

Doon Library & Research Centre

Annual Report: 2006 – 2007

Introduction

It is a matter of great happiness and satisfaction to present this first annual report of the Doon Library & Research Centre. The Doon Library & Research Centre represents the fruition of a dream that some of us had for a number of years. It would, therefore, be appropriate to begin by recounting briefly the history and genesis of the institution and the vision which informs it. The establishment of the institution can be traced to the realization that Dehradun, which is now the capital (albeit still an interim capital) of the new state of Uttarakhand, does not have a good library catering to scholars and researchers working in the fields of social sciences and humanities as well as to the general readers. The problem also affects scholars, researchers and interested readers – both Indian and foreign – from outside the state who come here in search of material on Himalayas in general and Uttarakhand in particular. A quick survey of existing libraries in the state was not very comforting for the image of Uttarakhand as a State that is trying to position itself as a preferred destination for knowledge-based enterprise. The existing situation may be summarized as follows:

- The only libraries catering to a limited extent to the specialized areas of social sciences and humanities are located in the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie and the Uttaranchal Academy of Administration (UAA), Nainital.

- Both these libraries are meant for use by in-house trainers and trainees in these institutions, while others can only get access by sufferance.
- Library holdings at both LBSNAA and UAA, quite understandably, have been built up over time as an aid to training of administrators rather than for research, or keeping in mind the needs of the general reading public.
- Outside scholars and researchers provided access to these libraries have to face another serious problem of finding suitable accommodation at affordable rates if they have to spend some time at the library. Both Mussoorie and Nainital are hill resorts, which attract a heavy influx of tourists. As a result reasonably priced accommodation is virtually impossible to come by.
- Apart from these two libraries, the situation with regard to social science and humanities holdings in other libraries in the state is rather distressing.
- The other libraries in the state can be classified into three categories: university and college libraries; research institution libraries and public libraries.
- The university libraries in the state, especially the two general universities of Kumaun and Garhwal, are almost exclusively student-oriented in the sense that their holdings consist mainly of textbooks and books related to the curriculum. As they have to cater to a large number of subjects in science, arts, commerce, management etc. and their resources are limited, they are hardly in a position to build collections with a research focus. The plight of the college libraries, of which the number is fairly large, is much worse. They are hardly able to devote any funds to their libraries.
- The libraries of research institutions, of which there is a fair number, especially in Dehradun and a few other places like Nainital and Almora, cater to the fields of specialization of these institutions, which happen to be mainly in areas of science and technology (e.g. forestry, soil conservation,

- wildlife, remote sensing and GIS, cartography, ecology, agriculture, astronomy etc.).
- There are a number of public libraries in the state, especially in the larger towns. Some of them are quite old and well known, like the Mussoorie Public Library, Tilak Memorial Library, Mussoorie. Mahatma Khushi Ram Library, Dehradun, Durga Lal Sah Library, Nainital. Unfortunately they have all been facing a severe resource constraint. As a result the pace of acquisition of books by them has not kept pace with the times. Their upkeep, too, has suffered a serious decline.

Rationale for the Doon Library & Research Centre

Library

The profile of existing libraries clearly underlined the need for setting up a good library catering to the needs of researchers in the field of social sciences and humanities, while also catering to the needs of an enlightened general readership, of which there is a fairly large number in Dehradun. Uttarakhand being a Himalayan mountain state, it was also considered important for this library to have specialized holdings in the mountain areas in general and the Himalayas and Uttarakhand in particular. The library thus seeks to fill three important needs: (i) serve as an important resource for scholars and researchers in social science and humanities in the state (and even the neighboring states of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh), thereby giving a fillip to research in these fields; (ii) serve as a one-stop repository of material on society, economy, history, culture, ethnography, literature, folklore and polity in the Himalayan areas of India, especially Uttarakhand, thereby attracting scholars and researchers from within the country and outside; and (iii) cater to the reading needs of an enlightened and book-loving general public.

Research Centre

There is as yet no specialized research institution in the country devoted to social and cultural studies on the Himalayan areas of the country. Though some research centers and a few NGOs in Uttarakhand and elsewhere have undertaken research in Himalayan areas from a social science perspective, these efforts have been sporadic. They do not add up to any systematic or sustained research activity. In order to fill the existing gap in research, it was felt that the Library should also function as a research centre on social sciences and humanities with a special focus on the Himalayan areas of the country. In fact the idea is to build a research centre around the library so that it becomes a centre of intellectual and academic activity in the region. Our vision for the institution is that in the years to come it is recognized as the premier library and research centre in the country on Himalayan studies from a social science and humanities perspective.

Establishment of the institution

The Doon Library & Research Centre came into existence formally on March 16, 2006 with its registration under the Societies Registration Act. The Society is headed by the Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand as the Chairman with a Governing Body and a General Body. The membership of the governing body as on March 31, 2007 is given in Annexure 1. The Doon Library & Research Centre, however, became functional on December 8, 2006 when its present premises in the Parade Ground were inaugurated by the then Chief Minister Uttarakhand, Hon'ble Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari. The actual functioning of the institution got delayed due to non-availability of suitable premises. The search for suitable premises proved to be time-consuming. Initially a building had been selected and finalised for renting, when we came to know that some premises belonging to the Survey of India and

lying vacant could be made available to us if the Government of Uttarakhand made a request to the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. The efforts in this regard bore fruit and the DST agreed to provide two floors of the building, having a large hall and a few rooms on each floor, for use by the Library. The building needed extensive repairs. Unfortunately when the repair and renovation work began it was discovered that the building was structurally very weak as it had been lying unused and unrepaired for a long time and had fallen a victim to the vagaries of the weather. It was therefore not considered advisable to continue with the renovation and repair work and the idea of housing the library there was abandoned, bringing us back to square one. The Department of School Education, Government of Uttarakhand then came to our rescue and provided us the use of a building in the Parade Ground where we are located at present. Once the decision was taken to locate the Doon Library & Research Centre in the Education Department building in the Parade Ground till it acquired its own premises, its repair and renovation was taken up. This work was assigned to the UP Rajkiya Nirman Nigam which completed it in a short period of time.

With the formal inauguration of the library and research centre by the Hon'ble Chief Minister the task of building the library was taken up in real earnest. This included appointing minimum necessary staff (the Librarian had already been appointed in May 2006), ordering necessary library and office furniture and equipment, including a computer and acquiring books. Even before the library premises had been identified, about 1800 books of general interest, including fiction, in Hindi and English, had been provided *gratis* by the School Education Department, Government of Uttarakhand. After the library became functional and till the end of March 2007, the library acquired over 350 books, so that at the end of the financial year it had 2156 volumes. The new acquisitions are mainly in the area of social sciences with some books of general interest too. The library also

finalized the list of social science journals and placed the order, along with the subscription for the same.

The library also has a reading room where newspapers and magazines are kept to general readers. We are subscribing to 13 English and Hindi newspapers and 7 popular news and business magazines. The reading room is open from 8 AM to 8 PM seven days a week.

The names of journals, magazines and newspapers being received by the library currently is given in Annexure 2.

Governing Body meetings

The Governing Body of the library and research centre met times during the year on the following dates:

May 1, 2006

June 9, 2006

November 11 2006

February 2, 2007

Among the important decisions taken by the Governing Body during the year the following may be mentioned:

- The library should issue an appeal on behalf of the Chairman, to be published in newspapers, asking people to donate books, manuscripts and other materials to the library.

- The library should write to principals and heads of social science departments of local colleges informing them of the facilities available in the library and inviting them to make use of the facilities themselves, as

well as bring this fact to the notice of their students, especially research students.

- Approved a vision document for the library and research centre (see Annexure 3)

The progress recorded by the Doon Library & Research Centre has been solely on account of the support – financial, administrative and moral – provided by the Government of Uttarakhand. Financial support has come in the form of a start-up grant of Rs. 15 lakhs and a corpus grant of Rs. 3.20 crores. At the time of inauguration of the building the Hon'ble Chief Minister generously announced the increase of the corpus amount to Rs. 5 Crores. This has given the institution considerable financial independence and stability, as it does not have to run around for funding. The guidance and support provided by the Governing Body has been invaluable.

Accounts 2006-07

Details of the audited accounts (Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure account) for the year ended March 31, 2007 are given below. The Income and Expenditure account shows a total income of Rs 19,80,792.00 accruing from interest from fixed deposits and savings bank interest during the year. Total expenditure during the year came to Rs 21,36,041.00 resulting in an excess expenditure over income of Rs 1,55,249.00. The major items of expenditure were:

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Building Renovation | Rs 11,68,000.00 (54.68%) |
| Furniture & Fixtures | Rs 4,96,023.00 (23.22%) |
| Books & Journals | Rs 2,04,838.00 (9.59%) |

DOON LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE, DEHRADUN
Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2007

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <u>General Fund</u> | | | <u>Fixed Assets</u> | | |
| Opening Balance | NIL | | Building Renovation | 1,168,000.00 | |
| Less: Deficit | <u>155,249.00</u> | | Furniture & Fixture | 496,023.00 | |
| See Contra | <u>155,249.00</u> | | Books | 117,381.00 | |
| | | | Magazines & Journals | 87,457.00 | |
| | | | Broad Band | 10,537.00 | |
| <u>Corpus Fund</u> | | | Computer | 64,297.00 | |
| Received during the year | | 33,042,000.00 | Glow sign Board | <u>3,950.00</u> | 1,947,645.00 |
| | | | | | |
| <u>Fixed assets Fund</u> | | | <u>Fixed Deposits</u> | | |
| Opening Balance | NIL | | With State Bank of India | 32,042,000.00 | |
| Addition during the year | <u>1,947,645.00</u> | 1,947,645.00 | Interest accrued | <u>545,153.00</u> | 32,587,153.00 |
| | | | | | |
| <u>Current Liabilities</u> | | | <u>Tax Deducted at Source</u> | | |
| Hollywood Furniture Mart | 1,662.00 | | By State Bank of India | | 380,864.00 |
| Rampian Enterprises | 2,300.00 | | | | |
| Vishal Computer | | | | | |
| Solution | 650 | | | | |
| K.C. Saxena | 2,747.00 | | <u>State Bank of India</u> | | |
| State Bank of India (TDS) | <u>198,498.00</u> | 205,857.00 | SBI A/C No. | | |
| | | | 3004375766-0 | | 124,591.00 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | <u>General Fund</u> | | |
| | | | (See Contra) | | <u>155,249.00</u> |
| | | <u>35,195,502.00</u> | | | <u>35,195,502.00</u> |

Sd/-
(President)

Sd/-
(Secretary)

Sd/-
(Treasurer)

We have examined the above balance sheet of M/S Doon Library & Research Centre, Dehra Dun as on 31.3.2007 and also the Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended on that date which are in agreement with the books of account maintained and report that we have obtained all the information and explanation which were necessary for the purpose of our audit and that to the best of our information and according to the explanation given to us the said balance sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of Affairs of the society as on 31.3.2007 and income and expenditure account give a true and fair view of the 'Excess of Expenditure over Income' for the year ended on 31.3.2007.

Place: Dehra Dun
Dated: 12.09.2007

DOON LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE, DEHRA DUN

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March,2007

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--|---------------------|
| Salary & Wages | 145,642.00 | Interest on Fixed Deposits | 1,866,980.00 |
| <u>Capital Expenditure</u> | | Saving Bank Interest | 113,812.00 |
| Building Renovation | 1,168,000.00 | <u>Excess of Expenditure over Income</u> | |
| Furniture & Fixture | 496,023.00 | (Transferred to General Fund) | 155,249.00 |
| Books | 117,381.00 | | |
| Magazines & Journals | 87,457.00 | | |
| Broad Band | 10,537.00 | | |
| Computer | 64,297.00 | | |
| Glow sign Board | <u>3,950.00</u> | | |
| Advertisement | 1,947,645.00 | | |
| Printing & Stationary | 18,566.00 | | |
| Telephone Expenses | 12,371.00 | | |
| Cleaning Material | 3,157.00 | | |
| Registration Expenses | 2,144.00 | | |
| Bank Charges & Interest | 1,660.00 | | |
| Office Expenses | 692.00 | | |
| | <u>4,164.00</u> | | |
| | <u>2,136,041.00</u> | | <u>2,136,041.00</u> |

Sd/-
(President)

Sd/-
(Secretary)

Sd/-
(Treasurer)

Refer to our remark at the foot of balance sheet of even date.

Place: Dehra Dun.
Dated: 12.09.2007

FOR NEERAJ NAGALIA & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Sd/-
(Neeraj Nagalia)
F.C.A.
M.No. 70978

Annexure 1

Governing Body members of the Doon Library & Research Centre as on March 31, 2007

- | | | |
|----|--|------------------|
| 1. | Shri S. K. Das - IAS Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand. | Chairman |
| 2. | Shri Alok Jain IAS Principal Secretary Finance, Uttarakhand. | Member |
| 3. | Shri S. Raju IAS Secretary Higher Education, Uttarakhand | Member |
| 4. | Dr. S.S. Sandhu IAS Secretary Culture, Uttarakhand | Member |
| 5. | Shri Amarendra Sinha IAS Secretary Planning, Uttarakhand | Member |
| 6. | Dr. B.K. Joshi Former Vice Chancellor, Kumaun University | Member |
| 7. | Shri S.K. Maheshwari IAS Secretary & Director School Education, Uttarakhand. | Member-Secretary |

Annexure 2

Journals, Magazines and Newspapers being received by the Library

Journals

1. Annals of Library and Information Studies
2. Book Review
3. Conservation & Society
4. Developing Economies
5. Development and Change
6. Economic & Political Weekly
7. Economist
8. Far Eastern Economic Review
9. IIC Quarterly
10. India Book Chronicle
11. India Green File
12. Indian History Review
13. Indian Journal of Gender Studies
14. Indian Journal of Regulation and Governance
15. Indian Library Association Bulletin
16. Journal of Constitutional & Parliamentary Studies
17. Journal of Peasant Studies
18. Journal of Rural Development
19. Kurukshetra (English)
20. Kurukshetra (Hindi)
21. Mainstream
22. Man & Development
23. Mountain Research & Development
24. Nagarlok
25. National Geographic
26. Readers Digest
27. Samkalin Bhartiya Sahitya
28. Seminar
29. Social Action
30. Social Change
31. Social Scientist
32. Sociological Bulletin
33. South Asian Journal
34. Southern Economist
35. State of the World (World Watch Institute)

36. Studies in History
37. Studies in Humanities and Social Science
38. Vikalpa
39. World Watch Magazine
40. Yojana (English)
41. Yojana (Hindi)

Newspapers

English

1. Economic Times
2. Garhwal Post
3. Himachal Times
4. Hindustan Times
5. Hindu
6. Indian Express
7. Statesman
8. Times of India

Hindi

9. Amar Ujala
10. Dainik Jagran
11. Doon Darpan
12. Hindustan
13. Nav Bharat Times

Magazines

1. Business Today
2. Business World
3. Down to Earth
4. Frontline
5. India Today
6. Outlook
7. The Week

Annexure 3

Doon Library and Research Centre

Vision and Proposed Activities

Introduction

Scholars and researchers in Uttarakhand working in the fields of social sciences and humanities as well as general readers face a major handicap due to the absence of proper library resources in these fields in the state. The problem also affects scholars, researchers and interested readers – both Indian and foreign – from outside the state. A quick survey of existing libraries in the state is not very comforting for the image of Uttarakhand as a potential knowledge-state. There is thus an urgent need for a good library catering to research needs in the field of social sciences and humanities as well as the needs of an enlightened general readership. It would thus fill two important needs: (i) serve as an important resource for scholars and researchers in social science and humanities in the state (and even the neighbouring states of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh), thereby giving a fillip to research in these fields; and (ii) serve as a one-stop repository of material on society, economy, history, culture, ethnography, literature, folklore and polity in the Himalayan areas of India, thereby attracting scholars and researchers from within the country and outside.

The Doon Library and Research Centre has been established at Dehradun to fill this gap. It was inaugurated on December 8, 2006 by Shri N.D.Tewari, Chief Minister, Uttarakhand.

Vision

The vision that informs the Doon Library and Research Centre is to create a premier library and research centre in the field of humanities and social sciences with a special focus on mountain studies in general and Himalayan studies in particular, that will in course of time come to be recognised by the community of bibliophiles and scholars all over the world as one of the best centres for study and research on the Himalayas.

Governance Structure

The Doon Library and Research Centre is an autonomous institution registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act. It is managed by a Governing Body with the Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand Government as the Chairman. The other members of the Governing body include Secretaries of the Departments of Finance, Planning, School Education, Information and Higher Education of the Uttarakhand Government, eminent educationists and personalities nominated by the Governing Body. The administrative and academic head of the institution is the Director.

In order to assist the Director, it is proposed to constitute a Library Committee and a Research Committee consisting of persons with expertise and special knowledge in the respective functional areas.

Library

The library collection will include books, journals, documents, official and other reports, microfilms, CDs, films and audio materials in social sciences viz., sociology, anthropology, economics, geography, political science, international

relations, history, philosophy, literature etc. Special collections will be built in the following areas:

- Books written by authors living in Uttarakhand
- Books written by authors hailing from Uttarakhand
- Books and other materials on major towns of Uttarakhand e.g. Dehradun and the Doon valley, Mussoorie, Nainital, Almora, Pauri, Tehri, Ranikhet etc.
- Rare and out of print books on Uttarakhand

Realising that acquiring rare and out of print books is not an easy task, the library will at least attempt to document where such materials on Uttarakhand and the Himalayas are available, so that the information could be provided to interested readers.

The library will also make a special effort to acquire books, manuscripts and private papers from willing donors who may wish to find a proper and permanent place for their collections.

The library will also try to reach out to researchers and scholars living in places where they may not have access to library resources. For this it will provide the following services to such persons on payment of nominal charges:

- Current awareness service
- Book alerts
- Article alerts and provision for supply of photocopies of articles
- Documentation and Bibliographic services

Another special feature planned for the library will be to make it a repository for all reports and publications brought out by the Uttarakhand government and its

various departments and offices. In addition, reports and publications from other Himalayan states will also be procured. Efforts will also be made to make it a repository library for World Bank publications.

The library will be fully computerized and digitized. Apart from building its own collection of materials, it will also become a member of on line libraries and networks in order to take advantage of resources accessible through the internet. .

Research

The research activities of the Centre will be undertaken and promoted in a variety of ways:

- By the core research staff (Research Associates and Fellows) appointed by, and working full time in the Centre
- By short-term research staff (Visiting Fellows) on fellowships provided by the Centre for durations ranging from 3 months to 2 years
- By doctoral students supported by the Centre to work on topics approved by the Centre
- By visiting scholars from Indian and foreign universities, pursuing some research on Himalayas and availing the facilities of the Centre

The core staff of the Centre will consist of a small group of scholars (3 or 4 to begin with, reaching a maximum of 6 to 8 in five years time). While recruiting the core research staff preference will be given to persons with a background of research in the social sciences and humanities, especially on topics relating to mountain areas and Himalayas. The core staff will be appointed on contract for three years at a time. In order to attract good scholars from universities and research institutes, incentives in the form of higher salaries than corresponding positions in universities and academic perks e.g., incentives for publications in

standard refereed journals, facility to attend national and international seminars and conferences etc. will be offered.

Short-term visiting fellowships ranging in duration from 3 months to 2 years will be offered to persons selected for this purpose. Every year the Centre will invite research proposals on topics related to the Himalayas or mountain areas. These will be evaluated by the Research Committee of the Centre. The selected visiting fellows will either be paid a fellowship amount equal to the salary being drawn by them if they are already employed and are given leave by their employer for the duration of the fellowship. Otherwise they will be paid a suitable amount fixed by the Governing body of the Centre. Initially 4-5 visiting fellowships will be offered by the Centre every year.

Apart from pursuing their research work, visiting fellows will be expected to actively participate in, and contribute to, the academic programmes of the Centre. They will be expected to give seminars on their research and either produce a research paper if the duration of their fellowship is for less than one year, or a monograph/book-length manuscript if it exceeds one year. The Centre shall have the first right of publication of any research work undertaken with its financial support.

The Centre will provide 3-4 doctoral fellowships every year. These will be awarded to Ph D students in any university in India working in the field of social sciences and humanities on a topic related to the Himalayas. The fellowships will be for a period of three years. The selection will be made by the Research Committee of the Centre. The progress made by the scholar will be reviewed annually by the Centre and the continuation of the fellowship will be contingent on satisfactory progress.

The Centre will also encourage scholars from Indian and foreign universities working on the Himalayas to base themselves at the Centre during their sabbatical or whenever they come to the region in connection with their research and/or field work. While no payment in the form of fellowship will be made to these scholars, they may be provided with living accommodation during their stay at the Centre.

Other Activities

The Centre will also organise seminars, lectures and discussions on a regular basis on topics and themes related to its focus areas and on various topical issues. In addition two flagship activities are envisaged every year: a national seminar on a subject related to the Himalayas from a social science or humanities perspective; and a lecture by an eminent scholar or person on a similar theme. The former could be named the Bhagirathi Seminar after the main stream of the mighty Ganga. Just as the Bhagirathi is joined by other rivers to form the Ganga which then flows through the plains of northern India to provide sustenance to millions of people, we hope that the ideas emanating from the Bhagirathi Seminar will also similarly create a major flow and result in visible improvement in the human condition. The annual lecture series could be named the Nanda Devi Lecture after one of the highest peaks in India and which holds a special place in the minds of the people of Uttarakhand as the presiding deity of the region. Just as Nanda Devi stands tall among the mighty peaks of Uttarakhand Himalayas, surveying the surrounding areas from its lofty perch, so too the Nanda Devi Lecture will take stock of goings on in the world around and provide a dispassionate analysis of issues and events while rising above the cacophony of polemics and divisive debate.