



Country Report

[Period Coverage: 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019]

Name of Country	: Myanmar
Name of Library	: National Library of Myanmar
Name(s) of National Librarian, Director-General and/or Director	: Dr. Kay Thi Aye Deputy Director
Contact Person	: Dr. Kay Thi Aye
Contact Person's Email Address	: makay73@gmail.com
Mailing Address	: No.604/608 Merchant Street, Pabedan Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Telephone Number	: +95 1 8377151; mobile: +959 43065266
Facsimile Number	: +95 1 8377151
Website Address	: www.nlm.gov.mm

1. RELATIONSHIP

- The National Library of Myanmar is a governmental organization established under the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture. The National Library Law is under process that is now drafting and revising with the cooperation of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture. Attorney General and Special Group of legislation from Parliament. The draft law includes terms of references of the National Library of Myanmar, Legal Deposit and National bibliographic

agency. It also includes TOR of National Library Administrative Board for overall supervision of the National Library.

- Although the National Library Law is under process, the National Library receive one copy of each local printed publication by the Printers and Publishers Registration Law 1964 and then by Printing and Publishing Law 2014.
- The National Library has relationship with other government institutions and private organizations for collection development and library services. Resource sharing programs and preserving activities are done between the National Library and University libraries as well as with some special libraries to assist users.

2. **FACTS AND FIGURES:**

- The National Library of Myanmar was established by the Ministry of Union Culture in 1952 by the name of State Library. In 1964, Revolutionary Council Period, it was named as the National Library. The significant dates for the National of Myanmar are as follow:
 -
 - 1952 June 1 - Opened as “State Library” in Jubilee Hall, Yangon, Under the Ministry of Union Culture
 - 1962 June - Moved to the second and third floors of the building at No.166, Pansodan Road, Yangon
 - 1964 - Changed the name as “National Library”
 - 1964 August - Moved to the third floor of City Hall, Yangon
 - 1965 January 4 - Opened the reading rooms
 - 1984 August - Moved to the parts of Six Storeys Building, Strand Road, Yangon
 - 1995 July 15 - Laid down the foundation plan new building for National Library at No.18/51 A, corner of East Horse Racing Road and Laydaung-kan Road, Tarmwe TSP.
 - 2002 June 17 - Moved the National Library building in Tarmwe TSP For providing library services
 - 2008 May 2 - The National Library building in Tarmwe TSP was destroyed by the Cyclone Nargis

- 2008 August - Moved the National Library to No. 85 A, Thirimingala Yeiktha Lane, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin TSP
 - 2009 - Foundations Stone was laid down for the National Library in Nay Pyi Taw
 - 2013 - National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) was opened to public
 - 2016 - Historical building in downtown Yangon was approved to be used as National Library (Yangon) by the President
 - 2020 April - The National Library (Yangon) will be opened for providing library services to public at No.604/608 Merchant Street, Pabedan TSP, Yangon
- Budget allowance for the National Library is controlled by the Department of Historical Research and National Library. For collection development of library resources, average annual budget is 150 million Myanmar Kyat (1500 USD). All expenses of the library are provided by the government annual budget.
 - According to the organizational set up, there are total 120 staffs in National Library (Yangon) and National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) but 60 staffs are already appointed. Among them, 35 staffs gained post graduate diploma degree on library and Information Studies (DLIS) and master degree (MLIS). Due to the organizational set up, there are two directors in two national libraries.

- The total collections of each national library are as follow:

Category	Volumes	
	Yangon	Nay Pyi Taw
Printed books	178584	99626
Serials	566527	210198
Gazetteer	2195	1106
Books on Myanmar Collection	918	6332
Thesis	1145	2715
Children Collection	4140	18290
ASEAN & UN	11784	3680
Private Collection	7950	24205
Manuscripts (palm-leaf manuscripts, etc.)	13263	24421
Non-printed books (map, etc.)	410	6
Music Disc	196	1332
Digital Collections preserved	95951	15000
Total	883063	406911

- As the location of the National Library (Yangon) is out of public view. It was very few numbers of users per day. We are expecting to increase users when the National Library (Yangon) will be opened in April, 2020 located on Merchant Street in Pabedan Township.
- At present, most of the library building renovation works are finished. The library management system is undergoing a detail inspection, together with data entry and linking with digital resources. All of the library collections have been moved to the new place in downtown. It was relocated to the hub of Yangon City to promote the general knowledge and intellectual capacity of public.
- As the National Library of Myanmar is still a reference library due to its single depository collection which is needed to be permanent preservation as national literary heritage. If the National Library Law is enacted, the depository collection will be increased and the circulation function will be more conducted.

3. NEW DEVELOPMENT IN BUILDING AND MANAGEMENT

COLLECTION:

- *Establishment of RFID applied library management system;* In 2019 - 2020, the National Library of (Yangon) establishing a library management system utilizing radio-frequency identification technology (RFID), which maximizes the efficiency of librarians and services.

4. NEW DEVELOPMENT IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS:

- *Provide Circulation Services;* through the Library Automation System of National Library (Yangon) will provide access to the borrowing services with conduct the circulation function to provide and promote for reading habits and enhancing knowledge for public, students, and researchers.

5. NEW DEVELOPMENT IN OTHER SERVICES:

- At present, NLM (Yangon) have been collecting e-resources by many ways such as purchase, donation, there are over 90000 e-resources for users both virtual space and physical user space .They can access freely in the digital-library room arranged National Library Management Software with the metadata. And also online database provides to the user for free online access at Library Portal.
- User can access free online databases at our official website www.nlm.gov.mm anywhere and anytime.
- The Library also provides databases from the e-Tekkatho project which is committed to providing a free digital library of research and learning resources to students, academics and librarians in Myanmar. It is a virtual collaboration between The University of Manchester and participating partner institutions in Myanmar.
- The National Library of Myanmar has access to the one of Research4Life programs: the Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORAE) programme set up by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) together with major publisher, enables developing countries to gain access to an outstanding digital library collection in the fields of food, agriculture, environmental science and related social sciences.

6. NOTES ON YOUR COLLABORATION WITH OTHER LIBRARIES ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM IN YOUR COUNTRY

The National Library of Myanmar is building network with university libraries and other institutions for collaborative programmes of digitizing ancient manuscripts, sharing collection, participating library seminars and forums, etc.

The National Library had cooperated with National Archives Department for preservation project of ancient manuscripts by microfilming. After that, when ICT developed, in collaboration with Yangon University Library, digitizing of palm-leaf manuscripts especially subject on traditional medicine from the National Library of Myanmar has been conducted.

7. NOTES ON INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION:

As an ASEAN member, the National Library of Myanmar organized ASEAN librarians' forums by ASEAN fund and ministry's fund respectively. It is also participated in the ASEAN projects concerned with library since 2002.

Apart from that, the National Library of Myanmar has been trying to be IFLA Member.