://refsys.ndl.go.jp/E001_EP01.nsf/PublicE?OpenFrameset> covers serials on science and technology edited and published by organizations operating in Japan.

Full-Text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet <<http://kokkai.ndl.go.jp/>> offers search and full-text display of debates in the plenary sessions and committee meetings of both Houses since the 1st session (May 1947) (Japanese only).

Database System for the Minutes of the Imperial Diet <<http://teikokugikai-i.ndl.go.jp/>> provides access to the proceedings from the 52nd session to the 92nd session (December 1926 to March 1947) as of July 2008 (Japanese only).

Online Gallery <<http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/gallery/index.html>> presents online exhibitions such as “The Meiji and Taisho Eras in Photographs – From photographs in publications held by the National Diet Library –,” “Modern Japan in archives – 100-year history from the opening of the country to the San Francisco Peace Treaty –,” “Fauna and Flora in Illustrations – Natural History of the Edo era –,” “Incunabula—Dawn of Western Printing,” “Portraits of Modern Japanese Historical Figures,” etc.

Bibliography of Persons in Modern Japanese Politics

<<http://refsys.ndl.go.jp/hito.nsf/Internet?OpenFrameset>> is a bibliography of selected Japanese books that have been published since the Meiji period about Japanese people involved in modern Japanese politics (Japanese only).

Dnavi (Database Navigation Service) <http://dnavi.ndl.go.jp/bnnv/servlet/bnnv_user_top.jsp> helps users to find databases on the Internet (Japanese only).

Reference: National Diet Library website

b) Union Catalogs managed by the NDL

National Union Catalog Network System

A database system which makes it possible to search bibliographic data of Japanese monographs owned by 61 prefectural and major municipal libraries and also facilitates interlibrary loans among these libraries (see also “Library network” (p.15).

<<http://unicanet.ndl.go.jp/psrch/redirect.jsp?type=psrch>> (Japanese only)

National Union Catalog of Newspapers in Japan

By using this database people can search locations of newspapers including reprints, reduced editions and microfilms held by 13,000 libraries, universities, newspaper publishers and other institutions in Japan as well as the NDL. <<http://sinbun.ndl.go.jp/>> (Japanese only)

National Union Catalog of Braille and Recorded Books

Catalog of Braille and recorded books made for the blind by public libraries and Braille libraries, etc. in Japan. <<http://opac.ndl.go.jp/index.html>> (Japanese only)

ILCL Union Catalog Database of Children's Literature

The Union Catalog Database of Children’s Literature enables users to search at the same time collection information on the collections of the major Japanese institutions holding children’s literature. <<http://www.kodomo.go.jp/resource/search/toc.html>> (Japanese only)

● Services

➤ Reference

The NDL provided answers to 644,008 reference inquiries in FY2007.

Collaborative Reference Database <<http://crd.ndl.go.jp/jp/public/>> (Japanese only)

NDL launched the Collaborative Reference Database System in April 2005 after a three-year trial period. It collects and makes available reference enquiries and answers to them provided by the NDL and other libraries in Japan. 460 libraries have participated and about 31,000 data have been accumulated (as of July 2008).

Guide for Search by Theme < <http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/data/theme.html> > (Japanese only)

NDL is also developing the Reference Information System that consists of several databases useful for reference services, such as “Introduction of Reference Books” and “Subject Guide.” The Guide for Search by Theme is based on the answers to the frequently-asked questions and useful information shared by the staff in charge of reference services. Users can rapidly get precise information by searching by subject.

➤ **Lending, incl. interlibrary loan**

The circulation number (for reference use inside the three facilities of the NDL) was 2,379,816 items for FY2007. By Inter-library loan, the NDL lent out 30,622 items to other institutions and libraries including libraries overseas. Requests are made via NDL-OPAC, postal mail and fax.

➤ **National bibliographic services**

Provision of the national bibliography

“Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List” is available on the NDL website
<http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/publication/jnbwl/jnb_top.html>.

It is published weekly on the Internet and covers books, serials and electronic publications. Maps, audio-visual materials and Asian materials published in Japan have been covered since FY2002. Publication in paper form terminated in July 2007.

➤ **Reading promotion**

The International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL), a branch of the NDL, offers services to children, in cooperation with local libraries, aiming at awakening them to the pleasure of reading and providing opportunities to become familiar with books and libraries. In addition to the regular reader services, storytelling and guided tours, the ILCL conducted the following activities in FY2007:

- a) Workshops: “Special events for children during the spring vacation,” “Fun with science: Let’s enjoy unusual movements! - making models of rolling cocoons and flying seeds with things near at hand,” and others.
- b) Exhibitions: “Look up at the Sky: Children's Books on the Sun, Moon, and Stars,” “Palette of Dream Colours III – Winning Works of the 15th Noma Concours for Picture Book Illustrations from Asia, Africa and Latin America,” and “Door to the Czech Republic: The world of children’s books.”
- c) Book Sets Lending Service for school libraries*: starts lending out the “East Asia set” and the “Southeast Asia and South Asia set” from January 2009 in addition to the “Asia set (China, Southeast Asia),” “Canada and USA set,” “Korea set,” “Scandinavia set,” “Meet the World set,” and the “Europe set.”

* This service provides boxes of books on a specific subject to elementary schools and junior high schools with the purpose of expanding children's understanding of foreign countries. One box contains about 50 books, which are lent out for a month.

➤ **Information literacy programs**

With the aim of promoting use of digital information, the NDL held trial briefing sessions on its on-site digital information service for library users in Tokyo Main Library in January 2008. The briefing gave a summary of the service and instructions on how to operate the devices in the library and how to retrieve information utilizing digital information.

➤ **Acquisition, donation and exchange**

In FY2007, the NDL accessioned 58,471 books by purchase, 140,211 through legal deposit, 19,723 by donation. Through international exchange, it received 5,071 official publications (books) and 830 commercial publications (books), and provided 21,072 official publications (books) and 764 commercial publications (books) in the same fiscal year.

Reference: Annual Report of the National Diet Library (FY2007)

International Exchange of Publications:

http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/cooperation_exchange.html

➤ **Digital library**

Rare Books Image Database (see p.8)

Digital Library from the Meiji Era (see p.8)

WARP (Web Archiving Project) < <http://warp.ndl.go.jp/> > collects and preserves websites and online periodicals on the Internet as cultural heritage. As of August 2008, about 2,200 websites and 1,550 online periodicals are available. In FY 2005, the NDL attempted to increase its collection and started to develop free text retrieval. In July of 2006 the NDL upgraded the project that was already well under way. It relaunched the website, and retrieval of the body texts of what has been collected is now available (Japanese only).

Digital Archive Portal (PORTA) <<http://porta.ndl.go.jp/portal/dt>> is a comprehensive portal site providing access to digital information in Japan. As a portal site used to retrieve information from “Digital Archives,” PORTA enables users to search various archives owned by national, public, and private organizations in addition to NDL’s archives through an integrated search system (see “General Overview in FY2007”(p.1)).

Reference: National Diet Library website

● **Projects**

➤ **Seminars, workshops, etc.**

- 11th Preservation and Conservation Training Program
- Practical workshop for librarians on early Japanese books FY2007
- Workshop on the Collaborative Reference Database System
- Training program for information specialists on Japanese studies FY2007
- Training program on Asian information FY2007
- Training program on science and technology materials FY2007
- Training program on reference FY2007
- Training program for staff of prefectural assembly libraries FY2007
- ILCL Lecture Series on Children’s Literature FY2007
- NDL remote training program

➤ **Local, regional and international**

- NDL Union Catalog Network
- Cooperative Reference Database Project

For details, please see “Library Network” (p.15)

➤ **Physical facilities**

The NDL finished the renovation of the Tokyo Main Library in 2004. We are now considering expansion of the facilities of the Kansai-kan and the International Library of Children’s Literature (ILCL).

● **Affiliations, cooperation, membership (local and foreign)**

- Japan Library Association (JLA)
- Japan Special Libraries Association (JSLA)
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)
- Association of Parliamentary Librarians of Asia and the Pacific (APLAP)

2. Library at the national level

(1) Number of:

(as of 2007)

• Library Councils/Associations/Foundations	
Associations	17
Councils	17

Learned societies	12
Study groups, etc.	16
• Public Libraries	3,111
• University Libraries	1,641
• Special/Private Libraries	920*
• Government Libraries	153*

*as of 2006

References: Statistics on Libraries in Japan 2007

Directory of Special Libraries, Japan 2006

(2) New libraries being established

New libraries established in FY2007:

Public Libraries	46*
Academic Libraries	22**

*Includes the number of libraries newly established by law, but without new buildings

**Includes the number of libraries with a change in name, but without new buildings

Reference: Library Year Book 2008

(3) Digital library initiatives

As a national library, the NDL promotes the digital library project positively in order to accommodate a highly-developed information environment. Based on the “National Diet Library Electronic Library Concept” drawn up in 1998, the NDL has provided access to various primary information sources. Please refer to “National and special databases” (p.8-10) for the list of online catalogs, bibliography and databases available on the NDL website. In February 2004, the NDL produced the “National Diet Library Digital Library Medium Term Plan 2004” and since then, it has been working on projects of constructing digital archives. The outline of NDL’s recent initiatives in this field is introduced in “General Overview in FY2007” (p.1).

(4) Library and manpower development

In order to develop library personnel, there are several training programs for librarians organized by national institutions as well as by local governments and library associations.

A conference convened by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, which is responsible for library administration, released a report in March 2006 on the future image of the library as the information base of the community. It calls for local authorities,

librarians, community residents and institutions to reaffirm their recognition of libraries, and to make efforts for the development of libraries in each position. It also refers to the role of the nation, prefectural and city governments and the NDL. The conference continued to discuss librarian education and training in FY2007.

On library professional education, the LIPER (Library and Information Professions and Education Renewal) Project, initiated in 2003, published a final report in March 2006. In April 2006, a 4-year LIPER2 Project started up to put its proposals into action including a certification test on library and information science.

References: Library Year Book 2008

Library Journal, vol. 101, no. 11 (November 2007)

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology website

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shougai/tosho/shiryo/06111004/001.htm

http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/houdou/18/04/06032701.htm

3. Infrastructure

● Library network

The NDL manages the “NDL Union Catalog Network” with the participation of 1,070 public libraries as well as other several union catalogs such as newspapers, braille and recorded books as infrastructure for interlibrary cooperation. It also conducts the “Cooperative Reference Database Project,” which collects and accumulates data of reference cases from Japanese libraries and provides them on the Internet.

● Telecommunication facilities, e.g. dial-up, broadband, VSAT

As to the connectivity at national level, in March 2007 it was estimated that about 82 million of the Japanese population had Internet access. It was also estimated that 83.3% of Japanese households had Internet access in some way and 64.0% at home. 79.5% of the households using the Internet at home had a broadband connection (optical fiber: 28.2%, ADSL: 40.6%, CATV: 10.6%, others: 0.1%) and 4.8% dial-up connection.

(Source:

<http://www.iajapan.org/iwp/>, <http://www.impressholdings.com/release/2007/052/20070613.pdf>)

4. Preservation

● **Activities, incl. digital preservation / Reprography, photography and microphotography**

For paper materials, binding and repairing work is done on a routine basis. Microphotographing and digitization are used for rare materials in paper form and damaged materials. 20,068 books, 39 titles of newspapers, 6,939 volumes of magazines, rare books and documents were microfilmed or microfiched. 54 cassette tapes were digitized and transferred onto CD-Rs on a trial basis in FY2007 (digitization for purposes other than preservation is excluded from this number). (*Reference: Annual Report of the National Diet Library (FY2007)*)

Since 1989, the NDL has been promoting preservation activities not only in Japan, but also in other Asian countries as the Asia Regional Centre for the IFLA PAC (Preservation and Conservation) Core Programme.

For digital preservation, the NDL has been conducting studies for ensuring the long-term preservation and usability of digital information since FY2002. The report of the latest studies conducted in FY2006 was published in March 2007. It treats studies on specification and playback equipment of audio-visual materials, on Analog to Digital (A/D) conversion of audio-visual materials, and on migration of FDs.

For more information: <http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/preservation.html>

● **Disaster preparedness**

The NDL has been holding forums on preservation since 1990, sometimes under a theme related to measures against disaster. In FY2007, a laboratory training session on the treatment of small-scale water damage was conducted based on a manual created in 2004.

5. Education and training

● **Number of Professional Librarians (as of 2007)**

Public Libraries	full-time librarian	6,914
	full-time staff	6,659
	concurrent librarian	122
	concurrent staff	1,213
	part-time librarian	4,740.4**
	part-time staff	2,524.6**
	temporary librarian	2,679.4**

	temporary staff	4,315.2**
Academic Libraries	full-time staff (including librarians)	6,209
	concurrent staff (including librarians)	1,508
	part-time staff (including librarians)	2,428
	temporary staff (including librarians)	2,359
Government Libraries*	full-time staff (including librarians)	123
	concurrent staff (including librarians)	80
National Diet Library	full-time staff (including librarians)	908***

*Statistics of national government libraries only (as of 2006)

**Calculated based on one person = 1,500 working hours / year

***As of April 2008

References: Statistics on Libraries in Japan 2007

Directory of Special Libraries, Japan 2006

NDL website

http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/aboutus/outline_03finances.html#organization

● **Number of Library training schools**

Number of schools that have courses for librarians (as of April 2007): 255

Number of institutions that had courses for school librarians in FY2007: 53

References: Library Year Book 2008

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology website

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shougai/gakugei/shisyo/04040502.htm

6. **Copyright and library act**

● **Library act / Legal deposit act**

Laws concerning libraries in Japan: the Library Law (enacted in 1950), School Library Law (enacted in 1953) and the National Diet Library Law (enacted in 1948). The latter includes provisions which stipulate the legal deposit system. On June 11, 2008, the Library Law was partially amended in line with the amendment of the Social Education Law. Articles about efforts to be made for staff training, evaluation and information provision on library management were added, and some other revisions were made.

● **Copyright associations, organizations, clearance centers**

Copyright Clearance Centres: there are 36 centers according to the Agency for Cultural Affairs website (<http://www.bunka.go.jp/ejigyouscript/ipzenframe.asp>).

- **Major changes in the copyright laws**

The amendment of December 22, 2006, came into force on July 1, 2007. The main point of the amendment was to decide the legal treatment of IP multicast broadcasting, but there were also several other changes. With one of them, it became possible to send recorded books for visually-impaired persons over the Internet.

References: Library Year Book 2008