



NATIONAL LIBRARY
(Republic of Mauritius)

ANNUAL REPORT

2004-2005

NATIONAL LIBRARY
(Republic of Mauritius)



ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2005

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OUR VISION

To develop the National Library as the nation's leading documentary resource pertaining to the Republic of Mauritius, and as the apex library serving the needs of the Mauritian people at large in research, scholarship and creativity.

MISSION STATEMENT

To support the provision of, and access to, information for the nation. We are committed to collect and preserve the collective memory of the country to best serve the nation and to provide access to the information resources of the world.

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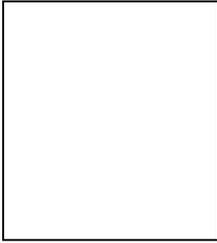
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2004/2005



CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the National Library for the financial year ending 30th June 2005.

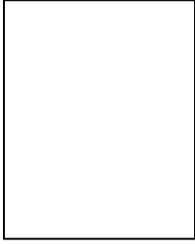
This publication sets out to provide a summary of the National Library's activities during the year under review.

The National Library is increasingly being called upon to play an integral role in the national system of information management, as we evolve towards a knowledge-driven society.

Recipient of the Excellent Customer Service Award in the Public Sector, for criterion Quality, as well as of the first ICT Award 2005, and its certification to the ISO 9001:2000 standard are hallmarks for our young institution. The reader will appreciate in detail the National Library mandates, activities and initiatives taken during the year under review.

These achievements have been possible thanks to the support of the Ministry of Arts and Culture, and a number of institutions, organisations, and individuals. My appreciation also goes to the Director and his staff, for their total commitment in implementing the work programme of the National Library.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the National Library Board for their valuable contribution and support throughout the year.



REVIEW OF THE YEAR

by

Y. Chan Kam Lon, Director,

National Library

It is indeed with much pride and satisfaction that we are presenting this year's report, since we have seen our efforts being crowned with success. We do not pretend that the National Library has now reached the pinnacle of excellence as it has just taken the road to an excellent quality service.

The National Library, having been committed to implement a *Quality Management System* based on *ISO 9001 : 2000* standard, was recipient of the *ISO Certification* on the 20th January 2005. This certification is valid for three years, during which, the Mauritius Standards Bureau will periodically carry out its audit, to maintain the required *Quality Management System* at its level best.

The National Library has also participated in the *Excellent Customer Service Award Scheme in the Public Sector*, whose aim is to promote a quality service and customer focused culture in the public service. It is befitting to note that the National Library has received the *Excellent Customer Service Award* under the criterion *Quality*.

In May 2005, the National Library was the winner of the *ICT Award* under the category "Parastatal Bodies". It is a public recognition of the National's Library commitment to make use of ICT to enhance efficiency and to provide quality service to customers.

Besides the common activities normally carried out by the National Library, this year has seen the launching of the *Online Public Access Catalogue* on the 02nd September 2004. This OPAC, searchable worldwide, has enabled the National Library to put online its comprehensive bibliographical data of Mauritiana for the benefit of users.

A thorough reading of this Annual Report is warranted to take stock of the numerous achievements of the National Library during the year under review. The commitment of our staff is total and their motivation has been the prime mover of their actions. To them, we dedicate all the awards received by the National Library. We would like to express our thanks to the Chairman and members of the National Library Board for their sound management and unflinching commitment to the development of a dynamic National Library for the Republic of Mauritius.

Y. Chan Kam Lon

Director

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY BOARD

The National Library is established under the National Library Act 1996 as a body corporate and is administered and managed by a Board, consisting of a Chairperson and eleven members.

The Chairman is a person of high academic distinction. Out of the twelve members, six are representatives of different ministries and departments, and the other six are appointed by the Minister of Arts and Culture, for a three-year period. As per statutes, Board meetings are held at least once in a month, and nine members constitute a quorum.

During the period July 2004 to June 2005, the National Library Board was constituted as follows:

Dr R.S Lutchmeah, *Chairman*

Representatives of the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research:

Mrs N.Kinnoo (until February 2005)

Ms Z. Auladin (as from March 2005)

Mrs I. Pudaruth-Ruchaia (*As from May 2004*) - *Representative of the Ministry of Arts and Culture*

Mr S. Rungassamy, *Representative of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development*

Mr G. Suneechur, *Director, National Archives Department*

Mr F. Soogali, *Head Library Cadre, Ministry of Education and Scientific Research*

Mr S. Cahoolessur, *Ag. Head Library and Archives, Mahatma Gandhi Institute*

Mrs T. K. Hurrynag-Ramnauth, *Senior Librarian, Carnegie Library, Municipality of Curepipe*

Mrs R. Ng Kee Kwong, *Head, Library Scientific Information and Publication Department, Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute*

Mrs M. Duval, *Senior Librarian, Olof Palme Library, Municipality of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill*

Mr G. Gokool, *Senior Library Clerk, Pamplemousses/Rivière du Rempart District Council*

The Appointment Committee and the Finance and Tender Committee, as two sub-committees of the National Library Board, comprised of the following members during the year under review: -

A. Appointment Committee

Dr R. S. Lutchmeah (Chairman)

Mr Y. Chan Kam Lon

Mrs I. Pudaruth-Ruchaia

Mrs M. C. Duval

Mr F. Soogali

B. Finance and Tender Committee

Dr R. S. Lutchmeah (Chairman)

Mr Y. Chan Kam Lon

Mrs I. Pudaruth-Ruchaia

Mr S. Rungassamy

Mr S. Cahoolessur

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

- **ISO 9001: 2000 PROJECT**

By implementing a quality management system, based on the ISO 9001: 2000 Standard, the National Library has demonstrated to its customers that it takes quality and customer satisfaction seriously. The Standard has created an opportunity for the National Library to add value and enhance its performance through the continuous improvement of its processes.

Implementing the quality management system ensures that procedures are carried out consistently, that problems can be identified and resolved, and that our institution can continuously review and improve its procedures and services.

The Mauritius Standards Bureau carried out an assessment exercise on 28th and 29th December 2004, to measure our institution against the standards, that are accepted globally, as the defining set of quality management system requirements.

The National Library was awarded its ISO Certification on 20th January 2005. The certification is valid for a three-year period.

Compliance to the Standards has brought a number of benefits to the National Library. These benefits range from increased customer confidence and satisfaction, increased operational efficiency and effectiveness, enhanced communication networks, to more accountability and transparency in our processes.

The Mauritius Standards Bureau conducted the first continuing assessment on 30th June 2005, and it has been reported that the quality management system is being effectively maintained.

NATIONAL LIBRARY MANDATES

- **National Bibliography of Mauritius (2001 – 2003)**

The compilation of the National Bibliography of Mauritius is one of the statutory responsibilities of the National Library. It lists, on a yearly basis, works published in Mauritius with their bibliographical details.

In Mauritius, the first Bibliography of Mauritius was published by A. Toussaint and H. Adolphe in the year 1956 covering the period 1502 – 1954. The National Library has published a first retrospective National Bibliography of Mauritius in the year 2002, covering the period 1996 – 2000. In May 2005, it has released a new edition of the National Bibliography covering the period 2001 – 2003.

The bibliography is classified according to the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme, (22nd edition – 2003) while cataloguing data follow the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rule, 2nd edition (AACR2). It comprises author, title and subject indexes along with the main classified sections. The Library of Congress List of Subject Headings (22nd edition - 1999) has been used for subject heading.

- **Bibliography on Rodrigues (1751 – 2004)**

The bibliography on Rodrigues covers all printed works (1751 to 2004) on Rodrigues. It includes books, newsletters, government publications, serials, reports, school magazines, as well as newspapers. Various sources have been used for its compilation namely, the National Library of Mauritius, the Rodrigues Public Library, the Olof Palme Municipal Library, the Simone de Beauvoir Municipal Library, the City Library, the Malcolm De Chazal Municipal Library, the University of Mauritius Library, the bibliography on Rodrigues compiled by Mr. M. Castel, On-Line catalogues of the different National Libraries worldwide, and other information sources.

The bibliography is a useful information tool, as it provides information on the various publications, together with its location. It is arranged alphabetically by author / title / corporate body, with an author and a title index, using see references, thus facilitating readers in their research work.

- **Preservation and Conservation**

Besides providing bibliographic access to the collections, the National Library also has the obligation to preserve for posterity the literary heritage of the nation. The National

Library has recourse to various preservation techniques such as lamination, microfilming and binding and it maintains an environment conducive to their preservation.

The works carried out during the year under review in the Binding section are as follows:

No. of books bound :	211
No. of newspapers bound	144
No. of magazines/reports bound	6
Miscellaneous items	<u>4,816</u>
TOTAL	<u>5,177</u>

LAMINATION

The lamination of current newspapers continued during the year under review and **1,965** newspapers were laminated for the purpose of preservation.

MICROFILMING

Newspapers form an invaluable part of our documentary heritage. The need to ensure their preservation has been occupying the library community for a number of years, since they have not only an intrinsic value as documentary heritage but are also among the most damaged library materials. Printed on poor quality newsprint, their life expectancy is low and early intervention is required to ensure that they are not reduced to such a state of brittleness that it would be impossible to attempt to read their contents without destroying them.

The National Library has recourse to microfilming as regards to newspapers. Increasing demand for access to rare and fragile library materials has made microfilming a widely adopted preservation option. Microfilming has cost advantages over other reformatting processes and over restoration treatments, especially for items with many pages. Another major advantage is the long-term stability of microfilms. If appropriate processing standards, storage conditions, and handling procedures are observed, microfilm is reported to have a lifetime of more than 500 years.

During the period under review, the following newspapers were microfilmed.

Le Mauricien : 1850 (part 2) 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861, 1862.

Le Radical : 1902, 1912, 1914, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1939, 1940, 1941.

La Sentinelle de Maurice : 1850, 1851, 1863, 1873, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879.

- **International Standard Serial Number (ISSN)**

The International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) is an eight-digit number which identifies all types of periodical publications such as: newspapers, magazines, newsletters, annual reports, year books, directories, transactions of societies, and e-serials. More than one million ISSN numbers have so far been assigned to serial publications throughout the world. This identifier of reference for serial publications is managed by a world wide network of 77 National Centres, coordinated by an International Centre, based in Paris. It is backed by UNESCO and the French Government. The National Library is the national ISSN centre for Mauritius and Rodrigues.

During the year 2004-2005, publishers or other interested parties requested the assignment of an ISSN to **fifteen** serial publications. Many more organisations and publishers are being sensitised on the importance of applying for free ISSN numbers with the National Library.

- **OPAC Computerisation Project**

The National Library is making judicious use of automation to serve its customers more efficiently. The Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), a long overdue library computerisation project, was launched by the Vice-President of the Republic of Mauritius, and in the presence of the Minister of Arts and Culture on 2nd September 2004. The Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) allows researchers and the public at large to view textual information about any available library material, including author's name, titles, subjects and abstracts. OPAC thus facilitates users in performing searches, whilst the library retains control over, and fast access to holdings and cataloguing information.

Users may also have access to the National Library's catalogue online, through the World Wide Web home page, <http://202.123.28.124/uhtbin/webcat> implemented by the Unicorn

Web Cat System. The Unicorn also generates valuable reports and notices like maintenance and statistical reports and history logs among others.

By putting its catalogue online, the National Library is fulfilling yet another crucial role, that is, that of making accessible the comprehensive collection of Mauritian worldwide.

The National Library's ambitions also comprise of the extension of the Computerisation Project to the whole library system in Mauritius. Such a network will provide a myriad of opportunities for sharing of a central database providing users with an online interactive system.

As at June 2005, **11942** bibliographical records have been added to the National Library's Catalogue

- **Consultancy in Library and Information Services**

The National Library provides its expertise in Library and Information Services to Ministries/ Departments and other public institution, in the setting up or reorganisation of their libraries or documentation centres. Consultancy services have been given, free of charge to several organisations at national level.

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Request for National library Assistance</i>
Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF)	Preparation of a bibliography relating to indentured immigration, and provision of training in international bibliographic standards.
Independent Commission against corruption (ICAC)	Setting up of an ICAC Archiving Unit
Mauritius Council of Social Service (MACOSS)	Setting up of MACOSS Documentation Centre
Mauritius Tamil Cultural Centre	Setting up of a Documentation Centre

- **Training in librarianship and information services by the National Library**

Training in Librarianship and Information Services was offered, upon request, to officers from different institutions. During the training programme, the officers were exposed to such areas as functions and service of special libraries, importance of managing

information, classification, cataloguing, library management software and physical processing of library materials.

The following officers benefited from the training offered by the National Library:

- Ms R. Hoomala, from **La Commission de L’Ocean Indien**, was offered training in Librarianship from 11th May 2004 to 19th July 2004.
- Mrs S. Deerpalsing, Board Member, and Mrs B. Annasawmy, Research Assistant, from the **Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund**, were provided assistance in the preparation of a bibliography relating to indentured immigration, and trained in international bibliography standards in September 2004.
- Mr A. Oojorah, Mr S. Ram, Ms A. Seeborun, Ms S. Peerbocus and Ms N.Nuckchady of the **Independent Commission Against Corruption** were on a training in Librarianship and Information Services during the period March to April 2005.

- **Cataloguing-in-Publication Data (CIP)**

The Cataloguing-in-Publication programme, started in 2001, aims to provide cataloguing information to publishers and to libraries in advance of publications. It is a free service offered by the National Library primarily to publishers and printers. Bibliographic data are submitted on a prescribed form to the National Library and after being processed and formatted, same is sent back to the publisher/printer for insertion as CIP data on the reverse side of the title page of the book.

The benefit of this programme is that it ensures standardisation of cataloguing and classification of Mauritiana books. The CIP data may also be used by libraries for cataloguing new acquisition, thus avoiding wastage of time and resources.

The CIP programme covers all new and revised edition of books published in Mauritius.

CIP data prepared by the National Library for the previous years are as follows:

2001 – 2002	8
2002 – 2003	28

For the year 2004 – 2005, the National Library prepared 17 CIP data.

- **Universal Bibliographic Control**

The concept behind the Universal Bibliographic Control launched in 1974 by IFLA with the collaboration of UNESCO General Information Programme (PGI) and the International Standard Office for UBC (ISO/TC46) was to develop a worldwide system for the control and exchange of bibliographic information.

For the exchange of information, national and international standards have been recommended. To facilitate the international exchange in machine-readable form among national agencies, IFLA Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC Core Programme (UBCIM) have developed the UNIMARC format.

National Libraries and National Bibliographic Centres throughout the world have been identified as key components in the promotion of this long-term programme. The National Library of Mauritius is fulfilling its part of this common goal of universal bibliographic control by recording at source (in the country of origin) the bibliographic data of all books published in and/or on Mauritius. For bibliographic control of serial publications, the National Library has adopted ISSN standards, which help to identify items by using unique numbers.

- **National Union Catalogue**

The project to create a National Union Catalogue was conceived in 2003 and work started soon after receiving all the necessary hardware and software for the programme. During the year under review, work progressed at an accelerated rate and some 2,869 entries have already been inputted in the system.

The main objective of the National Union Catalogue is to provide and promote bibliographic access to the nation's literary creations. The target is to compile systematically and comprehensively a master catalogue of Mauritian library materials from several academic, public and special libraries in Mauritius.

In the pursuit of this objective, a collaborative approach has been adopted and data from eight participating libraries are formatted and inputted into the system. The participating libraries are: the Carnegie Library, Malcolm de Chazal Library, Police Library, City Library, Simone de Beauvoir Library, the MCA Resource Centre, the Knowledge Centre of Enterprise Mauritius, the Olof Palme Library, the MGI. Discussions are going on with other libraries to join in this cooperative project.

The National Union Catalogue has the advantage of bringing in one place bibliographical data of all the Mauritian holdings of participating libraries.

This centralised access to the database at the National Library will enhance exposure of locally held information sources both at national and international level. Ultimately this will increase users traffic and interaction with each library in the system.

SERVING OUR CUSTOMERS

The National Library is geared towards enhancing customer satisfaction. This is clearly spelt out in the Customer Charter and the Strategic Plan 2003-2005. In recognition to our continued commitment and efforts, the National Library has been awarded the *Excellent Customer Service Awards 2004 in the Public Service* under the criteria 'Quality' and the ISO 9001:2000 Certification in 2005.

For the period under review, the number of users availing themselves of the services of the Search Room was **6,061**, representing an increase of 10.5% over the previous year.

It is to be noted that since its opening in January 2000, **28,366** information seekers have been serviced by the National Library.

The search Room of National Library received **9,099** requests for information for the period under review. Details are as follows:

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Requests for References Services</i>	<i>Number</i>
1	Requests for Books	2,469
2	Requests for Newspapers	2,650
3	Requests for use of Internet	596
4	Request for Audio-Visual Materials	17
5	Requests for Photocopies	2,958

6	Requests by phone	311
7	Requests by Mail and E-mail (Overseas)	57
8	Requests by Mail and E-mail (Local)	41
TOTAL		9,099

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

In line with its vision and mission, the National Library, as the apex institution in librarianship in Mauritius, undertook a series of initiatives to serve the needs of the Mauritian people at large.

The World Book Day 2005 Celebrations, Annual Essay Competition and Book Donation, Special Programme and Guided Visit for Students, Poem Recital Competition were high on the agenda for the National Library outreach activities.

- **World Book Day 2005 Celebration**

It was in 1995 that UNESCO proclaimed 23rd April of each year as World Book and Copyright Day. Since then, World Book Day has involved several millions of people throughout the world in the promotion of books and their irreplaceable roles in education, culture and the sciences.

The World Book Day Celebration is now a recurrent activity of our institution. The National Library as an organiser in the dissemination of information acts as a catalyst to enhance library development and to promote a culture of reading in Mauritius. To chalk out a programme of activities marking the celebrations at the local level, an organising committee was set up at the National Library. Our institution worked in partnership with the publishers, booksellers, librarians and stakeholders of books to promote books and reading, and to serve the Mauritian people at large on research, scholarship and creativity.

The theme for this year's World Book Day was " Lire pour réussir ". Reading is an important source for self-development, and the National Library is fully aware that its importance and necessity will continue to increase in the years ahead. Thus reading habit has to be built up and promoted from an early age.

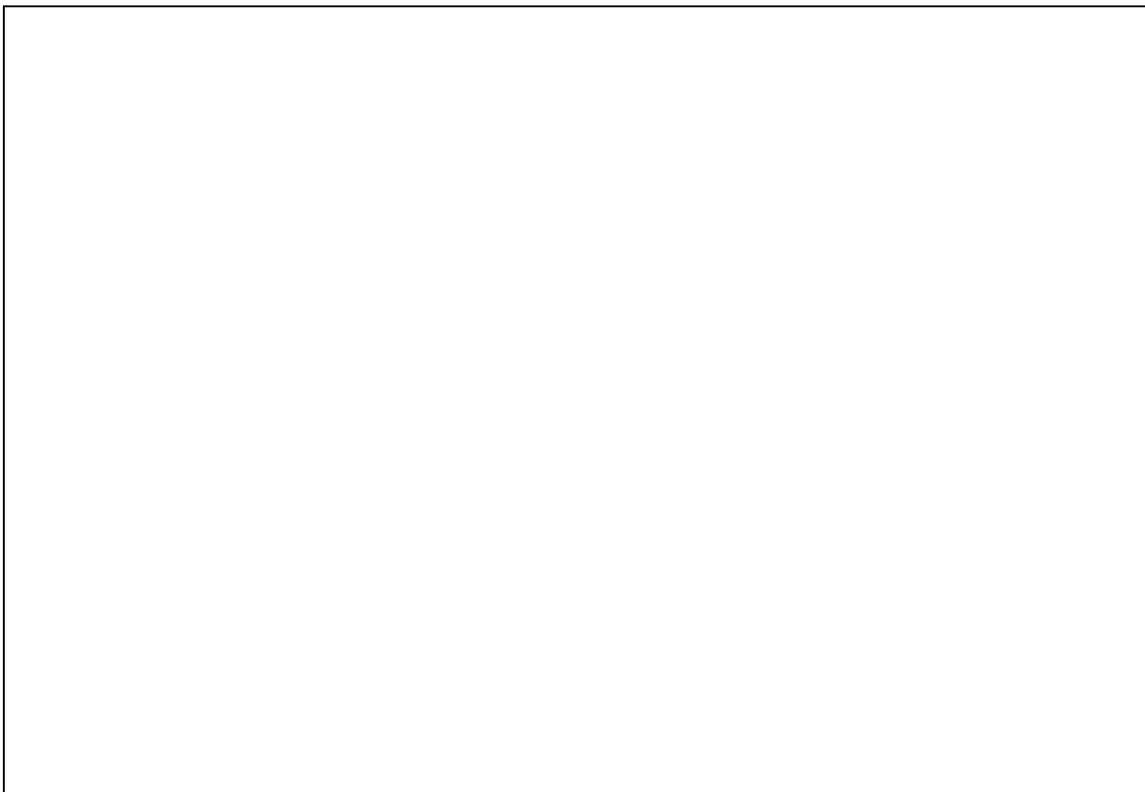
World Book Day Celebrations 2005

poem recitals, book exhibitions, quiz, games, essay writing competitions, to initiation to IT culture by the National Computer Board, were organised. The Conservatoire de

Musique Francois Mitterand and the Police Band were also present during both events by providing musical entertainment.

The Minister of Arts and Culture, in the presence of the Lord Mayor of Port-Louis, performed the opening ceremony of the World Book day, at the Port-Louis Waterfront. In Mahebourg, the Vice-President of the Republic of Mauritius, as Chief Guest, in the presence of the Minister of Arts and Culture, opened the festival and launched the book “The Shattered Rainbow” by B. Seebaluck.

The World Book Day events of Port Louis and Mahebourg were really a big success and attracted huge crowds of people from diverse cultures.



**World Book Day Celebrations 2005
Dictation Competition**

- **Annual Essay Competition and Book Donation Ceremony**

Each year the National Library organises an Essay Writing Competition, with a view to foster critical thinking and creative writing among students. The theme for the Annual Essay Competition was “ The role of the National Library of Mauritius in the globalisation process”, and was launched on 17th May 2004 for Form V students of public

and private schools. During the Prize Giving Ceremony of 5th November 2004, prizes were awarded to the winners of the competition as follows:

Ms Preetema Purgass, New Educational College, Bel- Air Rivière Sèche - the star prize of Rs 5000.

Mr Avishantraj Dawoolut, MGI, Moka,- 1st Runner up

Ms Kavita Husraj, Renaissance, Curepipe – 2nd Runner up

Ms Usha Nursing, Universal, Rivière du Rempart – 3rd Runner up

On the same day, a book donation ceremony was held. The Lycée Labourdonnais donated a collection of french periodicals to the National Library. The Mauritius Labour Congress also made a book donation to our institution during the ceremony.

Our chief guest for the Prize Giving Ceremony for Annual Essay Competition cum Donation Ceremony was the Vice President of the Republic of Mauritius. The Minister of Arts and Culture was also present.

- **Special Programme and Guided visits at the Library**

In the context of the activities organised for the World Book Day celebration, a special programme and guided visits for Form V and VI students were held from 02 to 13 May 2005 at the National Library.

During the programme, students were exposed to a presentation on the Mauritiana Collection, Collection Management, Collection of rare documents, short term and long-term strategies for preservation, a brief introduction on Internet access, and reading for pleasure. A guided tour of the National Library was also included in the programme.

The colleges listed below participated in the programme and visits were held as follows: -

<i>DATE OF VISIT</i>	<i>NAME OF INSTITUTION</i>
03 May 2005	D.A.V College
03 May 2005	London College
04 May 2005	London College
05 May 2005	London College
05 May 2005	Muslim Girls College
06 May 2005	London College
10 May 2005	St. Bartholomew's College
13 May 2005	Eden College
26 May 2005	Dr O. Beugeard GS
27 May 2005	Dr O. Beugeard GS

- **Poem Recital Competition at the National Library**

In the context of the World Book Day Celebration, a Poem Recital Competition was held on 20th April 2005 at the National Library. The aim of this activity was to promote reading among the children.

The Poem Recital, in English language, was open to pupils aged between 10 to 12 years. Seventeen students of the primary schools participated in the competition, and the winners, as listed below, were awarded their prizes during the Book Festival held at Port-Louis Waterfront, on 23rd April 2005.

1 st Prize	Sandrine Lareine of ND de Lorette RCA
2 nd Prize	Ashna Rema Ramdin of Villiers Rene Government School
3 rd Prize	Nicolas Marie Mannoo of ND du Bon Secours RCA



**World Book Day Celebrations 2005
Poem Recital**

**ACQUISITION AND PROCESSING OF LIBRARY
MATERIALS**

The acquisition programme of the National Library aims to build a comprehensive collection of materials to support the information needs of the nation. One core aspect of this programme is to systematically collect, process, preserve and make accessible to users all Mauritian and foreign materials available at the National Library.

It is note-worthy that the wide popularity of electronic information has relegated the local storage of print media as optional in various libraries. However, in the case of the National Library, even with the emergence of the electronic storage of information as the dominating medium, its role to collect print media has remained unaffected.

The main source of acquisition for the National Library remains the legal deposit system, whereby printers and producers are required to deposit six copies of every library material printed or produced in Mauritius. Another source of acquisition is through donation of library materials by various organisations.

During the year under review, some **260** bound volumes of newspapers were donated to the National Library by the City Library. These include: *L'Express, The Sun, Mauritius Screen, Sunday Star, Mauritius Times, Le Cernéen, Star, Janata, Nouveau Militant, Le Dimanche, Mauritius Today, Nuvo Lizur, Week End, Le Socialiste, Le Mauricien, The Nation, Le Défi, La Vie Catholique, Advance, Le Rassembleur.*

1,714 reports and serials were also donated by the Central Statistics Office.

The Centre Culturel Charles Baudelaire donated **153** bound volumes of Government Gazettes covering the period 1821-1965.

The Lycée La Bourdonnais offered **240** periodicals to the National Library.

The holdings of the National Library as at 30th June 2005 were **242,348**.

The total library materials acquired during the year starting 1st July, 2004 to 30th June, 2005 were **32,233**. A breakdown of the figures is shown in the table below:

- **Acquisitions**

<i>Library Materials</i>	<i>Legal Deposit</i>	<i>Donations</i>	<i>Purchases</i>	<i>UN</i>	<i>IMF</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Total</i>
Books/Monographs	2,163	2,105	180	179	276	167	5,070
Newspapers	18,776	260					19,036
Periodicals	3,483	696		1,752	19		5,950
Annual Reports	260	97					357
Audio-cassettes	41						41
Video-cassettes	579						579
CDs/CD Roms	349	47		6	16		418
Maps	28						28
Stamps	754						754
TOTAL	26,433	3,205	180	1,937	311	167	32,233

- **Technical Processing of Library Materials**

The acquisition of library materials by the National Library is not an end in itself. Materials are acquired for eventual use and to be useful, all acquired materials need to undergo technical processing, including accessioning, classification, cataloguing and indexing.

○ **Accessioning**

The process of accessioning consists of assigning a number to each incoming material and the proper recording of its title, date of receipt, general description of subject and other details. The bibliographic section of the Library has accessioned a total number of 9,148 documents during the year under review. Details are as follows:

Mauritiana	5,946
Reference/Non-Mauritiana	854
United Nations Publications	317
IMF Publications	684
World Bank Publications	501
Stamps	754
Maps	28
Manuscripts	64
Total	9,148

○ **Classification and Cataloguing**

The bibliographic section of the Library is fully conscious of its responsibility to provide access to the wealth of information available at the National Library. No collection can be fully exploited unless the required tools are available.

It is basically the activities of the classificationists and cataloguers which provide access to records of all kinds (textual, visual, musical) in all kinds of storage media (books, journals, CDs, databases). By providing bibliographic data, the technical staff provides the tools for identification, location and eventually to the physical access to the materials. Without these technical activities, the collection would remain unexploitable. How good the information retrieval will be depends largely on how well the technical processing of the document has been done.

During the year under review, **3,563** library materials were classified according to the 22nd edition of the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme and catalogued according to the 2nd edition of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules. Subject headings based on the Library of Congress Subject Headings (22nd edition) were prepared for these documents.

- **Indexing**

Indexing of newspapers and periodicals is done manually by the technical staff. A list of indexing terms, based on the Library of Congress Subject Headings has been worked out at the National Library for this purpose. During the year under review, a total of **7,128** articles was indexed from : *Business Magazine (July 2004 – June 2005)*, *Financial News (November 2003 – September 2004)*, *L'Express (January to July 1996, January to April 1997)* and *Le Mauricien (January to July 1996, January to April 1997)*.

HONOURS AND AWARDS RECEIVED WHICH REFLECT NATIONAL LIBRARY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Excellent Customer Service Award in the Public Sector**

The National Library participated in the Excellent Customer Service Award Scheme in the Public Sector for the year 2004. This award aims at promoting a quality service and customer focused culture in the Public Service, and recognising the achievements of Ministries and Department in the pursuit of excellent customer service.

The National Library, exists as a service provider to its customers, and should understand current and future customer needs. In its endeavour to meet customer requirements, the National Library strives to exceed customer expectations.

The National Library was recipient of the award for the Excellent Customer Service Award Scheme, under criterion “Quality”, during the Awards ceremony on 11 November 2004.

- **National Quality Award – Level 1 – Quality Commitment**

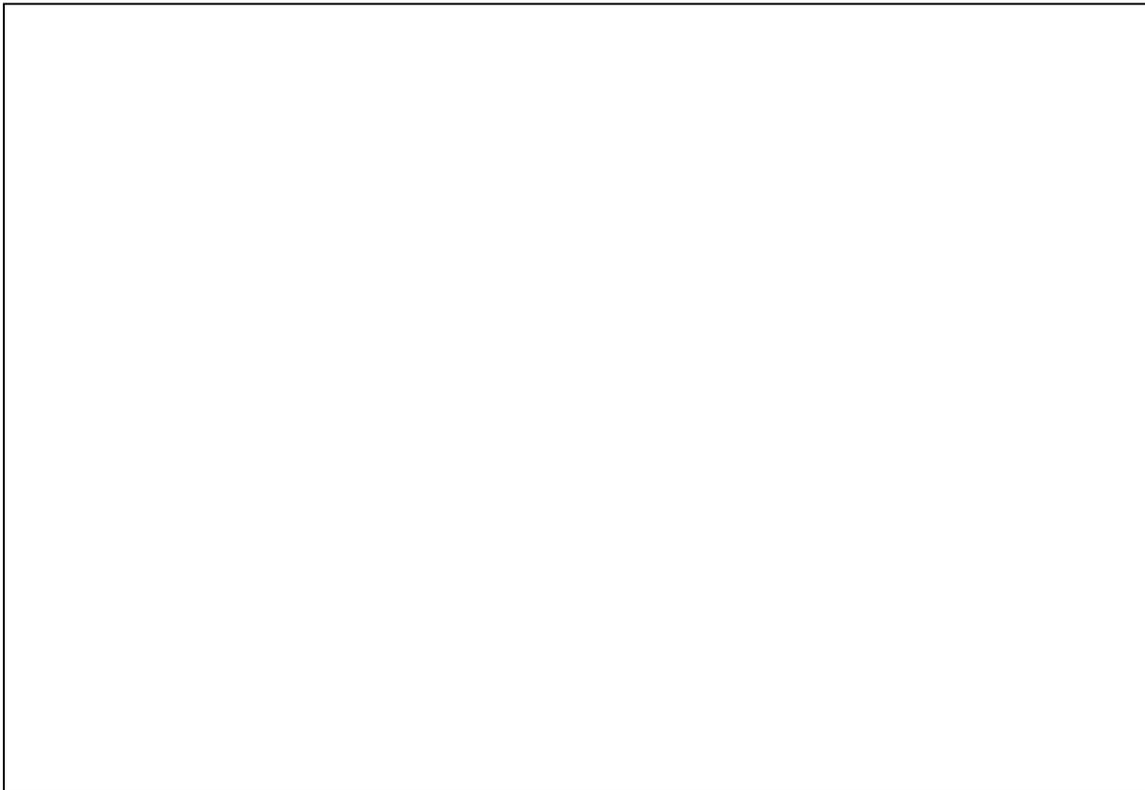
The Mauritian Quality Institute hosted the National Quality Award Prize Giving Ceremony on 16th December 2004 at Le Maritim Hotel. The award purports at

recognising companies or institutions for starting their journey to excellence and showing commitment to the use of continuous improvement principles in their operations.

During the Prize Giving Ceremony, the National Library was awarded the “ Certificate for National Quality Award Level 1- Quality Commitment.

- **Award of the MS ISO 9001:2000 Certification**

The National Library is an ISO certified institution, as from 20 January 2005, for a three-year period. The award ceremony was held on 21st February 2005, by the Minister of Civil Service Affairs and Administrative Reforms, in the presence of the Minister of Arts and Culture, as well as the Chairman of the Standards Council of the Mauritius Standards Bureau.



Award of ISO Certificate 9001:2000

At the National Library, the management is fully aware that initiatives using ICT empower communities and support development work. Significant investment such as electricity, access to telephone, networks and computer equipment is needed to bring technology to customers. At user level, low price hardware and free Internet connectivity

relate to affordability of ICT to customers. The National Library acts as a public access point providing low cost and free computer and Internet access.

The National Library efforts were given a boost by being awarded winner, at the first National ICT Award, in May 2005, under the category Parastatal Bodies. This award aims at recognising and publicising the achievements of organisations with regard to the use of technology and at motivating them to make continuous usage of ICT in order to enhance efficiency.

- **PARTICIPATION TO OTHER AWARDS**

- **United Nations Public Service Awards 2005**

The National Library has participated in the United Nations Public Service Awards 2005, which aims at recognising the contributions made by the public service organisations in enhancing the role, professionalism and visibility of the public service. This award was organised on behalf of the Division For Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM) of the United Nations Department of Economics and Social Affairs. The entries for the award were scrutinised by the Ministry of Civil Service Affairs and Administrative Reforms before transmission to the United Nations.

- **National Unity Award**

The National Library firmly believes that all people have the right of access to information, which is as equitable as possible, and in a language and form that they can understand. Information and communication processes contribute to the integral human development through participation, foster national identity and unity among diverse cultures, traditions and people, enhance cultural preservation and enrichment, guard and promote democratic processes and foster self- reliance.

It is with this objective that the National Library participated in the sixth edition of the Prime Minister's National Unity Award of March 2005. The Award was organised by the Prime Minister's Office in collaboration with the Ministry of Arts and Culture.

- **Best Anti- Corruption Framework 2005**

Integrity is one of the core values of our institution, and we stand guided by the highest standard of professional ethics. It is understood that illegal or unethical behaviour would not be accepted within the institution. It is within this concept that the National Library participated in the Best Anti Corruption Framework 2005, organised by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) in collaboration with the Mauritian Quality Institute (MQI).

The Best Anti-Corruption Framework sets the standards for an anti-corruption management system. It is an opportunity for organisations to review their position on corruption, and identify further actions to minimise corruption risks, thereby building and sustaining corruption resistance in the organisation.

The award aims to promote an organisation's corporate image, credibility and trust in the marketplace. Participation to the award was open to public bodies and private sector organisations, and the deadline for submission of application report was on 10 June 2005.

The National Library is committed to ensure that the opportunity for fraud and corruption is reduced to the lowest possible risk, and in view thereof it introduced a Corruption and Fraud Control Policy, which sets out the National Library strategy to deal with fraud and corruption. The policy paper is supplemented by a Fraud Response plan, a Code of Conduct and a policy for Whistle-Blowers. Site assessment is scheduled for August 2005.

THE STAFF

Employment on Contract

Mrs D.E Hassea, Administrative Assistant – 12 July 2004

Appointment on Temporary basis

Mrs M. Deliot, Clerk/Word Processing Operator-08 July 2004

Mrs S. Harree, Library Clerk - 26 May 2005

Appointment of Staff

Mrs V. Suggoona, Library Officer – 11 August 2004

Ms V. Bissessur, Library Officer - 16 October 2004

Ms B.N Peerbucus, Library Officer- 17 October 2004

Confirmation of Staff

Mr D.L.T.M Lai Cheong King, Library Officer- 01 July 2004

Mr E. Lutchmun, Binder – 01 July 2004

Staff on Leave without Pay

Mr S.K Hauradhun, Library Officer – 16 May 2005

Resignation

Mrs B. Seetul, Library Clerk – 20 September 2004

Redeployment

Mr P. Hauroo, Librarian/Senior Librarian from MIDA- 27 June 2005

Mrs C. Curoopen – Library Officer from MIDA – 27 June 2005

PROMOTING HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- **Placement of Unemployed Degree and Diploma Holders**

During the year under review, the following degree holders were on placement at the National Library, under the Skills Development Programme for Unemployed Degree and Diploma Holders 2004-2005 of the Ministry of Training and Skills Development, Productivity and External Communications.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Period on Placement</i>
Mr K. Dindoyal	15 March 2004 to 08 September 2004
Ms A.D. Koosul	01 October 2004 to 07 January 2005
Ms A.D. Padarut	01 October 2004 to 01 April 2005
Mr B.S. Beedassy	01 February 2005 to 09 May 2005
Ms N. Seesarun	07 April 2005 to 03 May 2005
MrZ.D. Bhankaraully	23 May 2005 to 31 December 2005

- **University of Mauritius Student Work Experience Programme (SWEP) 2005**

The University of Mauritius Student Work Experience Programme is a placement designed to help University students bridge the gap between academic education and

work skills. Our institution participated in the programme and the following undergraduates were on placement at the National Library from 06 June to 22 July 2005:

Mr K.Mungur, Ms B.S Ghingut, Ms N.Bissessur, Mr K. Karimullah, Ms W.Li Yaw Hay

- **Training offered to the Staff of the National Library**

The National Library supports the continuous professional development of staff, and ensures that the upgrading of knowledge and skills of existing staff is maintained. Training was offered by local institutions to staff of the National Library.

- Mr Jayen Ramsamy, Library Officer, attended a one-day training on Oracle Developer System on 19th July 2004 at Le Labourdonnais Hotel, Port-Louis.
- Mrs D.E. Hassea, Administrative Assistant, attended a four- day Training Course in Quality Management System-MS ISO 9001:2000, including Internal Audit Techniques, at the Mauritius Standards Bureau from 20th to 23rd September 2004. The Course was conducted by the Mauritius Standards Bureau and sponsored by the Ministry of Civil Service Affairs and Administrative Reforms.
- Ms H. Lam, Library Officer, Mr S. Hauradhun, Library Clerk and Mrs Deliot, Clerk/ Word Processing Operator, attended a half-day training course on Records Management, on 30th November 2004 at the National Archives Department.
- Mrs D.E. Hassea , Administrative Assistant, attended a brainstorming session at the headquarters of the Independent Commission Against Corruption, on 24th February 2005, in view of the participation of the National Library to the Best Anti Corruption Framework 2005.

CORPORATE MATTERS

Participation of the National Library in Committees

- **CAPAM In-Country Senior Executive Seminar**

The Director attended a half-day CAPAM In-Country Senior Executive Seminar held at Domaine Les Pailles on 01 December 2004.

The objectives of the seminar were:

- To provide opportunities to participants to learn from recent developments in public sector performance management and best international experiences practices;
- To reflect on the performance management system in Mauritius; and
- To understand the importance of leadership in public service management and transformation.

During the seminar, talks and overviews were carried out by representatives from CAPAM, as well as, local senior executives.

- **Conference on “Fighting Corruption in the Public and Private Sector”**

The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) organised a one-day conference on “Fighting Corruption in the Public and Private Sector” at the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre on 18 January 2005. The Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation of India was the Chief Guest. The Director was present at the Conference.

- **National Committee on the Slave Route Project**

The Slave Route Project is an international project administered, coordinated and monitored by the Department of Intercultural Dialogue and Pluralism for a Culture of Peace of UNESCO.

The Project has two main objectives: -

- To end the silence and make universally known, the subject of transatlantic trade, and slavery in the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean region, with its causes and modalities, and

- To emphasise, in an objective way, the consequences of the interactions between the people of Europe, Africa and the Caribbean.

To implement the objectives of the Project, a National Committee comprising of different Ministries, Departments and Parastatal bodies was set up. The National Library was represented by its Director at the National Committee.

The Slave Route Project was officially launched on 01 June 2005, at the Octave Wiehe Auditorium, by the Honourable Minister of Arts and Culture and in the presence of Honourable Minister of Education and Scientific Research.

A conference on Illegal Slave Trade and Archaeology was held the same day. The National Library as assigned by the National Committee, held a book exhibition on slavery during the conference.

- **Rétrospective Hervé Masson Exhibition**

The movement Alternatif pour La Transmission Des Oeuvres et Des Idées (MATOI) an association based in Paris, approached the Mauritian Authorities for assistance in the mounting of a “ Rétrospective Hervé Masson Exhibition” in Mauritius, in June 2005 and for the sale of the biography of Hervé Masson. The purpose of the exhibition was to provide the younger generation an insight of the contribution of Hervé Masson to modern Mauritian paintings.

The National Library was entrusted the responsibility for the sale of copies of the biography of Hervé Masson. A sub committee, chaired by the director of the National Library was set up, to promote the works of H. Masson, particularly amongst the younger generation. Secondary schools, institutions and librarians in Mauritius and Rodrigues were encouraged to purchase the biography as a reference document

- **The National Library joining Mauritius Public Sector Quality Association (MPSQA)**

Following its recent certification to the ISO standards, the National Library has been called upon to join the Mauritius Public Sector Quality Association, as a member. The Mauritius Public Sector Quality Association groups all ISO certified public or parastatal bodies, and falls under the aegis of the Ministry of Civil Service Affairs and

Administrative Reforms. The Association serves as a common platform to interact in order to further promote quality. Member organisations meet on a monthly basis, with a view to support one another in the sharing of experiences and have recourse to benchmarking practices to uphold the standard of the ISO principles.

- **Information for All Programme (IFAP) National Committee**

The UNESCO Information for All Programme (IFAP) provides a platform for international policy discussions and guidelines for action on the preservation of information and the universal access to it, the participation of all in the emerging global information society; and ethical, legal, societal consequences of ICT developments.

The programme provides a framework for international and regional cooperation and partnerships.

A national committee was set up, under the aegis of the National Computer Board, to organise activities in the context of the IFAP. The National Committee is composed of representatives of the public and private sectors, academic and civic society. The National Library forms part of the National Committee of IFAP.

Participation of the National Library in the Round Table organised by the Centre Culturel Charles Baudelaire

The National Library participated in the round table “Les traces de la mémoire collective” organised by the Centre Culturel Charles Baudelaire on 25th September 2004. The National Library was also recipient of a collection of “Mauritius Gazette” kindly donated by the Centre Culturel Charles Baudelaire during the event.

Participation of the National Library in the preparation of the Aapravasi Ghat Dossier for UNESCO.

The National Library provided assistance to the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund in preparing a bibliography relating to indentured immigration, in view of a report for UNESCO for World Heritage Site Status.

The National Library has received in May 2005 a Certificate of Participation from the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund, in recognition and appreciation of all the collaboration and help extended in the preparation of the Aapravasi Ghat Dossier for the Nominations of Aapravasi Ghat as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Participation of the Director to International Conferences and Seminars

- **8th WALGLA Biennial Conference, Perth, Western Australia**

The Western Australia Local Government Librarians Association (WALGLA) hosted its eight Biennial Conference on 04 March 2005, in Perth. The theme of the conference was “Public Libraries creating connections-our community, our future”. The Conference brought together some 350 participants, including elected members, local Government decision makers, educators and practitioners involved in the provision of public library services to the community. The Australian Minister for Culture and the Arts, as Chief Guest, opened the Conference, in the presence of the President of WALGLA.

The Director of the National Library was invited as the main speaker for the presentation of his National Library experiences during the first working session of the conference.

In Perth, the Director met the state librarian and the Director of Public Library Services on issues of common interest, and discussed on avenues of cooperation. He made a tour visit of the State Library of Western Australia, and visited the newly opened Clarkson Library, serving a sub-urban community. He also met the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities of Curtin University, and delivered a lecture to the University students of the school of Library and Information Studies.

The Director was in Canberra from 6th to 11th March 2005. He officially visited the National library of Australia, and chalked out avenues of cooperation between the two institutions, on such issues as the exchange of Library materials, photocopies and digitalisation of Mauritian documents, not available in Mauritius.

Visits were also organised for the Director to the Parliamentary Library, Australian National University Library, and the Woden Public and Heritage Library.

- **Workshop on “The Utilisation of Information as a Strategic Resource for Africa’s Development”, Johannesburg, South Africa**
 - The National Library of South Africa, with the support of the Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology of South Africa, hosted a workshop to discuss the role of the national libraries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), in the utilisation of information as a strategic resource for Africa’s development.
 - The objective of the workshop was to examine opportunities for cooperation between national libraries in the region within the framework of the African Union and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development. The focus was on issues such as preservation and access, bibliographic standards, legal deposit, intellectual property rights, and the state of national libraries in the subcontinent.
 - The Director of the National Library of Mauritius participated in the workshop, which was held from 16th to 18th March 2005 in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Meetings and Committees attended by the Director during period July 2004 to June 2005

During the year under review, the Director of the National Library attended the following committees and meetings:

- Association of professional librarians
- Public Records Appraisal Committee
- National Genealogy Committees
- Meeting in connection with National Workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Brainstorming session on “ Integrity Management System”
- Meeting in connection with Promoting Plural Mauritian Culture
- E- Writing Competition 2005 (Net soft)- (Jury)
- Public Speaking Competition 2004 (Public Officer’s Welfare Council) – (Jury)
- Meeting with the cultural centres in connection with the organization of the ICCROM National Workshop
- The Mauritius Public Sector Quality Association General Meeting

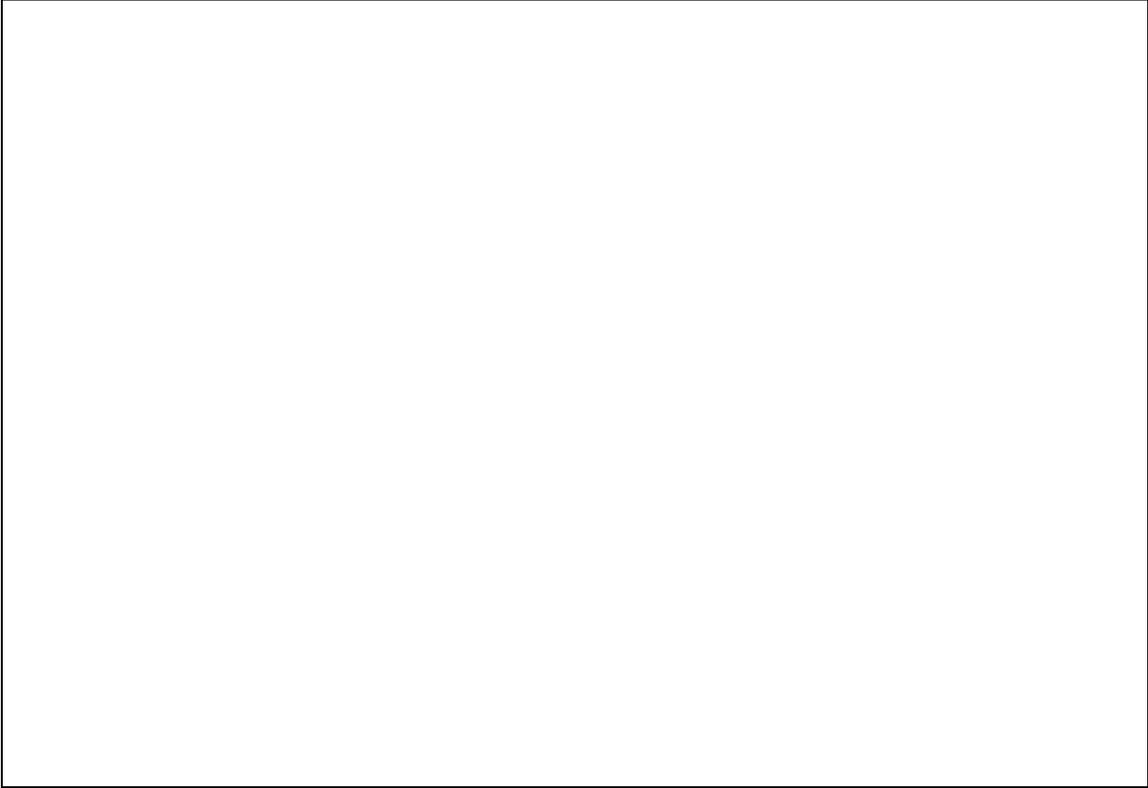
- Celebration of the 170th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery – 01 February 2005
- Meeting in connection with the reorganisation of the Archives of the Prime Minister's Office
- Meeting in connection with the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund (Survey of Historical Buildings)
- Editorial Committee of the Ministry of Arts and Culture
- SADC Creators and Performer's day
- President Fund for Creative Writing in English
- Africa Day of the Civil Service and Administrative Day and the UN Public Service
- Management Committee Meeting of the Ministry of Arts and Culture
- Retrospective Hervé Masson Exhibition
- Slave Route Project Committee
- IFAP National Committee
- Mauritius Museums Council
- Mauritius Council of Registered Librarians

VISITORS TO THE NATIONAL LIBRARY:

- **Delegation from China**

On the initiatives of the Mauritian Writers' Association, a visit of a delegation of five writers from the People Republic of China was hosted from the 18th and 23rd October 2004. The writers were from different Chinese Provincial Writers Associations.

For the occasion, a programme was prepared which included a working session on the 20th October at the National Library. The delegation had a round table with the library staff for the sharing of experiences and knowledge of Chinese novelists and writers.



**Visit of delegates from the
Chinese Provincial Writers Association**

- **Study tour of Mrs Ann Mary Robert, Principal Librarian of the Seychelles National Library**

Mrs Ann Mary Robert, Principal Librarian of the Seychelles National Library, was on a study tour at the National Library of Mauritius, under the Cultural Exchange Programme 2003-2006 between Mauritius and Seychelles two countries.

Mrs Robert was at the National Library from 27th June to 1st July 2005. During her stay, she had several meetings with officers of various sections of our institution, to gain a better insight of the operations, role and functions of the National Library, together with its different operations and services offered.

