



Date : 10/07/2006

Planning, Design and Construction of the Central Library Building as Dynamic Engine and Multi-Functional Complex facilitating the Sharing, Interaction and Exchange of Learning, Research Experiences, Knowledge and Information to achieve Academic Excellence: A Case Study of Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras)

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Meeting:	124 Library Buildings and Equipment
Simultaneous Interpretation:	No

WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS: 72ND IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL

20-24 August 2006, Seoul, Korea

<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla72/index.htm>

1. Abstract

The present paper highlights the background about IIT Madras and the Central Library with brief statistical profile. Various reasons for the construction of new library building for the Central Library, the composition of Library Building Committee, the completion of two phases of Library Building, key facts about the Library Building, major facilities and the areas of Library Building are also discussed. Selected distinguished features like the usage of walkway on level-II, retention of old Banyan tree, landscaping, high ceiling foyer are also described in detail. Further to this, the paper underlines the role of the Central Library to achieve academic excellence with the help of IT infrastructure, digital library initiatives, resources and the specialized facilities like media resource center, digital knowledge center, research carrels etc. In addition to this, an attempt has also been made to describe the role of the Central Library as multifunctional complex with the help of the remarks of the distinguished visitors, users survey and the created specialized facilities. Finally, important suggestions and the precautions to be observed during the construction of new library building are conceptualized for the benefit of the librarians

2. Keywords

Central Library, IIT Madras, Building Design Objective, Acoustics, Services, Selected Areas, Facilities, IT Infrastructure, Multi-Functional Complex, Ventilation, Academic Excellence, Fire Safety, Landscaping, RFID, Building Committee, Foyer, Users Survey

3. Background

[The Indian Institute of Technology Madras](#), (IIT Madras) is one among the foremost of the institutes of national importance in higher technological education and in basic and applied research. The Institute was formally inaugurated in 1959 by Prof. Humayun Kabir, Union Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs. The IIT Madras is a residential institute with nearly 460 faculty, 4500 students and 1250 administrative & supporting staff. IIT Madras is a self-contained campus located in a beautiful forest land of about 256 hectares. It has established itself as a premier centre for teaching, research and industrial consultancy in the country. The Institute has fifteen academic departments and a few advanced research centers in various disciplines of engineering and pure sciences, with nearly 100 laboratories. The United Kingdom-based [Times Higher Education Supplement](#) has ranked the Indian Institutes of Technology as the third best technology universities in the world for 2005. The [Central Library](#) is one of the central support services of IIT Madras which caters to the information needs of over 6200 members comprising faculty, students, staff, industrial associates, self financial colleges, corporate, alumni, retired faculty and research scholars from different parts of the country. It is the first major library of India which has implemented ISO-9001:2000 standard in the library system, services, procedures and measuring the customer's satisfaction. The Central Library is well equipped with all modern facilities, international library management software (VTLS-Virtua) and rich information resources in the forms of CD-ROMs, on-line databases, e-journals, e-books, e-standards, e-patents and various other printed information materials on Applied Science, Engineering, Technology, Humanities, Management, Social Science and other new emerging areas. The Central Library holds 4,04,446 collections, 1208 current journals, catering to the information needs of 6,242 members through providing various value added services with the help of modern information handling tools and techniques.

4. Library Information Services Statistics

A. Collections

Item	2004-2005	2005-2006
Books	2,17,281	2,24,199
Ph./D Theses	3,297	3,342
Pamphlets and Reports	3,727	3,853
Microfilms/Fische	1,842	1,842
Book-Bank(General)	6,120	6,163
Book-Bank(Weaker Section)	8,011	8,080
Current Periodicals by Subscription	1,107	1,119
Current Periodicals by Exchange/Gift	86	89
Back Volumes of Periodicals	86,302	89,859
Patents & Specifications	20,000	20,000
German Collection	44,000	44,280
CD-ROMs	787	1,172
Audio/Video Cassettes	436	448
Total	3,93,996	4,04,446

B. Membership

Staff	576	501
Retired Faculty	325	245
Students	5,285	4,621
Alumni Members	251	269
Corporate Members	88	162
Industrial Associate Members	250	232
Special Members	61	145
Project Co-ordinators	50	67
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Total	6,886	6,242

C. Services: Circulation

1. Number of Books/Journals issued	92,150	94,395
2. Number of Books issued Book Bank (GS)	4,673	3,551
3. Number of Books issued Book Bank (WS)	3,843	3,843
4. Consultation Cards issued to users	185	190
5. Overdue & other Charges collected	6,17,243	6,95,154
6. Xerox Charges collected	3,95, 877	2,65,890

D. Expenditure o

1. Purchase of Books	Rs.1,35,55,000	Rs.1,14,91,216
2. Subscription of Journals	Rs.4,74,38,048	Rs.5,02,17,466

5. Reasons for Constructing New Library Building

IIT Madras has taken various major initiatives to improve the existing infrastructural facilities as well as adding some more new facilities in academic and hostel sectors. The construction of the new building for the Central Library was very welcome step. The major reasons for constructing new building for the Central Library are listed below:

- To meet the ever-growing, complex and multi faceted information needs of the modern day users community and also to meet the potential challenges and changes of ICT and its application in library and information activities.
- To have the Central Library building at the central location of the highest esthetic quality with all modern world class facilities by ensuring easy access to the content in all formats for the consultation, study, research and reference.
- The old Central Library building was designed on the “Closed Access” concept and was intended to house about 1,50,000 volumes of documents and serve the needs of a total user population of 1,000
- The old Central Library building was inadequate to accommodate the ever-growing collections, users population, library staff, stacks and to implement new information technology.
- Increased students in-take and expanding activities of the Institute in terms of new courses, research, development, consultancy, continuing engineering education, industrial interaction, library and information activities on a wider scale.
- To provide adequate reading space to users and more work area for the staff under “Open Access” environment and constructing the library building more functional, ecological sustainable and viable for the future.
- To provide various value added services and facilities to users like Students Discussion Hall, Digital Knowledge Center, Research Carrels for serious study, Media Resource Center, Book Bank, Children’s Library Corner, Computing Room, Digital Class Room.

- To provide functional access to ever-growing collections and also to house special collections like theses, patents, specifications, standards, reference sources, text books and to display the latest additions to the Central Library.
- To provide conducive, users friendly and noise free learning environment to users and making the Central Library as the hub of activities by providing easy access and free movement to the physically challenged users.

6. Library Building Committee

In view of the above reasons, Authorities of the Institute agreed to approve the construction plan for new building for the Central Library. To make the work faster, democratic and effective monitoring of the work progress, a Library Building Monitoring Committee was constituted by Prof. R.Natarajan, then Director of the Institute on 29-11-1999, which used to meet each week to review the progress of the work towards the completion of the new Library Building. The Committee was also liable to submit the detailed periodic Report to the Director. The following were the member of the Committee:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Prof. V.Ganesan
Chairman, LAC | Chairman |
| 2. Prof. V.R. Rengaraju
Chairman, EWC | Member |
| 3. Prof. M.S. Ananth
Dean, AC | Member |
| 4. Mr. N.Malayalam
Consulting Engineer | Member |
| 5. Dr. Harish Chandra
Librarian | Member |

During the meeting special invitees like Head, AC Unit, Executive Engineer, Deputy Registrar (S&P), Chief Security Officer, JE (Telephones) used to be invited to have a first hand information and other related issues and necessary clarification so that the satisfactory and substantial work progress is achieved.



The first phase of the Central Library Building was completed on 07th July 2000 and formally was inaugurated by then Director Prof. R. Natarajan & the Second & final phase of the construction of the



Central Library building was completed and formally inaugurated on 07th January 2004 by Prof. M.S.Ananth, the current Director of the Institute.

7. Key Facts about Central Library Building

Name of Institution: Indian Institute of Technology Madras
 Name of Building: Central Library
 Location: Close to Main Administrative Building
 Project Type: New Construction
 Architect: Gherzi Eastern Limited, Mumbai
 Number of Levels: Five and Basement
 Area: 1, 19,208.06 sq.ft
 Readers Seats: 1000
 Services: Stacking, Networking, Circulation Transactions, Reference, Information, Procurement of Publications, Web Based Services, Document Delivery, Interlibrary Loan, Translation, Reprography, Scanning, Bibliographic Compilation,

Current Awareness, Selective Dissemination, Patents Search, Virtual Reference Desk, Video Viewing, Access to E-Journals and E-Books, I-Portal, Technical Consultancy, Book Bank.

Completion: 07th January 2004

Water Tank Capacity: 20,000 Liters

External Outside: Marble Grite

Basement: Raft Foundation

Flooring: PVC Vinyl Tiles with Cement flooring and Granite

8. Major Facilities provided in the Central Library enhancing the Role of Library as the Meeting Place

IIT Madras has identified the Central Library as a gateway to knowledge resources, center for the creation and recreation of academic activities, source for enabling networking between researchers for improving the flow of information. With this objective, new library building has made arrangements for the following facilities which are very useful to facilitate the meeting place for the scholars and teachers:



- Property Counter
- Children's Library Corner
- Committee Room
- Digital Knowledge Center
- Circulation Desk
- Personal Study
- Book Bank
- Librarian's Visitors Room
- Library Staff Room
- Reference Hall
- Current Journals Hall
- Back Volumes Reading Halls
- I-Portal User Terminals Area
- Media Resources Center
- Students Discussion Hall
- Research Carrels
- Graduate Trainees Room
- Outside the Library



Media Resource Center

9. Selected Areas

The entire Central Library building is focused on the various selected areas. These areas have been identified on the basis of the principles of utility, proximity, relevance, visibility, convenience, staff-users interface and flexibility. The areas identified are grouped into five, which are listed below:

- Collection Area (books, journals, non print materials, digital resources)
- Reading and Study Area (meeting areas, study, browsing, display, tables and chairs)
- Staff Area (service desks, staff work area, offices, storage)
- Amenities Area (toilets, water coolers, store rooms, maintenance, lobby, foyer, corridor, photocopier)

- Additional Services Area (multipurpose room, UPS room, computing room, committee room, AHUs, media resources center, research carrels, students discussion hall)

10. Location of Facilities, Services and Work Area

The entire facilities, services, collections in the Central Library building have been organized on various levels, which are given below:

10.1. Basement: DTP, Printing and Publications, Book Bank, Theses Consultation Room, Store-I & II, Staff Room, JMPS Office, Bindery, Engineering Back Volumes up to 1979

10.2 Level-I: Circulation Counters, Duty Room, User Terminals, Graduate Trainees Room, Children Library Corner, RFID Gates, Electronic Security System, Electronic Book Drop, Touch Screen Information Kiosk, Security Desk, Visitors Launz, Rooms of Librarian, Secretary to Librarian, Assistant Librarians, Library Office, Books Acquisition, Technical Processing Section, Server Room, Library Committee Room, UPS Room, Book Stacks from UDC Call Number 001 to 679, Readers Tables

10.3 Level-II: Current Journals Display, Journals Received Today, Journals Information Desk, Digital Knowledge Center, Journals Registration and Enquiry, Set Preparation Room, Stack Room for Abstracting, Indexing Journals, Books from UDC Call Number 681.3 to 980, Xerox Room

10.4 Level: III: Engineering Back Volumes from 1980, Xerox Room, Information Desk, Research Carrels, Reading Seats

10.5 Level: IV: Sciences Back Volumes, Xerox Room, Information Desk, Media Resource Center, Reading Seats

10.6 Level: V: Reference Hall, Information Desk, Reading Seats, Students Discussion Hall, Special Collections

11. Distinguished Features of the Central Library Building:

11.1 Usage of Walkway on level-II for the display of Current Journals

During the construction of the Central Library, it has been kept in view that the space is optimum ally utilized. The connecting corridor has been converted in to the Current Journals Hall with the capacity to house 1208 current journals with



reading seats in two directions. This initiative has been appreciated by the students, faculty, staff and other visitors. The other example is to utilize the space available near the main entrance which

has the turn style three gates, two for general users and one for physically challenged persons and the space left on both sides has been used to install Electronic Information Kiosk, Electronic Book Drop and Suggestion Box.

11.2 Retention of old Banyan Tree

Since the inception (1959) IIT Madras has been in the forest area with natural vegetation and lot of dears. At the backside of the Library Building, we have very old banyan tree, which was saved and retained at the time of the construction. The building shape was also changed to retain the tree as is seen in the above picture.



11.3 landscaping



The landscaping is very important factor, which has been taken in to account at the time of the planning of the new building for the Central Library. As the Institute is located in the forest land therefore, all efforts have been made not to cut any tree and work out the landscaping which is useful to human as well as the large number of dears living on the campus. The readers enjoy, sitting under the tree in front of the Library Entrance.

11.4 Two sides covered with green Ashoka tree of long height

Realizing the importance of landscaping and natural environment, efforts have been made to plant long height Ashoka Trees in all three directions outside the Central Library which gives very majestic and eye soothing effect to the users. Readers feel cool and happy while entering or existing the Library. It also gives great pleasure during daytime.



11.5 High Ceiling Foyer

This is the major feature of the Central Library building, which has been appreciated by end-users. It allows fresh air and natural light to go inside the library building. Due to this fact, considerable amount of energy is saved. Students also enjoy during



rainy days or power failure under the Foyer

11.6. Ramp for Physically Challenged Persons

It has been experienced in the old library building that physically challenged users used to find lot of difficulty due to the non-availability of space and the ramp. Users were not able to use the library facilities and other resources. This problem has been removed and now users of special needs are using the library facilities and resources with out any discomforts.

11.7 Royal look for the Circulation Desk



The Circulation Desk is located on Level-I next to the main door. Other counters are: membership, issue of books, return of books, general enquiries and Xerox services. Special care has been observed to accommodate rush during peak hours. It was very difficult to accommodate students during rush hours in the old library building. It has been made of teak

wood with thick glasses.

11.8 Other Distinguished Features are listed below

- Surrounded with cafeteria and hostels (girls and boys)
- Students and teachers comfort level is very high
- Learning friendly environment
- Provision of focus light
- Storage and sanitation facilities at each Levels
- Split air conditioning
- Stepped terrace and roof for atrium area
- Aluminum grills with smaller size mesh on windows to prevent pilferages of books
- Acoustical characteristics Hall
- Side walk facility
- Roof slabs i.e. grid slabs are designed without intermediate support for span of more than 15 meters.
- Effective use of natural lights
- Atrium slabs are provided
- Outstanding architectural exterior
- Energy saving design with natural ventilation system
- Reading space adjacent to stacks
- Feeling of spaciousness
- Provision for fire detection and control systems
- Provision for elevator



Back Vols Reading



12. Role of the Central Library to achieve Academic Excellence Back Vols Reading Hall

As we know that during ancient day's libraries used to be termed as the storehouse of books and the librarians as the custodians of books. With the trends and developments in ICT, the concept of library and librarianship has totally changed. Currently libraries are treated as the gateways to knowledge resources, center for creation and recreation of academic activities and similarly librarians as the knowledge manager or interpreter of thought contents. Pursuant to this, presently librarians are not only involved in the collection building of printed resources but also to make all necessary arrangements to procure digital resources, create e-information environment to manage enhanced and diversified information needs of users under digital era. Realizing the importance of this fact, the Central Library of IIT Madras is deeply engaged to create infrastructure and environment so that academic excellence is achieved. Susan Higgins states that academic excellence is the behavior that emerges within an institution whose objective is to bring out the best in all its members within the frame of mutually agreed upon standards. Susan further adds the following attributes of academic excellence:

- The entire institution resonates in its support of teaching, learning and of the growth and development of its members
- Decisions are guided by their impact on the teaching and learning environment
- Administration and staff culture is nurtured to support the academic mission
- Expectations of students, faculty and staff are high
- Each person takes his/her role seriously
- Every member of the university community has an opportunity to succeed
- The faculty is committed to facilitate the transformation of students
- The faculty and students are excited by intellectual pursuits
- Opportunities exist for students to select a course of study that is appropriate to their needs and abilities

Keeping in view the above facts, IIT Madras has vision to be an academic Institution in dynamic equilibrium with its social, ecological and economic environment, striving continuously for excellence in education, research and technological service to the nation. The quality policy of our Institute aims to pursue global standards of excellence in all our endeavors namely, teaching, research, consultancy, continuing education and to remain accountable in our core and support functions, through the process of self evaluation and continuous improvement.

Table: 1: IIT Madras Contribution to Manpower Development

Year	Ph.D	M.S	M.Tech	M.Sc	M.B.A	Dual Degree	B.Tech	Total
2004-05	72	90	375	85	39	85	336	1082
2003-04	73	109	417	86	40	66	355	1146
2002-03	48	80	371	79	-		361	939
2001-02	54	88	390	94	-		372	998
2000-01	82	98	320	94	-		356	950

Source: Annual Report (2004-05), IIT Madras, page 1
Annual Report (2003-04), IIT Madras, page 1
Annual Report (2002-03), IIT Madras, page 1
Annual Report (2001-02), IIT Madras, page 1
Annual Report (2000-01), IIT Madras, page 6

13. Information Technology Infrastructure

To translate the quality policy of the Institute, the Central Library has been provided IT infrastructure and other world-class facilities to provide dynamic library and information support services for achieving academic excellence in all the core activities. The major IT infrastructure provided is listed below:

- Wireless Networking
- Digital Knowledge Center with over 100 systems
- Internet Connectivity (34 MBPS)
- Sun fire™ 15K File Server, Web Servers, Workstations and Thin Clients
- Smart Cards Generation Hardware and Software
- RFID Gate, Tags and Tagging Station
- Electronic Book Drop
- Auto Checking and Auto Checkout System
- Auto Shelf Check System
- Scanners-Handheld and Flatbed
- Portable Data Capture Unit and Electronic Display System
- Laser and Thermal Laser Printers
- CD-Writers and CD-Level Printer
- Laptop, LCDs,
- I-Portal, Fiber Optic Cables and 50 KVA UPS
- CD-ROM Databases, E-Journals, Standards, Patents Databases
- VTLS-Virtua Library Management Software
- On-line Full text as well as Bibliographical Databases

The Central Library has taken various initiatives to improve the existing infrastructure, facilities, services and collections to provide strong and dynamic support to the academic, research, development, continuing education, industrial interaction programme and policy of the Institute. In this regard, some of the selected initiatives are listed below:

14. Digital Library Initiatives

Realizing the importance of digital library in academic and research activities, Central Library has implemented VTLS Library Management Software which has facilitated the integrated workflow and ensuring various value added services, which were a long desire of our users community. Now, users are able to conduct search for the books through i-Portal at their desktops. They can also see their transactions, search history, renew and reserve the books on-line. Users can also request for Inter Library Loan through Document Delivery Service webpage. The software has also facilitated the installation of highly sophisticated facilities as listed below:

- Electronic Book Drop
- Auto Checking and Checkout System
- RFID Gates
- Auto Shelf Checking
- RFID Tagging Station



Electronic Drop Box

14.1 Smart Card Implementation

Institute decided to introduce Smart Cards with the objective to provide various users dependent services to the valid stakeholders on the campus. In this regard, the Central Library has been given the responsibility to generate and issue Smart Cards to the entire stakeholders of the Institute. The students admitted during the year 2005 were issued Smart Cards for the first time. The Library software has the capability to issue the books by using Smart Cards through auto checking system. Entry and Exit to the Central Library are also controlled by using Smart Cards.

14.2 RFID Implementation

The Central Library, has implemented during the month of August 2005. The RFID tagging station has been installed and training has also been provided to the Library staff and Graduate Trainees. We are successfully installing RFID tags on books by replacing barcodes. So far, we have tagged nearly 40,000 and users are able to issue the books using auto checking system installed near the counter, which does not require manpower. Similarly, the students can also return the books through Electronic Book Drop installed at the entrance, which also does not require any manpower and instantly issue the transaction slip and delete the record from the concerned user's account. RFID Technology is also helpful in the identification of misplaced books on the shelves.

14.3 Children's Library Corner

Institute has identified the need to provide special facility to the children of the campus community. With this objective, we have arranged special furniture and 1482 books suiting to the interest of the children. This facility was inaugurated by Prof. M.S. Ananth, Director of the Institute on 10-10-2005. This initiative has been appreciated not only by the campus community but also by external users and library professionals. The facility has become so popular that adults are also using extensively.



14.4 Research Carrels

Research Carrels have great potential to facilitate close interaction among Research Scholars and Faculty



members. Due to this fact, we have provided on Level – III (Left Wing) 08 research carrels each provide sitting space for six persons. This facility has been extensively used and attracting more appreciation and users.

14.5 Students Discussion Hall

It has been noted that the students need a place where they can discuss in large groups their academic issues related to their courses. With this objective, a special hall has been created on Level–V (Right Wing) enabling over 100 students to use this newly created facility. They can discuss freely with other students without any maintaining silence restriction with their study materials. They can also use their laptops as wireless network facility is available in all the floors of the Central Library. This facility is extensively used by the students.

14.6 Media Resource Centre

The Central Library has been providing video viewing facility to the users community with the help of nearly 448 educational videocassettes on science, engineering, technology, humanities, social science and management which are screened alternative days. Recently, we have upgraded this facility for accommodating nearly 200 students with internet connectivity, large motorized screen, TV, desktop system, wireless networking. The same facility is also used to conduct various information literacy programme, special meetings, presentations organized by the Central Library & departments of the Institute.



14.7 Database Creation

The VTLS Library Management Software has the facility to provide access to catalogue of books with images, contents, summary and key words through the interface of Syndetic Database. But, the entire book collections are not covered with this facility. To provide on-line access to the abstracts of the books through i-Portal, we have initiated to prepare abstracts of the books with the help of special team of Graduate Trainees w.e.f. August 2005. We have abstracted nearly 2864 books up to March 2006, which are also available for on-line access.

15. Multi-Functional Complex

The Central Library building has been designed with the objective to function as a multifunctional complex. In this regard, the following special facilities have been developed which are used by group of students for their academic activities:

- Media Resource Center
- Digital Knowledge Center
- Research Carrels
- Students Discussion Hall
- Exhibition and Display Areas
- Spacious Current Journals Hall
- Well Developed Reference Hall
- Personal Studies
- Children's Library Corner
- i-Portal Users Terminals Area
- In-house Binding Facilities on Basement
- Sciences Back Volumes Reading Hall

- Engineering Back Volumes Reading Hall
- Humanities/Social Sciences and Management Reading Hall

16. Major Precautions

On the basis of literature survey as well as experiences of completing the Central Library project of IIT Madras, it has come to our knowledge that universities, institutions of national and international importance, specialized organizations, professional societies and associations are deeply engaged to build their buildings to meet the existing as well as future user's requirements in their respective areas, with the sole objective to provide better and modern infrastructural facilities to their stakeholders. This initiative is ideally considered as a noble step to assist end-users to help achieve excellence in their academic pursuits. In this direction, library plays a pivotal role as a gateway to knowledge resources, a center for creation and recreation of academic activities and the fulcrum of academic life and engine of learning that fuels the academic institution. Keeping in view the experience, the following precautions may be observed while executing the project:

- Proper Lighting and Ventilation
- Firefighting Arrangements
- Fire Escape Staircase
- Fire Alarm System
- Service Staircase
- Heating Ventilation
- Acoustics
- Safety and Security of Users and Building
- Provision of Emergency Exit
- Proper Air between Stacks
- Glassed Partitions
- Steel Racks with Wooden Panel
- Bay Guides

17. Users Survey

We have conducted users survey to know the views of faculty and students. Some of the parameters like arrangements, neat & tidiness, services and collections were taken into account to measure their satisfaction about the library. The data analysis is given below in three tables

17.1 Table I: Response from Faculty

Parameter of Library Building	Poor	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Arrangement	NIL	40%	30%	30%
Neat & Tidiness	NIL	40%	30%	30%
Services	NIL	20%	50%	30%
Collections	NIL	20%	60%	20%

17.2 Table II: Response from Undergraduate Students

Parameter of Library Building	Poor	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Arrangement	10%	20%	50%	20%

Neat & Tidiness	NIL	20%	20%	60%
Services	NIL	10%	70%	20%
Collections	NIL	40%	10%	50%

17.3 Table III: Response from Postgraduate Students

Parameter of Library Building	Poor	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Arrangement	NIL	30%	40%	30%
Neat & Tidiness	NIL	20%	20%	60%
Services	NIL	10%	70%	20%
Collections	NIL	40%	10%	50%

18. What Distinguished Visitors Speak about US during their Visit?

- Mrs. Kalpana Dasgupta, Former ILA President, Ex-Director, Central Secretariat Library Department of Culture, Government of India and Former Librarian, National Library, Kolkata. **Remarks:** This is a Model Library, which should impart training to library professionals to develop many more such libraries. Dr. Harish Chandra and his staff must be congratulated on 01/05/2002.
- Mrs. Prabha Krishnan, Library and Information Officer, Union Public Service Commission, Government. of India, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi **Remarks:** Excellent modern Library with very useful reader's services. Dr. Harish Chandra deserves appreciation and congratulations for attaining such heights in his professional carrier and along with his colleagues in the Library on 01/05/2002
- Park Yong Goon, 140-2 Kye-dong, Chongro –Gu, SEOUL, KOREA. **Remarks:** Well –equipped, better than our University on 06/08/2002.
- Dr. Rajwant Singh, Librarian, University of B.C, Vancouver, Canada. **Remarks:** Excellent Library I have seen in India, well organized with latest technologies. Keep it up Dr. Harish Chandra and team on 14/08/2002.
- Dr. Vinod Chachra, President, VTLS Inc, 1704, Blacksburg VA, USA. **Remarks:** I am very impressed by the organization and openers of the Library. But I am most impressed by the forward-looking attitudes of the Librarian and the faculty I met. Best wishes & Thanks on 29/10/2002.
- Mr. John Willinskay, University of British, Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. **Remarks:** What a wonderful Library. Open in its architecture and its attitudes forward the future of scholarly publishing on 06/02/2003
- Mr. Frances Tart, British Council, London – U.K. **Remarks:** A very impressive Library with excellent website and collection of electronic resources on 14/02/2003
- Prof. S. K. Joshi, NPL, New Delhi. **Remarks:** I was very happy to visit the Library and was impressed with the New Look it has in the New Building. It is user-friendly Library on 20/12/2003
- Mr. N.V. Sathyanarayana, CMD, Informtics (India) Limited, Bangalore. **Remarks:** What a modern Library of the day should be ... by standards, by technology, by

aesthetics and ambiance and for the user convenience. Here is a perfect example. Dr. Harish Chandra and his team deserve a big congratulation for creating this excellent learning resource center that speaks “ World Class” on 01/04/2003

- Mr. Edward Proctor, 1248 E, Harrison St., Springfield, MO 65804 U.S. A
Remarks: Excellent Library facilities and collection, very knowledgeable and friendly staff and the most beautiful atmosphere I have seen on. 11/07/2003
- Prof. Greg R. Notess, Montana State University Library, Montana, U.S.A.
Remarks: An impressive Library and collection of digital resources on 17/02/04
- Jun Hong, Library Services Executive, OCLC, U.S.A. **Remarks:** I am very impressed by your Library. Very nice library facilities. Thanks for your warm welcome as well on 24/05/2004.
- Dr. Karl Schneider, Executive Editor, New Scientist, Lacon House, 84 Theobald’s Road, London, WEIX 8 NS, U.K. **Remarks:** This is a totally World Class facility and in such a beautiful environment. This facility is a wonderful asset for India on 21/10/2005
- Mark Wheeler, Thomson Scientific, U.K. **Remarks:** Great audience, Very interactive. The facilities are superb as was the welcome. Thanks a lot for all the organization on 07/04/2006.

19. Role of Librarian in the completion of the Library Building Project

Based on my experience of involving in the prestigious library-building project of India, the following important roles are conceptualized for a librarian who is either engaged in the library building project or planning to undertake the library-building project. Some of the major roles are listed below:

- Effective Coordinator
- Dynamic Project Leader
- Knowledge of Building Rules and Codes
- Working Knowledge of Materials Management
- Good Knowledge of Interior and Exterior Decoration
- Capability to handle Furniture, Racks and Equipments Procurement.
- Interaction with Architect and Engineers
- Shifting and Packaging Knowledge
- Transport and labor handling
- Conduit, Cabling, Wiring and Networking
- Electrical and UPS

20. Conclusion

It is a fact that library building project is one of the wish in the life of a librarian to come and also to complete successfully. No doubt, it requires careful advanced integrated and participative planning based on the vision, recent trends and future developments. The librarians need to be a good coordinator and foresighted so that the library building get appreciation from all perspectives

21. References

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