

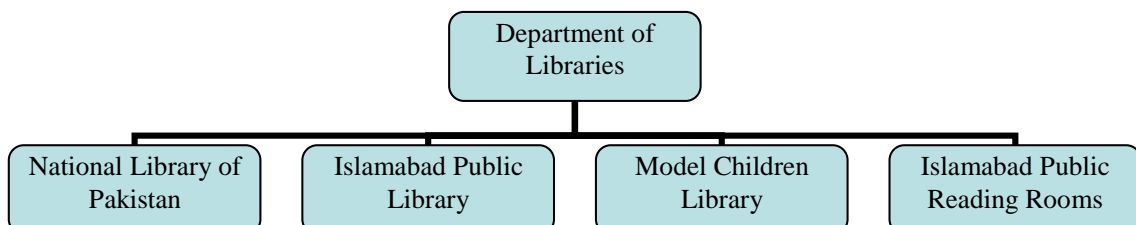
**COUNTRY REPORT PAKISTAN  
FOR 16<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES  
ASIA AND OCEANIA (CDNLAO) OCTOBER 2008**

**1. GENERAL OVERVIEW IN FY2007**

Libraries in Pakistan generally and Department of Libraries in particular made notable progress and implemented several development projects which improved the libraries and library services in Pakistan. University and special libraries made rapid progress during the last few years. Collections of numbers libraries were automated and they succeeded in getting state of the art hardware and software. Modern Library security systems were also installed in some University and special libraries. National Library of Pakistan also acquired 3M book security system which is under implementation at present. Government of Pakistan also allocated development funds to the tune of Rs.250 millions for establishment and improvement of school libraries in Punjab Province. An additional block (building) was also constructed with the famous Quaid-e-Azam Public Library, Lahore. New library buildings were completed in University of Engineering, Taxila, International Islamic University, Islamabad, COMSAT University, Islamabad and Baharia University, Islamabad. Now libraries in Pakistan are generally using VIRTUA ILS, Horizon, Koha and LIMS integrated library systems. However most of the school, college and public libraries have not yet started automation process and majority of the libraries are using in house developed library software. Library marketing, information literacy, automation and digitization remain key topics for library conferences, seminars, workshops and discussions among the library professionals. Book trade also flourished a lot during the last financial year as Government allocated substantial amount of funds to the libraries for purchase of books and other reading materials. Department of Libraries, Ministry of Education is a Federal Department which deals with all the library matters at Federal level. The Department also opened 04 new small public libraries in various sectors of Islamabad during 2007-08. Rs.55.666 millions was provided to the Department of Libraries during the financial year 2007-08. Government of Pakistan also approved establishment of National Human Resource Development Centre in order to cater the continuing education needs of librarians. Capital Development Authority, Islamabad offered a piece of land to the Department of Libraries for constructions of purpose built building for Islamabad Public Library.

**1.2. DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES**

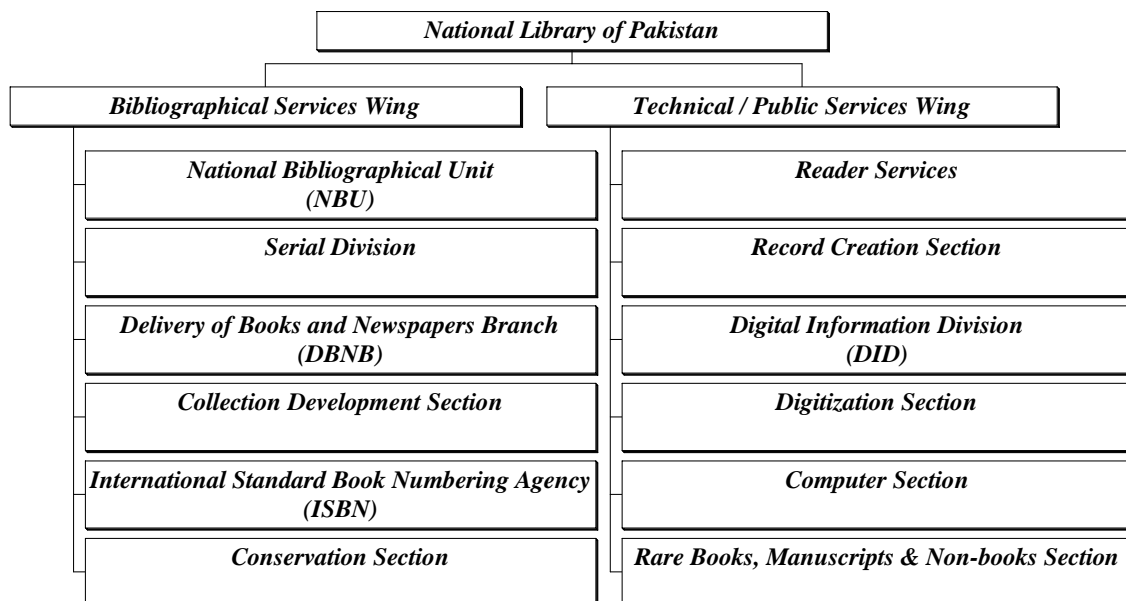
The Department of Libraries was established in 1973 as an attached Department of Ministry of Education, Government of Pakistan. The Department is concerned with the task of research, planning, establishment and improvement of libraries and library services in the Pakistan.



Pakistan had to establish a new National Library after independence as imperial Library Kolkata, now National Library of India, was serving as National Library of British India to some extent till 1947. National Library of Pakistan was established in 1951 after creation of Pakistan as a branch of the defunct Directorate of Archives and Libraries, Ministry of Education and provincial coordination, Government of Pakistan. Later on Liaquat Memorial Library was amalgamated with the National Library in 1954 and renamed as Liaquat National Library, Karachi. A scheme for the establishment of a National Library in Islamabad, after the decision of shifting the Federal Capital to new location, was originally approved by the ECNEC in 1963. A branch of National Library as Delivery of Books and Newspaper Branch was opened in D-Block, Pak Secretariat, Islamabad in 1968. The construction of National Library building commenced in 1982. Most of the civil works were completed by June 1988. The Prime Minister of Pakistan formally inaugurated the library on August 24, 1993 and its doors were opened to the library users.

## 2.2. FUNCTIONAL ORGANIZATION OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF PAKISTAN

National Library of Pakistan works as topmost resource centre of the nation under the Federal Ministry of Education, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad. The Director General, Department of Libraries, Ministry of Education, is responsible for maintenance and administration of the library. Functional organization of the library is as under.



## **2.3 VISION, ACTIVITY EVALUATION**

To become world class national library of the region for inspiring creativity and innovation at all level of society in the country

## **2.4 MANPOWER**

Total strength of the National Library of Pakistan is 180 personnel including 40 Library & Information Science Professionals. 12 new additional posts are also in the pipeline.

## **2.5 LIBRARY USERS**

National Library of Pakistan mainly serves as research and reference library. Its clientele is consisted of postgraduate students, PhD scholars, research scholars, foreigners residing in Islamabad and general public. The library provides reference services to the governmental as well as non-governmental organizations from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM, 6 days a week. 18000 library users visited and benefited from the services of the library during the financial year 2007-2008. Large number of queries was also handled through electronic and telephonic services.

## **2.6 COLLECTIONS**

The library serves as national depository under the provisions of Copyright Ordinance 1962. It is mandatory for every publisher to deliver the best copy of his publication at his own expenses to the National Library of Pakistan within thirty days from the date of its publication under the Copyright Ordinance 1962 and Copyright (Amendment) Act 1992. The main objective of the depository collection is to preserve all the published material produced in the country in order to make it available for the use of present as well as future generations. The library is intended to be the principal and the largest treasure house of the country's recorded knowledge.

Since the National Library was established after almost 46 years of independence special efforts are being made to build suitable collections to meet reference and research needs of the country. Over the past few years about 2,10,000 volumes have been acquired through purchases, gifts, exchanges and legal deposit. The library is receiving 217 newspapers and 1300 periodicals under the depository provisions of copyright law. 580 hand-written manuscripts and over 10,000 rare books in Urdu, Arabic, Persian have been acquired through the purchase of private collections belonging to famous literary figures and renowned national personalities like Late Dr. M. Abdullah Chughtai, Late Ehsan Danish, Sheikh Muhammad Faazil of Sukkar, Syed Wajihuddin of Faisalabad, Qazi Mahmud-ul-Haq of Lahore, Dr. Gohar Naushahi of Islamabad and Mr. Sarfraz Khan of Rawalpindi.

Dr. Sabiha Hafeez, has donated 1806 volumes to National Library from the personal collection of her Late father Hafeez Hoshiarpure (a renowned poet of Urdu language which is national language in Pakistan). In addition to these valuable collections about 3000 microfiche items containing reports of all India Censuses for 1911, 1921, 1931 and 1941 have been added to the collection. Number of bound volumes of newspapers and periodicals is about 45,000. National Library also serves as official depository of some international organizations like Asian Development Bank, International Labour Organization and UNESCO etc.

## **2.7 SECONDARY PUBLICATIONS, E.G. BIBLIOGRAPHIES, INDEXES**

- ANNUAL VOLUMES OF PAKISTAN NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY (PNB) FROM 1962 -2006
- RETROSPECTIVE PAKISTAN NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY FROM 1947–1961.
- DIRECTORIES OF LIBRARIES IN PAKISTAN:
- DIRECTORIES OF PAKISTANI NEWSPAPERS & PERIODICALS:

## **2.8 DIGITIZED MATERIALS**

The library has acquired advance hardware and related equipment during FY 2007-8 under the development project and created a Digitization section in National Library of Pakistan. The digitization of literary heritage will help in bridging the digital divide, preservation of reading materials and easy access to knowledge resources. National Library of Pakistan has started digitization of rare books. CDs of digitized books are being burnt.

## **NATIONAL AND SPECIAL DATABASES / NATIONAL DIGITAL LIBRARY**

National Library maintains Bibliographic Database with more than 160,000 bibliographic records including 65,000 records in Urdu and oriental languages. Urdu is the national language of Pakistan. National Library of Pakistan also maintains a database for leading national dailies named as “IDI Bhandar”. All the databases available through National Digital Library programme of Higher Education Commission are also available at the National Library of Pakistan. Following electronic databases are available through this programme.

### ***SUBJECT-SPECIFIC RESOURCES***

- AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICS TEACHERS (AAPT)
- AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY (ACS)
- AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS (AIP)
- AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY (AMS)
- AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY (APS)
- AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERING (ASCE)
- AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING (ASME)
- ASSOCIATION OF COMPUTING MACHINERY (ACM)
- ESDU – ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FOR ACADEMIA
- INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS (IEEE)
- INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS
- INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY REVIEW - COMMONWEALTH FORESTRY ASSOCIATION
- JOURNAL OF THE ACOUSTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA (JASA)
- MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND - MINABS ONLINE NATURE PUBLISHING
- OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA (OSA)
- OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY
- OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA (OSA)
- OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

## ***MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESOURCES***

- BLACKWELL SYNERGY
- CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
- EBSCOHOST
- ELSEVIER (Science Direct)
- ELIN@ PAKISTAN
- JSTOR
- NATIONAL ACADEMIES PRESS (NAP)
- SCIENCE ONLINE
- SPRINGERLINK
- TAYLOR & FRANCIS JOURNALS

## ***MEDICINE***

- BEECH TREE PUBLISHING
- BENTHAM SCIENCE

## ***SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES***

EMERALD

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

## ***SCHOLARLY DATABASES FOR REFERENCE SEARCHING***

- ISI WEB OF KNOWLEDGE
- SCOPUS

## **SERVICES**

- **REFERENCE**  
National Library of Pakistan is providing all sorts of reference services to its cliental including e-reference service.
- **LENDING, INCLUDING INTERLIBRARY LOAN**  
National Library is a non-lending library. However, lending facilities are extended through Islamabad Public Library, a component of the same Department.
- **NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES**  
National Library provides CIP service to the publishers and copy catalogue service to the local libraries through its bibliographic database.
- **READING PROMOTION**  
The library organizes book exhibitions, seminars and walks from time to time for promotion of reading habits. The library also floated advertisements in the national dailies twice a year in order to make the general public aware of the services of the library.

○ **ACQUISITION, DONATION AND EXCHANGE**

National Library is spending Rs.3.5 million per annum on purchase of reading materials. Knowledge resources of Rs.20 million are also being procured through a development project in addition to the routine purchases. All the published literary heritage is received free of cost under the provisions of copyright ordinance 1962. National Library encourages the donation of private collections to the National Library and also receives and exchanges reading materials through variety of sources.

**PROJECTS**

National Library of Pakistan is executing a development project titled “Up-gradation of Knowledge Resources of the Library” at the capital cost of Rs.39.97 million. It was 36 months project and it has entered into its final phase. Recently, the Government of Pakistan has approved a new development project for establishment of Islamabad Public Library. The project for establishment of community libraries under the name of Islamabad Public Reading Rooms has also been taken in hand during the current financial year. The Department of Libraries is also going to launch a mega project for establishment of Islamabad Public Library in line with the international best practices in near future.

**SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, ETC.**

- i) **CELEBRATION OF WORLD BOOK AND COPYRIGHT DAY ON 23RD APRIL, 2008.**
- ii) **WORKSHOP ON PRESERVATION OF LITERARY HERITAGE IN DIGITAL ERA HELD ON 1ST APRIL, 2008.** Madam Shakeela Khanum Rasheed member National Assembly graced the occasion as chief guest.
- iii) **SEMINAR ON LIBRARIES BEYOND BOUNDARIES: ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES HELD ON 23RD APRIL, 2008.** Federal Minister for Education, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal graced the inaugural session as chief guest.
- iv) **WORKSHOP ON ILS AND MARC ORIENTATI ON 4 - 5 JUNE, 2008.** Federal Minister for Education, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal inaugurated the workshop.

**PHYSICAL FACILITIES**

The building of National Library of Pakistan is located at Shahrah-e-Jamhuriat adjacent to the Prime Minister’s Secretariat. The library is situated at prime location of the Federal Capital as it is next door neighbor to the Supreme Court of Pakistan, Parliament House, Presidency and Pak Secretariats. The building consists of four floors with a total covered area of 168,844 sq. ft. with centrally air-conditioning and heating facility. The basement floor mainly provides for Serial Division, Delivery of Books and Newspapers Branch, Telephone Exchange, Air-conditioning & Electric Plants. The ground floor provides for the main entrance to the library, Reception, Digital Information Division, Public Canteen, Computer Section, Record Creation Section, Acquisition Section, Planning & Research Section, ISBN Agency, Preservation & Conservation Section and Establishment & Accounts Sections. The first floor provides for On-line Public Access Catalogue, 04 Reading Halls, Manuscripts & Rare Books Section, Seminar Room, Class Room, Meeting Room and

offices. The second Floor is the top floor of the building, which houses the general stacks and 14 research rooms. All the floors are interconnected with book elevators, lifts and stairs. Auditorium of the National Library with seating capacity of 400 persons has become a focal point for educational and cultural programmes in Islamabad. 500 seats for readers and research scholars are available in the reading halls of the National Library.

### **AFFILIATIONS, COOPERATION, MEMBERSHIP (LOCAL AND FOREIGN)**

The Library is institutional member of IFLA, CDNL, CDNLAO and Union of Heads of National Libraries and Archives of ECO Countries. The Library actively participates in the activities of Pakistan Library Association (PLA). ISBN – Agency Pakistan is also part of National Library. The library is also participating in the activities of UNESCO and Economic Cooperation Organization’s Cultural Institute.

### **Library at the National Level**

(1) Total number of libraries at the national level

- 05 library Associations/Foundation
- 400 Public libraries.
- 500 Special libraries
- 124 University libraries
- 900 College Libraries
- 7000 School libraries
- 5000 Ecclesiastical libraries

(2) 10 new libraries are being established

(3) National Digital library

Higher Education Commission Pakistan has established National Digital Library. The access to the library resources is free for University Libraries, Research Libraries and National Library of Pakistan. The library also offers ebrary services and provides access to McGraw Hill Collections of 45,000 online books in addition to 23,000 journals.

### **IT Infrastructure**

- Intranet consisting of 112 nodes is available in the national library with 05 data switches.
- There are two DSL lines, one for Internet browsing and the other for bibliographic database, having the bandwidth of 256 kbps and 384 kbps respectively.
- The library added a bookeye heavy duty overhead scanner, thin client technology for OPAC and 01 thin client server and database server to its existing hardware during the year under report.
- 03 ISDN lines for transmission of analog or voice data together with digital data has been added to communication infrastructure of the National Library of Pakistan this year.

## **Preservation**

Conservation and Preservation Section of the National Library is in place since 1994. Chemical fumigation, Vacuums, Fumigation, Binding, Guarding, Tissue Lamination and Microfilming methods are being employed for preservation and conservation of National Published Heritage. Digitization of rare books has already been started at moderate speed.

## **Education and Training**

- Number of professional and paraprofessional librarians is about 10,000 in the country.
- There are 10 departments of library and information science in public and private sector universities offering postgraduate and PhD degrees in LIS and 04 certificate-awarding schools for preparing paraprofessional library staff.

## **Copyright and Library Act**

Copyright Ordinance 1962 is prevalent in the country. Chapter-X of the law deals with depository provisions of all published literary heritage to the National Library of Pakistan.