



THE NATIONAL LIBRARY
KOLKATA

THE NEWSLETTER



National Library

Belvedere, Alipur, Kolkata 700027, West Bengal, India

Telephone

EPABX +91 33 2479 1381 to 1384

Fax +91 33 2479 1462

Main Reading Room +91 33 2448 4753

Lending Division +91 33 2448 4758

Esplanade Old Newspaper Reading Room +91 33 2248 7831

E-mail

nldirector@rediffmail.com

Website

<http://www.nationallibrary.gov.in>

JANUARY – JUNE 2012

Editorial

The Editorial Board:

Swapam Chakravorty, Director General	Chairperson
Jagmal Singh, Library and Information Officer	Member
Ashim Mukhopadhyay, Assistant Library and Information Officer	Member
Sunita Arora, Assistant Library and Information Officer	Member
B.Nageswara Rao, Assistant Library and Information Officer	Member-Secretary

The first half of 2012 saw the introduction of electronic books in the National Library. Added to subscribed e-journals, commercial databases, material digitized by in-house and outsourced staff, and born-digital material, these would amount to a substantial collection of electronic resources in the library. The Jadunath Sarkar papers have been digitized and microfilmed, and a list of the valuable diaries of Nirmal Kumar Bose gifted to the library has been posted on the website.

A directory of on-line resources is being prepared, and the directory of e-journals should be up on the website in the third quarter of the calendar year. We have taken the initial steps towards building an e-resource centre. The space has been identified, expansion of bandwidth is being negotiated, and the increases in the number of work-stations and in the storage space in the server have been planned. These measures should bear visible fruit within the next twelve months. Campaigns have been launched through e-mailers, posters, advertorials and user training programmes to acquaint present and potential readers of these developments.

On 11 January 2012 at the seventh meeting of the Advisory Board, *Indian Library Review*, a blog hosted by the National Library, was inaugurated. This is a blog for all who are interested in Indian libraries—librarians, bibliographers, scholars, policy makers and users. We invite all readers of the *Newsletter* to visit the blog (natlibcc.blogspot.com).

Another important initiative during this period is the proposal for a Resource Centre for the Variesly Challenged. A committee of experts met in the Central Secretariat Library in New Delhi in June to frame a broad outline for the project. New facilities for the physically challenged are long overdue, and, in planned phases, we hope to extend the library's services to, and share our resources with, users with disabilities.

A successful drive to collect books under the Delivery of Books and Newspapers (Public Libraries) Act was undertaken at the World Book Fair in New Delhi from 25 February to 4 March 2012. We wish to thank the National Book Trust, India, for allotting the library a stall at the fair.

The library remained a vibrant centre for cultural and academic events, especially for those related to library science, bibliography and book history. This will be evident from the events reported in this edition of the *Newsletter*. Special mention should be made of the seminar entitled 'Calcutta Public Library and Its Impact on the Nineteenth-Century Public Library Movement in India' held on 24 February 2012 to mark the 175th anniversary of the founding of Calcutta Public Library.

We are happy that our publication *Nameless Recognition: Rabindranath Tagore and Other Indian Literatures* was launched on 4 February 2012 by the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister Sri Pranab Mukherjee at the Asiatic Society, Kolkata, in the presence of Sri Jawhar Sircar, Secretary, and Dr V. Venu, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture.

We wish to record our gratitude to, and appreciation of, the leadership provided by Sri Jawhar Sircar during his tenure as Secretary at the Ministry of Culture. Many of the projects and plans reported in recent numbers of the *Newsletter* were conceived by him and would not have been possible without his unfailing support.

We were happy to welcome to the library Sri Sircar's successor as Secretary at the Ministry, Srimati Sangita Gairola on 27 April 2012. She was accompanied by Sri T. S. Randhawa, Additional Secretary to the Government of India and Financial Adviser, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Culture. They visited the Rare Books Division, Asutosh Collection and the restoration work being carried out by the Archaeological Survey of India at the Belvedere House.

We also welcome Sri Anil Acharya and Sri Anjan Sen to the library. They have been selected Tagore National Scholars for Cultural Research by the National Selection Committee appointed by the Ministry of Culture. Sri Acharya will be working on Bengali little magazines of the recent past and Sri Sen on the illustrations in medieval Bengali manuscripts, especially those in the collection of Sukumar Sen gifted to the library by the late scholar's family.

We suffered the loss of Gurushenthappa Kumarappa, Assistant Library and Information Officer, who passed away on 6 June 2012 at the age of 56. A scholar-librarian and prize-winning translator, especially from the Bengali into Kannada, his quiet but energetic presence will be missed by all colleagues.

Swapan Chakravorty
Director General

Major Projects

Enhancement and Upgrade of ICT System

The library procured UTM device (Firewall) under the project through NICS. The system has been installed and all risky and undesirable sites blocked. Keeping future requirements in mind, the library has started negotiations with the NIC to increase the bandwidth of its internet connection.

Rapid Conversion of Card Catalogues

The library has uploaded all specified records in the server created under the project. The project is complete.

Retro-conversion of Bibliographic Records

During the period from January to June 2012, the Indian Official Documents Division has validated 29,349 records, the Foreign Official Documents Division 24,801 records, the Bengali Division 34,489 records, the Hindi Division 47,344 records, the Tamil Division 11,677 records, and the Marathi Division 10,600 records. In the first quarter, 1,58,260 and during the second 98,663 records were uploaded in the server. These are available in the LAN of the library.

Digitization

Work on the third phase of digitization in the library started on 31 January 2012. Till date about 3,50,000 pages have been digitized. Output is obtained in TIFF, JPEG and PDF format. Customization of the open source software (D-Space) has been done successfully. 650 books have been uploaded in the web server of the library and another 350 books are waiting to be uploaded. Soon these digitized books will be accessible to readers on campus. At present, the Bengali books published since 1840 are being digitized. Digitization of the Jadunath Sarkar Papers is in progress by in-house staff in the Reprography Division. 4,53,503 pages (1653 Bengali books published up to 1900) have been digitized and uploaded in the local server for readers' use.



Stock Verification

During the period under review the stock verification project has completed its last phase of verifying rare books, maps and a few Indian languages. A total of 17,50,599 records were submitted by the vendor which are being verified and checked for any duplication and missing numbers.

Microfilming of Newspapers

Microfilming of old newspapers brought over from the Esplanade Reading Room has started. DPS Micrographics has microfilmed almost 60 Rolls consisting approximately 36,600 pages of old heritage newspapers. The National Library has initiated necessary steps such as methylene blue tests to check the quality of these films in conformity with archival standards.

Backlog of Unaccessioned and Unprocessed Books

The Ministry of Culture accorded approval and sanction of Rs 19,64,500 for the project on 20 September 2011 for the year 2011-12. Accordingly, the case was processed and prepared for tendering. Meanwhile a letter was received from the Ministry on 5 December 2011 with the directive to publish the tender document in the CPP Portal with effect from 1 January 2012. The library has taken steps to obtain the User ID and Password of CPP Portal from NIC.

Collection Building

New Electronic Resources

- ◆ A meeting of the Advisory Committee for Book Selection and Ordering was held on 5 January 2012. The Committee approved purchase of e-books of Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press and Taylor and Francis Group. 3962 books were approved which the library has purchased within the period under report. 1466 books of OUP on Classical Studies, History, Linguistics, Literature, Philosophy, Social Work and Political Science were bought. The library bought 1115 books of CUP on Physics, Mathematics, Classical Studies, Theatre, Music, and Social Science. 1100 books on Asian Studies, Economics, English Language and Linguistics, Education, Geography, History, Media and Communication, Philosophy, Social Work and Development, Religion, and Sports and Tourism have been procured from Taylor and Francis Group. All books are available in the IP ranges of the library. The purchase of other e-resources recommended by the committee is under way. The library renewed existing online resources including e-journals and reference collections of OUP, CUP, Hein On-Line and Taylor and Francis.
- ◆ New e-resources such as Springer's Lecture Notes on Computer Science (LNCS) have been subscribed to and activated in the IP ranges of the library at www.springerline.com. It contains 555 items. In addition, the library has access to back files from 1977 to 2010. 264 books of Wiley and Blackwell on Chemistry, Computer Science and Information Technology, Earth and Environmental Science, Mathematics, Statistics and Psychology have been bought and activated in the IP range of the library at www.onlinelibrary.wiley.com.
- ◆ In order to publicize its e-resources the library has started a campaign among students, scholars, researchers, and members of faculties. The campaign is being done through e-mail. In accordance with the recommendation of the committee, the compilation of a *Directory of E-resources of the National Library* has been undertaken and all information regarding its e-resources has been on the website.

New Books in the Library

- ◆ The library has procured 1089 pre-selected books and books recommended by scholars and readers. These are on Economics, Psychology, Literature, History, Religion and Ethics. Lists of books on Indology and Geography have been compiled for suppliers.

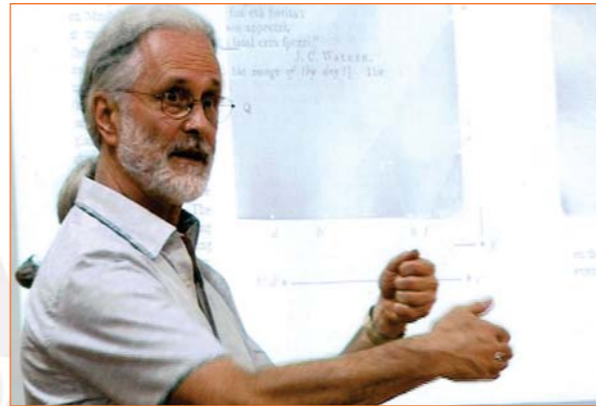
- ◆ On 5 January 2012 a meeting of the Advisory Committee for Book Selection and Ordering was held in the library under the Chairmanship of the Director General, in which Professor Supriya Chaudhuri of Jadavpur University, Professor Samita Sen of Jadavpur University, Professor Palash Baran Pal of Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Professor Udaya Narayana Singh of Visva Bharati, and Professor Kalyan Kumar Datta of Jadavpur University (retired) were present. The eminent experts cover a wide range of subjects among them, stretching from Physics and Electronic Engineering to Linguistics, Literature and History. Subjects for the next round of procurement were decided. The library also decided to procure e-books in the current financial year. The e-books that will be purchased on perpetual basis were decided upon in the meeting.
- ◆ Under the provision of the Delivery of Books Act, 5630 English books were received during the period under review. 319 monographs / annual volumes were received by the Indian Official Documents Division under the DB Act.
- ◆ From 25 February to 4 March 2012 a team of library officials were deputed to attend the World Book Fair at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, to publicize the importance of complying with the Delivery of Books and Newspapers (Public Libraries) Act. They were allotted a stall by the National Book Trust, India, to collect deposits of publications. The library personnel contacted more than 1500 Indian publishers and distributed appeals for submitting books under the Delivery of Books Act. The team collected about 5500 books from the fair among which 3500 were in English, 1200 in Hindi and the rest in other Indian languages. (This count is in addition to that in the previous paragraph.) The visit was a remarkable success both from the point of view of collection of new books and also establishing new contacts with publishers. Sri Jagmal Singh, Sri Syed Abuzar, Sri Ashim Mukhopadhyay, Smt Sunita Arora and Muhammad Aslam were the team members.
- ◆ 105 books recommended by Professor Gautam Bhadra, Tagore National Fellow for Cultural Research, were added to the collection.
- ◆ The Foreign Official Document Division received 250 books.

Gift and Exchange

- ◆ A list of the precious diaries of the great anthropologist and Gandhian Nirmal Kumar Bose gifted by his family to the library has been uploaded on the website.
- ◆ On 8 February 2012, Professor Peter Shillingsburg, Martin J. Svaglic Professor of Textual Studies, Loyola University Chicago, gifted the library a copy of his book *Pegasus in Harness: Victorian Publishing and W. M. Thackeray* (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1991), and was given a number of library publications.
- ◆ On 15 February 2012, Professor Richard Smith of Warwick University and Dr Debanjan Chakrabarti, Head, English Interface (India), British Council, India met the Director General to explore ways of collaborating online database on English Language Teaching in India. Professor Smith gifted the library a bibliography on the subject.

Conferences, Lectures, Seminars and Workshops

On 9 January 2012 Professor Randall McLeod delivered an illustrated talk on book production entitled 'Hammered' at the Conference Hall, Bhasha Bhavan. Professor McLeod taught English at the University of Toronto. He has written on textual criticism, and the history of editing and book production. He is the recipient of the Fredson Bowers Memorial Prize (2005), Mellon Fellowship (2001) and Guggenheim Fellowship (1988). Professor McLeod is the inventor of the McLeod Portable Collator, a device for comparing texts as images.



Professor Randall McLeod on 9.1.12

On 11 January 2012 the seventh meeting of the Advisory Board was held at the Conference Hall. *Indian Library Review*, a blog hosted by the National Library, was inaugurated at the meeting. Advance copies of *Nameless Recognition: Rabindranath Tagore and Other Indian Literatures* were distributed to Board members.



Laboratory Division, The National Library

On 24 January 2012 Ms Anne Bancroft ACR, Senior Book and Paper Conservator, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, spoke on 'Book Conservation Case Studies : Leather Binding, a Chinese and European Illuminated Manuscript' and 'Book Conservation, Display, Access and Handling at the Victoria and Albert Museum' at the Conference Hall, Bhasha Bhavan.



Ms. Anne Bancroft ACR on 24.1.12

On 24-25 January 2012 a two-day Hindi workshop was held. The Resource Persons were Sri Satish K. Pandey, Deputy Director, Central Translation Bureau, Kolkata; Dr Hrishikesh Roy, Deputy Director, Tea Board, Kolkata; Smt. Arpita Roy, Hindi Sikhshan Yojana, Kolkata; Sri Rajani Poddar, Hindi Sikhshan Yojana, Kolkata; Sri Dipak K. Panda, Hindi Officer, Ayat Nirayat Karyalaya, Kolkata; and Sri Bibhuti Ram, Deputy Director, Paschim Bangal Door Sanchar Parimandal.

On 8 February 2012 Professor Peter Shillingsburg, Martin J. Svaglic Professor of Textual Studies, Loyola University Chicago, delivered a lecture entitled 'Uncovering Titmarsh: Publisher's Records and the History of Book Production'. *Samuel Titmarsh and the Great Hoggarty Diamond* (1841) is one of the early works of the English novelist William Makepeace Thackeray. Thackeray was born in Kolkata on 18 July 1811. His 200th birth anniversary is being currently celebrated, and Professor Shillingsburg's lecture was National Library's tribute to the great novelist. The session was chaired by Professor Sukanta Chaudhuri, Professor Emeritus, Department of English, Jadavpur University.



Professor Peter Shillingsburg on 17.12.12

On 22 February 2012 Professor Gautam Bhadra, Tagore National Fellow for Cultural Research at the National Library, delivered a public lecture with illustrations on 'Bengali Almanacs and the World of Popular Consumption (1835-1930s)'.



Second public lecture by Professor Gautam Bhadra on 21.12.12

On 24 February 2012 a seminar on 'Calcutta Public Library and Its Impact on the Nineteenth-Century Public Library Movement in India' was organized to observe 175th anniversary of the founding of Calcutta Public Library. Sri P. T. Nair, Sri Arun Ghosh and Professor Alok Ray, all eminent experts in the field, spoke on the occasion. Sri A. R. Bandyopadhyay, Chairperson, Advisory Board of the library, presided.



A seminar on Calcutta Public Library on 24.2.12

◆ On 22 March 2012 Dr Ian Blatchford, Director, Science Museum, London, and Mr George Loudon, Queen's Trustee at the Kew Gardens, London, spoke at the Conference Hall on 'Developments in Botanical Gardens and Science Museums in the United Kingdom and Elsewhere'. The event was organized in collaboration with INTACH and the Indo-British Scholars' Association.

◆ Sri Satiprasad Maiti, Head of the Department of English, Ramakrishna Mission Residential College, Narendrapur, spoke on Swami Vivekananda at the Children's Library at 12 noon. A film on Swami Vivekananda's life was screened.

◆ On 23 April 2012, on the occasion of World Book Day, Dr. Abhijit Gupta, Associate Professor in English Jadavpur University and the Joint Director, Jadavpur University Press, spoke on 'History of Book in India: Prospects and Challenges' in the Conference Hall. All professionals from other libraries in and around Kolkata were invited.



Dr. Abhijit Gupta on 23rd April 2012

◆ The library in collaboration with Syed Amir Ali Library organized a three-day seminar on different aspects of Tagore's literature entitled 'The Relevance of Rabindranath Tagore's Literature in the Modern World' from 18 May 2012 to 20 May 2012. The Seminar inaugurated by Sri Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Director, Publications Divisions, Visva Bharati at the Bhasha Bhavan Auditorium. The inaugurationsession was chaired by Professor Sabhyasachi Bhattacharya and the keynote address was delivered by Professor Atiqulla of Delhi University and Sri Alimulla Hali, Professor from Magadha University was the Guest of Honour.

◆ The National Library partnered Odisha Sahitya Akademi to pay tribute to the poet Gangandhar Meher on his 150th birth anniversary on 3 June 2012. The Hon'ble Minister for Culture and Tourism, Odisha, the President of Odisha Sahitya Akademi, the eminent poet Ramakant Rath and the Bengali writer Nabanita Dev Sen spoke on the occasion.

◆ The eighth meeting of the Advisory Board of the National Library took place at the Conference Hall at 10.30 a.m. on 22 June 2012. The meeting was attended by the Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Smt Sangita Gairola, the Joint Secretary Dr V. Venu and chaired by Sri A. R. Bandyopadhyay. Members were presented with copies of the *Newsletter* July-December, 2011 and the Quarterly Report for January-March, 2012. They also saw a demonstration of the Directory of Electronic Resources with lists of journals, books, databases and subject indices with direct hyperlinks.

Exhibitions

On 27 January 2012 Sri Satiprasad Maiti, Head of the Department of English, Ramakrishna Mission Residential College, Narendrapur, spoke on Swami Vivekananda at the Children's Library at 12 noon. A small exhibition of books on the Swami written for children was put on display.

British Museum Medal for Jawhar Sircar

We are delighted that Sri Jawhar Sircar, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Culture, has been awarded the first ever British Museum Medal. This comes as recognition of his extraordinary contribution to museum reforms in his country.



National Mission on Libraries

In March 2012 a high-level Committee named National Mission on Libraries was constituted for a term of three years to advise the Government of India on all matters pertaining to libraries and information services in sectors of national importance, to plan strategies of development of libraries and drafting a national policy on library and information systems, interacting with state governments, setting benchmarks for quality of service and infrastructure, collaborating with corporate and philanthropic organizations including international collaborations, improving standards of library and information science education and research, co-ordinating with stakeholder ministries and stakeholder organizations to ensure implementation of National Knowledge Commission recommendations, helping state governments formulate State Library Acts and securing public support through advocacy and media.

The Mission is chaired by Professor Deepak Pental and includes Sri B. S. Baswan, Dr Sanjiv Misra, Dr H. K. Kaul, Professor A. R. D. Prasad, Professor Subbiah Arunachalam, Srimati Sudha Murty, and three ex-officio members—one of the trustees of Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Secretary of the Department of Higher Education, HRD Ministry, and Secretary, Ministry of Culture (Convenor). The first meeting was held on 18 May 2012 which the Director General, National Library, attended as special invitee. The latter has been included in the Working Group on Library and Information Science Education, Training and Research to be headed by Professor Prasad.

Publications

Nameless Recognition: Rabindranath Tagore and Other Indian Literatures

The Hon'ble Union Finance Minister Sri Pranab Mukherjee released the book *Nameless Recognition:*

Rabindranath Tagore and Other Indian Literatures, published by the National Library and edited by Swapan Chakravorty, at the Asiatic Society, Kolkata on 4 February 2012. Sri Jawhar Sircar, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, was present. A special facsimile edition of the draft manuscript of the English *Gitanjali*, produced by Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation on behalf of the Ministry of Culture, was also released.

Bibliography of Tagore Holdings

Final proof-reading and editing process is in an advanced stage of completion, after which the print order will be placed.

Newsletter

The *Newsletter* for the period from July to December 2011 was published on 30 June 2012.

Training HRD and Outreach Programmes

- ◆ A training programme on 'VIRTUA Library Management System' was organized by the library on 5-7, 9 March 2012 and 12-15 March 2012 for updating the skills of library professionals in two batches of 20 candidates. The training programmes covered all modules of the new version of VIRTUA. Initiatives have been taken to start all modules of the application in the library.
- ◆ The Indian Association for Cultivation of Science, Kolkata, organized a national seminar on 'Challenges in Library Management System' on 24 and 25 February 2012. Ten members of the library staff participated in the programme.
- ◆ The Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, organized a seminar-cum-workshop on 'How to Prepare a Library for ISO Accreditation' on 29 and 30 March, 2012. Six members of the library staff participated in the event.



Programmes for North-Eastern States

- ◆ The National Library collaborated on a training programme on 'Preservation of Library Materials' which was organized by the Directorate of Public Libraries, Government of Arunachal Pradesh at Itanagar on 2-4 March 2012. Sri J. Borang, Director, Public Libraries, Government of Arunachal Pradesh was the Director of the training programme. Sri S. Kri,



State Editor, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, was the chief guest. Sri R. N. Koley, Director of Research, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, was the guest of honour. About 100 participants attended the programme.



- ◆ The library collaborated on a national seminar on 'Preservation of Information Resources in 21st Century'. It was organized by the Department of Library and Information Science, Mizoram University, Aizawl, on 21-23 March 2012. The inaugural programme was held at the Conference Hall, School of Social Sciences. The chief guest Professor R. Lalthantluanga, Vice Chancellor, Mizoram University, released the seminar volume. Twenty three papers were presented in the technical sessions. Dr R. Ramachandran, Principal Library and Information Officer, Smt Sukla Saha, Assistant Library and Information Officer, from National Library and Sri Vinay Kumar, Section Officer, Library Section, Ministry of Culture, attended the programme.
- ◆ The library organized a training programme for the professionals of the north eastern states from 19 to 30 March 2012 at the library. The subject was 'Functioning of the National Library'. 26 library professionals from five north-eastern states took part in the programme. The trainees were introduced to different activities of the library. They were provided exposure to practical aspects, such as techniques of conservation of library materials, binding procedures, digitization, readers' service etc. along with aspects of theory. They were awarded certificates after the training.



Eminent Visitors

- ◆ On 10 January 2012, Sri Amitav Ghosh, novelist, and Dr Deborah Baker, noted writer of non-fiction prose works, visited the library and worked at the Main Reading Room.
- ◆ On 16 January 2012 Mr Marcus J. D. Steel of Forbes, and Dr Ashok V. Desai, Consultant Editor, *The Telegraph*, visited the library.
- ◆ On 19 January 2012 Ms Linda Parker, Director, American Centres in India and other South Asian countries, and Dr Sushanta Banerjee, Director, American Library, Kolkata, visited the library.

- ◆ On 23 January 2012 Professor Deborah Anna Logan, Fulbright Fellow and Professor of English, Western Kentucky University, and Editor, *Victorian Newsletter*, visited the library. Her current research interest is pre-Independence women writers in India.
- ◆ On 7 February 2012 a delegation from Yunnan Research Institute for Traditional Sinology met the Director General to discuss possible opportunities of co-operation. The delegation was headed by Mr Feng Xiu Ling, Deputy President of the Institute, and included six other experts and officials. The library was represented by the Director General and Sri Sailen Pal, Assistant Library and Information Officer in charge of the Chinese collection. Chinese delegation presented a painting entitled 'Butterfly Love' to the Library. A copy of P. T. Nair's history of the origins of the National Library was gifted to them.
- ◆ Professor Nancy Quam-Wickham, Professor and Chair, Department of History, California State University, visited the Library on 13 April, 2012 in the company of Smt. Kalpana Dasgupta, former Librarian of the National Library. They were welcomed by the Director General.
- ◆ Mr Dean R. Thomson, Consul General of the United States of America, visited the Director General at his office on 24 April 2012 and discussed matters relating to areas of mutual interest.
- ◆ Srimati Sangita Gairola, IAS, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Culture, visited the library on 27 April, 2012. Sri T. S. Randhawa, IAS, Additional Secretary to the Government of India and Financial Adviser, Ministry of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution and Culture was also present.



Other Events

Republic Day

On 26 January 2012 Republic Day was observed at the National Library. The Director General hoisted the National Flag and took the salute of the guards and sweets were distributed to the children of the staff.



Martyrs' Day

On 30 January 2012 a two-minute silence was observed to remember the martyrs of the nation on the occasion of the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Annual Sports

The annual sports competition of the library was held on 2 March 2012. Members of the staff and their families took part in the events.

Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore

The statue of Tagore in front of Bhasha Bhavan and the portrait in the lobby were garlanded and the birth anniversary of the poet was celebrated by members of the staff on 8 May 2012.

Tagore National Scholars for Cultural Research

In the first week of June Sri Anil Acharya, editor, publisher and scholar, and Sri Anjan Sen, independent scholar, joined the library as Tagore National Scholars for Cultural Research. Sri Acharya's project is titled 'The Rise of Bengali Magazines: A Chronological Assessment', while Sri Sen will be working on 'Manuscript Paintings and Manuscript Cover Paintings in Medieval Bengal'. They have been provided separate cubicles in Bhasha Bhavan, adjacent to the balcony seats in the Main Reading Room, fitted with computers and printers, with internet connections. We are happy to welcome both scholars to the National Library.

Accounts

Expenditure during the period for	Plan	Non-Plan
January - June, 2012	6,64,42,654.00	11,69,79,255.00

Estate

Belvedere House

The conservation of Belvedere House undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India is progressing as expected.

ATM Kiosk

A State Bank of India ATM kiosk was inaugurated on the campus of the library on 23 March 2012.

Establishment

Appointments

- a) Sri Jageswar Das, ALIO, on 16.04.2012
- b) Sri LalaYadav, JLA (MTS), on 15.05.2012.
- c) Sri Janaki Ram, Trainee, on 15.05.2012.
- d) Sri Akhlaque Ahmad, ALIO, on 1.6.2012.
- e) Sm Manjari Dam, LC (Laboratory), on 6.6.2012.

Extensions

Nil

Promotions

- a) Sri Arun Kumar Mullick, Library and Information Assistant (General), (ad-hoc)
- b) Sri Quamar Khan, Library and Information Assistant (General), (ad-hoc)
- c) Sri Ganesh C. Biswas, LIA (M.O.) on 7.6.2012.
- d) Sri Ranabir Chaudhuri, Senior Assistant on 7.6.2012.
- e) Sri Santosh Kumar, Senior Assistant on 7.6.2012.

Confirmations

Nil

Regularizations

Nil

Retirements

- a) Sri Tapan Sarkar, LIO (General), on 31.01.2012.
- b) Sri Ashok K. Nath, LIO (Science & Technology), on 31.01.2012.
- c) Smt. Supriya Gangopadhyay, ALIO, on 31.01.2012.
- d) Sri Shamim Akhtar, ALIO, on 31.01.2012.
- e) Sri H. P. Gedam, PLIO, on 29.02.2012.
- f) Smt. Malabika Ghosh Hore, LIA, on 29.02.2012.
- g) Smt. Radhika Singh, MTS, on 29.02.2012.
- h) Sri Dulal C. Bachhar, ALIO, on 31.03.2012.
- i) Sri Sankar C. Biswas, ALIO, on 31.03.2012.
- j) Sri Anukul K. Panda, LDC, on 31.03.2012.
- k) Sri H. K. Sarkar, LIA (General), on 30.04.2012.
- l) Sri Badal C. Ghosh, MTS, on 30.04.2012.
- m) Sri Manotosh Kabasi, Senior AO, on 31.05.2012.
- n) Smt. Arati Dutta, ALIO on 31.05.2012.
- o) Sri Kanak K. Mondal, Senior Assistant, on 31.05.2012.
- p) Smt. Gita Roy, LIA (M.O.), on 31.05.2012.
- q) Sri Ganesh C. Biswas, LC (Mending), on 30.06.2012.
- r) Sri Gopal C. Mondal, MTS, on 30.06.2012.
- s) Sri Ram Prasad Subba, MTS, on 30.06.2012.

Voluntary Retirements

- a) Sri Ashok K. Halder, Administrative Officer, on 31.03.2012.

Transfers

- a) Smt. Mitali Bardhan, ALIO (ad-hoc), to Bengali Division.
- b) Sri Arun K. Sinha, Senior Assistant, to Reprography Division.
- c) Smt. Sikha Das, Senior Assistant, to C. R. Section.
- d) Sri Partha Ghosh, LIA, to Hindi Language Division.
- e) Sri Sunil Kumar, LIA, to Esplanade Reading Room.
- f) Sri Rajesh Prasad Dhanuk, MTS, to Hindi Cell.
- g) Sri Ajit K. Singh, MTS, to Reading Room (Main).
- h) Sri Partha Ghosh, LIA, to Esplanade Reading Room.

Relinquishments

Nil

Resignations

Nil

Obituaries



- ✦ On 6 June 2012 we lost one of our most valuable colleagues when Gurushenthappa Kumarappa, Assistant Library and Information Officer, passed away at the age of 56 after serving the library for 28 years. He was an energetic librarian and a scholar-translator. He had translated from the Bengali into Kannada many works including classic novels by Samaresh Basu and Mahasveta Devi, and also from the Hindi. He won the Sahitya Akademi award for translation and the Government of Karnataka conferred on him the honour of Horanada Kannadiga. We deeply mourn his loss.

- ✦ We lost another colleague Suraj K. Mullick, MTS, who passed away on 31 January 2012. We have conveyed our condolences to the bereaved families.

Security Division

- ✦ The Security Division gave a good account of itself during the recent visit of the Hon'ble Vice President and His Excellency the Governor of West Bengal on 22 February 2012.
- ✦ Steps were taken for completing the installation of CCTV in the National Library.
- ✦ The fire safety measures in the library campus have been strengthened. The staff members have been alerted through circulars about the steps to be taken in the event of a fire. Unwanted waste has been cleared from the campus, especially near the fire exits.
- ✦ A proposal for a fire safety audit by Sri Tapan Debnath, MI Fire. E (India), MI Fire (U.K) Adv. Diploma / NESC (Gold Medal), B.Sc.; Deputy Commandant, CISF (Retd.), Ex-Senior Consultant (Security & Fire), CISF; Managing Director (3G Fire Protection and Security), who will conduct a fire workshop in the library premises, has been approved. The CPWD has been requested to make a fire hydrant adjacent to the old Annexe Building and also requested to inspect fire signs and rectify the misleading ones.
- ✦ The Security Officer has been given the additional responsibility to look after the ATM counter launched at the western gate of the library, by deploying the security personnel.
- ✦ Sri Subhajit Chakraborty, Security Officer, was awarded a letter of appreciation for his commendable performance by Kolkata Police Special Task Force Department when they visited the National Library in June 2011.
- ✦ Sri Tapan Debnath, Managing Director (3G Fire Protection and Security, India), ably conducted a fire audit in the Library premises. C.P.W.D. was requested to install a fire hydrant adjacent to the old Annexe Building to combat all sorts of fire hazards.

*I do not want my house to be walled in on
all sides and my windows to be stuffed.*

*I want the culture of all lands to be blown
about my house as freely as possible.*

But I refuse to be blown off my feet by any.

-Mahatma Gandhi

