

NATIONAL LIBRARY  
*(Republic of Mauritius)*



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2001-2002**

***MISSION***

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

***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.

**NATIONAL LIBRARY**

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floors, Fon Sing Building  
12, Edith Cavell Street  
Port-Louis  
Republic of Mauritius

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**NATIONAL LIBRARY  
ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002  
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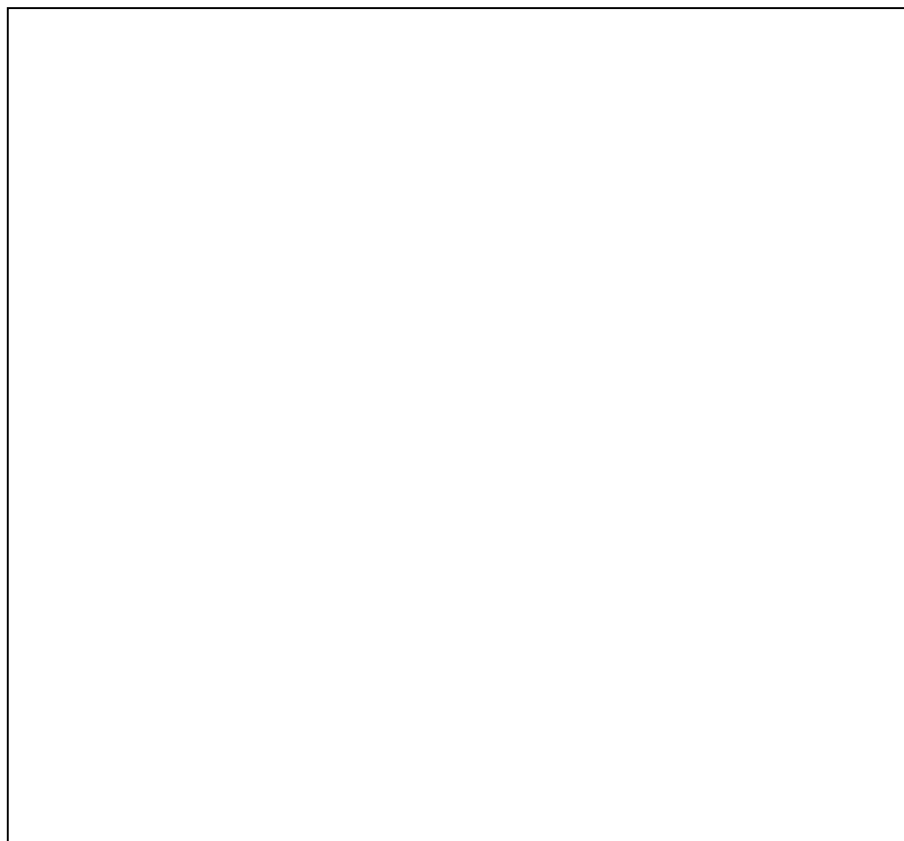
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Director : Mr Yves Chan Kam Lon



NATIONAL LIBRARY  
*(Republic of Mauritius)*



The Honourable Minister  
Ministry of Arts and Culture  
7<sup>th</sup> floor  
Renganaden Seeneevassen Building  
Port Louis

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report 2001-2002 and Accounts of the National Library for the year ended 30 June 2002. The Accounts have been audited in accordance with the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act, 1972.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Yours in service,

**Dr R. S. Lutchmeah,**  
**Chairman**  
**National Library Board**

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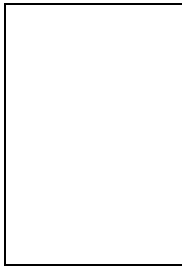
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FOREWORD  
BY  
DR R.S. LUTCHMEAH  
CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY BOARD

This Annual Report 2001-2002 gives a clear and in a concise manner the activities of the National Library during the period under review.

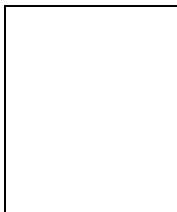
The reader will quickly discover the important role of the National Library in information management on aspects for which it has responsibility. The national system of information management is increasingly becoming important as we progressively move towards a knowledge-driven society with the National Library being an important stakeholder.

The achievements would not have been possible without the support of all those who have been involved in the work and activities of the National Library. Our excellent relationship with the Ministry of Arts and Culture was vital in carrying out those activities. I would therefore like to extend my grateful thanks to the Ministry, and all those institutions, organizations and individuals who have contributed in the work of the National Library. My appreciation also goes to the Director and staff of the National Library for implementing the decisions with dedication and commitment.

Finally, I would like to record my sincere appreciation to all the Board Members for their valuable inputs and support throughout the year.

**12<sup>th</sup> February, 2003**

**DR R.S. LUTCHMEAH**



REVIEW OF THE YEAR  
BY  
Y. CHAN KAM LON  
DIRECTOR

The year 2001 – 2002 was geared towards consolidating the Library, in terms of collection, infrastructure, and human resources, as a continuation of the implementation of the objectives, as laid down in the Strategic Plan (2000 – 2002). Its progress was regularly monitored by the Management Audit Bureau.

Major attention was focused on the building up of the library collection, and in parallel, providing quality services to its users. In the same breath, the National Library continued to be recipient of various documents and books, donated by various local and foreign organizations and among others, it became the depository of documents of the *International Monetary Fund (IMF)*. The library now offers a good reference service to the Mauritian community at large.

In line with its conservation policy, which is to ensure that Mauritian materials are maintained in a useable condition for as long as possible, the National Library acquired a microfilm camera and a reader printer, which would first and foremost microfilm local newspapers, which are considered as primary source of information.

The National Library, is an apex institution in the organization of information in the country, has been solicited by various ministries to help assisting in the organization of their documentation units. The National Library has also provided consultancy work for other public organizations as well.

Another step towards good practices at the National Library is to lay emphasis on environmental and social issues. The Board approved the setting up of the *National Library Staff Welfare Association*, whose main objective was to create an ‘esprit de

corps' among staff and to work for their welfare. The *Staff Welfare Association* was right away involved in social voluntary works, by organizing a special day for needy children and by giving a lunch for inmates of a social institution in Port Louis.

These were some of the salient achievements of the National Library during the year under review. The National Library will continue to be re-organised and upgraded to become more proactive, both nationally and internationally. I wish to express my deep appreciation to the Chairman, Dr R. S. Lutchmeah, and members of the National Library Board. I wish also to thank my staff for their unflinching support and their devotion to work.

My special thanks go also to the Ministry of Arts and Culture for its cooperation and support.

## 1. THE NATIONAL LIBRARY BOARD

The National Library is governed by a Board consisting of a Chairman and eleven members. The Board meets once a month and nine members constitute a quorum. It is responsible for the general policies and directions of the Library consistent with the National Library Act. Among the twelve members, six are appointed by the Minister for a period of three years and the six others are representatives of various ministries and departments.

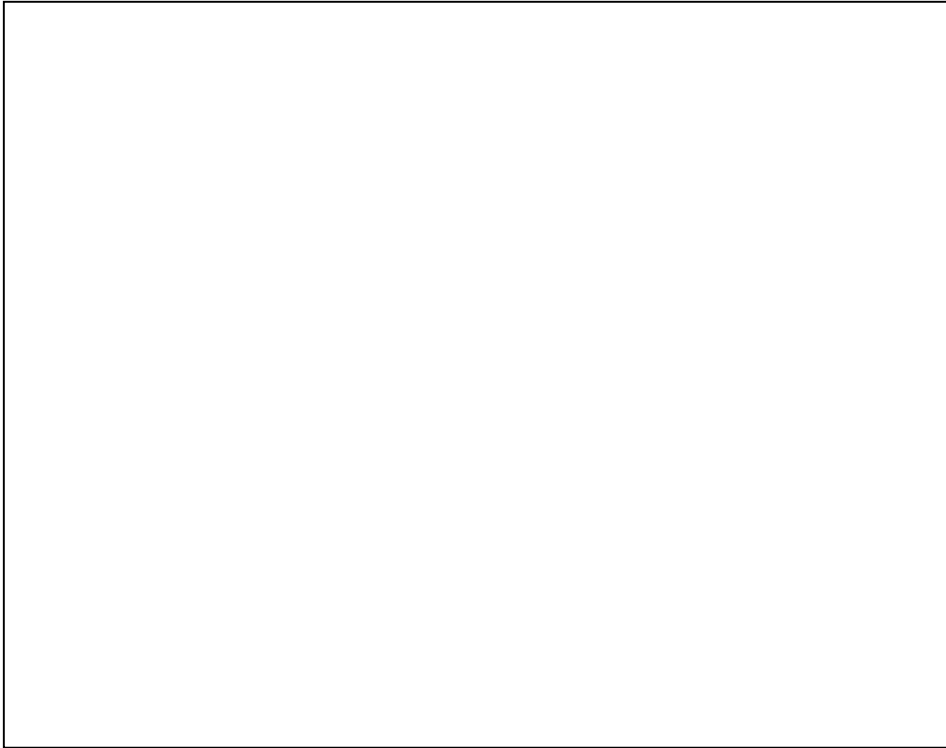
The Board, for the year under review, was constituted as follows:

CHAIRMAN ***Dr Raj Sunkur Lutchmeah***

### MEMBERS

1. Representatives of the Ministry of Education & Scientific Research  
***Mr. N .Pem*** (*Until December 2001*)  
***Mr. S. Rangan*** (*As from January 2002*)
2. Representatives of the Ministry of Arts and Culture  
***Mr I. Bhugan***
3. Representative of the Ministry of Economic Development,  
Financial Services and Corporate Affairs  
***Mr. S. Rungassamy***
4. Representative of the Ministry of Finance  
***Mr M. Maherally*** (*Until June 2001*)  
***Mr. R. Oree*** (*As from July 2001*)
5. ***Mr G. Suneechur***, Ag. Director, National Archives  
Department
6. ***Mr F. Soogali***, Ag. Head Library Cadre, Ministry of Education  
and Scientific Research
7. ***Mr S. Cahoolessur***, Ag. Head of Library and Archives,  
Mahatma Gandhi Institute
8. Representative of a Public Library  
***Mrs T. K. Hurrinag-Ramnauth***, Senior Librarian, Carnegie Library,  
Municipality of Curepipe
9. Representative of a Special Library  
***Mrs R. Ng Kee Kwong***, Head of Library and Scientific  
Information Service, Mauritius Sugar Industry Research  
Institute

10. Representative of the Association of Urban Authorities  
**Mr B. Silarsah**, Head Librarian, City Library,  
Municipality of Port Louis
11. **Mr G. Gokhool**, Pamplemousses/Rivière du Rempart District  
Council



## 1.1 Committees

(1<sup>st</sup> July 2001 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2002)

The composition of the four sub-committees of the Board for the period under review were as follows:

### 1. *Appointment Committee*

- 1.1 Dr R.S. Lutchmeah (Chairman)
- 1.2 Mr Y. Chan Kam Lon
- 1.3 Mr. Bhugan
- 1.4 Mr R. Oree
- 1.5 Mr B. Silarsah

### 2. *Infrastructure and Development Committee*

- 2.1 Mr Y. Chan Kam Lon
- 2.2 Mr. I. Bhugan
- 2.3 Mr R. Oree
- 2.4 Mr S. Rungassamy

### 3. *Finance Committee*

- 3.1 Dr R. S. Lutchmeah
- 3.2 Mr. I. Bhugan
- 3.3 Mr Y. Chan Kam Lon
- 3.4 Mr. R. Oree
- 3.5 The Finance Officer

### 4. *Tender Committee*

- 4.1 Dr. R.S Lutchmeah
- 4.2 Mr. I Bhugan
- 4.3 Mr Y. Chan Kam Lon
- 4.4 Mr. R. Oree

## **2. LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT**

### **2.1 Reference Service**

In addition to existing services, a new service has been introduced since April 2002, the availability of a good reference collection (non-Mauritiana documents) covering a wide spectrum of subjects ranging from Computer Science, Philosophy, Religion, Sports, Literature History, Geography, Biography etc. This rich collection of about 23,000 volumes is at the disposal of users for on-spot consultation.

In view of the importance of the collection and assets found in the Search Room, a hi-tech rotating video camera and a monitor system have been installed for a better control of the movement of users and the security of the materials displayed.

### **2.2 International Organisations Depository Programme**

During the year under review the National Library has been designated as depository of International Monetary Fund (IMF) documents. A protocol d'accord has been signed between the two institutions. These documents will enhance the reference collections and thus give the user a wide range of publication to consult on the spot.

### **2.3 Significant Donations**

On the 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2001, a *Donation Ceremony* was held in the presence of the Minister of Arts and Culture and other eminent personalities. The *World Meteorological Organization*, through its national representative, donated 90 publications on meteorology. In the same breath, the United States Embassy, through Mrs. Bisa Williams, donated 64 books on a wide variety of subjects. Mr. Deven Maulloo from the *Mauritius Film Development Corporation* donated some short films and Mr. Rama Poonosamy from the *Association of Advertising Agencies* donated a series of their annual souvenir magazine.

The Municipality of Port-Louis donated part of the City Library's holding of its newspapers, dating back to 1908, which, among others, consisted of bound volumes of *Le Cernéen*, *Le Mauricien*, *Le Radical* and *Advance*.

The Mauritius Sugar Producers' Association donated 416 items of library materials including books, magazines, project works, photos and commemorative envelopes.

The National Assembly donated 442 volumes of documents including, *Mauritius Estimates, Administrative Reports, Minutes of the National Assembly, Minutes of the Executive Council, Sessional Papers, Mauritius Blue Books, etc.*

The Prime Minister's Office donated 522 documents, consisting of *Government Gazette, Debates, Bills, Ordinance etc.* and 5 wooden shelves.

## **2.4 Collection Maintenance**

The Mauritiana materials and other significant publications are treated, repaired and maintained by the Binding Unit. Other materials are maintained in a useable condition by keeping them in a better environment. As such, two new dehumidifiers have been installed in the Collection Department.

## **2.5 The Binding Unit**

Among the Mauritiana materials in the custody of the National Library, the items most at risk of deterioration are the bound volumes of newspapers received, from the Archives Department. As at date, the Binding Unit has repaired and maintained some 674 materials.

No. of books and reports repaired:	574
No. of volumes of newspapers maintained and bound:	62
No. of volumes of magazines bound:	38

The parent Ministry requested to bind its National Assembly's Parliamentary Questions.

The Mauritius Institute requested to bind 19 books from the Sookdeo Bissoondoyal Memorial Museum.



Mr Sorayah Pathanah of Moka Flacq District Council and Mr Harryduth Boodhoo of the Pamplemousses / Rivière du Rempart District Council followed one month training course for binders conducted at the Binding Unit.

## **2.6 Setting-up of a Microfilm Plant**

In line with the conservation policy, spelt out in the Strategic Plan 2000-2002, the National Library acquired a Microfilm Camera and a Reader/Printer.

The Microfilm Camera will be used to film single and double-sided documents such as broad sheet type tabloid type newspapers and monographs. It has a PC controlled system, backed by a UPS.

The Microfilm Reader Printer with the appropriate accessories will read and print the above-filmed documents. It is equipped with a complete retrieval system and printing functions.

On the job training was provided by two experts from United Kingdom. The National Library has carried out a project study on the microfilming usage and output. As an insight of the dimension of the work, it is expected that with only one Microfilm Camera, it would take almost 70 years to complete the filming of all the newspapers of the library.

Moreover, two laminating machines, one heavy duty and one light, have been acquired for laminating newspapers and materials that are naturally subject to deterioration and use.

## **2.7 Computer Network Project**

The National Library has enlisted the support and expertise of the State Informatics Limited for the elaboration of the specifications to acquire in the first instance, hardwares to serve the immediate and internal needs of the National Library. Subsequently, the National Library will acquire the appropriate software for its external use so as to meet the needs of other local participating libraries.

In the same context, a '*Memorandum of Understanding*' was signed by both parties whereby both agreed to work together in identifying and carrying out activities with a view to assist both parties in achieving their respective strategic objectives, through the utilisation of modern information and communication technologies, including the implementation of the most appropriate library solutions.

## **2.8 Cataloguing-In-Publication Programme (CIP)**

A Cataloguing-In-Publication Programme was set up as a new service offered by the National Library to local printers. It involves the preparation of a cataloguing entry for a book before it is published. It appears in the printed book more precisely on the verso of the title page. It is a programme which aims at the standardisation of cataloguing and classification of Mauritian materials. It is also a very helpful tool for librarians in the current processing of Mauritian books.

### 3. REPORT ON HOLDINGS

The holdings of the National Library as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2002 were **147,862**.

Library materials acquired for the year 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2001 to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2002 amount to **47,980**. A breakdown of the newly acquired materials is presented below:

#### 3.1 Books / Monographs

Source of acquisition	No of books
Books: Legal Deposit	1,738
Donation (Non-Mauritiana materials)	22,897
Purchase	373
UN: Deposit	1,432
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,440</b>

#### 3.2 Audio-Visual Materials

Source of Acquisition	No. of AV Materials
Audio-cassettes: Legal Deposit	124
Donation	6
Purchase	-
Video cassettes: Legal Deposit	243
Donation	11
Purchase	-
CDs/CD ROMs: Legal Deposit	27
Donation	18
Purchase	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>435</b>

**3.3 Newspapers**

Source of Acquisition	No. of Newspapers
Legal Deposit	16,080
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,080</b>

**3.4 Periodicals**

Source of Acquisition	No. of Periodicals
Legal Deposit	2,841
Donation	1,684
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,525</b>

Source of Acquisition	No. of Annual Reports
Legal Deposit	168
Donation	159
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>327</b>

**3.5 Students Projects**

Source of Acquisition	No. of Projects
Donated by PROSI	173
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>173</b>

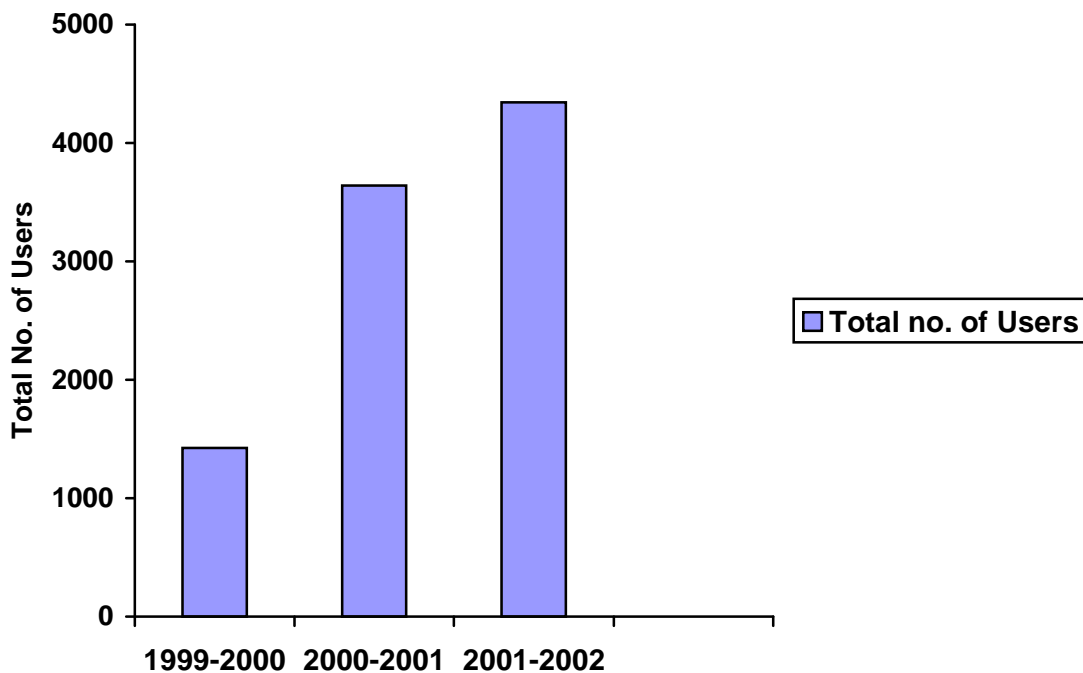
## 4. SERVING OUR CUSTOMERS

(FACTS AND FIGURES)

The National Library provides a wide range of services which serve the needs of thousands of users of different background each year. The National Library offers a spacious airconditioned Search Room for on-site consultation. Besides, special services are offered for those who prefer to access the library's services from their home or workplace. Requests for information come through the phone, e-mail or fax. During the year under review, the Library managed to answer 420 phone requests and 60 mail and e-mail requests.

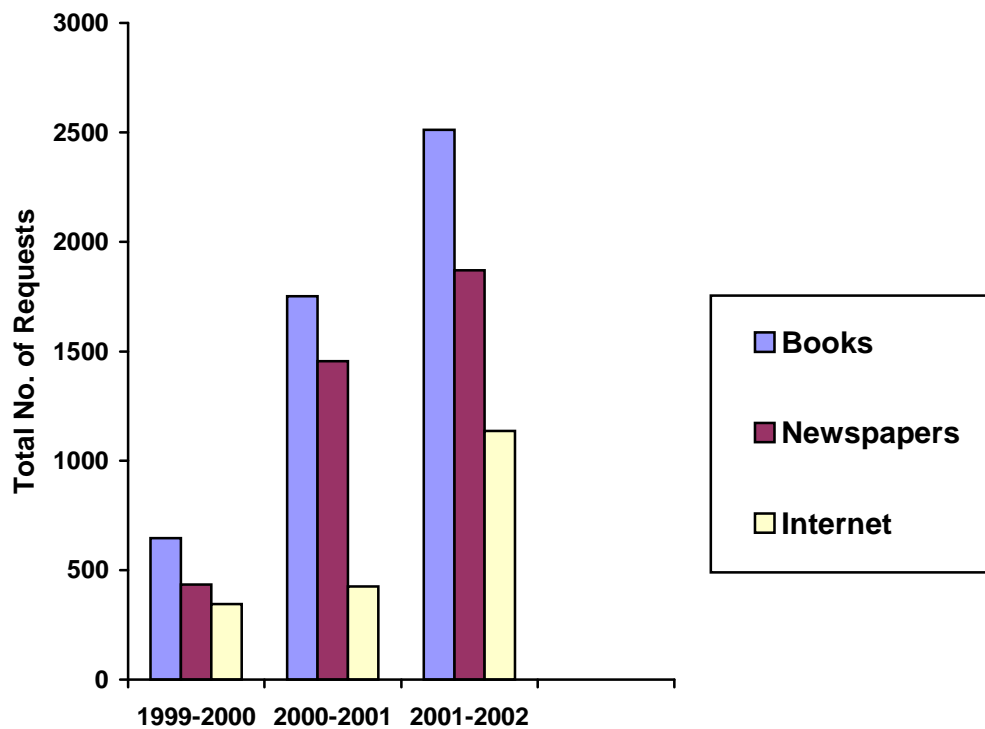
For the year under review, the total number of users working at the Search Room was **4,340**. It is to be noted that since its opening, the National Library has received **12,378** researchers.

Since the opening of the National Library, the number of users has been on the increase and this trend (as illustrated below) will continue as the Library develops its resources.



#### 4.1 Search Room Services

S/N	Requests for References Services	
1	Requests for Books	2,513
2	Requests for Newspapers	1,870
3	Requests for use of Internet	1,136
4	Requests for Audio-Visual Materials	8
5	Requests for Photocopies	2,162
6	Requests by phone	420
7	Requests by Mail and E-mail (Local and Overseas)	60
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF REQUESTS</b>		<b>8,169</b>



#### List of Local Users

S/N	NAME/INSTITUTION	SUBJECT OF REQUEST
1	Georges Legallant	List of books in Mauritian Kreol language
2	Ministry of Arts and Culture	Historical information on the 'Bain des Negresses' bridge
3	S. Cahoolessar	Articles regarding Mahatma Gandhi's visit to Mauritius
4	Anthony Quinn	Information on 'La Rodriguaise d'autrefois'

5	Ministry of Arts and Culture	Background information on Plaza and 'Salle des fetes' Beau Bassin / Rose Hill
6	Ministry of Arts and Culture	Historical nature or copies of any document on Old Prison Building near R. Seeneevassen Building
7	Ministry of Arts and Culture	Information on listing of Plaza Theatre as National Heritage
8	Mauritius Institute	Background information on Plaza and 'Salle des fetes' Municipality of Beau Bassin / Rose Hill
9	Mauritius Institute	Document on first mapping of Mauritius on a World Map
10	Mauritius Institute	Information on William Streatfield visit to Mauritius in 1820 – 1830
11	Hasanka Ranasinghe	Research Audit Exercise on all studies and surveys carried out on children and collateral in Mauritius
12	Ministry of Arts and Culture	Historical information on 'Maison de Carne' and 'Residence les Palmiers'
13	S. Hazareeing	Historical review
14	Mauritius Institute	Historical information on 'Maison de Carne' and 'Residence les Palmiers'
15	NHDC	Copy of Communique published in l'Express newspaper on 13.03.98 for NHDC
16	Ado Vallet	Articles des presse ou de magazines d'époque ayant trait aux différents événements historiques
17	Ministry of Housing and Lands	Copy of Government Gazettes
18	Ministry of Education and Scientific Research	Information on Index Translationum, international Bibliography of translations 54 <sup>th</sup> year
19	Regional Health Director, Mahebourg Hospital	Region of Mahebourg hospital
20	Ministry of Agriculture, Food Technology and Natural Resources	List of Publication on Forestry 1996 - 2001
21	I.I.L (Mtius) Limited	Information of historical importance of Mauritius
22	Ministry of Arts and Culture	Information on Third Session of the WIPO
23	Mauritius Institute	Historical information on 'La Maison Amie', Rose Hill, as National Monument
24	Edwina Kondiah	Information on National Library
25	Stella John Chuan	A short resume on HM Queen Elizabeth II's official visit in 1972

#### Lists of Overseas Users

S/N	Request for Information	Subject of Request
1	K. Marcus Galver	Availability of maps for a publishing project
2	Marcia Mcgim, Australia	Information on family history

3	Sandra Carbone, Germany	Mémoire «la société multiculturelle de l'île Maurice»
4	Erwan Dalbine, France	Documents on Francois-Eloy de Beauvais 1783-1807
5	Marcia Mcgim, Australia	Information about arrival of the Gilbert family in Mauritius in 1860
6	Richard Norgard	Information about the ship SUCCESS
7	Jean-Baptiste Erenst, Toulouse	Recherche Genealogiques
8	Trish Waddington, Australia	Annual Report of Education
9	Douglas R. G. Sellick, Australia	Information on shipwreck of "Meridian"
10	Anna Sheik Hassan UK	History of Mauritius/Country Profile
11	Kathy Hindon, South Africa	Mauritian Government Acts
12	Gavin and Liz Weaver	Library Services and Information Policy
13	Leonie Price, Australia	Birth Records Mauritius 1817
14	Winson Saw Chin Beng, West Malaysia	Portrait of Charles John
15	Ms Angela Scott	Information on her ancestors
16	David P Monk-Steel	Historical Documents: The Mauritius Government Railways 1864
17	Bill Lellis	History of the Great Fire of Port Louis in 1895
18	Ram Reyen	Information on "Associations des archivists" in Mauritius
19	Kathy Hindon, South Africa	Mauritian Ship's Articles
20	Stephanie Barker	Landlord and Tenant Legislation in Mauritius
21	Albert Cho, United States	A list of Mauritian newspapers
22	Dr Klaus Dodds, London	Information on Diego Garcia and the creation of British Indian Ocean Territory in 1960
23	John Gichuru, Kenya	Request for a list of Publications
24	Richard Harper	Capital Punishment Research
25	Jean Philippe Feuilherade	Information on "patronyme de Feuilherade"
26	Patrick de Sercey, USA	Information on Division Sercey and information on Family Sercey
27	Boodeea	Information on Boodeea family
28	Caroline Gunnink	Information on a book written by a Mauritian Lady author



29	L. Jakobsen	Historical and updated information about New Artisan and Workers Union in Mauritius
30	Liz Weaver, England	More information on local libraries
31	John Gichuru, Kenya	Information on the publication of Government Gazette
32	Dr Jordan Goodman, UK	Prints of Paul et Virginie tombs in Nixon's book
33	Paul Comarmond, Canada	History and origins of the Creole language & bibliography on Creole language
34	Winson Saw Chin Beng, West Malaysia	Picture of Governor Sir Robert Townsend Farquhar of Mauritius from (1810-1823)
35	Alain and Eleanor Gillet, Australia	Information on his ancestors

#### 4.2 Special Programme for Schools

In line with its statutory objectives to provide and encourage the use of library materials and to provide assistance in information handling techniques, the National Library has organized special programmes along with guided visits for students from the different colleges and primary schools of the island.

The programme was based on the discovery of specific Mauritian Collections, e.g newspapers of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and short-term and long-term strategies for preservation of rare collections. The programme also consisted of an introduction to Internet. The Director of the National Library Mr. Chan Kam Lon was the main resource person. The programme was followed by a guided tour of the whole library.

The programmes were conducted on weekdays as from 10.00 am to 14.30 pm for the following institutions as per the list below:

S/N	NAME OF INSTITUTION	STANDARD	DATE
1	Dr O. Beugeard Government School	VI	24.05.02 04.06.02 05.06.02 17.06.02
2	Raoul Rivet Government School	VI	16.05.02 17.05.02 20.05.02 21.05.02
3	Dr Edgar Millien Government School	VI	21.05.02 22.05.02
4	Notre Dame du Bon Secours RCA	VI	03.06.02 06.06.02
5	Guy Rozemont Government School	VI	18.06.02

<b>S/N</b>	<b>NAME OF INSTITUTION</b>	<b>DATE</b>
1.	Royal College Port-Louis	05.06.02 06.06.02
2.	Renganaden Seeneevassen SSS	05.06.02
3.	La Confiance College	21.06.02

#### **4.3 Essay Competition 2002**

The National Library organized its annual Essay Competition in May 2002. The competition was held that year exclusively for students of Form V and students of Form VI respectively.

The two titles for the competition were set as follows:

- (a) For Form V category : *'The Role of the National Library of Mauritius in Education'* and
- (b) For Form VI category : *'My Vision of the National Library of Mauritius in nation building'*

Cash prizes of Rs5,000 and Rs6,000 and consolation prizes were earmarked for the winners of the competition.



## 5. STAFF DEVELOPMENT

### 5.1 Staff Performance and Development Review

A 'Staff Performance and Development Review' was approved by Board with a view to increase job satisfaction, maintaining high standard of performance and to help staff to adapt to a continually changing environment.

### 5.2 Confirmation of staff in their appointment

S/N	Name of Officer	Post Held	Employed and Appointed on	Date of Confirmation
1	Suryadutt MANICK	Office Attendant/Driver	6-Jan-01	7-Jan-02
2	Shiv Kumar HAURADHUN	Library Clerk	23-Jan-01	23-Jan-02
3	Balkissoon ARDJON	Library Attendant	29-Jan-01	29-Jan-02
4	Marie Doris Chantal HENRY(Mrs)	Clerk/Word Processing Operator	29-Jan-01	29-Jan-02
5	Shalinee PYDIAMAH(Miss)	Clerk/Word Processing Operator	2-Feb-01	2-Feb-02
6	Andrew Dean ROCVES	Library Attendant	5-Feb-01	5-Feb-02
7	Nanda KHOODY (Miss)	Library Clerk	27-Mar-01	27-Mar-02
8	Ashvin APPADOO	Binder	12-Apr-01	12-Apr-02

### 5.3 Staff on Secondment

Eddy Latchmun , Machine Binder, on secondment from Government Printing since 1<sup>st</sup> October 2000.

### 5.4 New Recruits

S/N	Name of officer	Post Held	Employed and Appointed on
1	Samir ACKBURALLY	Library Attendant	1-Oct-01
2	Chandrasen CAHANEAA	Stores Officer	10-Dec-01
3	Shanti HARREE (Mrs.)	Library Attendant	5-Feb-02 (On a temporary basis)
4	Devendre Kumar JODHUN	Office Supervisor	6-Feb-02
5	Bhumika SEEBURN (Miss)	Library Clerk	29-Apr-02
6	Maya DOOKHEE (Mrs.)	Clerk/Word Processing Operator	17-Jun-02

## 5.5 Workshops

A workshop on the *Retrieval of Information and Digital Archiving* was organised for staff and librarians of Mauritius on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2002. Mrs. Lone Raffray conducted the workshop.

A workshop on 'Library Management' was organised jointly with the United States Information Service (USIS) on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2002 at the National Library for the benefit of libraries, new BALIS graduates and staff. The workshop was conducted by Mrs Elisabeth Leonard and was followed by a live Digital Video Conference with the Library of Congress 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2002, at the seat of the USIS.

The BALIS students of the University of Mauritius had a guided tour of the National Library on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2002, followed by a workshop conducted by Mr. Roy Sanders and Dr Gayner Eyre both lecturers from Charles Sturt University, Australia.

## 5.6 Human Resource Empowerment

Three Library Officers, namely Mr. J. Ramsamy, Mr. I. Ramjaun and Miss M.T.H. Lam, have graduated with a Bachelor of Art in Library and Information Science – a joint award programme offered by Charles Sturt University of Australia and the University of Mauritius.

## 5.7 Mutual Aid

The Mauritius Civil Service Mutual Aid Association and the National Library have signed an agreement (on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2002) to enable staff to join the Mutual Aid Membership and to benefit from facilities thereof.

## **6. CORPORATE MATTERS**

### **6.1 Strategic Plan Progress Report**

During the year under review, the National Library submitted its progress report to the Mauritius Audit Bureau on the progress of the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2000/2002.

### **6.2 Leadership and Consultancy**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs requested to re-organise its documentation unit.

The Ministry of Commerce and Cooperatives also requested assistance in the re-organisation of its Documentation Unit into a full fledged Trade Documentation Centre. A site visit was made and a report was submitted for implementation.

The Ministry of Labour and Industrial Relations requested to take cognizance of the current state of its Documentation Center and subsequently, to re-organise and consolidate its collection in order to enable the latter to provide value added information to staff and its corollary divisions users'.

### **6.3 Meetings and Committees**

The Director attended the following official Meetings and Committees during the period under review:

*Association of Professional Librarians (Member)*

*Mauritius Public Sector Newsletter Editorial Committee (Member)*

*National Archives Advisory Council (Member)*

*Public Records Appraisal Committee (Member)*

*President Fund for Creative Writing in English (Member)*

*National Monuments Board (Member)*

*Committee of Historians*

*National Genealogy Committee*

*Musée de la Photographie*

*Meeting with Chairpersons/Directors of Parastatal Bodies*

*400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Dutch Landing in Rodrigues*

*National Productivity Consultative Committee*

*Budget Monitoring 2001/2002*

*Committee on 'Pluri-cultural nature of the Mauritian Society'*  
*Meeting with heads of parastatal bodies*  
*Meeting on Proposed Teleferic Project on Le Morne Mountain*  
*Meeting for the review of Mauritius Fiscal Incentives Regimes*  
*Exhibition on 500 Years of Mapping of Mauritius*  
*Think-Tank Committee*  
*National Security Committee*  
*Vice President Promotion of Reading Project*  
*Archaeological Survey of Mauritius Projection*  
*Encounter 2002 : Follow up Celebrations in Mauritius –*  
*September/November*

#### **6.4 Local Seminars and Conferences**

The Director also attended the following:

1. *Technology Update seminar on Storage for the New Millennium organised jointly by Cordient Ltd and 3m/Imation and Tandberg Data at Le Labourdonnais Hotel.*
2. *Integrated Library Management System by Harel Mallac Computers Ltd in collaboration with SIRSI Ltd – U.K.- Presentation by Mr Peter Gethin, at Harel Mallac Computers Ltd.*
3. *Présentation du "Cybook", premier livre électronique en français par Mons Jean Pierre TÖ au Centre Charles Baudelaire.*
4. *Assignment of the Commission on Constitutional and Electoral Reform by the Chairman of the Commission at Vaghjee Hall.*
5. *Presentation of the DCDM's Library Management System at De Chazal Du Mée.*
6. *Conference marking the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the setting up of the VOC – Buitenpost Mauritius at the MGI.*

#### **6.5 Director's Mission Abroad**

The Director of the National Library attended a *reunion-programme* of the '*Banque internationale d'Information sur les états francophones (BIEF) and Institut Francophone des nouvelles Technologies de l'Information et de la Formations (INTIF)*' in Bordeaux, France from 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2001. This meeting focused its attention on how to make the *Institut Francophone des nouvelles Technologies de l'Information et de la Formations* INTIF become more dynamic and action-oriented for

the benefit of members of the Francophone countries. A protocol d'accord was signed for the printing of the National Bibliography of Mauritius, which would be partly financed by BIEF.

## 6.6 Visiting Eminent Personalities

Juan C. Rey	Ambassador, European Union
Premila Aubeeluck	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Arts and Culture
François-Marie Gérard	Consultant, European Union
Zubair I. Ahmed	Library and Information Services Manager, British Council
S. N. Sokappadu	Director, Meteorological Services
Bisa Williams	Chargé D'Affaires, US Embassy
Hon. Motee Ramdass	Minister of Arts and Culture
Rama Poonoosamy	Director, Immedia
Françoise Chapman	Chief Programme Officer, Commonwealth Secretariat
Sylvette Pool	Minister of Local Government, Sports and Culture, Mahe Seychelles
Patrick Nanty	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government , Sports and Culture, Mahe Seychelles
Raymonde Onezime	Director General, Ministry of Local Government , Sports and Culture, Mahe Seychelles

## **7. PUBLICATIONS**

At the request of the Ministry of Arts and Culture, the National Library agreed to publish for the first time under its auspices a research publication entitled “*La VOC*” written by Mr. Jocelyn Chan Low. The work has a scientific and pedagogical character while taking the readers down memory lane of the two islands, Mauritius and Rodrigues in the early seventeen century.

The Annual Report 1999-2000 and an Information Brochure were also published during the period under review.

## **8. WELFARE ACTIVITIES**

### **8.1 National Library Staff Welfare Association**

The Board approved the setting up of the ‘*National Library Staff Welfare Association*’ with its main objective to create an ‘*esprit de corps*’ among its members and to organize activities at different levels for the welfare of the staff.

### **8.2 Special Day for Needy Children**

The National Library, in collaboration with the *Staff Welfare Association*, organized a special day for children on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2001, in the context of the *International Volunteers’ Day*. Children from various orphanages were invited whereby, gifts and books were distributed. Many children artists participated in the programme which consisted, among others, of a study tour and an introduction to Internet. The Minister of Arts and Culture and various distinguished guests were present.

### **8.3 Lunch at the Gayasing Ashram**

The National Library Staff Welfare Association offered a lunch on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2001, to the 120 inmates of the Gayasing Ashram in Port Louis. All members of staff and the Director joined the lunch.



## **9. AUDIT REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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# **REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS**

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**Examination of the National Library  
Financial Statements for the Year ended 30 June 2002**

(the logo of the audit office has to be scanned)

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT  
ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE  
NATIONAL LIBRARY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002**

I have audited the financial statements of the National Library for the year ended 30 June 2002, in accordance with the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act.

2. **Respective Responsibilities of the Library and Auditors.** As required by the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act, the Library is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and their submission to me. It is my responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on my audit, on these statements and to report my opinion thereon.

3. **Basis of Opinion.** I conducted my audit in accordance with government auditing standards and procedures that are consistent with those recommended by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Library in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the Library, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming my opinion, I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

**AUDIT OPINION**

4. In my opinion, the attached financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the National Library as at 30 June 2002 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended and comply with the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act.

**(R. JUGURNATH)**  
Director of Audit

Government Audit Office  
Level 14,  
Air Mauritius Center  
**PORT LOUIS**  
14 October 2002

# NATIONAL LIBRARY

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR

1<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2001

TO

30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2002

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September 2002