

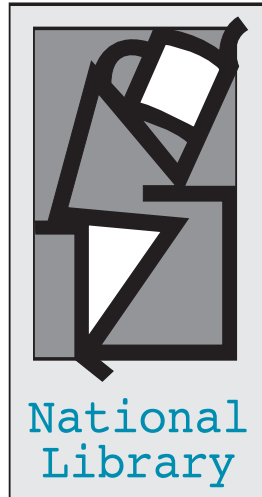


NATIONAL LIBRARY

REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

ANNUAL REPORT
2006-2007





NATIONAL LIBRARY

(Republic of Mauritius)

ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007

NATIONAL LIBRARY (REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS) CATALOGING-IN-PUBLICATION DATA

National Library (Republic of Mauritius)

Annual Report / National Library (Republic of Mauritius) - No. 1 (April to June 1999)-.-

Port-Louis : National Library, 1999-

v. : ill. ; 21-30 cm.

Annual.- Description based on : 2006-2007

ISSN 1694-0393

1. National Library (Republic of Mauritius) - Periodicals

2. National Libraries - Mauritius - Periodicals

I. Title

027.5'6982 dc22

CIP 07-0008

NATIONAL LIBRARY

(Republic of Mauritius)

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Auditor:

Director, National Audit Office

Published by:

National Library
1st & 2nd Floors, Fon Sing Building,
12, Edith Cavell Street,
Port-Louis

ISSN 1694-0393

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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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CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

It is indeed with much pleasure and with great pride that I am presenting the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the National Library for the Financial Year ending 30th June 2007.

This Annual Report encapsulates, in a very explicit and coherent way, the various activities, undertaken by the National Library during the period under review.

The National Library continues to provide a world-class quality service, while consolidating its collection, which keeps on increasing, thanks to the generosity of our countrymen. In addition, the National Library pursues in its actions of promoting reading among the public through its outreach activities. The celebration of World Book Day has become an annual feature, which draws a lot of people to books. The National Library spares no effort to empower its staff by embarking on capacity building and skill development programs.

I would like to conclude by thanking the Ministry of Arts and Culture and all our stakeholders, who have contributed, in one way or the other, to the development of the National Library. My sincere thanks go to the members of the National Library Board, the Director and his staff for their unflinching support and total dedication to work.



REVIEW OF THE YEAR

by Y. Chan Kam Lon, Director, National Library

This year under review saw the National Library steering safely but slowly towards its defined vision, that is, to be:

- (a) the nation's leading documentary resource pertaining to the Republic of Mauritius and;
- (b) the apex institution serving the needs of the Mauritian people in research, scholarship and creativity.

In spite of budget constraint, the National Library has increased its holding in library materials by making an acquisition of some 35,000 materials. This was mainly due to the generous donation of individuals and institutions and through its legal deposit regulations.

In line with one of its statutory obligations which is to act as the National Bibliographic Centre, it prepared the National Bibliography of Mauritius and maintained and updated the National Union Catalogue Database, a unified catalogue of Mauritian materials of twelve main libraries in Mauritius. An ambitious and bold endeavour had been the compilation of a Union List of Periodicals, accessible via the website of the National Library. It allows users to have a bibliographic detail of periodicals searched, including their location.

The National Library continues to develop itself as a vital national institution offering a quality service to Mauritians. The involvement of staff of the National Library needs to be acknowledged. Last, but not least, without the unflinching support of the Chairperson and Members of the National Library Board, not much would have been achieved. I would like to say a big thank you.

Y. Chan Kam Lon

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY BOARD

The National Library is established under the National Library Act 1996 as a Body Corporate and is managed by a Board, consisting of a Chairperson and ten members.

The Chairman is a person of high academic distinction. Out of the eleven members, five 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.

MEMBERS - NATIONAL LIBRARY BOARD

During the period July 2006 to June 2007, the National Library Board was constituted as follows:

Chairperson

Mrs A. Kistamah

Members

Representatives of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources

Mrs S. D. Gujadhur-Nowbuth, Assistant Secretary (until 24 November 2006)

Mr P. Pirthee, Assistant Secretary (as from 21 December 2006)

Mrs I. Pudaruth-Ruchaia, Assistant Secretary, *Representative of the Ministry of Arts and Culture*

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

Representatives of the National Archives

Mr G. Suneechur, Director (until 24 November 2006)

Mr R. Chung Sam Wan, Ag. Deputy Director (as from 21 December 2006)

Mr. A. F. Soogali, Head Library Cadre, *Ministry of Education and Human Resources*

Mrs C. Ah.Fat Pitt Fong, Head, *National Resource Centre, Mauritius College of the Air*

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

Representatives of a Special Library

Mrs. G. Atmarow, Senior Librarian (until 27 October 2006)

Mrs A. Nastili, Senior Librarian (until 30 March 2007)

Mrs S. Mungra, Senior Librarian (as from 21 May 2007)

Representatives of Association of Urban Authorities

Ms Mee Line Young Kim Fat, Senior Librarian (until 27 October 2006)

Mr G. Bissessur, Municipal Councillor (until 29 January 2007)

Mr L. M. S. Arlanda, Deputy Mayor (as from 26 February 2007)

Mr. J. Mulloo, Secretary, *Grand-Port/ Savanne District Council*

COMMITTEES

The composition of the two sub-committees of the National Library Board for the period under review was as follows:

A. Appointment Committee

Mrs A. Kistamah (Chairperson)
Mr. Y. Chan Kam Lon (Director)
Mr A. F. Soogali
Mrs I. Pudaruth-Ruchaia
Mr S. Rungassamy

B. Finance and Tender Committee

Mrs A. Kistamah (Chairperson)
Mr. Y. Chan Kam Lon (Director)
Mr A. F. Soogali
Mrs I. Pudaruth-Ruchaia
Mr S. Rungassamy

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

ISO 9001: 2000 PROJECT

With the ISO Certification awarded in January 2005, the National Library demonstrated its commitment to the delivery of quality services to its customers. Since then, the National Library is guided by the ISO 9001:2000 philosophy to continually improve its service offerings to meet customer requirements.

To comply with the ISO 9001:2000 standards, a corporate quality management system is in place. Regular internal audits have been conducted during the year under review to check compliance with the quality system. Minor non-conformities identified were immediately corrected. Management review committees were held thrice to review the situation and functioning of the system.

Throughout the year, Top Management held various meetings with staff to ease free-flowing forthright communication from Management to employees and from employees to Management. This mechanism further ensured that employees were motivated and that they developed the right attitude to work in a supportive work environment with the right policies, procedures, technologies, resources and structures.

CUSTOMER FOCUS

It is the policy of the National Library to provide its customers with a communication channel to systematically record their suggestions and complaints pertaining to various aspects of our services.

Customer Suggestions

Six suggestion forms were received during the period under review. They concerned the number of newspapers to be handed over to users at a time, the unavailability of recent newspaper indexes, and the introduction of a cash float system to facilitate cash transactions. Two forms expressed satisfaction with the services and the personnel of the National Library.

Customer Complaints

Three complaint forms were received from customers. They dealt with the procedure for registration and the unavailability of a specific document. Replies have already been sent to the individuals concerned.

User Satisfaction Survey

In line with the requirements of ISO 9001:2000, the National Library carried out its second annual user satisfaction survey in January 2007. Fifty questionnaires were distributed to users on the basis of a simple stratified random sampling technique targeting the four major user groups, namely: general public,

researchers, students and foreigners. The overall response rate was 80 %. The data collected were analysed and a report was submitted to management for necessary action.

In general, users were satisfied with the ease of access, lighting, seating and comfort level, the use of the Online Public Access Catalogue, the availability of the information requested, the responsiveness of the staff, the Internet service, photocopy service, newspaper corner, the communication policies of the National Library and the waiting time.

62 % of respondents made suggestions and comments on issues such as lighting, seating and comfort level, computer / Internet facilities, registration formalities, staffing level, opening hours, photocopy service, the collection, and the preservation of newspapers.

NATIONAL LIBRARY MANDATES

NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MAURITIUS

The National Library of Mauritius has the statutory obligation to act as the National Bibliographic Centre to prepare and maintain the National Bibliography of Mauritius. The National Bibliography includes works in different formats, that is, monographs, magazines, journals, pamphlets, newsletters, reports and newspapers printed, published and produced in Mauritius, works written by Mauritian authors and also works produced overseas by foreigners relating to Mauritius are acquired by the National Library.

The National Bibliography of Mauritius is an indispensable bibliographic tool at the service of researchers, university students and other information seekers. It provides complete bibliographic details such as, title, author, editors, subject and even class number to facilitate their identification. The National Bibliography of Mauritius for the years 2004 and 2005 is under way and is due to be published soon.

NATIONAL UNION CATALOGUE (NUC)

The NUC is a unified catalogue or a collection of Mauritian materials held by twelve libraries of Mauritius. Libraries participating in this endeavour include the following:

1. The National Library of Mauritius
2. The City Library;
3. The Olof Palme Library;
4. The Simone de Beauvoir Library;
5. The Carnegie Library;
6. The Mahatma Gandhi Institute Library;
7. The National Resource Centre of the Mauritius College of the Air;
8. The Police Library;
9. The Médiathèque Centre Culturel Charles Baudelaire;
10. The University of Technology; Mauritius
11. The Malcolm de Chazal Public Library; and
12. The Knowledge Centre of Enterprise Mauritius (ex-Trade Information Centre of MIDA).

The National Library's Website enables customers to have direct access to NUC. Moreover, researchers and other information seekers can easily browse the NUC to identify and locate items held by these cooperating libraries. It also facilitates resource sharing among libraries through inter-library loan.

For the period under review, **5,528** records have been added to the NUC database. The total number of bibliographic records currently available in the NUC amounts to **45,368**.

UNION LIST OF PERIODICALS (ULP)

The ULP is an ambitious collaborative endeavour involving fourteen major libraries of Mauritius. It consists in the compilation and production of an online list of periodicals subscribed by the participating libraries, which are:

1. The University of Mauritius;
2. The Ministry of Agro-Industry and Fisheries;
3. The University of Technology; Mauritius
4. The Mauritius College of the Air;
5. The Knowledge Centre of Enterprise Mauritius (ex-Trade Information Centre of MIDA).
6. The Mauritius Meteorological Service Library;
7. The Carnegie Library;
8. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development Library;
9. The Chinese Cultural Centre in Mauritius;
10. The Grand Bay Public Library;
11. The Olof Palme Library;
12. The 'Institut Supérieur de Technologie';
13. The Documentation Unit of the Ministry of Arts and Culture;
14. The National Library.

The ULP service, which is accessible via the Website of the National Library, enables customers to view bibliographic details of periodicals, their location and holdings. The National Library is responsible for updating the list.

COMPUTERISATION

With recent developments in information and communication technologies, tremendous changes have taken place in libraries worldwide. Effective organisations are characterised by changes initiated in response to internal and external forces. Consequently, the National Library has, since 2004, embarked on and consolidated the computerisation project by improving online services through its Website.

WEBSITE

In today's knowledge-driven society, it is crucial for the National Library to be efficient and effective in meeting the demands of its customers both at national and international level. Consequently, the National Library is regularly creating and updating value-added services through its Website. An open archive for electronic / digital publication is now available online from the Website of the National Library. Past annual reports, strategic plans, the Directory of Libraries and the Documentation Centres, application forms for ISSN and CIP and the National Bibliography of Mauritius are now accessible to customers. Through its user-friendly and interactive interface, the Website has proved to be of immense aid to customers.

ONLINE PUBLIC ACCESS CATALOGUE (OPAC)

All bibliographical data related to acquired material are inputted on a daily basis into the database of the National Library and these are accessible through its Website. The OPAC, which is an online catalogue of library materials, ensures global access to the rich collection of the National Library of Mauritius. As at 30th of June, a total of 32,914 documents have been entered in the OPAC system. New entries for the year 2006-2007 amount to 3,582.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD SERIAL NUMBER (ISSN)

The ISSN is managed by a worldwide network of seventy-seven National Centres, coordinated by an International Centre from Paris and backed by UNESCO and the French government. It uses a standardized international code which enables the identification of any serial publication, including electronic serials, independent of its country of publication, language, frequency and medium. It is a unique eight-digit number allocated to serials (Newspapers, Magazines, Annual Reports, Year Books, Directories, Newsletters, Transactions of Societies and E-journals). The National Library acts as the National ISSN Centre for Mauritius and Rodrigues. For the year under review, the National Library has processed 10 ISSN applications.

CATALOGUING-IN-PUBLICATION DATA (CIP)

Since 2001, the National Library has been offering the CIP service free to local authors, printers and publishers. A CIP data is a bibliographic record prepared by the National Library, using the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rule II, the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme (22nd edition) and the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings, for books not yet published. When the book is published, these data are included on the verso of the title page to facilitate book processing for libraries. During the period under review, the National Library has produced 22 CIPs.

CONSULTANCY IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

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

Organisation	Request for National Library assistance
Ministry of Finance & Economic Development	Proposal for Records Management System
Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport & Shipping	Setting up of the Maritime Library at Pointe aux Sables
Piton State college	Re-organisation of the college Library

ACQUISITION AND PROCESSING OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

HOLDINGS OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

One of the main objectives of the National Library is to acquire Mauritian materials comprehensively through legal deposit whereby printers and producers are required to deposit six copies of each library material free of charge. Another source of acquisition is through donation. During the year under review, donations were received from the United States Embassy, the Mauritius Telecom, the International Labour Organisation, the Pakistan High Commission, the Rodrigues Regional Assembly, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, and the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority. Moreover, an important donation was received from an anonymous person.

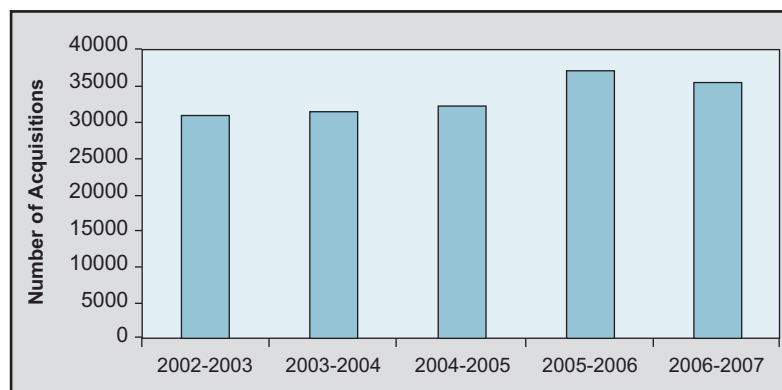
The holdings of the National Library as at 30th June 2007 were **314,327**.

The total number of library materials acquired during the period starting 1st July 2006 to 30th June 2007 was **35,301**. Details are shown in the following table:

ACQUISITIONS

Library Materials	Legal Deposit	Donations	Purchase	U.N	I.M.F	World Bank	Others	Total
Books/Monographs	1,770	391	17	268	597	337		3,380
Newspapers	18,624	1,915						20,539
Periodicals	3,780	824		5,030	25	1		9,660
Annual Reports	236	52		2	6	1		297
Audio Cassettes		2						2
Video Cassettes	245							245
CD/CDROMS/VCD/DVD	298	33		7	44	4		386
Maps		1						1
Stamps		25						25
Pamphlets	712	49		2	3			766
Total	25,665	3,292	17	5,309	675	343		35,301

The total number of acquisitions for the last five years is shown below:



ACCESSIONING

Mauritiana	3,585
Reference (Non-Mauritiana)	1,663
U.N	327
I.M.F	322
World Bank	347
Stamps	20
Photographs	57
Audio Visual	625
TOTAL	6,946

CLASSIFICATION AND CATALOGUING

Classification and cataloguing are technical services, whereby technicians process library materials to facilitate their accessibility. Classification is a system of coding and organising documents according to their subjects and allocating a call number to each and every information resource.

A library catalogue serves as the key to exploit the collection. By providing bibliographical data, the catalogue assists customers in the identification, location and easy retrieval of library materials.

During the year under review, **1,946** titles were catalogued and classified at the National Library. Cataloguing was based on Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (2nd edition), whereas classification was done according to the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme (22nd edition). Subject headings were derived from the Library of Congress Subject Headings (22nd edition).

INDEXING AND ABSTRACTING

An index is a tool to facilitate the retrieval of specific documents. Abstracting is an integral part of the indexing system that enhances the accessibility of the original document. The primary objective of indexing and abstracting is to capture the essential content of a document. The Library of Congress Subject Headings was used as guide to prepare indexes for the following newspapers and periodicals:

- L'Express 1994-1996
- Le Mauricien 1994-1996
- Business Magazine 2006-2007
- Islander 2006-2007

The total number of articles indexed and abstracted was **3,051**.

PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION

Preservation is the theory and practice of actively maintaining library collections for posterity. The National Library is committed to the care and preservation of its collection. Paper-based format is the most strongly represented format of the library collection. Preservation includes conservation which is the reactive

treatment of library materials to strengthen them physically or stabilize them chemically, thus sustaining their survival as long as they are needed in their original format.

The storage environment of the collection has a dramatic effect on the long-term usefulness of the collection and the information it contains. Key factors to consider are: temperature, relative humidity, light, pollutants and pest. The Library maintains the collection by providing appropriate storage conditions on an ongoing basis and takes action to treat, replace and reformat it, using protective measures. The Library looked for preventive measures to minimize damage resulting from environment by controlling temperature and relative humidity on a daily basis. It also controlled light and kept the environment clean to enhance the longevity of its collection.

BINDING SECTION

Binding is a preservation-related activity. The Binding section is responsible for the care of the library's collection by providing these facilities:

- Minor repairs of slightly damaged materials to extend their use.
- Binding to compile the maximum number of issues in a bound volume.
- Strengthen paperbacks to increase their circulation life.
- Binding unbound monographs and serials
- Providing boxes for fragile, brittle or severely damaged materials.

No. of books bound	1,185
No. of newspapers bound	159
No. of Magazines / reports bound	343
Miscellaneous items	7,874
Total	9,561

MICROFILMING

Library materials deteriorate with age and use. The increasing demand for access to rare and fragile materials has made reformatting a widely adopted preservative measure. Preservation includes reformatting and the recording of information in one medium to another. The most common reformatting method is microfilming, whereby printed information on paper material is converted to film.

Newspapers are a primary source of local history and information. They are worthy of retention and preservation as they are vulnerable to decay.

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

Le Cerneéen: 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1860, 1861, 1865, 1882, 1886, 1887, 1888 (Jul - Dec), 1920 (Jan - Jul), 1921, 1922, 1923 (Jul - Dec), 1924 (Feb - Dec), 1925, 1926 (Feb - Dec), 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1938, 1939 (Jun - Dec).

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographic images play a primary role in the documentation of historical events. They freeze in time those moments. Photographic preservation is more complex than most documents or paintings. Original prints are extremely sensitive and can easily be damaged by improper storage, careless handling and exposure to the environment. The National Library acquired photographs as donation, which are mostly in black and white. During the year under review 57 photographs were cleaned, accessioned and filed.

TRAINING OFFERED BY THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

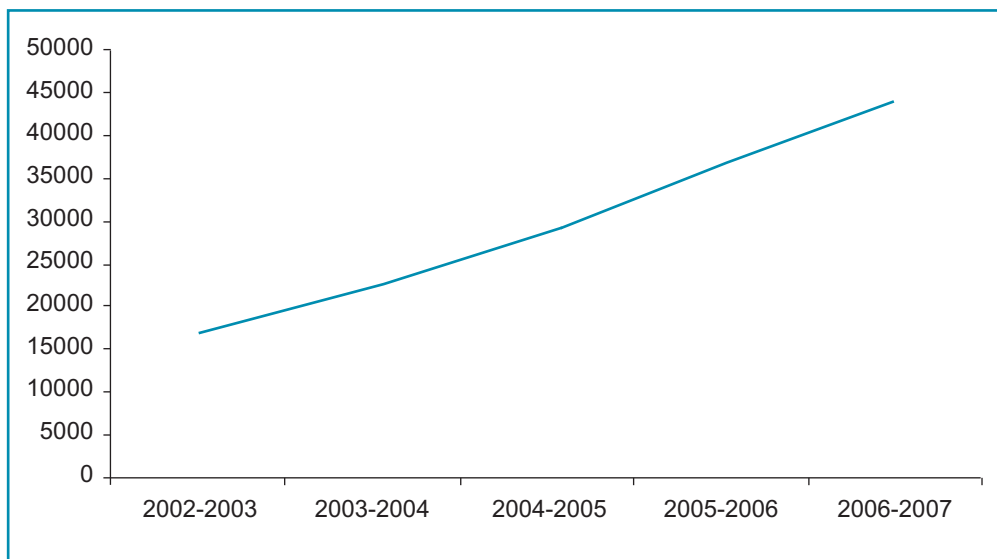
- *Ms Rahimbaccus Kenza*, staff from Tropic Knits Ltd, attended an on-the-job training in 'library and information work' from 23rd January to 13th February 2007.
- *Mrs Caussy Preethee*, *Library Clerk* at the Black River District Council library, attended an in-serving training programme in 'library and information work' twice a week for the period 03rd April to 31st May 2007.
- *Mr Guillaume Josique*, *Senior Library Clerk* at the Commission for library services of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly, and actually following the *Diploma Course in Library and Information Studies* at the University of Mauritius, is on training at the National Library since 14th August 2006, for a period of two years on the days he will not be following courses at the University of Mauritius.

SERVING OUR CUSTOMERS

The National Library strives to provide customer-oriented library and information services. Understanding and satisfying their information needs has been our constant preoccupation. In this respect, a range of services is being offered in a spacious and air-conditioned search room.

The number of users who have benefitted from the reference information service has been continuously rising. For the period under review, the National Library has welcomed **7,897** customers, representing an increase of **8.6 %** over the previous year. It is noteworthy that since its opening in January 2000, the National Library has been providing information services to **44,533** users.

The growth in the number of customers is illustrated hereunder.

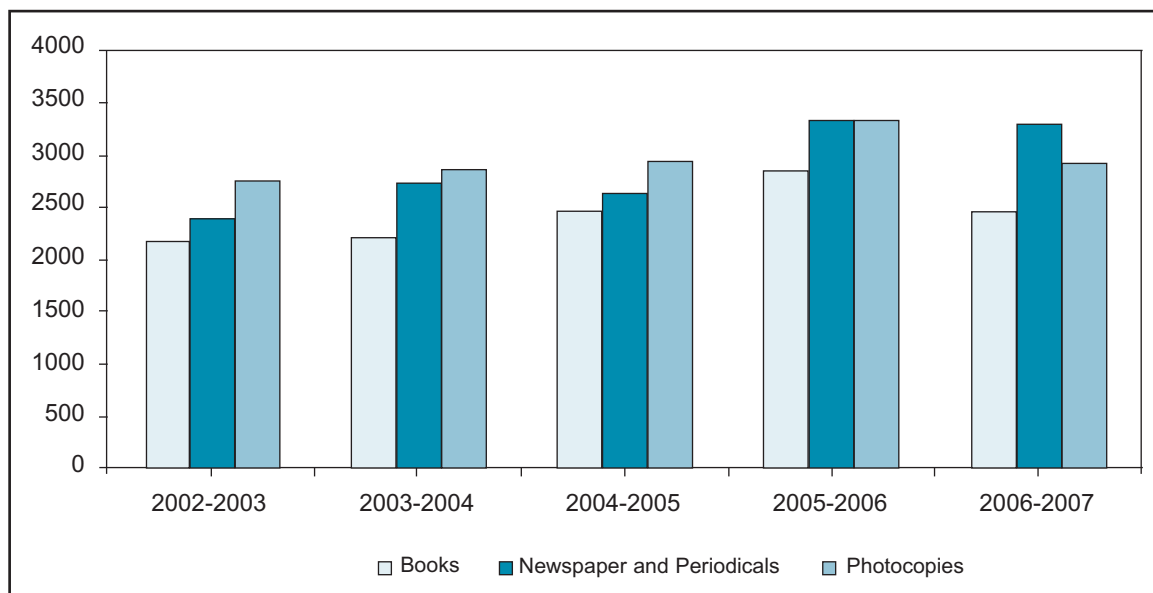


Search Room Services

The following table illustrates the number of requests received for books, newspapers, periodicals, Internet, audio-visual materials photocopies and attended to during the year under review:

REQUESTS FOR REFERENCE/INFORMATION SERVICE		NUMBER
1.	Requests for Books	2,773
2.	Requests for Newspapers and Periodicals	3,617
3.	Requests for use of the Internet	1,012
4.	Requests for Audio-Visual materials	14
5.	Requests for photocopies	3,148
6.	Requests by phone	159
7.	Requests by mail and Email (overseas)	36
8.	Requests by Mail and Email (local)	25
TOTAL		10,784

The total number of requests for books, newspapers and photocopies for the last five years is shown below:



OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATIONS 2007

The World Book and Copyright Day is celebrated since 23rd April 1995 on a worldwide basis and the National Library, along with its stakeholders, has taken the initiative since 2003 to celebrate it on a national basis in Mauritius. One of the main objectives of this celebration is to make good books available to the general public at discounted prices, contributing to the attempt to inspire children, and adults as well, to read. As Koïchiro Matsuura, the Director-General of UNESCO said, books are a unique tool for expression, education and communication. Indeed, the National Library is not about lifeless books sleeping on shelves, it is an institution that is actively growing and one of its objectives is to encourage reading habits, hence it's organising of the World Book Day.

The theme for this year's celebration was the same as last year, given its laudable impact: "*Lire, Grandir & Réussir*". By involving the stakeholders of the book established in Mauritius, like the Centre de Lecture et d'Animation Culturelle (CLAC), the Mahatma Gandhi Institute, the Mauritius College of the Air, the National Computer Board, Embassies, Cultural Centres, booksellers and distributors to speak of only a few, the National Library has provided a national platform which attempts to give books their rightful place in today's fast-paced world. The help and support of, among others, the Ministry of Arts and Culture, Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport & Shipping, Ministry of Public Utilities, along with the District and Municipal Councils were sought for this occasion to help promote the World Book Day. The local press and advertising agencies also joined in this common enterprise to make the event a success.

With a view to reach the majority of the Mauritian population, the World Book Day was celebrated in three different regions of the country, namely at the Port Louis Waterfront on the 28th April, at the Mahebourg Waterfront on the 12th May, and in Goodlands on the 2nd June 2007. If people are hesitant to reach out for books, the National Library is well inclined to bring the books to the population. The Prime Minister, Honourable Dr. Navinchandra Ramgoolam was the Chief Guest at the Opening Ceremony of the World Book Day Celebrations at the Port Louis Waterfront and in his address he declared that books were a means of enriching and enlivening the nation's thinking.

At the celebrations held at Mahebourg, Mr. Raouf Bundhun, the Vice-President of the Republic of Mauritius, was the Chief Guest and Hon. Mahendra Gowressoo, Minister of Arts and Culture also graced the ceremony by his presence. This year, for the first time, the National Library celebrated the World Book Day in Goodlands, where several eminent personalities, among others, Hon. Dharam Gokhool, Minister of Education & Human Resources and Hon. Madan Dooloo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade & Cooperation were present. A symbolic donation of books to some primary schools of the region was also held on that day, thus contributing to the mission of making Mauritius a reading nation.

Several activities, among others, quizzes, drawing competitions, reading contests, poem recitals, spelling contests and exhibitions were held during the three Book Festivals, which generated a high rate of interest and participation of children, youngsters and adults. There was also a distribution of school kits, balloons, books, sweets and biscuits, but even better was the availability of a large variety of books at promotional prices, provided by different bookshops. Moreover, two cybercaravans operated by the National Computer Board were also present during the whole day to promote ICT literacy. There were live musical programmes

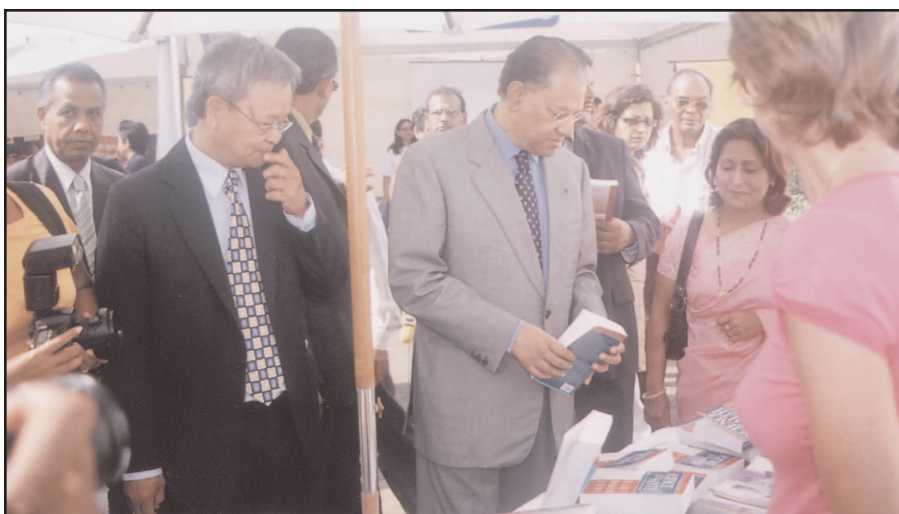
provided by the Mauritius Police Band and the Conservatoire de Musique François Mitterand. The ambience was undeniably encouraging to learning, reading and having fun while doing it.

World Book Day Celebrations hence brought different groups of people to a common platform and united them, along with the different institutions involved and the staff of the National Library, in the general quest for the betterment of their world through books. The National Library, working in collaboration with the Organising Committee, wanted a national move towards books and reading and it left no stone unturned into making the World Book Day Celebrations 2007 a successful one.

WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATION 2007



Opening Ceremony by Hon. Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam, Prime Minister of Mauritius



Hon. Dr. Navinchandra Ramgoolam visiting a stand at Port Louis Waterfront



Hon. Dr. Navinchandra Ramgoolam visiting a stand at Port Louis Waterfront



World Book Day Celebrations at Goodlands - Quiz Competition

ROUND TABLE AND BOOK LAUNCHING CEREMONY

So as to commemorate the World Book Day 2007, a series of activities were also organised within the premises of the National Library. In the same context, a Round Table was organised on the 23rd April 2007 in the Search Room of the National Library around the theme: *"Libraries in Mauritius and their role in the present educational set-up"*. Librarians and authors were invited to form part of the panel. The participants of the talk were Mr. C. Cassiau-Haurie of Centre Culturel Charles Baudelaire, Mrs. B. Hurrinag-Ramnauth, Senior Librarian of the Carnegie Library, Mr. Bismah Dev Seebaluck, Writer, Mr. Basheer Taleb, Manager of the Islamic College, and Mr. Ibrahim Kodooruth of the UNDP. The aim of the Round Table was to act as a catalyst in the re-orientation and revamping of libraries of Mauritius.

Honourable Mahendra Gowressoo, the Minister of Arts and Culture was the Chief Guest and in his address he drew the link between education and libraries, stating that the library is a non-entity if it cannot impart education. The Round Table was preceded by the launching of a book entitled '*The Other Side*', written by Mrs. Zaynah Monodee.

INTER YOUTH CENTRE QUIZ COMPETITION

In the context of the celebration of the World Book and Copyright Day, a quiz competition was organised at the national level by the Ministry of Youth and Sports in collaboration with the National Library. The event took place on Saturday 26 May, 2007 at the Helvetia Youth Centre, St. Pierre.

22 Youth Centres participated in the above activity and the winners were as follows:

- 1st Prize : Helvetia Youth Centre
- 2nd Prize : Brisée Verdière Youth Centre
- 3rd Prize : Rivière du Rempart Youth Centre

EXHIBITION ON SIR ABDUL RAZACK MOHAMED

To mark the 100th Birth Anniversary of Sir Abdul Razack Mohamed, a Photo Exhibition was mounted by the National Library. The exhibition was based on the theme "*Sir Abdul Razack Mohamed, a Selfless Patriot*", and was organised with the intention of shedding light on the life and achievements of one of the founding fathers of the independence of our country.

The exhibition was inaugurated on the 31st August, 2006 by Mr. Raouf Bundhun, the Vice-President of the Republic of Mauritius, in the presence of other eminent personalities namely, Honourable Mahendra Gowressoo and Mohamad Vayid, Chairman of the National Organising Committee. The exhibition was open to the public from Monday 4th to Friday 8th September 2006.



Opening of an exhibition on Sir Abdul Razack Mohamed by Mr. Raouf Bundhun, Vice-President of the Republic of Mauritius



Exhibition on Sir Abdul Razack Mohamed

GUIDED VISITS AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

During the year under review, guided visits were organised for the following schools:

1. Queen Elizabeth College.
2. Loreto College Mahébourg.

Students of both colleges were given a slide presentation of an overview of the National Library and its services. A guided visit of the library was also included in the programme.

STUDY VISIT FOR BA (LIS) STUDENTS

During the month of February 2007, a study visit was arranged for the BA (Library & Information Science) students of the University of Mauritius. Mr. Roy Sanders, Course Coordinator for the BA (LIS) programme from Charles Sturt University was also present for the visit.

SEMINAR AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

The National Library organised a seminar for staff of the National Library and BA (LIS) students on 21st February, 2007. The seminar was delivered by Mrs Karen Hartman, Information Resource Officer of the Embassy of the United States of America, based in Nairobi. The theme was "*Web 2.0 and its impact on Libraries*".

LECTURE TO STAFF OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

On 26 March 2007, Mr Sunil Mungur of the Customer Relations Department at the State Insurance Company Ltd (SICOM Ltd) made a Lecture in connection with the operation of National Library Pension Fund and Family Protection Scheme to staff of the National Library

THE STAFF

Promotion

- Mrs B. Nassim Meer-Hossen, Library Clerk, was promoted to Senior Library Clerk

Staff on Leave Without Pay

- Ms B. Nasseembee Peerbucus, Library Officer as from 26 February 2007

Extension of Leave Without Pay

- Mr Devendre K. Jodhun, Office Supervisor, as from 01 December 2006

Resignation

- Mr D. L. T. Mike Lai Cheong King, Library Officer, on 03 February 2007

Staff Joining the National Library on a temporary basis

- Ms Fakeermahamood Nushruth B., Library Attendant, as from 10 July 2006
- Ms Korim B. Parveen, Library Attendant, as from 10 July 2006
- Ms Persunoo Kheemah, Library Clerk, as from 10 July 2006
- Mr Mohabeer Ramesh, Library Attendant, as from 24 July 2006
- Mr Chenganna Sangaren N., Library Officer, as from 26 July 2006
- Mr Appareil E. Guito, Binder, as from 02 August 2006

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 2006 - 2007* of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources.

- Mr Méyépa Dominique from 28th March 2006 to 27th March 2007

University of Mauritius Student Work Experience Programme (SWEP) 2007

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:

- Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities : From 05th June 2006 to 21st July 2006
Ms Gunpoteea Urvashee, Ms Fulena Kushida Devi, Ms Nankoo Padmeenee, Ms Kaleechurn Shamini and Mr Rajcoomar Chetwantee
- Faculty of Science : From 05th June 2006 to 17th July 2006
Ms Seedhari Reena Devi, Ms Ramkissoon Krishtee, Ms Fakun Deepeelah Devi and Mr Deenoo Nitesh Kumar
- Placement on Practicum / Practical Training : From 13th June 2006 to 31st December 2006
Ms Sairally Bibi Farahnaz and Mr Faugoo Kumar Luxmeenarain
- Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities : From Monday 11 June 2007 to Friday 20 July 2007
Ms Maloupe Marie Cindy Mary-Jane, Ms Sooklall Marie Joëlle Clydiane,
Ms Ramcharan Damini
- Faculty of Law and Management : From 01st June to 17th August 2007
Mr Gobin Shyam

University of Mauritius Students from the Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities following the Diploma Course in Library and Information Studies

Five students from the University of Mauritius following the *Diploma Course in Library and Information Studies* namely Mr Abdoolary Neyaz, Ms Dorasamy Naiken Pascale, Ms Chuttarsing Sookrani, Ms Casimir Anne Huguette, and Ms Hortense Marie Jeanine were on a training placement at the National Library for a week to have a brief introduction of the various library tasks from 04th to 08th June 2007.

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 Ramsamy Jayen, Library Officer* attended a Seminar organized by the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund on *Notarial Record* conducted by Dr Richard B. Allen on 07th, 11th, 14th, and 21st August.
- *Mr Ramjaun Ibrahim, Librarian*, attended a Talk on '*How can the Productivity Movement contribute to economic growth and better quality of life?*' - *Learnings from Japan's Productivity Movement*', delivered by Prof. Goshi Akira and Dr. Inoue Yasuhiko on 08th September 2006.
- *Mrs Appadoo Diva, Confidential Secretary* attended a half-day Symposium for workers on the theme '*Developing an integrated approach to fight corruption*' organized by the Independent Commission Against Corruption on 05th October 2006.
- *Mrs Appadoo Diva, Confidential Secretary, Mrs Henry Chantal Clerk/WPO, and Ms Sembhoo Sandhya, Ag. Office Supervisor*, attended a half-day conference on 05th December 2006, organised by the Independent Commission against Corruption (ICAC) to mark its *Third International Anti-Corruption Day 2006*.
- *Mrs Harree Shanti, Library Clerk*, attended a training session on '*Initiation à la Bibliothéconomie*' from 05th to 09th March 2007 organised by l'Alliance Française.

CORPORATE MATTERS

MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES ATTENDED BY THE DIRECTOR DURING PERIOD JULY 2006 TO JUNE 2007

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

- Africa Day of the Civil Service and Administration Day and the UN Public Service, *Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms*
- Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA), *Ministry of Arts and Culture*
- Celebration of the 100th Birth Anniversary of Sir Abdool Razack Mohamed (1st to 8th August 06), *Ministry of Arts and Culture*
- Celebration of the 106th Birth Anniversary of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, *Ministry of Arts and Culture*
- Foire et Découverte Artistique Project, *Ministry of Arts and Culture*
- Indian Ocean Observatory on Cultural Diversity, *Ministry of Arts and Culture*
- Mauritius Council of Registered Librarians
- Meeting with Heads of Parastatal Bodies, *Ministry of Arts and Culture*
- Meeting in connection with the Re-organisation of the 'Centre de Lecture et d'Animation Culturelle (CLAC), *Ministry of Arts and Culture*
- National Archives Advisory Committee, *National Archives Department*
- National Day Celebrations 2007 - Bookmarks, *Ministry of Arts and Culture*
- President Fund for Creative Writing in English, *Ministry of Arts and Culture*
- Promotion of Reading, *Ministry of Arts and Culture*
- Public Records Appraisal Committee, *National Archives Department*
- UNEP Project on Development of National Legal Databases to enhance access to Environmental Law Information in Africa Local Seminars and Conferences attended by the Director during the period July 2006 to July 2007

LOCAL SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES ATTENDED BY THE DIRECTOR DURING THE PERIOD JULY 2006 TO JUNE 2007

The Director attended the following seminars and conferences:

Date	FUNCTION
21st July 2006	Public Conference on trade in Services At Sir H. Vaghjee Hall, New Government Centre, Port-Louis
6th November 2006	Talk on “Emotional Intelligence and Self-Management for Effective Leadership” At Sir H. Vaghjee Hall, New Government Centre, Port-Louis
6th December 2006	Public Talk on “Archaeological Study of the Historic Shipwreck at Pointe aux Feuilles: Le Coureur At Mauritius Institute, Chaussée, Port Louis
7th December 2006	Forum & Launching of Booklet on the occasion of the 125th Birth Anniversary Celebration of Manilal Doctor At Municipal Town Hall of Quatre Bornes
13th December 2006	National Economic and Social Council 4th Annual Summit At Ebène Cyber Tower Conference Hall
14th December 2006	Second Workshop on National Strategy for the Development of Statistics At Sir H. Vaghjee Hall, New Government Centre, Port-Louis
13th June 2007	Workshop on Governance - African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) At Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre, Pailles

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES & SEMINARS PERIOD JULY 2006 TO JUNE 2007

Participation of the Director to a Professional Stay in France from 13 to 20 November 2006

In the context of the Cultural Exchange Programme between the Republic of France and the Republic of Mauritius the Director of the National Library was invited in France for a professional stay from 13 to 20 November 2006.

Mr Fred Constant, the *Conseiller de Coopération et d'Action Culturelle* at the French Embassy prepared an excellent schedule of working sessions, in connection with the specific needs of the National Library of Mauritius. Emphasis was set on three essential areas, respectively:

- Bibliographical search of all publications related to Mauritius and their possible dispatch to Mauritius, either by microfilming, photocopy or in numeric forms;
- Digitalisation techniques; and
- Short training courses for library staff at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France.

During his stay in France, the Director of the National Library, visited firstly the Bibliothèque Nationale de France from 14 to 15 November 2006. He was warmly welcomed by Mrs Marie-Claire Germanaud, *'Responsable de la Délégation aux Relations Internationales'*. The Director had the privilege to have a meeting with Mr Jean-Noël Jeanneney, Chairman of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, who promised to help the National Library in its future development. He also had work sessions with other senior executives. Mr Denis Bruckmann, *'Adjoint au Directeur des Collections pour les Questions Scientifiques et Techniques'* gave him a guided tour of the François Mitterrand Complex, established since 1368, by Charles V when he set up his own library of about 917 manuscripts at the Louvres (*Tour de la Fauconnerie*).

On 16 November 2006, the Director, went to the Archives Nationale de France and discussed with Mrs Elizabeth Rabut, *Chef de l'Inspection Générale*, about future cooperation between the two institutions.

The Director then headed for the Centre des Archives d'Outre-Mer at Aix-en-Provence on 17 November 2006, where he had the opportunity to see *de visu* all cards and plans of fortifications and churches. He also made an inventory of the rich collection of printed documents and periodicals related to Mauritius for a further comparative study.

VISITORS AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

05 July 2006

Visit of **Mr Armoogum Parsuramen**, *Secretary of the Executive Board of UNESCO Headquarters* in Paris. During his visit he conducted some research works.

02 August 2006

Visit of **Mrs Monique Orian**, residing in Australia. During her visit, she informed the Director of her intention to donate a collection of books of Dr. Alfred Orian, her husband, to the National Library.

17 October 2006

Visit of **Mrs Helen Morgan**, *Research Fellow*, University of Melbourne, Australia

20th February 2007

Mr Roy Sanders, *Senior Lecturer in Library and Information Management*, from the Charles Sturt University, Australia, visited the National Library.

21 February 2007

Mrs Karen Hartman, *Information Resource Officer of the US Embassy*, based in Nairobi visited the National Library.

21 May 2007

Visit of a **Chinese Delegation**, *Cultural Exchange Association*, comprising namely of:

- **Mr Pan Zhenzhou**, Head of Delegation, **ex. Minister of Culture of China**, Vice-President of the Association of Foreign Cultural Exchanges of China, Conservator of the National Museum of China;
- **Mr Chen Jiang**, Assistant of the Secretary General of the Association of Foreign Cultural Exchanges of China;
- **Mr. Xie Fei**, Head of Division of African Affairs of the Department of Foreign Cultural Affairs of the Ministry of Culture; and
- **Mrs Zheng Xia**, Interpreter and Secretary of the Association of Foreign Cultural Exchanges of China.

15 June 2006

Visit of **Mr Gaëtan Jabeemissar**, *Deputy Chief Commissioner & Others* accompanied by **Mr Joseph L. Rosaire Perrine**, *Adviser for Arts and Culture & Others*, from the Commission for Education (Administration), Vocational Training, Arts and Culture, Consumer Protection, Library Services, Human Resource Centre of Rodrigues

20 June 2007

Visit of **Mr Rudra Gaurav Shresth**, *First Secretary* of the High Commission of India in Mauritius.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR
1ST JULY 2006
TO
30TH JUNE 2007

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT TO THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

I have audited the accompanying balance sheet of the National Library as of 30 June 2007, and the related statements of income, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Board. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the National Library as of 30 June 2007, and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and comply with the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act 1972.



(Dr R. Jugurnath)
Director of Audit

National Audit Office
Level 14,
Air Mauritius Centre
PORT LOUIS
23 November 2007

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2007

	Notes	Rs	2006/2007 Rs	Rs	2005/2006 Rs
FIXED ASSETS	2.0		1,637,601		2,834,015
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash in hand and at bank	3.0	87,040		6,913	
Debtors & Prepayments		404,446		560,762	
		<u>491,486</u>		<u>567,675</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors and Accruals		(1,054,632)		(1,111,352)	
Net Current Liabilities			<u>(563,146)</u>		<u>(543,677)</u>
			<u>1,074,455</u>		<u>2,290,338</u>
Financed by:					
Fund as at 01 July 2006		(823,574)		(245,051)	
(Deficit)/Surplus of Income over Expenditure		<u>(19,469)</u>		<u>(578,523)</u>	
			(843,043)		(823,574)
Capital Grant	8.0		1,917,498		3,113,912
			<u>1,074,455</u>		<u>2,290,338</u>



Chairperson
S. Kistamah (Mrs)



Director
C. K. C. Chan Kam Lon

Date: 21.09.2007

The notes on pages 38-40 form part of these accounts

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

	Notes	2006/2007 Rs	2005/2006 Rs
INCOME			
Revenue Grant	6.0	11,452,390	10,948,007
Deferred Income		1,264,034	1,791,216
Income	7.0	174,827	182,091
		<u>12,891,251</u>	<u>12,921,314</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Staff Costs	4.0	6,869,279	6,781,466
Other Operating Costs	5.0	4,777,407	4,927,156
Depreciation of Assets	2.2	1,264,034	1,791,215
		<u>12,910,720</u>	<u>13,499,837</u>
(Deficit) /Surplus of Income over Expenditure		<u>(19,469)</u>	<u>(578,523)</u>

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

Operating Activities

	Rs	2006/2007 Rs	Rs	2005/2006 Rs
Deficit for the year	(19,469)		(578,523)	
Depreciation for the year	1,264,034		1,791,216	
Deferred Income	(1,264,034)		(1,791,216)	
Debtors (Increase)/Decrease	156,316		(492,265)	
Creditors (Decrease)/Increase	(56,720)		837,306	
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities		80,127		(233,482)
Investing Activities				
Acquisition of fixed assets		(67,610)		(259,900)
Financing Activities				
Grant received		0		0
Transfer from Recurrent to Capital		67,610		259,900
Cash in hand and at bank at 01 July 2006		6,913		240,395
Net Cash and Cash Equivalent		87,040		6,913

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

1.0 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- 1.1 The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention and accrual basis. The main policies which have been adopted within that convention are set out below.
- 1.2 **Depreciation of Fixed Assets:** Depreciation of Fixed Assets have been provided on the straight-line method at the following rates so as to write off the costs of the fixed assets over their expected useful economic lives, except for assets which are still in use and which are given a nominal value.

One full year depreciation has been provided on fixed assets acquired during the year.

Fixed Assets	Expected Useful life (Yrs)	Rates of Depreciation Per Annum
Office Equipment	5	20%
Office Furniture	10	10%
Books for Library	10	10%
Motor Vehicle	5	20%

2.0 FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment Rs	Office Furniture Rs	Motor Vehicle Rs	Books for Library * Rs	Total Rs
2.1 Cost					
Op. Balance 01/07/06	7,256,982	1,227,070	939,052	293,020	9,716,124
Acquisition during year	52,540	5,750	0	9,320	67,610
Disposal	(2,672,691)	0	(23,292)	0	(2,695,983)
Nominal Value of assets still in use	10	0	10	0	20
Total (A)	4,636,841	1,232,820	915,770	302,340	7,087,771
2.2 Depreciation					
Op. Balance 01/07/06	5,721,915	641,621	389,595	128,988	6,882,119
Charge for the year	927,366	123,282	183,152	30,234	1,264,034
Depreciation on assets disposed	(2,672,691)	0	(23,292)	0	(2,695,983)
Total (B)	3,976,590	764,903	549,455	159,222	5,450,170
2.3 Net Book Value (A - B)	660,251	467,917	366,315	143,118	1,637,601

* Amount excludes books, periodicals and newspapers received from other institutions/donors and are being properly recorded in the accession register.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

3.0 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND AS AT 30/06/2007

	Rs
Savings Account	9,714
Current Account	74,212
Petty Cash	3,114
	<hr/>
TOTAL	87,040
	<hr/> <hr/>

4.0 STAFF COSTS

Salaries	4,455,437
Travelling	351,649
Staff Development, Training and Welfare	8,655
End of Year Bonus	380,703
Passage Benefits	128,889
Salary Compensation	252,063
Allowances	111,255
Travelling Allowance	83,414
Petrol Allowance	90,954
National Pension Scheme	111,376
Civil Service Family Protection Scheme	5,280
Family Protection Scheme	79,510
Pension Contribution	652,508
Overtime	2,328
Uniform Allowance	32,940
Refund of Unutilised Sick Leave	122,318
	<hr/>
	6,869,279
	<hr/> <hr/>

NOTES TO THE AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

	Rs	Rs
5.0 OTHER OPERATIONAL COSTS		
Cleaning Services/materials		28,663
Insurance on equipment/Furniture		38,140
International Subscription/Contribution		33,791
Telephone		331,578
Board and Committee Fees		223,675
Stipend Allowance		58,246
Repairs and Maintenance		438,073
Computer Expenses		24,880
Rent, Tenant Tax/Service charge		2,590,403
Overseas Passages/Allowances		36,581
Electricity		365,306
Publications		44,850
Remittance to Mauritian Authors		14,375
Audit Fees		25,000
Printing and Stationery		197,151
Office Expenses		66,194
Hospitality and Ceremonial		39,336
Consultancy Fees (ISO 9001:2000)		12,000
Bank Charges		3,306
Postage		11,680
Laminating Materials		55,200
Exhibition, Workshop/Seminar		16,352
Microfilm and Audio Visual Materials		1,241
Cost of running vehicles		121,386
		<u><u>4,777,407</u></u>
6.0 REVENUE GRANT		
Government of Mauritius	11,520,000	
Less Grant used for Capital purposes	<u>(67,610)</u>	
		<u><u>11,452,390</u></u>
7.0 INCOME		
Sale of Publications (National Library)	2,710	
Sale of Publications (Mauritian Authors)	15,115	
Sundry receipts	<u>157,002</u>	
		<u><u>174,827</u></u>
8.0 CAPITAL GRANT		
Opening Balance as at 01 July 2006	3,113,902	
Recurrent Grant used for Capital purposes	67,610	
Nominal Value of Assets still in use	<u>20</u>	
	<u><u>3,181,532</u></u>	
Transfer to Revenue Grant	<u>(1,264,034)</u>	
		<u><u>1,917,498</u></u>
9.0 The National Library Staff Pension Fund managed by SICOM Ltd stood at Rs7,232,378- at 30 June 2007, as per draft statement of fund.		



NATIONAL LIBRARY
(Republic of Mauritius)

1st & 2nd Floors, Fon Sing Building, Edith Cavell Street - Port Louis - Tel : (230) 211 9891-3 / (230) 211 9896 - Fax : (230) 210 7173