NATIONAL LIBRARY

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NATIONAL LIBRARY

In most countries there is a national library maintained by national resources, usually entrusted with the responsibility of publishing a national bibliography. National libraries collect and preserve the nation's literature. Most national libraries receive, by legal right (or copyright, or deposit), one free copy of each book and periodical printed in the country. A National Library is a library specifically established and funded by the government of a country to serve as the pre-eminent repository of information for that country. In National Library, a limited number of books are lent out to readers under certain terms and conditions. It rarely allows citizens to borrow rare, valuable or significant works.

DEFINITION OF A NATIONAL LIBRARY

Harrod's Librarians' Glossary (1987) defines a National Library as a library maintained out of government funds and serves the nation as a whole. The books are mainly for reference. They usually receive material through legal deposit legislation. The function of such a library is to collect and preserve for posterity all the published records viz. books, periodicals, newspapers and other printed and multimedia material of the country's cultural heritage. This is best done by a law requiring publishers to deposit copies of all publications produced by them and by purchasing books on their country published in other countries. A legal deposit normally has penalty clauses to enable the act to be enforced.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF INDIA

- The National Library of India is a library located in Belvedere Estate, Alipore, Kolkata, India. It is India's largest library by volume and public record. The National Library is under Ministry of Culture, Government of India. The library is designated to collect, disseminate and preserve printed material produced within India. With a collection in excess of 2.2 million books and records, it is the largest in the country. Before independence, it was the official residence of Governor-General of India.
- The National Library is a result of the merging of the public library with the Imperial Library several government libraries. The National Library (1953), then the Imperial Library housed several foreign (British) and Indian titles and was open to the public. It collects book, periodicals, and titles in virtually all the Indian languages while the special collections in the National Library of India house at least fifteen languages. The Hindi department has books that date back all the way to the nineteenth century and the first ever books printed in that language. The collections break down and consist of 86,000 maps and 3,200 manuscripts.

OBJECTIVES OF NATIONAL LIBRARY

A National Library works with the following objectives:

- ➤ It procures nation's all literary output under legal provision as well the foreign literature about that nation;
- ➤ It works as a depository house for the said heritage by preserving it;
- ➤ It disseminates information about the stored and procured literary wealth through different publications and services;
- > It works as a national referral and bibliographic center;
- ➤ It coordinates with the other libraries in a country to develop a national library system.

FUNCTIONS OF NATIONAL LIBRARY

A National Library performs the following functions:

- ➤ It works as a national depository library for all literary work published in a country;
- ➤ Producing National Bibliography;
- ➤ It freely collects copies of all published material in the country under COPY-WRITE law;
- ➤ It also procures foreign publications about the country; and by the authors of country origin living abroad;
- ➤ It compiles National Bibliographies to disseminate information about literary output of the country;

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- ➤ It works as an apex body of the national library system and coordinates with other libraries in the country;
- ➤ It also exchange data and documents at national and international level;
- ➤ It produces national union catalogues, current, retrospective and subject bibliographies;
- > It make provision for practical training of library professionals;
- > It procures and preserve manuscripts;
- ➤ It also keeps photocopy collection of available documents for national and international library lending;
- ➤ It provides reading, lending, consulting facilities to researchers, writers and other users.

ANY QUESTION

THANK YOU