

COUNTRY REPORT

21ST CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES IN ASIA AND OCEANIA (CDNLAO) 2013

Name of Country : Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Name of Library : National Library of Myanmar

Name of Director-General/
Director : Mya Oo (Ms.), Director

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International Matters

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1. General Overview of Recent Major Developments

The National Library of Myanmar

2. Relationship to Government

The National Library of Myanmar is under the Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library, Ministry of Culture. The National Library is supervising the branch libraries under the Department and under the Ministry of Culture in collection management, data processing, library services and development activities. In additions, it has supported to the Parliamentary Library for collection development.

3. Key Fact and Figures (as of 31-1-2013)

Printed Books	-	223633
Magazine	-	179763
Journal	-	99574
Newspaper	-	249413
Palm-leaf Manuscript	-	17511
Parabeik (Folded paper book)	-	1970
Kamawa (Religious order)	-	20

Hand writing	-	345
Rare publications	-	6627
Books on Myanmar	-	4857
Thesis	-	2261
Children collection	-	8021
ASEAN publication	-	446
United Nations Collection	-	12791
Special collection	-	17159

4. New Developments in Creating and Building Collections

The National Library of Myanmar receives one copy of each local publication by the Press and Publishers' Registration Law. The National Library Law is now drafting for fully legal depository status of the Library. The Library is trying to grow its specific collections by purchasing printed materials both from local and oversea. The Books on Myanmar collection is now increased up to 4857 volumes. It has been undertaking for resource sharing with other academic and research libraries in order to collection development. As the National Library is responsible for preserving national intellectual cultural properties, new buildings for National Library (Naypyitaw) is being constructed in Naypyitaw, new capital city. General Reading Room at the National Library of Myanmar will be opened in mid of 2013.

5. New Developments in Managing Collections

The National Library of Myanmar is now applying customized library management software; SOBLIB, to store and retrieval of data and information about library collections. It will be extended to the branch libraries and will be built network infrastructures with branch libraries via Internet.

The SOBLIB library software is now being upgraded to MARC based software.

6. New Developments in Proving Access to Collections

Since January 2013, some parts of database of SOBLIB have been launched to the website www.nlm.gov.mm.

7. Examples of Collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions (libraries, archives and museums)

The National Library of Myanmar is now making collaboration with universities libraries, public libraries, research libraries of government institutions in resource sharing, cooperation activities for library education, library services and library promotion. The National Library of Myanmar has assisted government organizations including archives and museums under various ministries with its collections for their research projects, publications, training programmes, etc. In November and December 2012, National Library organized public talk programmes with the collaboration of Myanmar Library Association and other public libraries for promotion of reading habit among young people in Myanmar.