

MALAYSIA

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALAYSIA

MS ZAWIYAH BINTI BABA — DIRECTOR GENERAL

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2001 – 2002

1 INTRODUCTION

This Report provides a general overview of the development in library and information services in Malaysia with particular reference to the National Library of Malaysia, from 1999 – 2001.

2 BACKGROUND

Malaysia

Malaysia comprises Peninsular Malaysia (131,598 square kilometres), Sabah (73,711 square kilometres) and Sarawak (124,499 square kilometres) on the island of Borneo. The capital of Malaysia is Kuala Lumpur which is also the Federal Territory. In 1998, Federal Government Ministries and Departments begun the move to Putrajaya, the new administrative centre. On 1st February 2002, Putrajaya was declared a Federal Territory. The total population of Malaysia is approximately 23.263 million, with the Malays, Chinese and Indians as the three most dominant races. Though a predominantly Muslim society, freedom of worship prevails and there are many Christians, Buddhists, Hindus and followers of other religions.

Malaya became an independent nation in 1957 and merged with Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore to form the Federation of Malaysia in 1963. Singapore subsequently left the Federation in 1965. Malay is the official language which is also the medium of instruction in primary, secondary and tertiary education. As a former British colony, English is widely spoken and remains an important second language taught in schools. Malay is also established as the language of Parliament and increasingly in the courts of justice. The system of education in Malaysia was essentially developed on the British system but has undergone many changes since independence especially at the tertiary level. Education is free up to secondary schools. By 2003, compulsory education will be introduced by the government, which requires highly skilled, trainable and knowledge manpower. In 1997 Malaysia's literacy rate is estimated at 93%.

Malaysia practices parliamentary democracy and is ruled as a constitutional monarchy. The Head of Government in each state is the Ruler or Sultan, with the exception of the States of Melaka, Penang, Sabah and Sarawak which are headed by a Governor appointed by the King. The federal King of Malaysia, the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong is elected by the hereditary rulers of the nine states at the Conference of Rulers every five years. While state governments may enact legislations or enactments on matters in the State Lists, for example on public library provision, the federal law takes precedence in the event of a conflict, except in matters concerning land and religion.

In the last decade of the 20th century, the Malaysian economy saw rapid changes. Though still a leading exporter of rubber, palm oil, timber, tin, petroleum and natural gas, the manufacturing industry has overtaken agriculture as the growth sector of the economy since 1987. The nation is fast moving from the industrial into the information age. Under Vision 2020, now the New Vision Policy, the year 202 is targetted for the nation to achieve developed nation status with an information and knowledge rich society. The Eighth Malaysia Plan (EMP) covering 2001-2005 will steer Malaysia on a steady course towards a knowledge-based economy where information and communication technology (ICT) will form the core of all activities. The economic trend is towards value-added products and activities in research and development (R & D), design and proto-typing, distribution, logistics and marketing.

With information communication technology (ICT) as a catalyst for national development, the Malaysian government has initiated the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) south of Kuala Lumpur. MSC comprises Cyberjaya, dedicated *intelligent* city for multimedia companies. Putrajaya, the new federal administrative centre and the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) at Sepang.

The MSC is supported by world-class physical and information infrastructure. Major multimedia companies are located there to introduce high value-added IT goods and services and enable Malaysia to become a regional IT hub in Southeast Asia.

3 LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT IN MALAYSIA

The establishment of the National Library and public libraries in Malaysia are provided for by federal laws as well as state library enactments. The Local Government Act also provides for the setting up of public libraries by state local authorities. The National Library of Malaysia (NLM) is responsible "... to promote and facilitate the establishment of a nation-wide system of public libraries in keeping with national standards of provision...". The Director-General of the National Library is represented on State Public Library Corporation Boards and gives advice pertaining to their development. In addition, the National Library channels Federal Government funds under the five years development budget as well as provides allocations for operational budget.

3.1 PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Public libraries in Malaysia are run mainly by the State Public Library Corporations in Peninsular Malaysia and State Library Departments in Sabah and Sarawak. In 2000, there are **921** public library service outlets throughout the country. They include State Libraries (Perpustakaan Negeri), Regional Branch Libraries, metropolitan libraries, Town Libraries, Rural Libraries including those equipped with networked computers, territory libraries, Housing Estate Libraries, mosque libraries, shopping complex and Mobile Libraries.

The number of public libraries are as indicated by the statistics below:

TYPE OF LIBRARIES	1999	2000
State Library	14	14
Regional Town Libraries	94	92
Metropolitan Libraries	6	6
Town Libraries	54	17
District Libraries	13	15
Rural Libraries	493	546
Territory Libraries	10	7
Housing Estate	5	5
Mosque Libraries	27	26
Shopping Complex	1	1
Mobile Libraries	108	107
Others	77	85

In 2001, five (5) units of multimedia mobile libraries or *e-Pustaka* were successfully built and distributed to the State Public Library Corporations of Kedah, Melaka, Pahang, Selangor and Sarawak. In addition, there are also libraries run by the local authorities such as the Petaling Jaya Municipal Library and other government agencies such as Bahagian Kemajuan Masyarakat (KEMAS), Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar which provides libraries or reading rooms in rural areas throughout the country.

3.2 ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Under the *Universities and Colleges Act*, there is also provision for the establishment of university libraries. The number of university libraries have increased significantly following the setting of new universities in Malaysia over the last three years. From **9** universities in 1993, the number has now increased to **15**, including **4** private universities. The National Library's liaison with university libraries is through PERPUN, the Standing Conference of National and University Libraries in Malaysia. PERPUN now has **19** members – the NLM and **18** university libraries.

In addition to the universities, other libraries of the institutes of higher learning consist of libraries of polytechnics, teacher training colleges, matriculation colleges and private colleges.

The total number of libraries as shown below:

TYPE OF LIBRARIES	1999	2000
Polytechnics	7	12
Teacher Training Colleges	30	27
Matriculation Colleges	-	6
Private Colleges	30	52

3.3 SPECIAL LIBRARIES

There is no legislation for the establishment of special libraries in the public or private sector and these have been set up essentially on the basis of felt needs or part of organisational planning. Currently, there are **293** special libraries, both in the public and private sectors. Professional and semi-professional staff of libraries under Ministries and Federal Government Departments belong to the Library Common User Service Scheme headed by the Director General, National Library.

3.4 SCHOOL LIBRARIES

School libraries or Resource Centres remain under the purview of the Ministry of Education and are staffed mainly by teacher librarians or teachers charged with the responsibility but who may not be trained in library work. To date, there are **7,130** libraries/resource centres in primary schools and **1,566** libraries/resources centres in secondary schools. However, the facilities and collections differ from one school to another.

In 2000, the total number of libraries in Malaysia was estimated at **10,212**. The table in *Annex I* shows the breakdown of libraries by types in Malaysia.

4 RESOURCE SHARING IN MALAYSIA

In Malaysia, resource sharing in library activities on a general level can be traced to the close relationship that exists between the library associations of Malaysia and Singapore. From the 1960s – 80s the work and activities of *BILCO* (Committee on Bibliographical and Library Cooperation), a joint committee with separate Malaysian and Singapore components have promoted cooperation, especially in bibliographic control of information, among libraries in these countries. PERPUN has accelerated the progress in resource sharing among the national and university libraries of Malaysia.

In cooperative efforts for standardisation, subcommittees were formed, members represented from all types of libraries, to work on several issues and achieve standardisation. Some of the issues resolved were as follows:

- (a) Cataloguing Rules for Malay Names
- (b) Expansion of the Dewey Decimal Classification System and Library of Congress Subject Headings to include local needs.
- (c) Classification Scheme for Malaysian Government Documents.
- (d) Transliteration of Jawi-Rumi.
- (e) Microfilm of local archives, records and national heritage.

4.1 ONLINE PUBLIC ACCESS CATALOGUES (OPAC)

Access to the OPAC is made easier with the availability of web based catalogues from many libraries in Malaysia which provide access to the libraries' collections including Malaysiana resources.

4.2 SPECIALISED LOCAL DATABASES

The development of various specialised databases has indeed have been an encouraging sign for resource sharing. There are more than 100 specialised databases developed of which those from PORIM, MASTIC, SIRIM and other institutions are available to subscribe through the internet and online links. Databases on theses, R&D, Malaysian laws and acts and other core competency areas or centres of excellence are only accessible in-house and through the local area network. Some of the databases could also include full text materials and abstracts as digitisation and digital resources are actively being done by various libraries in Malaysia. Visit to the web pages of libraries will reveal treasures of information available in the country.

4.3 LIBRARY AND INFORMATION NETWORKS

JARINGAN ILMU (knowledge network) launched in 1994 facilitated libraries in Malaysia to have access to internet. The NLM as the coordinator of *JARINGAN ILMU* installed computer systems with internet facilities to all state libraries and libraries in the ministries and the federal government. The development of campus wide networks in all universities have enabled libraries to be linked, thus consolidating the development of library networks in Malaysia.

4.4 INTERLIBRARY LENDING

Interlibrary loan is an essential service for resource sharing. The NLM was officially designated as the Publications Delivery System (PDS) Coordination Centre as of 1988. PDS is an extension of the Interlibrary Lending Service initiated in late 1970s and aims to improve primarily through libraries, the provision and supply of publications from national and international sources to users within the country. This designation is in line with the National Library Act which makes the provisions relating to the National and Universal Availability of Publications.

4.5 TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Libraries and the Librarians Association of Malaysia plan and implement training programmes, for example courses, workshops, in-service training, seminars and conferences to provide opportunities for education, training and professional advancement. Training programmes relating to digital library, metadata, ICT applications and knowledge management are heavily subscribed by librarians.

5 THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALAYSIA

5.1 ESTABLISHMENT

The National Library was established under *National Library Act, 1972 [Act 80]* and the *National Library [Amendment] Act, 1987 [Act A667]*. Prior to the Act of 1972, the National Library was a unit within the National Archives to enforce the *Preservation of Books Act, 1966*. In 1977, the NLM became a full-fledged Federal government department, with its own Director-General who is also the financial controller of the National Library's budget.

5.2 LEGISLATION

The *National Library (Amendment) Act* which was passed in 1987 listed the following objectives of the National Library.

- (a) To make available for the use of present and future generations a national collection of library resources;
- (b) To facilitate nation-wide access to library resources available within the country and abroad; and
- (c) To provide leadership on matters pertaining to libraries.

5.3 STRATEGIC PLAN

Apart from its legislative purpose and functions, the NLM has also formulated a corporate philosophy, vision and mission in support of and in line with national aspirations in Vision 2020 particularly in the development of a reading and an informed society. The NLM's corporate mission is as follows:

"To ensure that all Malaysian will have equal opportunities to benefit from library services and facilities as well as able to access and utilise Malaysian intellectual heritage and other knowledge resources through an integrated electronic library infrastructure throughout the country."

The seven thrust strategies to achieve the above mission include the following:

- (a) To update and strengthen the functions and role of NLM through restructuring of the organisation.
- (b) To enhance its role as the Centre of Excellence for Malaysiana Knowledge Resources.
- (c) To provide human resource development programmes so as to enhance competencies and skills of library personnel.
- (d) To increase the level of ICT application in managing and implementing library and information system.
- (e) To bridge the digital divide and enable all citizens to have equitable access to knowledge and information.
- (f) To increase research programmes in developing library and information service.
- (g) To increase reading promotion programmes nationwide in line with k-economy.

5.4 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The NLM is under the Ministry of Education. The organisational structure is based on programmes and activities under a planning and performance budgeting system.

In March 2002, the Public Service Department, Malaysia approved the restructuring of the National Library's organisation structure with three (3) new programmes and six (6) activities. A total of 182 new posts were created. The post of the Director General and Deputy Director General were upgraded and promotional grades were also created for all levels of posts. The National Library's establishment now total 488. The new organisation chart of the NLM is shown in Annex II.

5.5 STAFFING

In 2001 the National Library has a total of **311** posts. The distribution of posts is as below:

CATEGORY	POSTS		
	1999	2000	2001
Top management	1	1	1
Management and Professional	76	76	76
Support Staff	<u>229</u>	<u>229</u>	<u>235</u>
	<u>306</u>	<u>306</u>	<u>311</u>

The Director General of the National Library is also the Head of the Library Common User Services Scheme, which is the scheme of service for librarians in the Government Service. Through this scheme, the National Library provides personnel for professional and semi professional in Ministries and Federal Government Departments.

The number of posts in the Library Common User Service Scheme are as follows:

CATEGORY	1999	2000	2001
Management and Professional	42	57	69
Semi Professional	<u>332</u>	<u>403</u>	<u>530</u>
	<u>374</u>	<u>460</u>	<u>599</u>

5.6 BUDGET

The National Library receives all of its regular funding from the Federal Government. Federal funds are provided for its annual operating budget as well as development budget under the five year development plan for the period of 2001-2005 referred to as the Eighth Malaysia Plan. In addition to its own budget, federal funds are also provided through the National Library's budget for State Public Library Corporation Boards and State Public Libraries, both for annual operating as well as development budget. The allocation for the development of state public libraries has increased many folds from RM381,840 in the Seventh Malaysia Plan to RM84.485 million in the Eighth Malaysia Plan. For the year 2002, the Federal Government has allocated RM13.5 million for the operational budget to the State Public Libraries.

The NLM's operating budget for 1999-2001 are as follows:

NLM			
PROGRAMME	1999 (RM)	2000 (RM)	2001 (RM)
Existing	24,601,900	24,304,400	24,406,100
One-Off	730,100	1,582,500	3,152,100
New Programmes	-	-	470,300
Total	25,332,000	25,886,900	28,028,500

	2000 (RM)	2001 (RM)	2002 (RM)
STATE PUBLIC LIBRARIES	13,000,000	13,000,000	13,500,000

Under the Eighth Malaysia Plan (2001-2005), the National Library was allocated the following development budget:

PROJECT	ALLOCATION (RM)
NLM	
Upgrading of building	3,000,000.00
Development of Digital Libraries	4,000,000.00
Reading Promotion Programmes	3,000,000.00
Monitoring of Library Projects (Physical)	15,000.00
Cyber Information Centre	1,000,000.00
National Collection Development	<u>4,500,000.00</u>
Total	<u>15,515,000.00</u>
PUBLIC STATE LIBRARIES	
State Libraries (3 units)	15,000,000.00
Branch Libraries (23 units)	44,040,000.00
Town Libraries (11 units)	7,210,000.00
Multimedia Mobile Libraries (13 units)	3,850,000.00
Rural Cyber Information Libraries (60 units)	5,985,000.00
Local Centre of Excellence (14 states)	4,200,000.00
Local Digitisation Projects (13 states)	<u>4,200,000.00</u>
Total	<u>84,485,000.00</u>

5.7 COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

The NLM aims to be the centre of excellence for Malaysiana and its collection development policy is intended to support this objective. Materials are acquired through legal deposit, gifts and exchange and purchase. The *Deposit of Library Materials Act 1986*, which covers all forms of library materials, is the main vehicle for the acquisition of Malaysian publications, but the Library also purchase a considerable volume where materials are needed urgently or if there is a need for multiple copies, especially for its lending collection. The acquisition of Malaysiana materials is priority for both operating and development budget.

The Centre for Malay Manuscripts established at the NLM since 1985, has progressively been acquiring Malay Manuscripts in its original form as well as in microform. With the present total of **3,093** original Malay Manuscripts in its collection, the NLM has the biggest single collection of Malay Manuscripts in the world. In addition the Centre examines and catalogues Malay Manuscripts kept in libraries and institutions overseas. Up to now, Malay Manuscript collections in Leiden, Netherlands, France, Germany, Sri Lanka, United States, Singapore and South Africa have been catalogued by officers of the NLM and published by the Centre.

The table below shows the National Library's collection up to December 2001:

Type of material	No. of Items		
	1999	2000	2001
Printed Material Monographs	1,346,991	1,395,489	1,447,446
Serials (Titles)	25,063	25,763	26,788
Maps/posters/other printed material	61,362	71,741	81,379
Total Printed Material	1,433,416	1,492,993	1,555,613
Total Non-Printed/AV Material	82,365	85,876	94,924
TOTAL	1,515,781	1,578,869	1,651,537

5.8 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES

5.8.1 IMPLEMENTATION OF MS ISO 9002

The National Library of Malaysia was awarded the MS ISO 9002 Certification by MAMPU, for the main work processes of the National Collection Development on 14 December 2000. The National Library intends to convert to MS ISO 9000/2000 and expand the implementation of the standards to other library processes.

5.8.2 BENCHMARKING

Another recent initiative by the NLM is *Benchmarking for a world class library*. Puan Zawiyah Baba, Director-General raised the issue of benchmarking at the Conference of Directors of National Libraries held at Boston, USA, 22 August 2001. At the initiative and invitation of the National Library of Australia (NLA), the National Library of Malaysia is participating in the NLA benchmarking project with other participating libraries, including the British Library, National Library of Scotland, National Library of New Zealand, State Library of New South Wales, State Library of Victoria, State Library of Queensland and Library and Information Science of Western Australia, to mention a few.

A Benchmarking visit was undertaken by the Director General and officer of NLM in December 2000 to National Library of Australia which coincided with the *Treasures from the World's Great Libraries* Exhibition to commemorate the centenary of NLA.

5.9 DOCUMENTATION

In 2001, a total of **14,555** titles of monograph covering various disciplines were catalogued. **34,256** copies comprising **28,306** copies Malaysiana materials and **5,950** copies of non-Malaysiana materials were processed for reference and lending purposes. A total of **2,404** working papers presented in **254** conferences/seminars were indexed into the index database, *PANCARAN MENTARI*. Under the Cataloguing-in-Publication (CIP) service, the National Library has provided a total of **1,849** CIP entries.

5.10 DATABASES

The online databases of the NLM can be accessed via the Virginia Technical Library System (VTLS) as follows:

- *BINAR* which contains **290,289** bibliographic records from the National Library's collection.
- *Malaysian National Bibliography* consisting of **49,945** bibliographic records of Malaysian publications deposited under *Deposit of Library Material Act 1986*.
- *PANCARAN MENTARI* with **47,213** index records.

5.11 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The National Library has initiated various ICT projects to enhance its services for the public:

Local Area Network (LAN)

The National Library maintains and upgrades the performance of its LAN through:

- reallocating the 12 locations of it's LAN within the building
- labeling the port location and replacing damaged LAN cables
- reallocating the network racks, switches, hubs and cables
- purchasing the LAN Management Software
- preparing the documentation of LAN

Listserve/Group Discussion

The total number of online discussion groups/listserve membership in 2001 are as follows:

- 92 members in the GUNASAMA Listserve
- 18 members in the STATELIB Listserve
- 27 members in the PERPUN Listserve
- 17 members in DIGILIB Listserve

5.12 SERVICES

5.12.1 REFERENCE SERVICES

The NLM provides library services to the public by the National Library's service divisions under the Information Services Programme which include Malaysiana Reference, General Reference, Serials Division, (Malaysiana and General), Media Resources, Centre for Malay Manuscripts and Reading Promotion Division.

An increase in the number of reference enquiries dealt with and the number of walk-in users of the library's reference services is shown in the table below:

USAGE/YEAR	1999	2000	2001
Materials referred	554,613	487,442	538,037
Reference enquiries	61,675	55,954	72,353
Walk-in users	199,239	159,576	178,145

5.12.2 LENDING SERVICES

The National Library maintains a lending service for adults and children. In **2001**, **296,904** volumes were loaned out to the library users. Of this total, 286,181 were individual loans, 9,737 through the bulk loan and 983 through document delivery.

USAGE/YEAR	1999	2000	2001
Books loan	442,479	369,860	296,904

5.13 READING PROMOTION

The NLM is the Secretariat for the National Reading Promotion Committee, chaired by the Minister of Education. In line with the government's effort towards creating a reading and informed society, the NLM organises various reading promotion programmes and activities throughout the year. Programmes and activities carried out are in accordance with the theme of the National Reading Month. The theme for the National Reading Month 2001 was *Membaca Merdekakan Minda* (Reading Makes Your Mind Independent). With effect from 2001, the government has agreed to change the National Reading Month from August to July, as August is also the *Buku Merdeka* Independence Month. The theme for this year reading Campaign which is targetted at youth is [baca@gayahidup](#) or [read@lifestyle](#).

Consultancy and Advisory Services

The Development Division of the NLM also provides consultancy and advisory services to government and non-government institutions in as well as in upgrading library and information services planning new libraries. In 2001, 28 government and non-government institutions received advisory services from the NLM based on request and as scheduled.

5.14 LIBRARY RESEARCH

The Library Research Division of the NLM is responsible for undertaking and coordinating research activities pertaining to libraries, librarianship, information services and reading programmes to support the overall library development in the country.

In 2000, a survey to measure and improve the quality of the counter service of the NLM was undertaken in conjunction with the Quality Week of the Department. The findings indicated that the quality of the counter service in the NLM is high.

5.15 CONSERVATION AND REPROGRAPHY

The NLM undertakes the conservation and reprographic activities in its effort to preserve the nation's intellectual heritage collection for reference use by the present and future generation.

Efforts to protect the Malay manuscripts and rare materials from deterioration is done through the conservation and preservation activities.

5.16 TRAINING SERVICES

The Training Division responsible for the human resource development programmes at the NLM aims at enhancing the skills and capabilities of its staff as well as those in Library Common User Service Scheme and library personnel in private sectors. This training programme includes the handling of courses and workshops, sending officers for training both locally and overseas, study tours and attachments of officers at various institutions to increase and widen their experiences.

No. of courses conducted and participants:

	1999	2000	2001
No. of courses	31	33	28
No. of participants	675	822	661

The two regular courses under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme are the *Basic Course For Library Assistants* and *Library Visits/Attachments* for professional librarians. The Basic Course for Library Assistants was started in 1987 and Library Visits/Attachment in 1994. The number of countries participating in the programme and the number of participants are as below:

	COUNTRIES	PARTICIPANTS
Basic Course for Library Assistants	112	173
Library Visits/Attachments	81	169

5.17 LIBRARY PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY

The NLM continues its effort to promote its services through various public relations activities, such as cooperation with foreign embassies, private sectors as well as with government department and its agencies, on their reading campaign programmes, exhibitions and through media interviews with National Library personnel and official work visits.

No. of visitors and exhibitions held:

	1999	2000	2001
Visitors	3,658	3,045	4,261
Exhibition	9	4	7

6 NATIONAL DIGITAL LIBRARY SYSTEM (PERDANA)

Libraries with their vast store of information and ability to organise, manage and disseminate information and knowledge can contribute towards Vision 2020's aim of achieving a knowledge-rich society in Malaysia. In line with the aspirations, the National Digital Library System (System PERDANA or Perpustakaan Digital Nasional) is being rolled out nationwide through existing libraries to bring digital library services to the general public.

This is a project which is jointly initiated by all libraries in Malaysia and the private sector that is The National Library, academic libraries, special libraries, public libraries, research institution libraries, supported by the Multimedia Development Corporation (MDC), and Telekom Malaysia Berhad. A pilot website, *Mylib* was developed as a gateway to knowledge resources such as the online commercial databases, theses, library catalogues, abstracts, indexes and other resources. *Mylib* was launched on the 27 June 2000 by Y.A.B. Dato' Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, the Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia. The portal can be accessed in the URL <http://www.mylib.com.my>.

6.1 ISLAMIC DIGITAL LIBRARY NETWORK (PERDIM)

This project aims to develop a web portal that collects all information on Islam. 9 institutions are involved in brainstorming sessions for this project namely The National Library, the Multimedia Development Corporation (MDC), Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (JAKIM), Institute of Islamic Understanding (IKIM), International Islamic University (UIA), University of Malaya, National University of Malaysia (UKM), National Archives of Malaysia and International Institute of Islamic Civilization and Thought (ISTAC). A conceptual framework has been developed for this project and will be used as a basis for funding applications. A seminar to exchange ideas on the concept and content of the Islamic Digital Library will be held in 2002.

6.2 LIBRARY PROJECTS UNDER DEMONSTRATOR APPLICATION GRANT

Scheme (DAGS-NITC)

The National Library submitted six project proposals from libraries for funding under DAGS, a funding scheme for digital content development under the National IT Council which has its Secretariat at MIMOS Berhad. Of the six projects 2 have been approved for funding. Namely the National Library's project, *Raja Kita* (Our King) and *MyKedah.com* (Kedah State Library), Penang) - *Keranamu Malaysia* (Information Department, Photo Library) and *Gamat Digitalbase* (Fisheries Research Institute, Penang) and under consideration.

6.3 DEVELOPMENT OF INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA WEB-SITES

The web site on *Sirih Pinang : Warisan Budaya Melayu* (Sirih Pinang Malay Cultural Heritage) contains rich information on the traditional uses of the areca nut and betel leaf written in the Malay language. The images and texts in this web were originally taken from an exhibition organised by the NLM in 1996. On the other hand, project *Sejarah Malaysia* was developed to highlight information about the nation's national history in digital format. This project provides basic and general information about Malaysian history that all Malaysian should be aware of. It aims to support the need for knowledge and information for the secondary school students and institutions of higher learning. The topics covered in this project include the national history, national leaders, origin of place names, historical places, historical heritage building, national personalities and national historians.

These websites can be accessed at the following address:

<http://www.pnm.my/sirihpinang>

<http://sejarahmalaysia.pnm.my>

6.4 REGISTRATION OF READERS

In 2001, **63,928** readers registered with the National Library of Malaysia. The total number of readers registered from 1999-2001 as shown in the table below:

USAGE/YEAR	1999	2000	2001	2002 (JAN. – MAC)
Registered readers	72,127	56,028	63,928	11,887

6.5 PRODUCTION OF MULTIMEDIA CD-ROMS

The National Library's first initiative in digitising *Puisi Kanak-Kanak*, the Malaysian children nursery rhymes in the Malay language on CD-ROM was made possible in 1996 through sponsorship of the ESSO companies in Malaysia. The nursery rhymes were selected from the book *Dendang dan Dondang* compiled by Puan Azah Aziz and Dr. Ariff Ahmad. One of the most interesting materials in the CD-ROM acquired by the NLM in 2001 is *Legend Mahsuri: an animated story- book*. It revolved around the famous Malay Legend Mahsuri. The story had been adequately adapted for children. The NLM not only acquired the material but also its copyright which enable widening its usage and benefits to other libraries especially public libraries throughout the country.

Another project is *Manuskrip Melayu Pusaka Gemilang* (Malay Manuscript : a splendid heritage) which displays the splendour of Malay manuscript as a documentary heritage of the nation. It portrays the uniqueness of the art of writing Malay manuscripts, its myriad of knowledge encompassing Malay literature, Islamic matters, history, law, traditional medicine and beliefs.

6.6 CONVERSION OF PRINT AND AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS TO DIGITAL FORMAT

An on-going programme to convert traditional library resources to digital format. Malay manuscripts, annual reports, in-house publications, microfilm of local newspapers and newspaper articles on NLM have been digitised.

7 REGIONAL COOPERATION

7.1 CONGRESS OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN LIBRARIANS (CONSAL)

The NLM is represented on the Executive Board of CONSAL XII by the Director-General. The NLM has been actively involved in Executive Board Meeting in Brunei Darussalam and Singapore in 2000 and 2001 as well in organising regional projects. A strong contingent of Malaysian librarians participated in the 11th Congress held in Singapore in 2000.

7.2 ASEAN COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND INFORMATION (ASEAN-COCI)

The NLM submitted two (2) project proposals to Cambodia as the new country coordinator for ASEAN-Canada relations for reconsideration at the 37th ASEAN-COCI Meeting in Vietnam, April 2002. The project proposals are *A study tour on electronic library services in Canada by ASEAN libraries* and *Training workshop on the digitisation of ASEAN cultural and intellectual heritage*. The National Library also proposed a new project on *Digitisation of ASEAN legends (Animation CD-ROM)*.

7.3 INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS (IFLA)

The NLM participated in the 67th IFLA Council and General Conference in Boston, USA 18 – 24 August 2001 Puan Zawiyah Baba, Director-General was elected to the IFLA Standing Committee on National Libraries for 2001-2003. The Director General also attended the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL) held at the Boston Public Library during the IFLA Conference.

The Malaysian Librarians Association (PPM) was also strongly represented by a contingent of 25 librarians. Puan Rashidah Begum was elected Chairman of Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania, Puan Ku Joo Bee, Committee Member of the Standing Committee for Blind, Encik Mohd. Shariff Saad, Round Table for Library Association and Dr. Diljit Singh, Standing Committee for School Libraries.

7.4 REGIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCE IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (ASTINFO)

Beginning 2001, the Secretariat of Permanent Committee for the Sciences (JKKTS), Malaysian National Commission for a UNESCO was transferred to the Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment, Malaysia.

3 issues of ASTINFO Newsletter has been distributed to member institutions in Malaysia. Malaysia participated in the UNESCO Working Group Meeting was held on 12-14 Mac 2001 at Hanoi, Vietnam to discuss the roles of ASTINFO, Regional Informatics Network for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (RINSEAP) and Regional Informatic Network for South and Central Asia (RINSCA) and agreed to formulate new ASTINFO objectives to be in line with UNESCO Information For All (IFA) Programme current development.

7.5 UNESCO

7.5.1 SUB REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON UNAL

The Sub-Regional Workshop on *Defining a promotion and marketing campaign for UNESCO Network of Associated Libraries (UNAL) In Asia incorporating the changes and challenges posed by ICT* was successfully organised by the NLM, with the cooperation of UNESCO and Melaka Public Library Corporation in Melaka on 17-19 October 2001. Twenty one participants including librarians, computer personnel and administrators from seven UNESCO member countries comprising Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Vietnam and Malaysia attended the Workshop. Thailand was not represented due to miscommunication. The objectives of the Workshop were to highlight the role of ICT and its application in library development, identify the impact and challenges of ICT to public libraries and school libraries of Southeast Asian countries and promote and support the activities of UNAL.

7.5.2 PILOT STUDY FOR IDENTIFYING COMMUNITY INFORMATION NEEDS

The NLM with the cooperation of the Department of Statistics (DOS), Malaysia and supported by UNESCO conducted a *pilot study for identifying community information needs of selected communities in Klang Valley*, 8-10 March, 2002. The findings of survey will be used as a basis for the establishment of a Community Information Services by the NLM scheduled to be implemented by mid 2002.

7.6 MALAYSIAN RESOURCE CENTRES OVERSEAS

The establishment of Malaysian Resource Centres at the University of Ohio, Athens, U.S.A., the Royal Institute of Linguistics and Anthropology (KITLV), Netherlands and the University of Victoria, Wellington, New Zealand is to support the function of the Malay Studies Chair, the Tun Razak Chair and courses on Malaysian studies offered in these universities. Library materials was sent to the Malaysian Resource Centre as indicated below:

	1999	2000	2001
University of Ohio	203	285	514
KITLV	253	461	438
University of Victoria	552	250	457

7.7 ISBN/ISSN

As the National Centre for the country, NLM has issued ISBN numbers to new monographic titles and ISSN numbers to new serial titles published in Malaysia. In 2001 a total of **461** new publishers has been registered in the publishers register of ISBN.

	1999	2000	2001
ISBN	11,781	11,542	15,675
ISSN	286	253	261

8 FUTURE PLANS

It is vital that libraries and librarians play their role in strategies to transform the societal mass into information societies taking into account the socio-economic, technological and political developments that are taking place within the country and internationally. NLM and other libraries must collaborate in identifying and implementing core projects which would benefit both urban and rural populations as in the face of economic and other challenges. Towards this end, NLM will undertake the following strategies as the way forward:

- (i) Implementation of NLM restructuring to support development of PERDANA.
- (ii) Competency-based development programme for library personnel.
- (iii) Inter-agency collaboration for digital content creation.
- (iv) Establish consortium for electronic databases.
- (v) Establish Centre of Excellence for Malaysiana.
- (vi) Submission for additional funding under the Eighth Malaysia Plan Mid Term Review and Ninth Malaysia Plan (2006-2020).
- (vii) Collaboration in regional digital content projects.

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**TOTAL NUMBER OF LIBRARIES IN MALAYSIA
2000**

<i>TYPES OF LIBRARIES</i>	<i>NUMBER OF LIBRARIES</i>
NATIONAL LIBRARY	1
STATE PUBLIC LIBRARIES	
- Main State Public Library	14
- Territory Libraries	7
- Branch Libraries	92
- Town	17
- Village Libraries	546
- Mobile Libraries	107
RURAL COMMUNITY CENTRE LIBRARIES	
- KEMAS, RISDA, FELDA	198
- Libraries Under Local Government Authorities	12
- Other (mosque, etc)	117
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES	
- Government	11
- Private	4
INSTITUTE OF HIGHER LEARNING LIBRARIES	
- (College/Institute, Polytechnic, Teachers Training College)	97
SPECIAL LIBRARIES	
- Ministry/Government Department	233
- Statutory Body/Private agency	60
SCHOOL RESOURCE CENTRES	
- Secondary Schools	1,566
- Primary Schools	<u>7,130</u>
TOTAL	<u>10,212</u>

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALAYSIA - ORGANISATION CHART 2002

ANNEX 11

