Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the National Mission on Libraries (NML) held on July 9, 2013 at Conference Room of Central Secretariat Library, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi 110 001.

List of Members present in the meeting is placed at Annex ‘A’:

Shri Ravindra Singh, Secretary (Culture) welcomed the Members and Special Invitees present in the meeting. Professor Deepak Pental, Chairman extended warm welcome to Shri Ravindra Singh as the new Secretary (Culture) on behalf of the members of HLC.

Thereafter the Agenda items were taken up for discussion.

Item 1: To confirm the Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the National Mission on Libraries held on April 12, 2013:

As no comment was received, the minutes were confirmed.

Item 2: To report the progress of work since the Fifth Meeting of the National Mission on Libraries:

I. Survey of Public Libraries
Committee noted the progress of work and recommended that commencement of the "Survey" be expedited.

II. Engagement of Consultants:

Noted.
Committee suggested that the services of consultants be utilized for works of various Sub-committees and Working Groups. It was decided that each consultant in Delhi would be assigned works related to two Working Groups.

III. Setting up of Model Libraries:
Noted.

IV. Setting up of Secretariat of NML at Janpath, New Delhi:
Committee approved the renovation and refurbishing of the space provided at Janpath through CPWD and recommended that the works should be started after approval of the EFC proposal. IFD was requested to expedite the vetting of estimates submitted by the CPWD.

V. Modification of EFC Proposal:
Shri K.K. Banerjee, D.G., RRRLF reported the progress since the last meeting. Observations received from the Ministry of Finance, PF II on EFC proposal was placed before the Committee along with draft Para wise response.

Shri Ravindra Singh, Secretary (Culture) requested the members to express their views regarding the observations made by the Ministry of Finance on the EFC.

Dr. H.K. Kaul observed that many of the recommendations of the Working Groups were not incorporated in the EFC proposal. He also observed that Prime Minister in his speech had mentioned that 9000 libraries would be networked and modernized, but in the EFC proposal about 700 libraries have been proposed to be networked.
Dr. ARD Prasad felt that an autonomous centre should be created under MOC and the works of NVLI should be entrusted to the centre. He also emphasized the need for creation of ILIS as part of NVLI. Dr Prasad emphasized that infrastructure requirement of the Libraries to be networked e.g. electricity condition should be evaluated and an action plan for networking of Libraries should be drawn.

Shri K.K. Banerjee, D.G. RRRLF informed that necessary provision has already been made in the EFC proposal to provide Generator Set / Solar energy set etc. He also informed that the State Central Libraries and District Libraries have already been provided with some infrastructural support and Computers through RRRLF schemes.

Professor Deepak Pental, Chairman advised that RRRLF should coordinate with the Libraries to assess the existing condition of the infrastructure available and draw the implementation plan accordingly. He also observed that libraries should ensure that they will take appropriate measure for maintenance of the infrastructure provided.

Shri Rakesh Ranjan, Joint Secretary, MoC responded that most of the recommendations have been incorporated in the EFC proposal with the approval of HLC and that, it was not possible to accommodate all the recommendations of working groups due to financial constraints. The revised EFC Memo had been circulated to all members inviting comments before sending it to the Finance Ministry. The discussion now was to finalise the response of the Ministry of Culture on the comment of ministry of Finance.

Shri Ravindra Singh, Secretary (Culture) emphasized that members must feel free to raise any outstanding issue for discussion in future meetings and appropriate steps may be initiated for mid-course corrections, if so
decided by the HLC. He also opined that demand for additional finance may be made after NML accomplishes the objectives outlined in the EFC proposal.

Members present in the meeting unanimously agreed to the proposal and accordingly it was decided that all recommendations of the Working Groups be also enclosed while responding to the observations of Ministry of Finance and add the following line under Para 1 of the response to the observations made by the Ministry of Finance (PF II),

"All aspects of recommendations made by the various Working Groups could not be considered for implementation and, therefore, could not be included in the EFC proposal due to resource constraints. Copies of recommendations of Working Groups during their various meetings are enclosed."

Shri Pawan Agarwal, Adviser, Planning Commission mentioned that procurement of e-resources should be done through a National Level Consortium.

VI. Meeting with State Authorities.

A meeting with the State Authorities and Other Stakeholders, including NGOs working in the field, will be convened to discuss the implementation related issues after finalisation of the EFC.

Item 3: To Consider the qualification for the post of Technical Director.

Qualification for the post of Technical Director was approved as below:
1. **Education & Experience:**

   a) Master's Degree in Library and Information Science/Statistics Or, MCA, Or, B.Tech./B.E. in Computer/ Electronics /Communication/IT/ Networking.

   b) Minimum 15 years in IT Applications for Library and Information Science and/or in Software Development related to Open URL, Federated Search Engines, Z 39.50 Server and Client, building of digital resources and data repositories, developing information services in virtual environment.

Desirable:

M.Tec / Ph.D in any of the above disciplines.

2. **Job Requirement:**

   Overall administration of NVL, including planning, monitoring and evaluation, execution, programmatic and strategic management of NVLI. Preparation of Request For Proposal (RFP) and System Requirement Specification (SRS), Preparation of Tender Specification for various works of NVLI, Coordination with Technical Partner, Supervision of System Design & Development related to Open URL, Federated Search Engines, Z 39.50 Server and Client and building of digital and data repositories. Supervision of the development of information services in the virtual environment, feedback analysis etc.

3. **Age:** 60 years (maximum).

   It was decided that the advertisement for recruitment of Technical Director, NML may be published, however appointment may be made only after approval of the EFC.
Item 4: To consider the proposal for Partnership for International Conference on Digital Libraries (ICDL 2013) received from TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute), New Delhi.

The Committee approved Rs. 5 lakhs as grant-in-aid to TERI for organizing the ICDL 2013 out of NML fund with the following terms and conditions,

I. Logo of the Ministry of Culture should be prominently displayed,

II. Two sessions must be dedicated solely for panel discussion on NML (one on NVLI and the other on activities of NML & role of various stake holders),

III. All HLC members may be invited to attend the conference,

IV. Some stake holders e.g. representatives from States/U.T. may be associated.

Item 4: Any other item with the permission of the Chair:

Professor Deepak Pental, Chairman informed the committee that he had had an informal discussion with the Vice Chancellor of J.N.U for undertaking the responsibility of creation of NVLI through J.N.U. He informed that Vice Chancellor of J.N.U has shown keen interest in undertaking the project.

HLC deliberated on the proposal. It was agreed that members should think over the proposal and that the matter may be placed in the next meeting for a comprehensive discussion and decision of HLC.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Deepak Pental)
Chairman
High Level Committee
National Mission on Libraries
SIXTH MEETING OF NATIONAL MISSION ON LIBRARIES HELD on July 9, 2013

Members Present:

1. Prof. Deepak Pental  
   Chairman
2. Shri Ravindra Singh  
   Member-Convener
3. Shri B.S. Baswan  
   Member
4. Dr. H.K. Kaul  
   Member
5. Dr. A.R.D. Prasad  
   Member
6. Prof. S. Arunachalam  
   Member
7. Ms. Amrita Patwardhan  
   Representative of Sir Ratan Tata Trust
8. Shri Suresh Chand  
   Representative of Deptt. of Higher Education, MHRD

Special Invitees:

1. Shri P.K. Jha  
   Special Secretary and Financial Adviser, Ministry of Culture
2. Shri Pawan Agarwal  
   Adviser, Planning Commission
3. Shri Rakesh Ranjan  
   Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture
4. Ms. Anita Sinha  
   Director, Ministry of Culture
5. Shri K.K. Banerjee  
   Director General, RRRLF

The following Members could not attend the meeting:

1. Ms. Sudha Murthy
2. Shri Sanjiv Misra