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# Duplication in Journal Subscription by Some Special Libraries of Cochin City : a Sample Survey\*

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**ABSTRACT:** For collection development and resource sharing arrangement of scientific literature for the oceanography and fisheries research, a study was conducted and subsequently substantial duplication was identified relating to subscription to the periodicals in some special libraries of the Cochin city. The study highlights the duplication of acquisition and the amount spent for the acquisition of these journals. In order to solve this problem a networked environment is essential for collection development. Also discusses the facilities and databases available for the development of such a networking system within the city.

**KEYWORDS:** Library management; Collection development; Fisheries libraries; Cochin; Oceanography libraries.

## INTRODUCTION

This is an era of knowledge explosion. The second half of the 20th century has been an era of exponential growth of scientific literature. It has been growing during the last four centuries, at an annual rate of 5 to 7 per cent as stated by Dr Eugene Garfield of the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), Philadelphia [1]. According to Dr Stephen P Lock, editor, *British Medical Journal* there are about 1,00,000 scientific journals that publish around 3-4 million papers every year [2]. Oceanography being a multidisciplinary subject, has wide range of literature of potential importance to fisheries scientists. In the prevalent explosion of knowledge production and dissemination, it is extremely difficult for a single institution, howsoever strong it may be with adequate facilities and funding, to deal with the information deluge. There are six oceanography and fisheries research and educational institutions at Kochi established at different times for the development of research and education on oceanography. Since these institutions have independent mandate, the current collaboration existing for research and development and library and documentation is limited to inter-library loan. A proposal is made in this paper for collection development in a networked environment for oceanography and fisheries institutions in Kochi. Therefore, a positive approach is necessary for developing a model of resource sharing, collection development and networking taking into consideration the present system of information technology.

\* Paper presented at the National Seminar on 'Management of Libraries in 21st Century', held at Calicut University Library on 28-29th May 1999. (Abstract No. 5)

\*\*Original not referred.

## POLICY TOWARD STANDARDIZATION OF UNION CATALOGUE

The report of the working group of Planning Commission on Library and Informatics for the Ninth Five Year Plan 1997-2002 was prepared under the chairmanship of Mr B P Singh, Secretary, Department of Culture. The report puts forth the major recommendations for modernizing the libraries to take up the challenges of 21st century. The report emphasises that all the participating libraries in the National Library System be networked for which necessary infrastructure should ensure the development and standardization / compatibility of computer system (hardware and software)\*\* [3-4].

So far in India the online cataloguing has not emerged at library networks but many of the library networks such as Calcutta Library Network (CALIBNET), Delhi Library Network (DELNET), and Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) have adopted Common Communication Format (CCF) and being used regularly.

In Kochi, the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), College of Fisheries (COF), Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), Regional Centre of National Institute of Oceanography (NIORC) and National Physical Oceanography Laboratory (NPOL) are using CDS/ISIS software and they developed their own softwares for automating library functions. At the initial stage they were

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given an option to continue with their existing software, but they have to follow AACR 2 for cataloguing and DDC/UDC for classification. While making online catalogue for new books and periodicals, they have to catalogue with CCF for preparing a union catalogue. The existing catalogue data of each institute is converted into CCF and merged with similar data of participating institutions at first with details made available to them. Later, the updating work of this union catalogue may be done on a monthly basis by sending a list of new books/periodicals etc of each institute to others on floppy disks or through e-mail.

#### **STATUS OF AUTOMATION AND STRUCTURAL FACILITIES IN KOCHI**

The NPOL Library has one of the largest collections on naval and marine sciences comprising 27,000 documents collected over the past 40 years. Recently, this institute has completed the library automation project and developed the 'Autolib' software package for in-house operations like circulation, query, report generations and housekeeping operations of its resources. This library has also completed the bar coding of its entire holdings.

Since 1947, a collection of worldwide literature is being built up at CMFRI library and its holdings comprise around 60,000 documents including microforms and CD-ROMs. The automation of the library of CMFRI and CIFT has just started employing CDS/ISIS, Alice for Windows and SLIM++ packages. These packages are used for information storage and retrieval, serials control, circulation and preparation of bibliographies. These libraries partially completed the bar coding of its holdings.

Cochin University has partially automated its library with the financial support of Dutch government and developed 'Autolib' software for carrying out the functions of acquisition, cataloguing, circulation, serials control and local user service. The School of Marine Science library will be able to locate books and serials online, and carry out SDI searches.

The broad aim of the information system development is to strengthen information management within India by developing information network, covering state agricultural universities and their extension centres. As could be expected, the College of Fisheries, Kochi is going to automate their library in the coming years. It is also observed that they are using facilities available within the Kerala Agricultural University.

#### **ACQUISITION OF PERIODICALS**

Table 1 shows the important components of journal subscription at CMFRI with duplications at CIFT, COF, CUSAT, NIORC and NPOL. The duplication and cost of subscription for these journals is given in Table 2. For a close observation more than 50 titles of journals were taken into account for analysis. A rough calculation of the cost of these journals amounted more than Rs. 15.15 lakhs in 2000/2001 (Exchange rate 1 US\$ = Rs.47.80). The expensive sources like *Aquatic Sciences Fisheries Abstract* Parts 1-3, are being received by NIO and CIFT, the National Collaborating Input Centers for ASFA in CD-ROM for their access in return. Other institutions are subscribing to ASFA CD-ROM/ print version. On analysis it was observed that the CMFRI library is subscribing to 46 titles costing Rs.12.6 lakhs. The CIFT and CUSAT are getting 22 and 19 titles each, NIORC is getting 23 titles. It was found that the contents of most of the costly journals being subscribed by NIO HQ, Goa are being distributed regularly to their Regional Centre, Kochi through e-mail. The COF is getting 12 titles. In the lowest range NPOL is getting titles but this laboratory is concentrating mostly on ocean engineering, acoustics and geophysics. It shows that the journals worth Rs. 16,02,092, which is 3.4 lakhs more than the journal subscription expenditure of CMFRI, are being duplicated by five institutions. This amount will further increase if we take into consideration the remaining journals.

#### **PERIODICALS ON ELECTRONIC MEDIA**

Nowadays, a large number of companies are publishing scientific journals, bibliographies etc. on CD-ROMs. The scientific databases are also available on magnetic tape, cartridge, etc. for use on local networks and OPAC. A number of journals are available online and these can be accessed through commercial vendors like Knight-Ridder Information, STN International, First Search, Orbit, Data-Star, Epic and Infoseek.

Compared with printed journals, the electronic journals are cost-effective, more convenient and comprehensive. The *Cambridge Scientific Abstracts* offers the print journal subscription to the corresponding electronic journal with special offer to save 15% of the cost of the journals.

#### **NEED FOR NETWORKING SYSTEM WITHIN COCHIN**

The effect of information technology on researchers and scholars is an ongoing phenomenon and this cannot be reversed. The reduction of funds in libraries is a cause of serious concern. It deserves immediate attention and corrective measures are to be applied before this crisis threatens to destroy

## DUPLICATION IN JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTION

the very fabric of research facility. In order to encourage economy in collection development and promote resource sharing in an effective manner, KOCHINET is of vital importance for exchanging of information and performing the following functions:

- Creation of union catalogue of periodicals and books.
- Rationalization of periodical subscription among the member libraries to avoid duplication.
- Inter-library loan service through courier and online.
- Creation of databases on selected aspects of fisheries and oceanography

## CONCLUSION

The study, even though limited in scope, has presented certain problems in collection development in Kochi City Libraries. Most of the libraries have very good collections, but there is no cooperation among them on the acquisition of journals. From the data it becomes evident that some of the libraries have started acquiring computer facilities, CD-ROM search facilities and on-line access facilities through Internet. Lately, they are moving in the right direction. The electronic-based technologies have dominated the research and education scenario in the developed countries. The 21st century will give rise to electronic libraries, which we hope will provide modern electronic-based information on fisheries and oceanography in India especially in the city of Kochi.

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**Table 1: Duplication of Journals among Kochi city-based Libraries of the Oceanography and Fisheries Institutes**

Sl.No.	Title of the Journals	Name of the Institution						Subscription Rates 2000/2001 (in Rupees)
		CMFRI	CIFT	NIO RC	CUSAT	NPOL	COF	
1	Aquaculture Abstract	+	+	+				21,620
2	Aquaculture Engineering	+	+					33,365
3	Aquaculture Magazine	+			+		+	1,284
4	Aquaculture Nutrition	+	+		+			14,476
5	Aquaculture Toxicology	+		+	+			62,729
6	ASFA Part I	+	+	+	+		+	64,052
7	ASFA Part II	+	+	+	+			49,473
8	SFA Part III	+	+	+	+			53,775
9	Biological Abstracts	+						3,57,520
10	Bull. Jap. Society of Sci. Fisheries	+	+	+				16,703
11	Canadian J. Fish. Aqua. Science	+		+				30,114
12	Current Science*	+	+	+	+		+	1,500
13	Deepsea Research Part A			+	+			1,50,187
14	Deepsea Research Part B			+	+			98,229
15	Endeavour	+		+				16,979
16	Fisheries Research	+	+					69,884
17	Fisheries Technology*		+	+	+		+	150
18	Fisheries World*	+					+	450
19	Fishfarming International	+	+	+	+		+	4,677
20	Fishing Chimes*	+	+				+	630
21	Fishing News International	+	+				+	4,543
22	ICES Journal of Marine Science	+		+				24,054
24	Indian J. Experimental Biology*	+		+	+		+	1,000
25	Indian J. Marine Science*	+		+			+	300
26	Indian J. Microbiology*	+	+		+			600
27	Indian Natl. Sci. Acad. Proc.: Biol. Sci.*	+			+			500
28	Info Fish International	+			+			1,606
29	Journal of American Statistical Association	+				+		14,225
30	Journal of Animal Ecology	+		+				22,250
31	Journal of AOAC	+	+					33,030
32	Journal of Aquaculture in the Tropics*	+	+				+	9,082
33	Journal of Biosciences*	+			+		+	200
34	Journal of Fish Biology	+						57,462

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35	Journal of Indian Ocean Studies*	+	+	+			270
36	Journal of Marine Research	+		+		+	5,506
37	Journal of Nutrition	+	+				17,208
38	Journal of Physical Oceanography				+	+	3,477
40	Journal of Plankton Research	+		+			24,550
41	Limnology and Oceanography	+		+			16,730
42	Marine Biology	+					1,14,737
43	Marine Pollution Bulletin	+	+		+		45,028
44	Marine Technology		+			+	5,497
45	National Geographic	+		+		+	1,790
46	Nature	+				+	25,752
47	New Scientist	+				+	7,867
48	Oceanus	+				+	1,836
49	Resonance*	+	+	+		+	400
50	Science	+				+	21,845
51	Scientific American	+				+	2,478
52	Seafood International	+	+		+		3,967

\* Indian Journals, + - Available

CMFRI - Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute

CIFT - Central Institute of Fisheries Technology

NIO RC - Regional Centre of National Institute of Oceanography

Cusat - School of Marine Science, Cochin University

NPOL - National Physical Oceanography Laboratory

COF - College of Fisheries, Kerala Agricultural University

Table 2 : Journal Subscription at CMFRI in comparison with other Institution in Kochi city

Name of the Institution	No. of Journals Subscribing		Cost of Journals (In Rupees)		Total (in Rupees)	Percentage
	Indian	Foreign	Indian	Foreign		
CMFRI	11	35	15,082	12,43,115	12,58,197	45
CIFT	7	15	12,637	1,51,323	1,63,955	6
NIORC	6	17	3,620	6,63,418	6,67,038	23
CUSAT	5	14	3,950	5,52,960	5,56,910	19
SPOL	1	10	400	1,25,521	1,25,921	4
COF	8	4	13,712	74,556	8,268	3