

# What Is Our Future? National Libraries In 2040

27<sup>th</sup> General Conference 21 February 2019 Singapore

## Country Report [Period Coverage: 1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018]

Name of Country : Sri Lanka

Name of Library : National Library & Documentation Centre (NLDC)

Name(s) of National Librarian, : W Sunil

**Director-General and/or Director** 

YEARS

ANNIVERSARY

CDNLAO 2019

**Contact Person** : W Sunil

**Contact Person's Email Address** :

Mailing Address : No 14, Independence Avenue, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka

Telephone Number: 94 11 2687581Facsimile Number: 94 11 2685201Website Address: www.natlib.lk

1. Facts and Figures

| Sn | Item Description   | Figure                       |
|----|--|------------------------------|
| а  | Operating Budget   |                              |
|    | i. Government  | 140 million                  |
|    | ii. External Sources                                     | 12.5 million                 |
| b  | Tital Staff(FET)   | 142                          |
|    | i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library Qualifications | 36                           |
|    | ii. Other Qualifications                                 | 106                          |
| С  | Collection Size  |                              |
|    | i. Physical Collection                                   | One million books and others |
|    | ii. Digital Collection preserved                         | 7800 titles                  |
| d  | Visitorship (Annual)                                     |                              |
|    | i. Physical visits to reading rooms                      | 14106 memberships            |
|    | ii. Digital visits to websites                           | 5050 viewers                 |
| е  | Inter Library Loans provided (Annual)                    | 12                           |

### 2. Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services

- a) the National Library and Documentation Services building is being refurbished to provide them with all modern amenities
- b) the building of a theses and dissertation collection commenced in the latter part of 1999.
- c) the library fairly good collection of ola-leaf manuscripts is being continuously developed
- d) special emphasis is given to build up a complete collection of maps relevant to Sri Lanka.
- e) the library commenced building up a collection of Drama Manuscripts in 1995.
- f) Building of intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) is promoted by UNESCO as a counterpart of the World Heritage which focuses mainly on the aspects of culture.
- g) building a collection National Library Publications started.
- h) collection of policies and plans of Sri Lanka started.

#### **3** Role of the National Library and Documentation Centre in National Level

- a) The national library organizes workshop for academic libraries as follows:
- Awareness programme on National Library resources and services in Collaboration with the National Institute of Library and Information Science (NILIS), University of Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Awareness Workshop in Collaboration with Sri Lanka Library Association
- Programme on information resources and services in collaboration with Sri Lanka Science Foundation
- b) NLDC could keep closer contact with these institutions in upgrading the contribution made by those institutions. The above organizations provide a formal education programmes in librarianship while the NLDC generally conduct programmes related to Continuing Professional Development (CPD) of libraries. The NLDC conducts CPD programmes like distance level certificate courses, workshops, seminars and conferences, lectures and in house training programmes.

#### 4 Collaborations with Libraries, Archives and Museums in your Country

- a) Legal deposit material are acquired from National Archives.
- b) Digitization project with the National Science Foundation
- c) Awareness programmes with the Sri Lanka Library Association.

#### 5 Role of the National Library and Documentation Centre at International Level

- a) NLDC maintains relations with following institutional associations and organizations.
  - CDNLAO Conference of Directors of National Libraries of Asia & Oceania
  - IFLA- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
  - ISBN International Standard Book Number The National Centre for International Standard Book Number
  - ISMN International Standard Music Number The National Centre for International Standard Music Number

- ISSN International Standard Serial Number The National Centre for International Standard Serial Number
- UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) National Library is in collaboration with the Directors of National Libraries, Member of IFLA and IFLA –PAC

#### 6 Conclusion

The nation and country need new dimensions in research for the development and wellbeing such as education, higher education and technical education in the country. Knowledge is considered as the change agent of the advancement of the new dimensions required by the country. Within this context, the Sri Lanka National Library has an enormous task of contributing to the harnessing of knowledge, economy and library services in the next two decades.