PREFACE

One of the basic purposes of a library is to preserve knowledge which is available in any documentary form. CSIR is the premier industrial organization which is funded mainly by the S&T, Ministry of India and it is one of the world’s largest publicly funded (R&D) organizations having linkages to academia, other organizations and industry. As a matter of fact the objectives of libraries now been transformed from preservation to providing information to the utmost satisfaction of the users. In fact, the entire mechanisms garnering the requisite materials and their proper organization and provision of service is known as collection development and its uses.

Collection development remains is immensely important benchmark in determining the nature and to a considerable extent the level of service which a library is able to provide. The present study specifically deals with the policy aspects and dimensions of developing library collection and its uses from the view points of the librarians as well as the user communities including scientists. The study has been made meaningful by selecting 9 prestigious CSIR libraries of Delhi and Lucknow.

Before launching the work of collecting data, extensive literature survey was undertaken to understand the problems and research trends in the area. Library & Information Science Abstracts (LISA), some databases like Emerald, Elsevier, Science Direct, JSTOR and books were
used for identifying the related articles on various aspects of the research topic. The topic was segmented into various section of the study. The literature survey helped to understand the problems related to developing library collection in a proper perspective and broaden the framework. It also helped in gaining clarity and in developing different questionnaires.

The study is based on survey approach of research. Besides questionnaire data has been collected on the basis of personal interviews. Two different questionnaires have been used for eliciting response from librarians and users on various issues related to Collection development and their use. The questionnaires were tested before finally administering them to the respective population groups. Questionnaires were distributed personally and were also sent both by post and e-mail attachments. The sample size for the survey relating to 2 groups of questionnaire was chosen on the basis of their estimated strength and the practical constraints of space, time and economy in administering the questionnaires.

The data has been analyzed using Ms-excel programme and results have been tabulated in 2 section based on respective questionnaires. The entire study is divided into 6 chapters. A brief outline of each chapter is given below:

**Chapter-I Introduction:** This chapter introduces various components of collection development process, factors affecting collection development, collection development policy with reference to special libraries and
research topic and its background, statement of the problem, scope of the study and its limitations.

**Chapter-II Review of Literature:** This chapter is about the literature which has been scanned and surveyed to study the various trends in this area of study. It deals with various aspects like collection development policy, services and their use.

**Chapter-III CSIR Laboratories’ and their Libraries:** This chapter discusses the CSIR laboratories and their libraries under study. CSIR Libraries under study i.e. covers general background, services, activities and their publications etc.

**Chapter-IV Methodology:** This chapter relates to the method of study, construction of the questionnaires, and selection of variables, organization and administration of the questionnaires. The chapter further mentions the process of data collection and its analysis.

**Chapter-V Data Analysis and Interpretation:** This chapter analyses the data collected during survey. The analysis is divided in 2 different sections as per 2 different questionnaires which were designed and distributed.

**Chapter-VI Findings, Summary & Conclusion:** This last chapter is devoted to the important findings of the study which have come out of the research. It gives recommendations to improve the existing situation. Areas for further research have also been suggested.