

# NEPAL NATIONAL LIBRARY

## COUNTRY REPORT

### 21<sup>ST</sup> CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES IN ASIA AND OCEANIA (CDNLAO) 2013

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## **1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS**

Nepal National Library (NNL) was established according to the decision of the Government of Nepal on the date of 2nd January, 1957. It is located at Hariharbhawan, Lalitpur. Currently the library has more than 94,000 books and documents in its collection.

We are aware about the paradigm change of the library management as well as its services due to the advent of the Information and Communication Technology and its application and trying our best to adopt and adapt the challenges and opportunities as our best. The Library is using KOHA Open Source Software for creating bibliographic records. We have also initiated to create digital library using Green Stone Digital Library (GSDL) to create Digital Library. Some of the data are still in the WIN/ISIS and Nepali Nux.

In the initial stage, NNL has started to digitize the Ph. D. dissertations submitted to the Ministry of Education to receive the Nepal Vidya Bhushan award from Nepali citizens.

We are also trying to develop Institutional Repository. In the first stage we will develop a repository of NNL publications and valuable documents especially in Sanskrit language.

Sooner or later the country is going to adopt the federal system of government. In this regard, Government has formed an administrative restructure committee. The Committee was divided into several sub-committees. Library subcommittee was among them. It was formed under the coordination of the Chief Librarian of NNL. The subcommittee has submitted its report to the Government through Ministry of Education, after going through the other countries examples.

Likewise Government of Nepal has constituted a drafting committee on "Public Libraries Directives" under the chairmanship of the Former president of Nepal Library Association, Mr. Bholu Kumar Shrestha. Nepal National Library has organized a one day seminar on to disseminate the draft and get feedback from the general public. The programme was chaired by the Education Secretary Mr. Kishor Thapa. All the stakeholders of the public libraries actively participated and gave feedback to the draft. The draft of public libraries directives is handed over to the Minister of Education for ratification.

Every year NNL is conducting a Basic library management training in the remote districts focusing on the public and school libraries. NNL is also actively participating the Library day celebration programme every year.

## **2. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT**

Nepal National Library is under the Ministry of Education, Government of Nepal. All the library activities are reported through the Planning and Monitoring Division, Ministry of Education. The budgetary and administrative rules, regulations and norms are based on the Government rules and regulations.

NNL is playing an active role in close collaboration with the professional organizations such as Nepal Library Association, Central Department of Library and Information Science, Tribhuvan University, Room to Read, READ Nepal, Nepal Community Library Association etc. to establish and operation of public libraries.

## **3. KEY FACT AND FIGURES**

**Total Collection:** 94, 000

**Eight sections:** Nepali, English, Hindi, Sanskrit, Administration and accounting, Children Journals & periodicals and Micrographic section.

**Total staff:** 23

The library is directed by a senior librarian and assisted by a Bibliographic Officer and a Library Officer. Unfortunately both posts are vacant. We are waiting for the recommendation of Public Service Commission's recommendation.

NNL is also the National Center for ISSN since 2009. At the end of the January, 2013 around 300 ISSN has been distributed to the Nepalese serial publications.

## **4. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CREATING AND BUILDING COLLECTIONS**

Due to the Financial and Human Resources constrains, the library has not make significant change in creating and building collections but the library has initiated to collect digital

copies of the books and the documents. This initiation will help to build the digital library and increase the visibility of the library.

## **5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MANAGING COLLECTIONS**

NNL has started to create a digital library using GSDL Open Source Software. The response of the user is encouraging. The library has requested to the Ministry of Education to provide minimum budget for 24 hour power back up. The ministry has given positive response and asked to make a detail proposal including the financial estimation for setting up 24 hour power back up system and purchasing advanced scanner and server.

## **6. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS**

We are aware about the paradigm change of the library services. The users can access our Online Public Access Catalogue in any time. Our digital library and ISSN form also can be retrieved in any time. Near future, NNL is going to create its institutional repository of its publications and rare documents.

## **7. EXAMPLES OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE REPORTING LIBRARY AND OTHER NATIONAL COLLECTING INSTITUTIONS (LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS)**

We have close relation between the other libraries such as Kaiser Library, Dillihi Raman Kalyani Regmi Library, Tribhuvan University Central Library, Madan Puraskar Library and other organizations such as Room to Read, Read Nepal dedicated to the development of Public and Academic libraries across the country.

NNL also collects books and other reading materials from the donor and distribute to the school as well as the public Libraries across the countries as per their need and interest.

We have also a close relation between the National Archive and museums.