



ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

1976-77

FIRST REPORT

(Presented to the Legislature on 30th July, 1976.)

ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATURE
(ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT)
PUBLIC GARDENS
HYDERABAD—500004

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COMPOSITION OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE (1976-77)

From the Assembly:

Chairman:

Sri M. Nana Das.

Members:

2. Sri M. Narayana Reddy.
3. Sri Hariram Jogaiah.
4. Sri Paga Pulla Reddy.
5. Sri Santosh Chakravarthi.
6. Sri V. Srikrishna.
7. Sri A. Sriramulu.

From the Legislative Council:

- 8 Sri T. Panchajanyam.
9. Sri N. Venu Madhav.
10. Sri V. P. Raghavachari.

Legislature Secretariat:

Sri G. Ramachandra Naidu, Secretary.

Sri M. Anguraj, Deputy Secretary.

Sri R. N. Sarma, Assistant Secretary.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Chairman Library Committee, having been authorised by the Committee hereby present the First Report of the Committee on their behalf.

2. The Committee visited the State Central Library, Osmania University Library and Secretariat Library at Hyderabad on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of May, 1976 respectively and held discussions with the Director of Public Libraries and the Librarian, Osmania University Library on the 25th and 26th of June, 1976 respectively.

3. The Committee also inspected the Legislature Library and the Research and Reference Section and studied their working.

4. The contents of the Report were discussed by the Committee on 8th July, 1976 and a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman and Shri V. P. Raghavachari, was authorised to make the final report in the light of these discussions, which the Sub-Committee did on 16th July, 1976.

5. This Committee being the first of its kind in our State Legislature, are called upon to lay a solid foundation for the edifice of a fulfilled Library, with adequate Reference and Research Service. With this end in view the Committee proposed to make an on-the-spot study of the working of the Libraries and Research and Reference Sections of the Parliament and of some other State Legislatures. However, the contemplated visits of the Committee to the Parliament Library and the Libraries of certain other Legislatures did not materialise.

6. But the Committee are of the considered opinion that an on-the-spot study of the working of the Libraries as aforesaid is absolutely necessary and hope that it would be in a position to do so on a future date.

7. The Committee desire to express their thanks to the Director of Public Libraries, Officers of State Central Library, Librarian and Assistant Librarian of the Osmania University, Deputy Secretary, G.A.D. and Officers of Secretariat Library for their earnest co-operation.

8. The Committee also record their appreciation of the assistance rendered by Secretary, Legislature, Officers of the Legislature and also the staff of the Library and Research and Reference Sections.

M. NANA DAS,
Chairman,
Library Committee.

Hyderabad,
dated 19th July, 1976.

1. INTRODUCTORY

The scope and functions of a modern Welfare State are ever widening and growing in complexity, because of the scientific and technological advance and the social and economic problems thrown up by these phenomena. The Legislature, as the first organ of the State, is charged with the responsibility of not only making Laws but of critically probing into the executive functions of the State and also of exercising effective financial control over the executive. A well-informed legislator alone can discharge these responsibilities by effectively participating in the legislative functions. A Library, the repository of knowledge, equipped with well-classified and neatly arranged books on all aspects of modern political, social, economic and cultural life and on subjects of Constitutional and Parliamentary interest, is an imperative need of the Legislature.

2. The information a Legislator needs would be with reference to the subjects coming up for discussion before the Legislature, which are as varied and wide in scope as the functions of the State. The Library of the Legislature has, therefore, to cater to the requirements of the Legislators by supplying them all available sources of information like books, reports etc. As the busy legislator will not have sufficient time to go through a number of volumes or papers on a particular subject, it becomes necessary that he is supplied not only the right kind of information but in good time and in precise form. This aspect of selective information management can be effectively met only when the Legislature develops its own institutionalised sources of information, an independent information reservoir and specialised dissemination procedures. To achieve this goal besides the Library, a well-organised Research, Reference and Documentation Service needs to be developed.

3. The Andhra Pradesh Legislature Library which is common to both the Houses of the Legislature is located in the building in which the library of the former Hyderabad Legislative Assembly was located, the only difference being that the entire building is now made available to the Library whereas in the old Hyderabad Legislative Assembly only the ground-floor was used for Library purposes. Recently, a skeleton Library consisting primarily of books on Legal and Constitutional matters has been located in the Council Buildings, so that works of reference frequently required by Members of the Council would be readily available to them.

Library Committee:

4. The Legislature Library so far functioned without any statutory Library Committee. There was, however, an Advisory Committee for the Library during the period when the late Dr. A. Kaleswar Rao was the Speaker. This Committee was only short-lived. The need for a

Statutory Committee to advise the Legislature Secretariat on strengthening and improving the library services, has been keenly felt over the years and consequently the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly which were revised recently provided for the constitution of the Library Committee. The relevant rules read as follows:

5. Rule 231 (1) of the "Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly".

"281 (1) There shall be a Library Committee consisting of the Members shall be nominated by the Chairman, Legislative Council from amongst the Members of the Legislative Assembly and three Members shall be nominated by the Chairman, Legislative Council from amongst the Members of the Legislative Council.

(2) The term of the Committee shall be one year.

(3) Casual vacancies in the Committee shall be filled in by nomination by the Speaker in respect of members from the Legislative Assembly and by the Chairman of Legislative Council in respect of members from the Legislative Council.

282. The functions of the Committee shall be:

- a. to consider the advise on such matters concerning the Library as may be referred to it by the Speaker from time to time;
- b. to consider suggestions for the improvement of the library; and
- c. to assist members of Legislature in fully utilising the services provided by the Library."

6. Corresponding rules are proposed to be incorporated in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council.

7. The first meeting of the Committee took place on the 28th April, 1976. The Committee held ten sittings so far of which three sittings were utilised to visit the Libraries in the city and two for discussion with the functionaries of the Libraries. In the remaining sittings the Committee held discussions and inspected the Legislature Library and References and Research Sections.

8. The Committee while appreciating that the Legislature Secretariat is trying its best within its owefully limited resources, to provide useful Library, Reference and Research Services to the Legislators, are on the other hand immensely perturbed by the glaring inadequacy of facilities and they are of the firm opinion that urgent and far-reaching measures are required to be taken to make the Library, References and Research Services more useful and effective to the

Legislators. The Committee are indeed happy that the Hon'ble Chief Minister has appreciated the urgency of the matter and has assured the Legislative Assembly on 23rd March, 1976 as follows: "I will do any thing required (for the Library). I am prepared to provide whatever is desired (for the Library)".

Basic components of the library:

9. The basic components of the Library are books, newspapers and periodicals, accommodation and equipment, and the readers. In a Legislature Library, Reference, Research and Documentation service is also an equally important wing. All these may be judiciously developed with adequate financial resources and suitable organisational set-up.

10. The Committee would like to discuss these in the following paragraphs.

(i) *Books:*

11. The Legislature Library contains nearly 18,000 volumes in addition to the Debates of both Houses of Legislature and of Parliament and reports of Committees of various Legislatures and Governments. Of these, books purchased after the advent of Andhra Pradesh account for more than half the number. But this number is very small and is utterly inadequate to meet the demands of the Legislators. Most of the available books are in English, and as such the need for strengthening the Telugu Section of the Library cannot be over-emphasised. We have declared Telugu as the Official Language of the State as per Andhra Pradesh Official Language Act of 1966 and Telugu Language is being increasingly employed in the State Administration at different levels. The majority of the Members of both the Houses of Legislature speak in Telugu while participating in the Legislative proceedings. Sooner or later the State Government will have to notify under section 3 of the Official Language Act, Telugu as the language to be used in all the proceedings of the Legislature. Therefore, it is necessary that our Legislature Library contains adequate number of books in Telugu, which are of relevance to our purposes.

12. After careful consideration, the Committee have come to the conclusion that a lakh of books should be the modest minimum for our Legislature Library. While this target may be reached ultimately, there is an urgent need for equipping the Library with atleast 30,000 books immediately, thus making an addition of atleast 12,000 books to the existing number. These additional books should be purchased within the next three years. The Committee recommend accordingly and desire that the needed financial allocation as suggested by the

Committee, elsewhere in this report may be provided by the Government. The Committee further recommend that the Bills and Acts of other States and of Parliament should invariably be kept in the Legislature Library in future and efforts should be made for securing the previous Acts to the extent available.

(ii) News papers and Periodicals:

13. A list of Newspapers and Periodicals now being subscribed by the Library and another list recommended by the Committee are appended to the report (vide Appendix I and II). The Committee recommend that these additional newspapers and periodicals are the minimum that should find a place in our reading room and should therefore be necessarily subscribed for.

(iii) Classification of books:

14. There were two systems of Classifications of books in a library. Before the formation of Andhra Pradesh the Andhra State Legislative Assembly followed Colon Classification system, while the Hyderabad Legislative Assembly adopted Decimal classification system. After the formation of Andhra Pradesh, Colon classification system was adopted by the Legislature Library. In 1973, however, it was decided to adopt the Decimal Classification system in view of the fact that it is in vogue in the Libraries of the several State Legislatures and Parliament and also as it is a universally accepted system of classification of books. This classification work is still incomplete and will take an indefinitely long time to be completed with the existing staff. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that this classification work should be completed within a period of three months by employing additional staff to the extent necessary.

(iv) Book Binding unit:

15. The Legislature Library does not have a binding unit of its own, with the result it has to depend upon the Government Printing Press even for getting petty repairs and binding. This causes a lot of delay and the consequent inconvenience to the Members. The Committee during its inspection have noticed that a number of books, reports and periodicals are lying without binding and present a sorry spectacle in the library.

16. The Committee are convinced that the Legislature Library should have its own Binding Unit and: therefore, recommend that

immediate steps should be taken to start a Binding Section of a suitable size, with necessary staff and equipment.

(v) Accommodation:

17. As has already been stated, the accommodation available in the present building is utterly inadequate even for the existing stock of books etc. When the recommendation of the Committee to improve the Library with more than five-fold increase in the number of books and more efficient and prompt service to Members, is implemented much more accommodation has to be provided. The Committee do appreciate the efforts of the Legislature Secretariat to put the available accommodation to the best use. The Legislature Secretariat has also taken certain steps, in accordance with the advice of the Committee, to make the whole building available to the Library by shifting certain other sections located in a portion of the building, and also by rearranging the reading room, the reading wing etc. This does not by itself touch even a fringe of the problem of accommodation. The Committee are therefore convinced that a new building should be constructed for the Library. The Committee have also taken into consideration the inadequacy of the existing accommodation in the Assembly and the Council premises for various purposes, particularly for the meetings of the various Legislature Committees, whose number has now considerably increased and also for the Chairmen of these Committees, not to speak of accommodation for a canteen for the Legislators. The Committee, therefore, suggest that the desirability of providing additional accommodation for the aforesaid purposes in the new Library building may also be considered by the Government. In such a case the new building will have to be sufficiently spacious to meet the needs of the Library and for other purposes mentioned above. The Minimum needs of accommodation for the library include, separate halls for books, news papers, periodicals, Reference, Research and Documentation sections, Technical Section, Administration and Accounts Sections, Binding Section, cubicles for research and serious study etc., and space for 100 readers at a time.

18. The Committee, therefore, recommend that urgent steps should be taken by the Government to construct a new building on a suitable site in the Assembly premises and make it ready for the occupation of the library in the next one year.

(vi) Equipment:

19. The Committee further recommend that simultaneously steps should be taken for equipping the new building with necessary

modern book racks, furniture etc. As an interim measure the Committee recommend that additional book racks and furniture should be immediately supplied to the library.

(vii) Staff pattern:

20. Subject to the overall control of the Secretary, the Library is under the administrative supervision of Deputy Secretary, assisted by an Assistant Secretary and the following staff:

1. Librarian	One
2. Assistant	One
3. Typist	One
4. Record Assistant	One
5. Attender	One

21. It may be mentioned that the supervisory officers *i.e.*, the Deputy Secretary and the Assistant Secretary have several other sections to look after and that there is no exclusive supervisory officer for the Library.

22. The Committee are of the opinion that the existing staff is absolutely insufficient to cope even with the existing quantum of work. During the Session days, the staff work between 8-00 a.m. and 8-00 p.m. Even during non-Session days, they have to work overtime to attend to the needs of various Committees. The formation of Reference and Research Section has also added to the pressure of work of the slender Library staff.

23. The Committee, therefore, emphatically recommend the following minimum staff for the Library, inclusive of the present staff, to meet its basic needs:

1. A Librarian of the cadre of Assistant Secretary;
2. Three professional Assistants (for classification and card writing) One of whom can be designated as Assistant Librarian;
3. Ministerial staff consisting of two Assistants, one Junior Assistant, One Typist and four Record Assistants;
4. Four Attenders.

24. This staff is exclusive of staff needed for Research and Reference Section.

25. At the moment there is no qualified Librarian with a degree in Library Science; and for the effective functioning of the Library qualified and trained personnel are essential. The Committee recommend that facilities may be provided to the existing Librarian and the Assistant to qualify themselves professionally while in service.

26. The Committee also recommend that the present Librarian may be deputed to Delhi for about 6 weeks for training in Parliament Library. In future recruitment, however professional qualifications may be insisted upon

Research and Reference section:

27. This is perhaps one of the youngest sections of the Legislature Secretariat which came into existence shortly after the termination of the President's Rule in December, 1973. The present staff pattern of the section is as follows:

1. Section Officer	One
2. Translator	One
3. Assistant	One
4. Junior Assistant	One
5. Steno-typist	One
6. Attender	One

28. The Section is attending to the following items of work:

(1) Paper clippings service from eleven (11) dailies. Important news items are marked out, clipped, classified and preserved in distinct subject-wise folders for reference by the Members of the Legislature.

(2) Card indexing of feature articles from selected magazines and periodicals.

(3) Supply of on-the-spot material to Members.

(4) Preparation of background material on important Bills etc. and supplying them to Members.

(5) Publication of folders, brochures and pamphlets on subjects of Parliamentary and general interest.

(6) Preparation and publication of Digest of Acts from time to time.

(7) Publication of 'Contemporary Democracy' journal of the Legislature Secretariat.

29. The Committee are happy that at least a beginning has been made in the direction of starting the Legislature Library, Research and Reference Section. They would like to emphasise that this section needs to be very much strengthened in future with the ultimate object of converting the Library from a repository of books to an information centre. The Section is still in its infancy and further study in depth is needed about all aspects of the subject in general and strengthening of documentation in particular, which the Committee would like to pursue and incorporate their recommendations in their future reports.

Finances:

30. The Committee was amazed to find that the Annual Budget allotment of the Library which was Rs. 20,000 originally was slashed to Rs. 10,000 a decade back on grounds of economy and raised to Rs. 15,000 last year. This is a pitifully low allocation considering the importance of the Library, its needs and the services which it has to provide to the Members of the Legislature.

31. Another point to be taken into account is the abnormal increase in the price of books, newspapers and periodicals. Further, Reference and Research section needs additional newspapers and periodicals for maintaining paper clippings.

32. Library service in the Legislature can be improved and transformed into effective service only if sufficient funds are available. Therefore, provision of more funds is the imperative need of the Library.

33. In the light of the recommendations made by the Committee in the previous paragraphs, dealing with various components in the Library, the Committee have estimated that the following amounts will be required to meet its minimum needs during the next three years.

	Rs.
1. For buying 12,000 additional books in the next three years at the rate of Rs. 30 per book on an average	3,60,000
2. For newspapers, periodicals and journals in different languages for three years	40,000
3. For book racks, additional furniture and Binding section for the next three years	1,00,000
Total	5,00,000

The Committee recommend that an amount of Rs. 5 lakhs may be provided for three years beginning with the current year 1976-77 in the Library Budget exclusive of administrative charges and the cost of new building and its equipment. An amount of Rs. 2 lakhs (inclusive of the existing provision) may be allotted in the current year's Budget and Rs. 1½ lakhs each year in the next two years.

CONCLUSION

Finally, the Committee would like to reiterate that a study of the working of the Parliament Library and Libraries of some other State Legislatures including the working of their Research and Reference Sections is imperative, without which the Committee will not be in a position to make any objective proposals for strengthening the Legislature Library and Research and Reference Services.

M. NANA DAS.
Chairman,
Library Committee.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. *Books:*

The Committee have come to the conclusion that a lakh of books should be modest minimum for the Legislature Library. While this target may be reached ultimately, there is an urgent need for equipping the Library with atleast 30,000 books immediately, thus making an addition of atleast 12,000 books to the existing number. These additional books should be purchased within the next three years. The Committee recommend accordingly and desire that the needed financial allocation as suggested by the Committee, elsewhere in this report be provided by the Government. The Committee further recommend that the Bills and Acts of other States and of Parliament should invariably be kept in the Legislature Library in future and efforts should be made for securing the past Acts to the extent available. (Para 12).

2. *Newspapers and Periodicals:*

The Committee recommend that the Newspapers and Periodicals mentioned at Append ces I and II are the minimum that should find a place in our reading room and should therefore be necessarily subscribed for. (Para 14).

3. *Classification of Books:*

The Committee strongly recommend that the classification of work should be completed within a period of three months, by employing additional staff to the extent necessary.

4. *Book Binding Unit:*

The Committee are convinced that the Legislature Library should have its own Binding Unit and therefore recommend that immediate steps should be taken to start a Binding Section of a suitable size, with necessary staff and equipment. (Para 16).

5. *Accommodation:*

The Committee has taken into consideration the inadequacy of the existing accommodation in the Assembly and Council premises for various purposes particularly for the meetings of the various Legislature Committees, whose number has now considerably increased and also for the Chairmen of these Committees, not to speak of accommodation for a Canteen for the Legislators. The Committee therefore suggest that the desirability of providing additional accommodation for the aforesaid purposes in the new Library building may also be considered by the Government. In such a case, the new building will have to be sufficiently spacious to meet the needs of the Library and for other purposes mentioned above. The minimum needs of

accommodation for the library include, separate halls for books, news papers, periodicals, reference, research and documentation sections, technical section, administration and accounts sections, binding section, cubicals for research and serious study etc., and space for 100 readers at a time. (Para 17).

The Committee, therefore, recommend that urgent steps should be taken by the Government to construct a new building on a suitable site in the Assembly premises and make it ready for the occupation of the Library in the next one year. (Para 18).

6. Equipment:

The Committee recommend that steps should be taken for equipping the new building with necessary modern book racks, furniture etc. As an interim measure the Committee recommend that additional book racks and furniture should be immediately supplied to the Library. (Para 19).

7. Staff Pattern:

The Committee recommend the following minimum staff for the Library, inclusive of the present staff, to meet its basic needs:

- (1) A Librarian of the cadre of Assistant Secretary;
- (2) Three Professional Assistants (for classification and card writing) one of whom can be designated as Assistant Librarian;
- (3) Ministerial staff consisting of two Assistants: one Junior Assistant, one Typist and four Record Assistants;
- (4) Four Attenders. (Para 23).

The Committee recommend that facilities may be provided to the existing Librarian and the Assistant to qualify themselves professionally while in service. (Para 25).

The Committee also recommend that the present Librarian may be deputed to Delhi for about six (6) weeks for training in Parliament Library. In future recruitment, however professional qualifications may be insisted upon. (Para 26).

8. Finances:

The Committee recommend that an amount of Rs. 5 lakhs may be provided for three years beginning with the current year 1976-77 in the Library Budget exclusive of administrative charges and the cost of new building and its equipment. An amount of Rs. 2 lakhs (inclusive of the existing provision) may be allotted in the current year Budget and Rs. 1½ lakhs each year in the next two years. (Para 34).

APPENDIX-I

(Para 13)

List of Newspapers and Magazines being subscribed at present

DAILIES

1. Andhra Patrika.
2. Andhra Prabha.
3. Andhra Jyothi.
4. Andhra Bhoomi.
5. Visalandhra.
6. Andhra Janatha.
7. Eenadu.
8. Deccan Chronical.
9. Indian Express.
10. Indian Herald.
11. Hindu.
12. Daily Milap.
13. Rehnuma-e-Deccan.
14. Siasat.
15. Skyline.
16. Daily News.
17. National Herald.
18. Economic Times.
19. Financial Express.
20. Hindustan Times.
21. Times of India.
22. Statesman.
23. Patriot.
24. Mail.

WEEKLIES AND FORTNIGHTLIES

1. Andhra Law Times,
2. Andhra Pathrika.
3. Andhra Prabha.
4. Andhra Weekly Reporter.
5. Bhavan's Journal.
6. Blitz.
7. Current.
8. Caravan.
9. Femina.
10. Illustrated Weekly of India.
11. Lawyer's reference.
12. Link.
13. Mainstream.
14. News Week.
15. Times Weekly.
16. New Wave.
17. Praja Sakthi.
18. Swarajya.
19. Far Eastern Economist.
20. People's Democrat.
21. Commerce.
22. Andhra Jyothi Weekly.
23. Sportsweek,

MONTHLIES

1. All India Reporter.
2. Bharathi.
3. Chandhamama.
4. Herald of Health.
5. Imprint.
6. Mother India.
7. Readers Digest.
8. Indian Law Reporter.
9. Supreme Court Digest.
10. Social Scientist.
11. Yearly Digest.
12. Yuva.
13. Margadarshi.
14. The World To-day.

APPENDIX II

(Para 13)

List of additional Newspapers and Magazines subscribed with effect from July, 1976

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Publication</i>	<i>Moad</i>
1.	Amrith Bazar Patrika	Daily
2.	Asam Tribune	Daily
3.	Madhya Pradesh Chronicle	Daily
4.	Nagpur Times	Daily
5.	Tribune	Daily
6.	Capital	Weekly
7.	Civil Affairs	Monthly
8.	Current Event	Monthly
9.	Current Science	Monthly
10.	Eastern Economist	Weekly
11.	Foreign Trade Review	Fortnightly
12.	Herald of Library Science	Quarterly
13.	Index India	Quarterly
14.	India Book Industry	Monthly
15.	India Farming	Monthly
16.	Indian Industries	Monthly
17.	India Librarian	Quarterly
18.	Indian Review	Monthly
19.	Journal of Indian History	Quarterly
20.	Public Administration	Quarterly
21.	Quest	Quarterly
22.	Record and Statistics	Quarterly
23.	Rural India	Quarterly

(1)	(2)	(3)
24.	Sarvodaya	Quarterly
25.	Reserve Bank of India Bulletin	Monthly
26.	Deccan Herald	Daily
27.	Southern Economist	
28.	Secular Democracy	
29.	Political & Economic Weekly	Weekly
30.	A.I.C.C. Magazine—Socialist India	Weekly
31.	Radical Humanist	

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