

**AN EVALUATION OF THE NATIONAL UNION
CATALOGUE OF NATIONAL LIBRARY &
DOCUMENTATION CENTRE OF SRI LANKA**

M.B.K. Mapapathirane

2001 / MLS / 01

This thesis is submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies , University of Colombo as
a partial requirement of the Masters Degree in Library & Information Science (MLS).

UCLIB



516485

June 2003

ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study was to evaluate the operations and performance of the National Union Catalogue of National Library & Documentation Centre of Sri Lanka in order to identify the underlying problems and to make recommendations for its improvements.

This evaluation would help the NL&DC to justify the operation of the NUC project, to know the effectiveness, to diagnose the problems in the project and for the future developments of the NUC.

Two types of questionnaires were used to collect data, from the NUC participants and non-participants. Out of the 68 participants in the NUC, 51 libraries had responded to the questionnaire, which was sent for them. Another questionnaire was sent to 50 non-participant libraries and out of them 29 libraries had responded. In addition to the above, observations and interviews were used by the researcher to collect data.

The survey findings revealed the following.

The participation of academic and public libraries was low in NUC and only large public libraries (with large collection size, large cadre size and large budget level) were interested in participation in NUC. But the collection size, cadre size and budget level were not factors, which influenced the participation of special libraries.

This survey identified three important and demanded objectives of the NUC. They were, (1) Locate monographs in participating libraries, (2) Facilitate inter library lending and (3) Provide referral services.

Also this survey revealed ; electronic media was the widely used medium in data transferring to the NUC, information on Sinhala & Tamil books was low in NUC, a standard transliteration scheme was not used by the participants in transferring data to the NUC, 'Printed NUC was mostly used by both participants and non-participants, coverage (forms of literature) of the NUC was not sufficient, provision of a copy of the NUC was important, the awareness of the NUC was low and the accessibility of the NUC was limited etc.

The major recommendations of this study are, to launch promotional campaigns to get higher participation of academic and public libraries, to advise the participants to send data quarterly to the NUC, to train the participants on export import procedure in data transferring, advise the participants to follow the common (SCBF) format, to pursue the participants to send data on Sinhala & Tamil books, to introduce a standard transliteration scheme, to continue to conduct workshops & seminars on NUC, to continue to provide the printed NUC, to expand the accessibility of the NUC, to cover other forms of literature in NUC, to promote the awareness on NUC and to make the NUC available on Internet etc.