

Annual Report 2020-21

Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust

Director's Note

The financial year 2020-21 started with the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns. The pandemic had a major impact on the operations and financial position of the Library too. We had to change the operations as per the Government guidelines. Serving scholars was interrupted for nearly half a year. No events were organized in the Library premises since the lockdown was imposed. However, technology provided opportunity to continue these lectures over Zoom app. During the lockdown, RMRL started the weekly lecture series "Sanga Surangam" delivered by our Hon. Consultant for the Indus Research Centre, Mr. R. Balakrishnan, through Zoom app. Each lecture was on a particular subject dealt in Sangam literature. The lecture series was received well and many shared that it helped them to overcome the lockdown blues. The lectures are compiled as a book. The first ten in the series has been published by Bharathi Puthakalayam. The others will follow suite.

We were handling one of the challenging projects, "Creating Union Catalogue for Public Libraries" funded by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The lockdown made it difficult to keep the program going as per the plan. Despite major efforts, the project could not be completed as the core staff and their family members were infected with COVID. Some technical support has been sought and it is aimed to be completed shortly.

Another important project that has been accomplished is the digitization of proceedings and Assembly debates of Madras Presidency. We believe this document will be immensely helpful for scholars around the world.

The financial burden has increased for lack of new projects. However, salaries were given to all the staff on time. This was made possible through the generous donations from institutions such as URC Constructions. I would like to thank them for their kind support to overcome the difficult period.

After repeated efforts, RMRL has received permission from the School Education Department, Government of Tamil Nadu to expand its current building situated in Taramani. I would to thank the Government for giving the permission. Initial planning and tests were conducted to assess the strength of the current building structure. We also submitted a few project proposals to various funding agencies. We hope they would be approved, which will improve the financial position of the Library.

G. Sundar
31 July 2021

Reference Services

Scholar's footfall to the Library was drastically reduced because of Covid-19 lockdown. Even though the Library resumed its other operations in July 2020, reference service was opened only in September 2020. Users were allowed to use the collection with proper precautionary measures as directed by the Government of Tamil Nadu. A total of 110 new scholars used the collection this year. 1221 titles of books and periodicals have been put to use for multiple times. As usual, reference service was also extended through telephone. During the lockdown the Library's online catalogue was upgraded with "Advanced search" and "Browse by authors" options.

Books/Periodical Donor List

- Anandar Iyer, Arutpavalalar
- Anvar Latiff
- Balaji
- Balasubramanian, T. R
- Belliappa, P. M
- CIKS
- Dhanasekaran, Pon
- Govindan, Prof.
- Karthikeya Sivasenapathy
- Karumbayiram, S
- Karuvur Kannal
- Krishnan, R
- Kumari Abubakkar (Late)
- Mallika
- Mohan Kumar
- Mohana Sundaram
- Naveena Alexander
- Palani Gopu
- Parthasarathy
- Perumal
- Prabhakaran, U
- Prameela Gurumoorthy, Dr
- Radhakrishnan, K. S
- Raja Gopalan
- Rajeswari, Dr. C
- Sandhiya
- Santhakumar, K
- Sayed Abu Thahir
- Selvakumari, A. P
- Sembai Xavier
- Sengamalathayar, Naga

- Srinivas, T
- Sriram, V
- Sundar, G
- Mani, Dr. A
- Vasanthakumaran, G.

Documentation

The creation of “Union Catalogue” for public libraries of Tamil Nadu has taken the right direction with the help of software professionals. Due to high rate of inconsistency in all the fields of records received from the public libraries, we have changed the approach in correcting the errors. Most of the inconsistencies were in Author, Title and Publisher fields, so we have extracted the data from these fields and imported them into Google spreadsheets to run the pivot program. This program provided us with a sum of unique and variants – all in one place. The variants were corrected and the subsequent variants were automatically corrected by the program. The corrected records were imported to the MySQL database. Later this will be converted into a MARC file. The work flow was affected briefly due to the Covid-19 lockdown and restrictions. We hope to complete the project by the end of 2021.

Preservation

One of major preservation projects carried out was the digitization of *Proceedings and Debates of the Madras Legislative Assembly & Madras Legislative Council*. The project was funded by the Centre for Research Libraries. A total of 133 volumes were preserved through this project.

In a view to make its collection open to scholars all over the globe, RMRL started uploading books to the Internet Archives (archive.org). A total of 800 books have been uploaded, that include books already microfilmed by RMRL and books being digitized by the Internet Archives volunteer.

With the funds received from Chatnath Trust, 46 books of writer Rajam Krishnan were digitized. In addition to this digitization services was also extended to Music Academy and Mylapore Times to preserve their collection.

Indus Research Centre (IRC)

An MoU has been signed with the Department of Archaeology to organize workshops, training programs, seminars jointly or with the support of experts in the fields. The subject areas will be Archaeology, Tamil and Indus Scripts.

Mr. R. Balakrishnan, Honorary Consultant for the Indus Research Centre has started the Tamil translation of his book “*Journey of a Civilization: Indus to Vaigai*”. Translation of maps and infographics was completed by the production team. First draft of the translation was completed and second level of proofing is under way. It is expected to be published by end of 2021.

IRC has brought out the fifth volume of the “*Bulletin of the Indus Research Centre*” in July 2020: “Indus Valley Civilization’s Symbology- Two is Great” is a paper authored by Mr. Sukumar Rajagopal.

Another important work initiated by the IRC this year was the “Web-enabling of the IM77 Indus Concordance”. This project is to develop Iravatham Mahadevan’s “*The Indus Script – Text, Concordance and Table*” (1977), as an interactive web application. This project is funded by the Department of Archaeology, Government of Tamil Nadu through its MoU with IRC.

Lectures / Workshops

Madras Month Lecture Series

Four lectures were organized as part of Madras month lecture series

1. *Print Culture in Tamilnadu* by Prof. V. Arasu
2. சபாநாடகங்களும் தமிழ் சினிமாவும் by S. Theodore Bakskaran
3. *Making a Dravidian Voice* by Dr. Amanda Weidman
4. *The School of Arts, Madras: Imagining a museum of labour* by Ms. Bhooma Padmanabhan & Ms. C. P. Krishnapriya

Margazhi Month Talk Series

Three lectures were organized as part of Margazhi month lecture series.

1. விடுதலை தந்த வள்ளல் by Dr. Arumuga Thamizhan
2. *Reflections of Music and Dance: Delving into the unique dance music of the Dhanammal legacy* by Mr. Aniruddha Knight
3. Screening and discussion of Mr. Amshan Kumar’s documentary movie *Yazhpanam Dhatchanamoorthy- Music Beyond Boundaries*.

Sanga Surangam lectures

In a view to educate general public about the Sangam literature, Mr. Balakrishnan had started a ten-part lecture series known as *Sanga Surangam* on this subject this year. Each part will have ten lectures and all the lectures were organized through Zoom. The series was started in May, 2020 and three series were completed by the end of March, 2021. The lecture series received great response from Tamil communities all over the world. Balakrishnan is also working on the content of each lecture series to bring it as a book.

Other Lectures

1. தமிழ்ப் பண்பாட்டு வரலாற்றில் அவ்வையும் கபிலரும் by Dr. Stalin Rajangam
2. *Is there a Harappan Mythology?* delivered by Mr. Devdutt Pattanaik.

Workshop

RMRL is collaborating with the Tamilnadu State Archaeological Department in identifying and digitization of palm leaf manuscripts all over Tamilnadu, through the State Manuscript Mission. As part of this collaboration, a one-week training on digitization and metadata creation was given to the project staff.

Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust					
Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2021					
Particulars	Sch.	As at 31st March 2021		As at 31st March 2020	
<u>SOURCES OF FUNDS</u>					
Capital Fund	1		54,074,650		51,599,131
Endowment Fund	2		1,398,150		1,198,150
			55,472,800		52,797,281
<u>APPLICATION OF FUNDS</u>					
Fixed Assets					
Gross block		44,033,766		43,836,492	
Less: Depreciation		10,613,957		9,693,452	
Net block	3		33,419,809		34,143,040
Current Assets, Loans and Advances					
Cash and Bank balances	4		21,502,346		18,144,488
Prepaid Expenses			23,566		-
Interest Accrued on Deposits			331,672		418,265
Loans and Advances	5		288,049		184,058
			22,145,633		18,746,811
Less: Current Liabilities and Provisions					
Other Liabilities	6		92,642		92,570
			92,642		92,570
Net Current Assets			22,052,991		18,654,241
			55,472,800		52,797,281

Notes to accounts & Significant
Accounting Policies

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For R. Subramanian and Company

Chartered Accountants

FRN - 004137S/S200041

M. Lavanya

Partner

Membership No. :213706

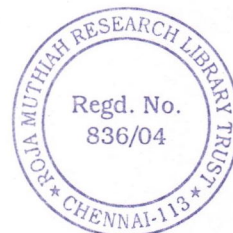
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For Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust

(Signature)

Executive Trustee



Place : Chennai

Date : 6/8/2021

Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust			
Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 2021			
Particulars	Sch.	31.03.2021	31.03.2020
		Rs.	Rs.
<u>INCOME</u>			
Contributions received	7	4,173,207	5,046,673
Donations received		3,298,332	3,832,913
Other receipts	8	3,402,381	1,352,033
Total Income		10,873,920	10,231,619
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
Operating expenses	9	7,483	1,652,762
Employee expenses	10	5,828,100	5,565,185
Administrative expenses	11	1,642,313	2,455,206
Depreciation	3	920,505	1,008,815
Total Expenditure		8,398,401	10,681,967
Excess of Income over expenditure		2,475,519	(450,348)

Notes to accounts & Significant Accounting Policies

12

For R. Subramanian and Company LLP

Chartered Accountants

FRN - 004137S/S200041

M. Lavanya

M.Lavanya

Partner

Membership No. :213706

UDIN: 21213706AAAAEW7259



For Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust

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Executive Trustee



Place : Chennai

Date : 6/8/2021

Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust					
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31.03.2021					
Receipts	2020-21	2019-20	Payments	2020-21	2019-20
To Cash-Opening Balance	2,114	661			
To Bank-Opening Balance	18,142,374	21,843,778	By Employee Expenses	5,794,458	5,560,185
To Other Donation	1,798,332	1,347,712	By Administrative Expenses	1,699,447	2,409,867
To Donation - JOC	1,500,000	2,485,201	By Operating Exps	7,483	4,167,770
To Contribution Received	4,150,707	3,296,673	By Purchase of Assets	197,274	248,520
To Endowment Fund Donation	200,000	250,000	By TDS on receipts	-	43,846
To Salary Advance Recovered	-	-			
To Income Tax Refund received	14,289	28,247			
To sale of books	2,214,272	29,890			
To Interest Received	1,152,929	1,259,550			
To Interest on IT Refund	991	2,963			
To Received From Sun Drs	-	-			
To Training fees received	25,000	-			
To Sale value of Vehicle	-	30,000			
			By Cash-Closing Balance	1,182	2,114
			By Bank-Closing Balance	21,501,164	18,142,374
Grand Total	29,201,008	30,574,675	Grand Total	29,201,008	30,574,675

For R. Subramanian and Company LLP

Chartered Accountants

FRN - 004137S/S200041

M. Lavanya

M.Lavanya

Partner

Membership No. :213706

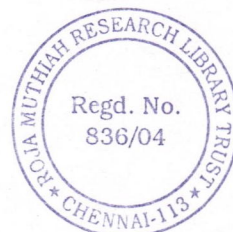
UDIN: 21213706AAAAEW7259



For Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust

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Executive Trustee



Place : Chennai

Date : 8/8/2021

Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust

iii) Revenue Recognition

The Income from Digitization, Documentation, Reprographics, Training and Reference Services is accounted on Accrual basis.

Donations are accounted on Receipt basis.

Interest is accounted on Accrual basis.

Project Work in Progress has been recognized on percentage of completion basis.

iv) Fixed assets and Depreciation

The Fixed Assets other than the Books owned by the Library are accounted at Cost and depreciated over the useful life of the asset. The books & periodicals purchased for the collection are recorded at cost and are not depreciated.

The books and periodicals received as donation are valued at fixed prices depending on the age of the book or periodical. These rates have been approved by the managing committee after considering the practices followed by similar organizations. These assets are not depreciated.

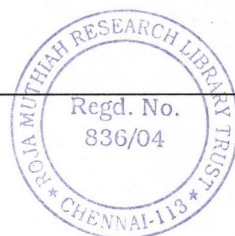
Depreciation on fixed assets is provided on written down value method at rates arrived at based on the useful life of the asset. Depreciation in respect of additions made during the year and put to use for less than six months has been charged at 50% of the original rate for the block.

v) Foreign Currency Transactions

Foreign currency transactions are recorded at the rates prevailing on the date of transaction.

vi) Taxes on Income

Income tax comprises of current tax. Current tax is determined in accordance with the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961, as the amount of tax payable to the taxation authorities in respect of taxable income for the year. The trust is registered u/s 12A(a) of the Income Tax Act and it's taxable income is exempt from tax. Hence, provision for income tax is normally not made.



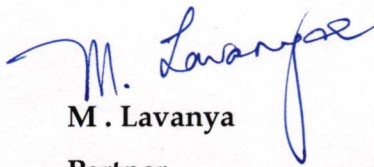
Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust

OTHER NOTES:

- During the year, the sale of books disclosed to the tune of Rs. 22,38,279/- pertain to sale of the Trust's publication "Journey of a Civilization : Indus to Vaigai" authored by Mr. R. Balakrishnan. The respective royalty payable thereon and the publication rights of the book had been donated to the Trust by the Author.
- Figures have been rounded off to the nearest rupee.
- Previous year figures have been regrouped and reclassified wherever necessary.

For R Subramanian and Company LLP For Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust
Chartered Accountants

Firm Regn No. 004137S/S200041


M. Lavanya

Partner

Membership Number: 213706

UDIN : 21213706AAAAEW7259

Place: Chennai

Date: 6/8/2021




Executive Trustee

