CHAPTER - II
CHAPTER - II

(1) INSTITUTES AND INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN COLLECTION OF MSS: PROFILES

The institutions have been grouped under following categories.

A. Academic Institutes - (11)
B. Archives/Government Institutes - (7)
C. Museums - (1)
D. Private Collections - (4)
E. Public Institutes - (1)
F. Religious Institutes - (5)
G. Research Institutes - (11)

The profiles of these institutes will help in identifying the organisational structure of the institute, historical account, management of these institutes and other facts.

(II) INTERVIEWS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH SCHOLARS

a. Shri. P. N. Kulkarni, Kolhapur.
c. Dr. Vasant Joshi, Wai.
d. Shri. Anant Karvirkar, Kolhapur.
e. Shri. Sudhakar Joshi, Latur.
f. Dr. Y. M. Pathan, Aurangabad.
g. Shri. Balasaheb Patil, Paithan.
h. Dr. S. R. Chavan, Wai.

Dr. S. R. Chavan has conducted a survey to identify the "Shahiri Literature" in MSS form.

52
A. ACADEMIC INSTITUTES - (11)

There are 11 academic institutes, possessing MSS. Basically, their main activity area is to serve the academic community, i.e. faculty members and students of the academic courses. MSS keeping and providing them to the researcher is their additional job.

UNIVERSITIES:

1. Deccan College and Postgraduate Research Institute  
   (Deemed University, Pune-411 006) - (M)
2. Jayakar Library, University of Pune, Pune-411 007, (M).
3. Nagpur University Library, Nagpur-440 010 (M).
4. Oriental Institute (M.S. University of Baroda), Vadodara  
   390 001 (Gujarat State) - (OM).
5. Oriental Research Institute and MSS Library,  
   Thiruvananantapuram-695 581 (Kerala State) - (OM).
7. Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune-411 037 - (M).
8. University of Bombay Library, Bombay-400 032 - (M).

COLLEGES:

11. Pratap Centre of Philosophy, Amalner-425 401 - (M).
A.L. DECCAN COLLEGE POSTGRADUATE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE,
YERAVADA, PUNE - 411006 (DEEMED UNIVERSITY), MAHARASHTRA.

Brief History:

It was established in 1821, Revived in Aug. 1939.

Deccan College, started in 1821, was known by various names such as the Poona Sanskrit School' upto 1851, 'Poona College' upto 1868, 'Deccan College' from 1868 to 1934 and 'Deccan College Post-graduate and Research Institute' from 1939 onwards. Eminent scholars and public figures such as Lokamanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, V.S.Apte, G.G.Agarkar, R.N.Dandeker and Appa Pant were among its students. Scholars like William Wordsworth and Edwin Arnold were Principals of the College. After the conversion of the College into a Research Institute in 1939, it has developed into a centre of international repute in the fields of Archaeology, Linguistics, Indology-Orientology and Sanskrit. The Institute had on its staff eminent scholars like Prof. S. M. Katre, H.D.Sankalia and Irawati Karve. In 1990 the institute was conferred the status of 'Deemed to be University' in recognition of its excellence in these fields. The Library of the Institute holds a Collection of over 1,50,000 books and periodicals, 12,000 MSS, Maps, Survey of India topo sheets, micro-forms of rare books, back volumes and rare collections of valuable periodicals. It is one of the best organized research libraries in the country with research facilities used by scholars from all parts of the world.
MSS Collection:

Total collection of MSS in the Institution is as follows—
Sanskrit—11,000, Marathi—1000 approx, Hindi and Other—100 approx.
The MSS in the institute are acquired by way of Purchase and Donation.

Accessioning:
1. Sr.No. 2. Title of Ms. 3. Name of the Author 4. Subject.

Cataloguing/Classification:
The collection is not classified.

Preservation/Conservation:

The MSS are wrapped in red cloth with two card-sheet supports inside and stored in Steel cupboards with doors and cleaned and dusted regularly.

Catalogues of MSS Published:
Marathi MSS:

All Marathi MSS are on paper. Small in size, mostly incomplete, year not given and most of them are religious i.e. containing stotras etc.

Use of MSS:

There are few users of MSS. These being paper MSS, it is very difficult to identify their life span and the paper used is bound to deteriorate. Hence efforts should be made to either get good valuable (contentwise) MSS, microfilmed or xeroxed and put on floppies with the help of scanner with financial assistance from the Government or any other agency.

A.2. JAYAKAR LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF PUNE,
PUNE-411 007, (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:
Established on - 10th February, 1949 / Library - 1st January 1950. The Library was housed in the present building in 1958. The MSS collection has developed through the generous donations of Parkhishāstri, Rājā Pant Sachiv of Bhor, Kabir Math, Pune, R.R. Deshpande from Akola, Rajendra Banhatti, Pune; Maharashtra Samaj, Tanjore; B.D. Kelkar, R.T. Sathe and R.C. Dhere from Pune. Number of MSS have been published.

MSS Collection:
Sanskrit - 1816, Marathi - 633, Hindi - 966, Other - Eng.14, Tālpatra in Kanarese script - 03.
Budgetary Provisions:

Provision are made along with the purchase of books grant.

Maintenance - Rs.20,000/- normally earmarked in annual budget.

Manuscripts in the library are acquired by way of Purchase and donations.

Accessioning:

Sr.No., Author, Title, Subject, Date of Pub., Size, Type of material, No.of pages, Vendor, Date, Special features.

Cataloguing/Classification:

1) Sr.No. 2) Acc.No. 3) Title 4) Author 5) Commentator

Preservation/Conservation:

Monthly spray of insecticides. Wrapped in Red Cloth with cardboard protection on both sides. Vekhand and Napthaliene balls are placed in the cupboards as repellents.

Catalogues of MSS published / Special Collections:


There are Special Collections like 1) Datta Varada Vithala, 2) Diaries of R.T. Sathe, 3) Important papers from the first
Vice-Chancellor Barrister M.R. Jayakar, 4) Newspaper clippings of Mr. Marathe on Marathi drama/theatre.

There are facilities like - Microfilming, Microfilm reading and Xeroxing.

Marathi MSS:
The Salient features of Marathi MSS are as follows:

Marathi MSS of Datta Varada Vithal, are rare and important from the point of view of researcher. One student from Dept. of Marathi completed her Ph.D. on this topic. Diaries of Sathe, (Years 1880-1934) giving past account of Pune and the social life during that period are remarkable. Ketaki Grahaganit gives important information on Astrology.

The collection proves useful to scholars. There are number of scholars foreign and Indian seeking advantage of Marathi MSS. Among them Prof. John F. Conlon and Philips Engblom from United States are the prominent. Scholars from Department of Marathi are benefitted by the collection.

The respondent to the questionnaire, has suggested the following.

Pune City and the institutions in Pune possess great deal of cultural property, by way of MSS. University library prominently needs to take lead in establishing conservation unit for the regional use.
A.3. NAGPUR UNIVERSITY MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARY,
UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, AMARAVATI ROAD, NAGPUR-440 001. (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:
Established on 14-4-1945 and Reorganized in 1961. At the initial stage the work of collecting old and rare MSS was done by two stalwarts in the field of Indology, viz. Dr.Y.K.Deshpande and Dr.V.V.Mirashi. Dr.V.W.Karambelkar was in charge of this project in an honorary capacity. In 1961 this section was reorganised and first full time MSS officer, Dr.S.L.Katre, renowned Sanskrit scholar was appointed. Since 1965 Dr.S.M.Ayachit was appointed as MSS officer. He has developed the entire collection upto 14166 MSS.

MSS Collection:
Sanskrit - 9112, Marathi - 5000, Hindi - 50, Others - 4.

Budgetary Provisions:
MSS are acquired by way of Purchase and Donation.

Accessioning:
Acc.No., Title, Author, Subject, Date (sake), Script and Language, Substance, Folios, Source, Size, Presented or Purchased.

Cataloguing/Classification:
The MS collection is Catalogued partly upto 2500 and classified partly upto 2000 with following columns.
Section No., Sub.No., Date, Script No., Language, Extent, Size, Acquired From, Place.
2000 MSS have been classified using colon classification.
Preservation/Conservation:

1. Thymal fumigation, 2. Nepthelene Balls, 3. Xeroxing of rare MSS

Catalogues of MSS Published:


Special Collections:

5. Shri. Yashvant Balvanta Mangruikar (Nagpur).

Microfilming, Xeroxing and Copying facilities are provided to scholars.

Marathi MSS:

Collection mostly comprises of works of Marathi Saints and poets and it is used mostly by scholars occasionally, for their Ph.D. work. Other occasional research queries are received, from Sanskrit scholars, even from outside Maharashtra, to the University.
Brief History:

The Oriental Institute, Vadodara established in 1927, is one of the leading and recognized centres of research and textual criticism in the world. It has published 171 works under the internationally reputed : The Gaekwad's oriental Series. These works cover a very extensive field of almost all important branches of Indology, such as Literature, Philosophy, Logic, Architecture, Sculpture, Music, History, Wrestling, Vaishnava, Shaiva, Shakta Agamas, Tantra, Buddhism and Jainism, written in Sanskrit, Prakrit, Apabhramsha, Persian, Arabic, Urdu and old Gujarathi languages. Moreover 618 books in Gujarati, Marathi and Hindi, useful to different strata of the society have been published in the Translation Branch under various series Viz., Shri Sayaji Sahityamala, Shri Sayaji Gramavikasamala, Matushri Jamnabai Smarak Smaramala, Shri Sayaji Balajnanamala, and Shri Shishujnanamala.

The most valuable wealth of the Institute, however, is its MSS Section with its fine collection of 27,042 MSS written in Devanagari, Sharada, Newari, Bengali, Maithili, Udiya, Telugu, Grantha, Malayalam, Kannada, Sinhalese and Burmese Scripts on paper, palm-leaf, bark, aloe-wood, and compressed cotton etc. A majority of them are written in Sanskrit and Prakrit, but MSS in such other languages as Gujarati, Marathi, Hindi, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Assamese,
Kannada, Persian etc. are also deposited in this collection. Researches on and publication of these works of MSS are in progress and this is one of the fundamental activities of the Institute. Since it has arranged a permanent exhibition of ancient materials of writing, specimens of ancient calligraphy, copper-plate-grants, scrolls and illustrated MSS of the Bhagavadgita, Shankaracharya's Saundaryalahari and pictures of Ragas and Raganis, scenes from the Bhagavatapurana and several specimens of ancient wooden covers and boxes for MSS and other related material.

With a view to publishing precious literary jewels from among the ancient MSS the "Gaekwad's oriental Series" was started in 1915 A.D. with Shri chimanlal Dalal, the spirited scholar of Gujarat, as its first General Editor.

MSS Collection:

The total collection of MSS is 27,262, out of which majority of MSS are Sanskrit, Marathi: 220, and Hindi: 200.

Budgetary Provisions:

Purchase – Rs. 1,500/- per year.
Maintenance – Rs. 3,000/- per year.

The Acquisition of MSS is carried out by Purchasing: Xerox-copies of MSS and original MSS received as gift to the library.

Accessioning:

Acc.No.; Class (i.e. subject); Original Author; Commentator; Title of the Ms.; Date of composition; Age of Ms.; Leaves; Granthas; Substance; Language/Script; Cost; Source; Remarks.
Cataloguing/Classification:
Serial No.; Acc. No.; Name of the Ms.; Author/Commentator; Folios (leaves); Granthas; Remarks about age, script, material, condition etc.
Classified subjectwise and alphabetically.

Preservation/Conservation:
1) Binding the MSS in red-cloth and keeping them between two card-board covers.
2) Use of naphthalene balls and the powder of Acorus Calamus (Vekhanda in Marathi) as insecticides.
3) Palm-leaf MSS are treated with citronella oil.
4) Occasionally, the damaged MSS are fumigated with chemicals like Thymol etc.

Catalogues of MSS published:
1. Descriptive Catalogue of manuscripts (Vedic MSS) in two volumes
2. Alphabetical List of manuscripts in the Oriental Institute, in two volumes.

Many MSS are published in the form of research papers and in Gaekwad's Oriental Series (GOS) and other series of the Oriental Institute.

Special Collection:
1. Maharaja Gaekwad collection
2. Yatishree Hemachandracharyaji collection and
3. Other minor/smaller collections

Marathi MSS:
The salient features of Marathi MSS are: Some of the MSS are rare and some are beautifully calligraphed. Very few scholars
visit the Institute to use Marathi MSS although many scholars from all parts of the world come to refer to Sanskrit MSS.

A.5. ORIENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARY,
UNIVERSITY OF KERALA, KARIAVATTOM,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 581 (KERALA).

Brief History:
The institute has a glorious past. It was started in 1908 as Curator's office, and has a steady growth to the present shape containing about 60,000 works on palm-leaf covering different disciplines in Indology. It has earned international recognition by unearthing the famous plays ascribed to Bhāsa. It is an institution of study and research. It has published about 500 books. Two journals are issued, one in Sanskrit-English and the other in Malayalam.

MSS Collection:
Sanskrit - 46,000, Hindi - 5, Other - 14,000

There are some Marathi MSS in the collection, as per the opinion of Dr. Vasant Joshi, who is working on the project "Dakshinetil Marathi Hastalikhite", sponsored by 'Rajya Marathi Vikas Sanstha', Mumbai.

Budgetary Provisions:
Purchase - Rs.5,000/- per year. The MSS are acquired by Purchase with the provision of Rs.5,000/- per year and Donations are there very often.
Cataloguing/Classification:
Serial No /Name of work /Author /Presented, sold or loaned by /Date of receipt /Date of return /Material /Language /Script /Original MSS. copied or printed /Published or otherwise /Date of manuscripts real or approximate /No.of folios /No.of granthas /Price /Remarks and notes. Classified subjectwise.

Preservation/Conservation:
Periodic cleaning, oiling with citronella etc. and maintained in an air-conditioned hall in open wooden racks. Citronella oil, camphor, etc., are used for preservation.

Catalogues of MSS published:
Five volumes of catalogues have been published until now. The penultimate (vi) and (vii) volumes are in print.
500 manuscripts have been published.
The institute provides facilities like microfilming, Xeroxing, and Copying.

Special Features:
The institute is helping in bringing out the critical edition of Valmikiramayana, and also Arthasastra providing MSS almost free from mistakes. Scholars from in and abroad are getting xerox copies of MSS. They are also assisted by institute staff in the matter of copying, collation and so on. The MSS in this institution are well preserved. The institute had visitors like A.B. Keith from foreign countries. Almost all of the famous Indologists of last eighty-five years have visited this library and benefited much out of it.
Brief History:

The Shivaji University has been working as the rural University since 1962 in order to cater the educational needs of the community coming under its jurisdiction. The extensive activities pertaining to research and development are also, being carried out along with Post-graduate instruction programmes, in various subjects.

The University has undertaken publishing of Sanskrit and Prakrit series, which is in progress.

MSS Collection:

Total collection of MSS in institution is 5693 Granthas.
Out of which, Sanskrit - 5668, Marathi - 18, Hindi - 1, and Other Prakrit - 5, Gujarathi-1.

These MSS are acquired by way of donation.

The MSS are recorded in the register against the names of the families from whom they are donated.

Cataloguing/Classification:

Sr.No., Bundle, Subject, Name of the MSS, Authors name, Date of the MSS, No.of Papers, Published or Unpublished. Broad Classification Subjectwise.

Preservation/Conservation:

A) The MSS are tied in rumal and preserved under lock and key.
B) Naphthalene Balls are being used.
Catalogues of MSS published:

The catalogue of MSS is not published but it is available in typed form.

Six MSS are published in book form.

Shivaji University Sanskrit and Prakrit Series Vol.I
5) Vol.V - Shri karavira Māhātmya Ed. by Dr. G.V.Tagare - 1980

Marathi MSS:

The Marathi MSS collection (18 MSS) is small and useful for researchers.

Users of MSS are mainly research scholars and other general readers.
Brief History:

Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth has been established in 1921 in memory of Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak. The Vidyapeeth got the status of Deemed University in the year 1987.

MSS Collection:
Collection of MSS in the institution is 1458, comprising, Sanskrit, Marathi, Hindi and other MSS.

Budgetory Provisions:

There is no budgetary provision for the acquisition of MSS in regular budget. However, special sanction of amount is being given, if there is a possibility of getting rare personal collection.

Acquisition of MSS takes place by way of purchase and donation.

The MSS Collection is accessioned partially.

Cataloguing / Classification:
The MS collection is catalogued as per the format of the National Archives of India i.e., 11 columns - Sr.No., Subject, Acc.No., Title of work, Author, Commentary/Commentator, Substance, Script, Size (c.m.), Folios, Lines, Letters, Extent (Complete/Incomplete), Condition and date, Additional Particulars.

For Classification, Colon Classification 6th edition is used and Author and Subject Devices are also used.
Preservation/Conservation:
1) Microfilming 2) Glassdoor Cabinet 3) Red Cloths.

Catalogues of MSS Published:
Catalogue of Sanskrit MSS available in Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth will get published shortly.

Special Collection:
There is Special Collection of Babrekar Shastri of Sanskrit MSS.
There is facility of: Xeroxing

Marathi MSS:
Salient features: There are a few Marathi MSS in the collection. The pothi of 'Gurucharitra' is incomplete. There are only 26 verses in it. The other Marathi pothi 'Haripathache Abhanga' has poor handwriting.

There are more enquires about the pothis on Jyotisa (Astrology) rather than other subjects.

A.S. UNIVERSITY OFBombay Library, K.B. Patil Marg,
RAJABAKK TOWER BLDG. PONT, BOMBAY - 400032 (MAHARASHTRA).

Brief History: Sir Charles Wood's education despatch of July 19, 1854 has been regarded as the starting point of modern university education in India. It also provides a convenient point of time to which the history of the university of Bombay can be traced back, although the University itself was founded on the 18th day of July, 1857, almost exactly three years after the issue of that epoch-making document.
On the 27th August, 1864, Mr. Premchand Roy Chanda, leading magnate of Bombay, offered a sum of Rs.2,00,000 towards erection of library building, "Which may be an ornament to this city, and by becoming a storehouse of the learned works, not only of the past but of many generations to come, may be a means of promoting the high ends of University". He followed up this offer with a second offer on the 6th October 1864, of a further sum of Rs.2,00,000 in the name of his mother Rajabai for the erection of a tower to contain a large clock and set of joy bells. He also expressed his desire that the tower should be connected with the University library. The senate accepted both the generous gifts with their best thanks, and, on the 28th March 1865, the Registrar addressed a letter to Mr. Gilbert Scott asking him to "design for the University...a University library capable of ultimately containing 1,00,000 volumes, a depository for MSS and suitable reading rooms, and a tower to contain a large clock and a peal of bells", in accordance with the donor's wishes. The hall was to be kept separate from the library and tower without sacrificing the principles of good design.

MSS Collection:
Sanskrit-7506, Marathi-1194, Other-1336 (Arabic, Persian and Urdu).

Budgetary provisions:
The budgetary provisions on MSS for the Year 1995-96 for Maintenance - Rs. 10,000/-. The MSS are acquired by way of donation.
Accessioning:

Cataloging/Classification:

Preservation/Conservation:
MSS are kept in plastic bags and Naphthalene ball are kept in cupboards, tied in red cloth.

Catalogues of MSS published:

Special Collections:
1) Moropant Collection - Marathi MSS
2) Bhadkamkar Collection - Sanskrit MSS
3) Bhagwatsinghji Collection - Sanskrit MSS
4) Itchharam Suryaram Desai Collection - Sanskrit MSS
5) Nirantar Collection - Sanskrit MSS
6) Palmleaf MSS Collection - Sanskrit MSS
7) Dr. Ambedkar's papers.
8) Fyzee collection of MSS Arabic, Persian MSS
9) Bombay univ. collection of Sanskrit and Persian MSS with printed catalogue by Sarfaraz.
10) Khatkhate Collection urdu, Persian MSS
11) Han dani Collection
12) Jamshetjee Jeejebhoy Diaries
13) Maneckjee Cursetjee Diaries
14) Irabatti Collection - Newspapers clipping.
15) Dr. Baburao Patel collection - Cutting, Portraits, Maps, Coins, Posters, Photographs, Picture, post cards etc.
There are facilities like microfilming, xeroxing and manual Copying in the institute.

Marathi MSS:
1198 works in Moropant (i.e. Moropant Paradkar - 1729-1794) Collection comprise Marathi as well as Sanskrit MSS The collection is more a family collection than a personal one. Moropant has copied a number of works himself. Year is mentioned on the work. Some have stamp and the seal of their owners. Comparatively the use is less. They are used basically, by the researchers who are University Ph.D. students and private researchers.

A.9. ASHTANG AYURVED COLLEGE,
2062, SADASHIV PETH, PUNE 411 030, (MAHARASHTRA).

Brief History:
The college was established on 4th April 1936.

MSS Collection:
The total collection of MSS in the institution comprises of Sanskrit - 1, Marathi - 2, and Hindi - 2.

Accessioning:
The MSS Collection is not accessioned.

Preservation/Conservation:
Binding of the MSS has been done for the sake of preservation and conservation.
Marathi MSS:

Marathi MSS are available on the subject: Chikitsā and they are written in old Prakrit.
Post-graduate students are interested in using these MSS.

A.10. BHOINSALE VED-SHASTRI MAHAVIDYALAYA,
AYCHIT MANDIR ROAD, MAHAL, NAGPUR - 440002, (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History: The institution was founded on 9-12-1879 in the Rukmini Mandir of Royal Bhonsala of Nagpur, being the first to plant the seed of Sanskrit learning in this province. The institute in gratitude, was named after them. The institute was registered under Society's Registration Act. The institute has its building and library is having some valuable MSS. The institute has facilities for studies in the various prescribed courses of Nagpur University and Sanskrit Bhosia Prachin Samiti Nagpur.

MSS Collection:
The institute possess 900 Sanskrit and other MSS.
The number of MSS in Marathi and Hindi and other languages in the institute, is not specified.

Budgetory provisions:
The institute has budgetary provision for maintenance of Rs.500/- per year.
The MSS are mainly acquired by way of donations only.
Accessioning:

Cataloguing/Classification:
5. Price, 6. Remarks. The collection is classified according to Dewey Decimal Classification.

Preservation/Conservation:
For the purpose of preservation and Conservation the MS are wrapped with paper and cloth. Then the bundles are kept in wooden Almirah.

Special Collections:
The special collection is mostly on Vedas in Sanskrit language. MSS are mostly on Vedic and Shastra subjects are not being referred by the students and the staff. However it is being maintained in the library as a old collection. Library of the Bhosla Ved shastra Mahavidyalaya Nagpur is recognized by the Nagpur University for the purpose of admission of students of the post graduate class of veda and philosophy.

A.11. PRATAP CENTRE OF PHILOSOPHY
(NORTH MAHARASHTRA UNIVERSITY) AMALNER (JALGAON) - 425401.

Brief History: Indian Institute of Philosophy was established in July 1916 at Amalner by Shrimant Pratapseth an industrialist with pious motives and determination. It has a long span of distinctive activities in the sphere of Indian
Philosophy. In about 50 years, this institute became a famous centre for learning and research in philosophy. The institute published number of books on Indian Philosophy and comparative studies in East-West Philosophy. The scholars and fellows associated with this institution during this long period, were Originators of practically all philosophical movements in contemporary Indian thought, amongst them are Prof. G. R. Malkani, Prof. Rasbihari Das, Prof. K.C. Bhattacharya, Prof. Chandrodaya Bhattacharaya, Prof. Bhartan Kumarappa, Prof. D. D. Wadekar, Prof. T. R. V. Murti, Prof. Dayakrishna, Prof. K. J. Shah, Prof. Surendra Barlingay, Prof. D.Y. Deshpande. Shri Sane Guruji, a great social reformer, literary figure and thinker of Maharashtra was at this institute for some time. In the long period of the institute, philosophical journals viz. 'Philosophical Quarterly' and 'Tattwadnyan Mandir', were well established as standard periodicals of the country. These journals soon became well-known in world's philosophical thought.

This institute was taken over by University of Poona in June, 1972. It was renamed as 'Pratap Centre of Philosophy'. University of Poona tried to reorganize the work of this institute and started Post-graduate classes in philosophy, and revived the philosophical journals. The publication of these journals was stopped for some years and University of Poona with great deal of efforts revived these journals. The journals in their new form again received wide recognition.
Recently, in June 1993, this institution has now been taken over by North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon (Maharashtra). North Maharashtra University is sincerely making an all-out effort to revive different intellectual activities, specially philosophical activities with addition thereto by starting new inter-disciplinary courses in social sciences and in tribal-cultural studies.

MSS Collection:
There are 13 MSS in the institution out of which - Sanskrit - 7, Marathi - 4, and Other - 2 (German, French) which are spoiled.

Accessioning:
The Manuscripts are accessioned in regular accession register. There are facilities like Xeroxing and Copying in the institute.

The trustees of this institute handed over it to Poona University in 1972, this institute was practically closed and there was no staff, Poona University did some efforts like appointing a Reader but the activities could reach the level of post-graduate-centre. In 1993 the Institute was handed over to North Maharashtra University but before that it remained closed for about 4/5 years.
B. ARCHIVES/GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES - (7)

There are 7 archival type of institutes with the possession of MSS and other archival material. Among these 7, The Asiatic Society of Bombay do not directly function under the control of Government, though they seek assistance from Government for running the institute.

2. (The) Asiatic Society, Bombay (M).
3. Director of Archives, Panjim, Goa (OM).
5. Maharaja Sersoji's Saraswati Mahal, Library, Thanjavur (OM).
6. Pune Archives, Pune (M).
7. Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur (OM).

B.1. A.P.GOV'T. ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARY AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE, 5-8-599, RATAN MAHAL, ABIDS, HYDERABAD-1 (ANDHRA PRADESH)

Brief History:

The Oriental MSS library was established in the Andhra Pradesh State archives department in 1967 with a view to salvaging various valuable and rare MSS in the State for making them available to scholars. Later it was shifted to State Central library building and declared open as a separate branch of the Andhra Pradesh State Archives Department for Oriental Studies by Shri. P. V. Narasimha Rao, the then Honorable Minister for Education, Andhra Pradesh on 25th July, 1969.
In 1971 Government have taken policy decision to constitute Andhra Pradesh Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Institute as an independent Directorate, with the view of providing better research facilities and to develop the MSS Library as a Research Institute, during the Fifth Five year Plan, in 1971. It was raised to the status of a Research Institute and a post of Joint Director for Oriental Manuscripts Library wing was sanctioned by Government for its functioning under the control of Andhra Pradesh State Archives Department. On 1st January 1975 the Andhra Pradesh Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Institute was separated from Andhra Pradesh State Archives and made an independent directorate under the administrative control of the Education Department, with a view to providing still better research facilities and to develop the MSS Library as an advanced Research Institute.

MSS Collection:
The collection of MSS is not at all easy. As regards the collection of MSS in this department, it was not one day's collection, nor was it one man's collection. It was the collective effort of a number of scholars, institutions and organizations, whose magnanimous and philanthropic contribution formed the present day magnificent collection of OML and RI. One of the functions of the department is to survey and locate the MSS and acquire them as gift or purchase. For this purpose wide publicity is given in the dailies appealing to the owners of the MSS to part with them in preservation and to bring out
for the benefit of research scholars of this department either by receiving reasonable remuneration, if desired, or by lending them for copying and return. Every year this department will purchase MSS in palm leaf and paper through a committee which has been constituted by the Government. This committee consists of experts in different languages. The experts evaluate the merits of MSS and recommend to the MSS purchase committee the required MSS on the basis of the recommendation made by the language sub-committee. The MSS are being purchased through the MSS purchasing committee.

Total collection of Manuscripts in the institution, comprises of - Sanskrit - 4524, Marathi - 84, Hindi - 13, Other - 19061.

Budgetary Provisions:

Budgetary provisions are as per the orders of Government.

Acquisition of MSS takes place by way of Purchase, Donation and Bequeath or will.

Accessioning:

The MSS collection is accessioned with 12 columns - Acc.No, call No, Date of Receipt, Name of the MSS, Name of the Author, Subject, Language, Script, Paper or Palmleaf, Complete/Incomplete, No of leaves or Papers, and Remarks.

The MSS collection is catalogued and classified.

Preservation/Conservation:

The MSS which are affected by attacks of insects are initially fumigated. Then insecticidal chemicals are applied to the document.
The insect repellent powder packets are kept in the cupboards. Damaged documents are restored by giving proper treatment.

Catalogues of MSS published:

Number of MSS catalogues have been published so far. More than 60 MSS have been published, besides the catalogues. 'Vajnana Saraswati', a quarterly journal is published.

Special Collections:

There are special collections in the library as indicated below:

There are facilities like - Microfilming, Xeroxing and Copying in the institute. The Marathi MSS in the library are rarely consulted by the scholars.

B.2. THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BOMBAY

TOWN HALL, BOMBAY 400 001 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

The Asiatic Society has had a fascinating history. Its genesis is traced to 1804, when the Literary Society of Bombay was established by a great savant, Sir James Mackintosh, the Recorder for Bombay, with the objective of "promoting useful knowledge, particularly such as is now immediately connected with India".
Amongst those who attended the first meeting were Jonathan Duncan, the then Governor of Bombay, the noted historian William Erskine, Sir Charles Forbes, and the two friends, the artist Henry Salt and Viscount Valentia, whose journals of travels in the east, published in 1809. With sixty engravings after paintings by Salt, have become collectors items today. In 1829, the Literary society, thereafter known as the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Any serious bibliophile would gladly pay a king's ransom to own even one of these priceless treasures, which include over 3000 MSS in Sanskrit, Prakrit, Urdu, Persian, Arabic and other languages, an incredible collection of old maps, newspapers and periodicals and rare first editions of antiquarian books in Indian and European languages. The Society's pride of possession, however, is a very rare and valuable 14th century illuminated MSS of Dante Alighieri's Divine Comedy, in the original Italian. It bears the signature of its donor, the Hon'ble Mountstuart Elphinston, the distinguished scholar who was Governor of Bombay and President of the Society from 1819-1827. Mussolini once offered a million pounds for this prized treasure. The Society naturally refused to part with it.

MSS Collection:
Total collection of MSS in the institution is around - 3000 Sanskrit and 20 Marathi MSS.

The institute provided the information to Dr. M. P. Pethe that they have 20 Marathi MSS, in 1967, for his survey.
Budgetary Provisions:

For Maintenance of MSS part of the budgetary provision is utilized. The Manuscripts are acquired by donation.

Accessioning and Cataloguing:

The MSS Collection has been accessioned and catalogued.

Preservation / Conservation:

All MSS were checked, cleaned, freshly bound in new cloth material just recently. All MSS have been microfilmed.

Dr. Velankar have prepared an exhaustive list of MSS which have been printed.

There are facilities like Microfilming, Xeroxing and Copying. The MSS are not loaned out. Presently microfilmed MSS can be referred on microfilm reader.

Special Collections:

1) Dante Alighieri: Divine Comedy, 1350; 2) Vardhamana: Ganaratnamahodadhi, 1140; (Grammar); 3) Suryasiddhanta with Bhashya of Candelvara, 12th century (Astronomy); 4) Suryasiddhanta with Bhashya of King Madanpala, 12th century (Materia Medica); 5) Atharvavedasamhita 16th century (very rare); 6) Bhagvat Puran with Bhashya of Yogesvara, 13th century; 7) Aranyakarva of Mahabharata, richly illustrated, 13th century; 8) Shadavashyakasutra with commentary by Merusundara, 13th century; 9) Kalpasutra of the Jains, 12th century; 10) Gautamprichha (in Prakrit) with Sanskrit Vritti of Srititaka, 1350; 11) Vasupujyacharitra, life of the Jain Tirthankara Vasupujya, 1242; 12) Vikramcharitra, life of King Vikramaditya in Sanskrit, 12th century.
B.3. THE STATE MUSEUM OF GOA
DIRECTORATE OF ARCHIVES, ARCHAEOLOGY AND MUSEUM
1ST FLOOR, ASHIRVAD BLDG. ST. MERE, PANJIM, (GOA)

Brief History:

The State Museum of Goa was established with the appointment of one officer and few officials. The Museum activities were started before liberation time and the antiquities were collected and preserved by the Directorate of Archives. Then there was need to exhibit these in a systematic way. Hence the Museum was inaugurated in 1977 and thrown open for public.

MSS Collection:
Total collection of MSS in the institution comprises of:
Sanskrit - 1163 MSS and Marathi - 12 MSS.

Budgetory Provisions:
The Budget Provision has been made to purchase the antiquities and art objects including MSS.

Acquisition of MSS takes place by Purchase and Donations.

Accessioning:
The MSS collection has been accessioned as follows:
5. Period 6. Description of the object, 7. Date of Receipt
and Address 10. Price if Purchased 11. Photograph of the object
12. Remarks.
Preservation/Conservation:
Following Measures are taken for Preservation/Conservation:

Use paradichlorobenzene, Lamination and fumigation whenever required. There is facility of Microfilming and Xeroxing in the institute.

Marathi MSS:
The 12 Marathi MSS are there which are on Vedas, Jyotisha and other subjects like Akhyanas.

B.4. GOVERNMENT ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARY,
MADRAS-5 (TAMIL NADU)

Brief History:
The collections of Colonel Colin Maclenzie, Dr. Leyden and Mr. C.P. Brown constitute the nucleus of the vast collection of MSS preserved in Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, which consists of MSS of works in literature, history, philosophy, and of kaifiyats and inscriptions, found in many places and belonging to different periods.

Mackenzie's Collection -
Colonel Colin Mackenzie, who came to India in 1782 as a Cadet of Engineers on the Madras Establishment of the East India Company took a keen interest in the study of ancient mathematics and of logarithm in particular, and in Oriental languages. He collected a large number of MSS, coins, inscriptions, maps etc., bearing on the literature, religion, history, manners and customs of the
people from not only the different parts of India but also Ceylon and Java.

On his appointment as Surveyor-General of India in 1818, Colonel Mackenzie took his valuable collections with him to Calcutta and went on adding to them till his death in 1821. This collection was brought from Mrs. Mackenzie for pound 10,000 by the East India Company in 1821 and divided into three parts. While one part was retained in London, the other parts were sent to Calcutta and to Madras.

Leyden's Collection -
In the India office Library, London, a collection of MSS in Tamil, Telugu and Kannada characters belonging to Dr. Leyden (a remarkable linguist and traveller who was in India from 1803 to 1811) was noticed by Mr. C.P. Brown in 1887. The valuable collection of Dr. Leyden which was purchased by the East India Company after his death and lodged at the India house, London was subsequently brought to India thanks to the efforts of Mr. C.P. Brown who had joined the Indian Civil Service.

Brown's Collection -
Mr. C.P. Brown presented East India Company his own valuable collections of paper MSS of Sanskrit and Telugu works. This collection was brought to India in 1855.

Acquisition and Cataloguing:
These three collections i.e. the Mackenzie Collection, the East Indian House Collection and Brown Collection were transferred to Presidency College, Madras in 1870 and Mr. Pickford, who was
Professor of Sanskrit in Presidency College, was directed to prepare a Catalogue for them.

He was then called upon to prepare a scheme for publication of important literary and historical MSS. In 1876 he was requested to discover new MSS and to purchase them or acquire them by transcriptions.

Accordingly, many MSS have been acquired from time to time and added to the library collection.

MSS Collection:

From such small beginnings, the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, has grown to its present dimensions and it possesses 65,076 MSS in the following languages -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>MSS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sanskrit</td>
<td>47,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil</td>
<td>12,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telugu</td>
<td>2,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kannada</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marathi</td>
<td>922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urdu</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persian</td>
<td>1,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Oriental languages</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Records</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consequent on the formation of linguistic state in our Country about 7,000 MSS in Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam were transferred to Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala respectively.

Functions:

The main functions of the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library are as follows:

1. Acquisition and preservation of MSS.
2. Classification and Cataloguing of MSS.
3. Publication of rare MSS and Library catalogues.
4. Acquiring books and periodicals for reference and
5. Supply of transcripts of MSS.

Preservation/Conservation

The rare and valuable palm-leaf MSS are carefully preserved by conventional and technical methods. The injured and damaged palm leaf MSS are provided by mending with chiffor cloth.

MSS Catalogues and MSS Published:

The Government Oriental Manuscripts Library has brought out so far 349 publications including Descriptive and Triennial Catalogues of its MSS in various languages. The publications have been brought under two series, Government Oriental Manuscripts Series and Government Oriental Series, those in the latter being edited by the Curator and the staff of the library.

Bulletin:

Multilingual Bulletin published regularly by the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library contains in print rare and unpublished MSS in various languages. Twenty one Volumes have been published so far. The subscription to the Bulletin is Rs.10/-.

B.5. TANJAVUR MAHARAJA SERFOJI'S SARASVATI MAHAL
LIBRARY SOCIETY, PALACE COMPLEX, THANJAVUR-613 009 (TAMIL NADU)

Brief History:

Established during the Nayak Kingdom in 16th Century A.D.
The Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Sarasvati Mahal Library is
one of the few medieval libraries that exist in the world. It is an unbounded repository of culture and inexhaustible treasure-house of knowledge built up by the successive dynasties of Nayaks and Marathas of Thanjavur. It contains very rare and valuable collection of MSS on all aspects of art, culture and literature. The Encyclopedia Brittanica in its survey of libraries of world mention this as "the most remarkable library in India".

The library was started as a Royal Palace Library during the Nayak kingdom over Thanjavur (1535-1673 A.D.) and was developed by the Maratha Kings of Thanjavur (1676 - 1855 A.D.). During the reign of these two dynasties Thanjavur was a centre of art and literature and the kings were the patrons which led to enrich the collection of the library, in various fields.

Maharaja Serfoji II - Among the Maratha Kings, Maharaja Serfoji II (1798 - 1832 A.D.) was an eminent scholar in many branches of learning.

In his infancy he came under the influence of a Danish missionary Father Rev. Schwartz, who was his father's friend and guide. Serfoji II had his early education under him. With a great enthusiasm he took special steps for the enrichment of the library. When pilgrimaged to Benares, he employed many Pandits to collect, buy and copy a vast number of works from all the renowned centres of Sanskrit learning in the north.
and other areas. It is a fitting tribute to the great collector Serfoji, that the library is named after him.

MSS Collection:
Sanskrit - 39,300, Marathi - 3,075, Tamil - 3,490, Telugu - 802
Marathi MSS in Modi script 850 Bundles.

Budgetary provisions:
The Budgetary Provisions on Developmental activities - Rs. 30 lakhs per annum (approx.) from the Govt. of India for Maintenance and Rs. 15 lakhs per annum (approx.) from the Govt. of Tamilnadu.
The MSS are acquired by way of donations.

Accessioning:
There are 10 columns in the accession register. They are:
1. MSS serial Number 2. Descriptive Catalogue Number
3. Name of the MS 4. Author 5. No. of leaves 6. No. of Granthas
7. Bundle No. in the Section 8. If Catalogued, Vol. of the Catalogue

Cataloguing/Classification:
All the MSS are catalogued according to the subject classification. There are 11 columns in the catalogue. They are:
1. Descriptive catalogue Number 2. Title of the MS 3. Author
4. Bundle No. 5. No. of leaves 6. No. of Granthas
The MSS are classified under various subjects viz.,
Vedanta, Puranas, Ramayana, Mahabharata, Bhagavata, Itihasa and Charitra, Kavya, Kathakalpatharu, Vaidyak, Jyotish, Sangita, Natak Kosha etc.,
Preservation/Conservation:
A conservation department is functioning in the library for fumigating, dusting, repairing and taking precautionary measures to avoid deterioration of MSS and books. Damaged MSS and books are repaired by using various techniques.

MSS Catalogues Published:
Descriptive catalogues for Sanskrit, Marathi, Tamil and Telugu MSS were already published by the library, so far 23 volumes of catalogues for Sanskrit MSS, 14 volumes for Tamil, 5 vols. for Marathi and 2 vols for Telugu MSS, have been published. The main aim of the library is preservation, cataloguing and publication of the MSS. Out of 363 publications, 120 are from Sanskrit MSS, 178 from Tamil, 40 from Marathi and 19 from Telugu MSS.

Special Collections:
Rajah Serfoji's personal collection of printed books in English, French, German, Italian, Greek and Danish languages is the special collection in this library. They are 4,500 books on various subjects.

There are facilities like Microfilming, Xeroging, Copying.

Marathi MSS:
The Marathi MSS of this library consists of the works of South Indian Maharashtrians, numbered about 3075, of the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and the hierarchy of the saints of Maratha country belonging to the Ramadas and Dattatreya mutts. The works written by the great
saints who adorned the mutts, the poets during the reign of Mahrattas had left hundreds of original works and translations.

The Marathi MSS are mostly in paper and a few in palm-leaf. The paper MSS were written in Telugu script (for Marathi language). These MSS deal with the subjects like philosophy, literature, drama, music, lexicon, medicine and science.

Marathi MSS are in two forms i.e., in palm-leaf and in paper. In palm-leaf, Telugu character is used for Marathi language and in paper, Devanagari character is used. There are lot of paper MSS in Modi script also. These are the indigenous historical documents of the Marathas of Thanjavur.

The Users of MSS pertains to three types. These are:

a. Common readers.

b. Medical Practitioners like Siddha, Ayurved Doctors, Astrologers, Shastris etc.

c. Research scholars in various fields for their projects.

B.6. PUNE ARCHIVES, PUNE, DEPT. OF ARCHIVES, 12, BUND GARDEN ROAD, OPP.COUNCIL HALL, PUNE-411 001 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

Pune Archives established in 1895. This office is known as Peshwa Duffter or Alienation office. It contains huge collection of Modi script Record of Maratha Rulers, Enam inquiry papers and Village Records also.
MSS Collection:

The institution comprises of 1. Marathi - 35000 Bundles) in Modi script and Other - 10,000 English Files.

Budgetory Provisions:

Rs. 75000 in 1994-95 have earmarked in the budget.

The MSS are acquired by - Donation and Bequeath or will

The MSS Collections is accessioned after taking survey of Govt offices as well as private parties.

Cataloguing:

The MSS Collection is partly catalogued. There are various sections of the MSS, out of them Shahu Dufter, Chintnishi Dufter, Papers selected for research, these sections are catalogued and published.

Preservation / Conservation:

MSS are preserved by dusting and mending. The fire extinguishers are maintained for safety. There are general Catalogues (Ferishta) of MSS in Pune Archives.

MSS Catalogues and MSS published:

This department has published catalogue of Shahu Dufter, Chintnishi Dufter, and paper selected for research.

Following MSS have been published-

1) Marathekalin Vyaktinchi Hastaksharyukta Patre.
2) Illustrative Modi Documents.
3) Govind Sakharam Sardesai has published 45 Volumes of MSS.

Xeroxing facility is there in the Archives for reproduction of documents.
Marathi MSS:

Pune Archives is vast collection of innumerable old state papers and documents in Modi, Gujarathi and English. Mostly relating to 18th and 19th centuries. Most of these papers can glean the story of Great Maratha Power, which almost ruled all over the India during the eighteenth century. They narrate full accounts of the several important events of the Maratha expedition conducted in the North, South and on Western and Eastern coast and Gujrath. They also reveal the social and economic conditions of the territories conquered by the Maratha. The English record in Pune Archives contain a rich and varied mass of historical and economic information and minute details of incidents in Anglo-Indian history. They also deal with operations of the Inam Commission.

Use of these MSS is done by supplying the certified copies of Enam lands to the public and Research scholars from all over India and foreign countries. They are using this Archives for their M.phil and Ph.D. work. Pune Archives, Pune is conducting modi script training course for public.

B.7. RAJASTHAN ORIENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE,
FWD ROAD, JODHPUR, PIN 342001 (RAJASTHAN)

Brief History:

Established in - 1951 Rajasthan Puratattvaveshan Mandir, later on recognised as Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur, in 1956.
Rajasthan with a strongly patterned society all through the middle ages is a veritable store-house of MSS literature. As in all feudal societies, here also each class had been assigned a separate duty. This kept up the writing tradition alive mainly in the form of classical texts and the equally abundant heroic literature in vernaculars. Some of the rulers themselves were poets of some distinction. A large number of original works, commentaries, or commentaries on commentaries were written on subjects like the Vedas, Dharmashastras, Puranas, Darshan, Jyotisha, Ganita, Kavya, Ayurveda, Itihasa, Agams, Grammar, Tantra and Mantra Shastra etc.etc. The language in some cases is Sanskrit and in other cases Prakrit, Apabhramsa and the then current dialects. This 'silsila' continued from father to son. Very few lived or worked independently, although individual initiative also paved its way outside the officially controlled and regulated 'Pothi-Khana'. The Jain temples not only preserve the idols but also maintain with equal reverence the MS collections. Each rainy season adds to their number even at the cost of repeating the same text. Immense store of original materials still lies concealed in the various 'thikanas' (field) and the 'Charan' families, where scholars have no easy access. All taken together there was the need to preserve this scattered material, where researchers may have access under satisfactory working conditions. The princely states known for their munificent patronage of arts and letters had merged to form the greater
Rajasthan and the future of this legacy had to be guarded. The State Govt. rose to the occasion and the nucleus was provided with the formation of a Sanskrit mandal in the year 1950. It could not last long, and soon the Govt. acquired the services of Muni Jinavijayaji, an Orientalist of great repute. It is the fruit of this silent and venerable scholar who has rendered invaluable and selfless services to the cause of exploring important MSS. The headquarters of the institute were shifted to Jodhpur in the year 1958. It has seven branch offices at Jaipur, Bikaner, Alwar, Udaipur Kota, Chittorgarh and Bharatpur.

MSS Collection:
The total number of MSS collected so far comes to one lakh nine thousand thirteen. They were acquired by purchase, transferred from the State Museums and a good number received by way of donation as well. Bikaner and Chittorgarh collection of 19,839 and 5438 MSS were all gifted to the institute. Udaipur is particularly rich in the number of illustrated texts with decorated margins and equally embellished colophons at the end. Bikaner is almost full of Jain works, while Alwar leads in Vedic literature.

Sanskrit, Marathi, Hindi and Other - 1,13,000
MSS deposited at the headquarters, Jodhpur and centres at Jaipur, Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Bikaner, Alwar, Kota and Bharatpur. Since the cataloguing work is yet to complete the exact number can not be classified. Number of Marathi MSS may be around 50.
Budgetary Provisions:
Purchase - Rs.50,000/- per year, and for maintenance - Rs. 50,000/- per year.
The MSS are acquired by way of Purchase, as per the suggestions made by the MSS committee.

Accessioning:
The MSS Collection is accessioned as per following columns

Cataloguing/Classification:
For classification, the pattern laid down by Central Government is followed. MSS are classified under 25 subjects.

Preservation / Conservation:
(1) Fumigation (2) Lamination (3) Preventive Measure.

Catalogues of MSS and MSS Published:
Except Bharatpur and Bikaner collection, all the MSS have been catalogued in 33 volumes. Until now about 25 volumes of Sanskrit MSS and 8 volumes of vernacular languages MSS have been published. Following MSS have been published so far - Rare MSS published under "Rajasthan Puratan Granthamala" so far 180 such works have been published.

Special Collection:
Since the collection is enriched both by purchase and donations and also by emerging erstwhile state libraries. One may find a number of such collections deposited at different
centres. "Rajasthan Ke Granthagar" published by Rajasthani Shodh Sansthan, Chopasani, Jodhpur, which gives enormous information about many collections in Rajasthan.

There are facilities like Microfilming, Xeroxing, Copying in the institute.

Marathi MSS:

Though the number of Marathi MSS is small, these either relate to Bhakti or are the translations of the known treatises like Mahabharata etc., can be traced in parts. Generally the collection is open to all without any discrimination, photocopies and microfilms of any MS can be issued on payment. The scholars coming from outside India are required to produce the permission of the Govt. of India and also their affiliation with any Indian University or institute. The borrowers of the copies of MSS are required to present a copy of their work in printed, to the institute.
C. MUSEUMS - (1)

Museums, though they mainly concern with the items of cultural heritage, MSS, paintings and other graphic material also, form integral part of their display items.

Curator of salarjung museum at Hyderabad, suggested to come personally and refer the collection. Likewise, Bhavani Museum at Aundh sansthan, Dist. Satara, Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay, National Museum of India, Janpath, New Delhi and some other museums in India were contacted by sending questionnaire to them. But response from these museums have not received, inspite of several reminders, except the Raja Dinkar Kelkar Museum, Pune. The profile of this Museum has been given here.

C.1. RAJA DINKAR KELKAR MUSEUM
1378, SHUKRANAR PETH, MATU BAUG,
PUNE 411002 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

The Museum was established Approximately in 1960. A collection of everyday Art and Craft of India collected by one man. There are collections of Lamps, Tambool, Wood-work, Toilet utilities, Textiles paintings on Glass, Paper, Parchment etc.

MSS Collection:
Total collection of MSS in the Museum consists of Sanskrit - Approx.23, Marathi - Approx.69 and Other - Tamil-1, Urdu-1, Modi-1
Budgetary Provisions:

Budgetary Provisions on - Purchase - Rs. 5,000/- and on Maintenance - Rs. 5,000/-

The MSS are acquired by donation

Accessioning:

The MSS Collection is accessioned with following columns in register -


Special Collections:

There are Special Collections of Illustrated MSS of Bhagawad Geeta, Ramayana, Pandava-Pratap, Harivijay etc. The horse-diseases and examination is notable MSS.

There are facilities like - Xeroxing and Copying
Various individual, shastris, pandits and scholars possess number of Marathi and other MSS.

Individuals families have assigned them some values like religious, ancestral property, sense of possession, secrecy and MSS to be a thing of worship.

The present researcher has tried to explore this hidden, unidentified collection by visiting these individuals and institutes. Profiles of their holdings are given here.

1. Gurav Krishna, Kolhapur (M).
2. Karvirkar, A.B., Kolhapur (M).

D.1. GURAV, KRISHNA, PASCHYANTI, PLOT NO.94, SALOKHE NAGAR, KOLHAPUR-416007 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

Year of involvement in the field - 1971. Paschyanti Vidya Valaya, a institution dedicated to spiritual, cultural and old Marathi literature. The institute is single man's product, Prof Krishna Gurav. After resignation in 1971, the founder Shri Krishna Gurav, went to Himalaya. He had a deep study and meditation there for five years. In 1976 he came down to Kolhapur and established the 'Paschyanti' Vidya Valaya.
Rituals of 'Dhyan Dharna', puja, pravachan etc. take place throughout the year on the various auspicious days.

MSS Collection:

There are approximately 75 Marathi MSS with the scholar. They have been acquired by way of donation.

Preservation/Conservation:

Wrapped in red cloth kept in wooden cupboard with glass doors. After every rainy season, kept in a heat of the Sun, during Dashhara. Repellants like, Vekhand and camphor etc. are kept in cupboard.

Number of MSS have been published by way of articles, in every year in annual Diwali issue of 'pailtir' magazine. The contents of the articles of magazine are taken from the original rare MSS.

Special Collections:

1. Rare books on religion,
2. Rare MSS on saint literature.

Marathi MSS:

The salient features of Marathi MSS are as follows -

The Marathi MSS have been meticulously procured. They have very high research value. The Marathi MSS, specially used for editing Diwali special issue on 'Jayaramswami', are really important. This literature came to light now. None of the MSS is published until now from that math. Scholars of Adhyatma
and religions visit the paschkyanti vidya valaya and get benefit of MSS as well as of rare books.

Work undertaken by the founder of spiritual revival and of exploration of old Marathi literature, spread the name of the paschyanti to the corners of country and abroad also.

D.2. SHRI KARVIRKAR, ANANT BALWANT
127, LAL RAHADUR SHASHTRI MARG, SAGAR MAL.
KOLHAPUR-416 008 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

Year of involvement in the field around 1950 onwards. The collection of Marathi MSS along with rubber prints of stone inscriptions, during the period of Yadav’s are prominently gathered out of hobby, MSS of ‘Toran’ have been systematically collected, indexed, which has been given to Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute Pune.

There are approximately 380 Marathi MSS with the scholar and Other – 25. Rubber prints, reprinted on paper from various stone inscriptions.

MSS collection:

The MSS collection has been acquired by donation and the inscription prints have been taken by scholar himself.

Preservation/Conservation:

1. Paper MSS are kept in the wooden planks.
2. stored in a three tier open wooden shelves.
3. Unable to provide cloth for wrapping due to poor financial condition.

4. Dusted and cleaned occasionally.

Total collection was there of 800 MSS, which has been given to Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune.

Marathi MSS:

The salient features of Marathi MSS are as follows:

Along with Marathi MSS, study of Marathi stone, inscriptions also needs to be undertaken from the preservation/conservation point of view.

Prof. S. G. Tulpule has studied them contentwise but deterioration of them due to weather needs to be noted. Number of scholar comes for referring the collection. Research students also sought help of collection for finalising their dissertations/thesis.

He has to keep himself away from his family, for nurturing this hobby. But now a days persons engaged in the investigation of old literature, have to suffer a lot, on all the fronts. Weaker financial position and unavailability of regular income, makes him think that whether he made a mistake of becoming explorer of an old literary treasure.
Brief History:

Year of involvement in the field - earlier to 1972. Involvement in the saint literature right from the beginning. During lecture tours, came in contact with number of families, who have MSS with them. Likewise, once Bhalchandra Shripad Pradhan, whose family had rights of worshipping Goddess Mahalaxmi at Kolhapur, had number of Marathi MSS with him.

MSS Collection:

This collection was made known by Shri Ramjoshi, Headmaster at the school in Harali, Dist. Gadhisilinglaj. In this collection oldest MSS of Jnyaneshwari dtd S'ake 1490 i.e. 1568 A.D. was there. The scholar worked on it and published it. There are approximately 150 Marathi MSS with the scholar. All these MSS are gathered by scholar by way of donations. List of MSS with scholar have been prepared by him.

Preservation/Conservation:

The Measures taken for Preservation/Conservation are as follows -

Wrapped in red cloth with support on both sides of MSS with card-board. The MSS piled up on attic, due to inadequate place in flat. Dusted and cleaned occasionally. Pages of old MSS have become brittle, needs conservative treatment.
MSS Published:
Critic on 'Jnyaneshwari', acquired from Shri. Bhalchandra Shripad Pradhan's personal collection has been published through Shivaji University in 1993.

Marathi MSS:
The collection is exclusively on saint literature, advocating Bhakti cult. There are number of individual families in and around Kolhapur, possessing Marathi MSS.

There are few like Bhalchandra Pradhan, who benevolently come ahead and make available the MSS for critical study, such family, who possess Marathi MSS should come forward to bring the valuable Marathi MSS in the light.

Opinions of Prof. P.N. Kulkarni on present position of Marathi MSS. Scholarship in the old Marathi literature is decreasing day by day. The present generation find it odd to have something old, especially MSS in the house, occupying unnecessary space. Before the vicious circle of time grabs the valuable treasure of old Marathi literature in MSS form, needs to be transferred on microform. The MSS needs to be studied extensively to find out the worth for publication.

D.4. LATE MAHAMAHOPADHYA D.V. POTDAR
COLLECTION WITH S.P. MANDALI, PUNE-411030 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:
The veteran historian, who acquired the honorary title Maha Mahopadhaya, due to his profound scholarship,
bequeathed all his voluminous treasure of literature to Shikshan Prasark Mandali, on 6th Oct. 1979.

Maha Mahopadhaya Prof. Datto Vaman Potdar, donated all his books and paper collection to S.P.Mandali, as per his bequeath. After his death, on 6/10/1979, all his book and other collection was brought to pune by S.P. Mandali, for the purpose of security from the Wai. The list was prepared at that time, which comprises some 600 titles, covering both books, MSS loose papers and correspondence. MSS are around 200.

Preservation/Conservation:

The collection is dusted periodically, along with periodic insecticidal spray. They have been grouped formwise, i.e. books, MSS, Periodicals, other papers etc. Some of the collection has been accessioned and some catalogue cards also have been prepared. But the other work like, classification, cataloging etc. has not been undertaken for want of funds.

Shri. Shankarrao Chavan, then the Chief Minister of Maharashtra during his tenur, visited the S.P. Mandali. After realising the need of funds for preservation/conservation, he sanctioned an amount of Rs. 25,000 for the said purpose.

Marathi MSS:

Number of scholars, like Dr. Y. D. Phadke, Dr. R. C. Dhere, Dr. Sarojini Vaidya, have consulted the collection for their research. Dr. Sarojini Vaidya, who is now, Director of `Rajya Marathi Vikas Sanstha, is keen in improving the condition of the collection.
Public libraries, which are more than 50 years old normally have MSS collections with them.

But unlike individuals, they too, are reluctant to provide information on their holdings. Public libraries mentioned in 'Maharashtratil Granthalayanchi Suchi' compiled by Dr. S. G. Mahajan, with Marathi MSS, have been provided with questionnaire. Only one public library, 'Balwant Vachanalaya', Aurangabad, has supplied information.

-----------------------

E.1. BALWANT WACHNALAYA
AURANGPUR, AURANGABAD (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

This wachnalaya was established on 1st August 1920 to comemorate the memories of Bal Gangadhar Tilak. The wachnalaya possess 40,567 books, and acquired Grade 'A' in public libraries. There are following sections in the wachnalaya-
1. Book section 2. Childrens Section and 3. MSS Section, devoted to research.

MSS Collection:

The MSS collection of the wachnalaya comprises of 513 Sanskrit, 52 Marathi, 2 Hindi. All of them together, there are 567 Bads or Baste.

These MSS have been acquired by way of donations.
Cataloguing:

The MSS in the wachnalaya have been catalogued under the following heads:
1. Name of the MSS - Author - Copier, 2. Period of MSS,
3. Subject, 4. Published/unpublished, 5. No. of folios,
9. Other information regarding MSS i.e. description of subject, content etc.

Preservation/Conservation:

The MSS have been preserved in cardboard planks. MSS in frequent use, have been kept in polythene bags, with which they can be read without taking out from the plastic pouch. Those which are brittle, have been wrapped in paper and after putting amidst wooden plank they have been wrapped in cotton cloth. Napthalene Balls are in use as a repellent.

Marathi MSS:

There are some notable MSS in the collection like, Dyaneshwri MSS dtd. Sake 1568, treatise on medicine by Nagesh Jojar, titled-'Vaidyamrit,' which is unpublished.

Regarding the style of writing and other features, MSS are notable. The ink used in some of them is still fresh. The collection in wachanalaya represents glorious cultural tradition of India. The MSS are the replica of social order prevalent during the past time.
F. RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES - (5)

A survey of Marathi MSS in religious institutes is conducted with the help of list provided by the 'Director of Libraries Maharashtra' and the article written by Chandrashekhar Gupta, titled 'Survey of manuscripts and Archives in Vidharbha Region'.

There are five such institutes, who have provided information of their holdings. Here also, unlike private collections and public libraries, there is MSS literature, but for want of proper awareness of the study among the managing bodies and trustees, it is difficult to procure the information of their holdings. Following institutions have provided their information:

2. Dasopant Sanshodhan Mandal, Ambejogai Dist. Beed (M).
3. Eknath Sanshodhan Mandal, Aurangabad (M).
5. Pandharpur prominent Maths, Pandharpur, Dist. Solapur (M).
F.1. SHRI CHAKRADHAR SWAMI GRANTH SAMGRAHALAYA AND
RESEARCH CENTRE, RIDDHAPUR, TAL. MORSHI,
DIST. AMRAVATI (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

This institution has been established to preserve the old MSS of Mahanubhav Sect, which are found all over Maharashtra and Riddhapur being the main centre of Mahanubhav Sect, where the first Marathi script of 'Lila Charitra' sake 1544 (1622 A.D.) was written, this centre has been established in 1992.

MSS Collection:
Total collection of MSS in the institution comprises of-
Sanskrit - 100, Marathi - 600 and Hindi - 20

Budgetory provisions:
Government gives only Rs. 2500/- per annum as a token grant. The Centre maintains the expenditure through its own resource. The MSS are acquired through donations. The MSS Collection is accessioned.

Every care has been taken by parent institution for preservation of the MSS.

Marathi MSS:

Most of the MSS are written in code scripts of Mahanubhav. Scholars are welcome to come and study the MSS available for research. Centre invites the research scholars from all over Indian universities and abroad for research of the old treasure available here. This year (1995) Centre is interested to organize the seminar of the scholars from all the universities, where Marathi language is studied and taught.
Brief History:

The Mandal was established on 7-2-1987. The Sanshodhan Mandal intends to accumulate and publish the literature of Shri. Sant Dasopant Sake 1473 (A.D.1551) with, which that can be made available to the scholars. Besides this, there is plan to collect rare literature of Marathi Saints in Marathwada and to publish it.

Budgetary Provisions:

Rs.1000/- has been provided in the budget for purchase of MSS. The MSS are acquired by purchase and donation both.

MSS Collection:

The collection is very small. There are 12 Marathi MSS with the Sanshodhan Mandal. It comprises of -


Some MSS are really rich, which are maintained in the Sanshodhan Mandal. Some users are using the MSS.

Brief History:

It was established in 1952 by Shri. B. G. Ghate with the object of propagation of Hindu Philosophy and literature. For the same purpose there is a good and rich literature.
Institution arranges lectures by eminent persons. There are 23 publications of the institute. They collect the old MSS.

MSS Collection:

Total collection of MSS in the institution comprises of:
- Sanskrit 1451,
- Marathi 184,
- Hindi 4,
- Other 8.

Budgetary provisions:
The budgetary provisions on - Purchase of the MSS and transcripts, is as below:
- Donation by the Govt. Rs.2500/- annum.
- Subscription/Donation Rs.5000/- annum and for maintenance and other Rs. 25000/-.

All MSS are received by way of donations only.

Accessioning:
The MSS Collection is accessioned with following columns:

Cataloguing/Classification:
Same criteria has been applied for cataloguing.
The collection has been classified subjectwise.

Preservation/Conservation:
The Measures taken for Preservation / Conservation of the collection are as follows:
   1. Pest control.
   2. Govt. has been requested for a Grant Of Rs. 25,000/- for lamination etc. (Still Pending)
Marathi MSS:

Most of the MSS are in good condition. Rare copy of "Dasabodh" is with the institute.

MSS are used by the research workers.

This library is devoted primarily to the philosophical literature of different saints and have about 9000 books.

This institution is run mainly on the subscription.

F. 4. KHANQAH-E-NAQSHBANDIAH LIBRARY
BALAPUR, DIST. AKOLA (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

Established in 1649 A.D. This institution is hospice in nature, being a centre of traditional learning founded by Hadrat Shaikh-ul-islam Sayyd Shah Inayatullah Hasani-al-Husaini in 1649 A.D. which propagate the sufi thought and tradition of Naqshbandiya sufi order as well as other oriental sciences.

MSS Collection:

There are approximately 150 Marathi and Hindi MSS. One thousand Arabic, Persian and Urdu MSS, Printed books and periodicals numbering 25 thousands.

Budgetary Provisions:

Maintenance expenses are met from personal financial resources.

The MSS are acquired by Purchase, Donation, and Bequeath or Will. The MSS Collection is accessioned.
Preservation/Conservation:
Pesticides are used for the preservation of MSS. A List of MSS is being published by Khuda Bakhsh Library, Patna.

Special Collections:

About 25 MSS are of rare value and can be categorized as special collection.

Opinions of the Maulana Naqshbandi on the MSS: The MSS, in many cases, happens to be the only source of art, history and socio-religious history, hence users should make use of the contents in the proper direction which will fulfill the purpose of authoring the MSS.

F.5. SOME MSS COLLECTIONS AT PANDHARPUR: THE HOLY CITY

PIN 413304, DIST. SOLAPUR (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

The holy city Pandharpur carries two types of backgrounds. Out of that mythological denotes its mention in the 'Padmapurana' which carries section on 'Panduranga Mahatmya'. This section narrates the mythological legend regarding how and why Vitthal came to the kshetra. Lord Vishnu during his incarnation has came down to earth at this holy place. The story narrates the whole episode, how lord Vishnu, in order to fulfill desires of his devotees and lovers, has to take birth in various "Yuga" (i.e. certain period of time).

The author had an opportunity to visit the holy place Pandharpur. The literature, author saw at the various Math and with the individuals, may count in thousands.
1) Uttaradi Math : The chief of this math, 'Bhimachari Balachari Varkhedkar' in his interview told that this math has been established during the times of Madhvacharya. There are around 4500 to 5000 MSS which comprises the subjects like 'Vyakarana', 'Nyaya', 'Vedanta', 'Mimamsa', 'Kavya', 'Purana' etc.

Further in his interview, he told that they find short of place to maintain this record. There is no specific monetary source to look after its preservation and conservation. Whatever the manual and traditional way of preservation known to them has been adopted i.e., wrapping the MSS in red cloth, putting camphor cubes among the bundles, putting in the heat during particular season etc.

Though they do not maintain the record of scholar visiting the math, it is said that number of scholars working on religion, philosophy, Sanskrit, literature have visited the math. There are certain documents giving historical information on the holy city of Pandharpur.

2) Holkar Math : Historical personality, 'Punysloka, Ahilyadevi Holkar', has established this math in 1668. The work of looking after this Math was vested in the hands of 'Pralhad Maharaj Badve'. His 9th generation is looking after this math at present.

They are having MSS on Veda, Vedanta, Shruti, Smriti, Sutra, Dharmashastra, Kavya, Vyakarana and Vaidyak etc. almost around twenty two disciplines of the knowledge. The
collections ranges between 900 to 1000 MSS in Sanskrit and Marathi. The oldest among dated MSS 'Muhurtmala', has been written in sake 1442. All MSS have been listed properly, with notes on its completeness, pagination, period of writing etc. The present 'Mathapati' said that they maintain the record of visitors. During the discussion with him, he gave pathetic account of visitors behavior. Some renowned scholars collected important historical documents from them, in order to trace the beginning of awarding vatan to various Badves (priests), at Pandharpur. The same has not returned until now, which was taken in 1981. They have repeated experience of this type. Naturally they keep fear in mind, while showing the collection to any scholar.

3) Viprdatta Ghat Math - Established in sake 1715 by 'Tuka Vipat alias vipra'. He is known for his contribution in the vow of Saint Namdeo, who proclaimed that he will versify 'Shata Koti Abhanga' i.e. he will write hundred crore Abhanga. He could not complete this vow in his lifetime. So, he had a rebirth in form of 'Saint Tukarama' and during that birth also he could not complete it and so ultimately during the birth of 'Tuka Vipra' he completed the vow or 'Sankalpa'.

The distribution of their contribution is given below -

a) Saint Namdeo - 94 Crore, 60 lakhs
b) Saint Tukarama - 4 Crore, 38 lakhs and 75 thousand
c) Saint Tuka Vipra - 1 Crore 1 lakhs and 25 thousands

There is enough of controversy, regarding its reality. But religious varkari faith, accept it as a truth.
The math presently possess some of the treatises on 'Shrimad Bhagwat'. Most of them have been flown in flood of river 'Chandrabhaga' in 1956. Apart from this there is another literature also 'Tirth Namavali', treatise on Gita. Sudam Charitra, Bhanudas charitra etc. Math is visited by number of scholars of Varkari Sampradaya.

These are the elaborate accounts of the holdings of representative maths. There are several others like - 'Kumbhar Ghat', 'Vedamurti Tukaram Najarkar Math', 'Jayarambuwa Vadgaonkar Math', 'Namadeo Mandir', 'Nagar Vachan Mandir', 'Savarkar Vachan Mandir', 'Kaikadi Maharaj Math', etc. having their indigenous MS collections.

**TABLE-2.F.5**

MSS Collection with Math's visited

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Mathpati-9th generation of Pralhad Maharaj Badve</th>
<th>Mathpati-9th generation of Tuka Vipra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Uttaradi Math</td>
<td>4500 (approx) 2750 (approx) 1750 (approx)</td>
<td>250 (approx)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathpati-Bhimachari Balachari Varkhedkar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Holkar Math</td>
<td>750 (approx) 250 (approx) 500 (approx)</td>
<td>250 (approx)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathpati-9th generation of Pralhad Maharaj Badve</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Vipradasta Ghat Math</td>
<td>250 (approx)</td>
<td>250 (approx)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathpati-3rd generation of Tuka Vipra</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total-3</strong></td>
<td>5500 (approx) 3000 (approx) 2500 (approx)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research libraries are the prominent institutes, which are really connected to the field of MSS. There are eleven responding institutes from this type, out of which nine from Maharashtra area and two from outside Maharashtra area.

Out of these two, The Adyar Library at Madras possess two Marathi MSS, whereas, Oriental Research Institute, Mysore may have some Marathi MSS.

The profiles of these eleven institutes consist some of the works, which have been published in a form of Book. Naturally, the research institutes are the prime repositories, who have recognized the importance of this MSS wealth.

1. Adyar Library, Madras (OM).
2. Anandashram, Budhwar Peth, Pune (M).
4. Bharata Itihas Sanshodhak Mandal, Pune (M).
6. Marathwada Sanshodhan Mandal, Latur, Marathwada (M).
7. Oriental Research Institute, Mysore (OM).
8. Pradyapathshala, Wai (M).
10. Samartha Wagdevta Mandir, Dhule (M).
11. Vaidik Samshodhan Mandal, Pune (M).
Brief History:

The Adyar Library and Research Centre was founded in 1886 by Colonel H.S. Olcott, the President-Founder of the Theosophical Society, as a non-sectarian centre of research in eastern civilization, philosophy and religion.

It was founded "for the revival of Oriental literature, the rehabilitation of the true pandit in public esteem, the promotion of a higher moral sense and spiritual aspiration among Asiatic youth, and a stronger mutual regard between the learned of the East and West."

The collections of the library at present consist of about 18,002 MSS, both palm-leaf and paper, and some 1,500,001 printed volumes, excluding journals.

The MSS comprise numerous Sanskrit works besides MSS from Sri Lanka, China, Siam, Persia and other eastern countries.

The main work of the library has been to bring to light rare and unpublished works in the MSS collection. Serially brought out in the Adyar Library Series, Adyar Library General Series and Adyar Library Pamphlet Series, these publications include catalogues of the MSS, Vedic works, Agamas, an edition of the 108 Upanisads with an Advaitic commentary and English translation, Buddhist works restored into Sanskrit from Tibetan and Chinese, Vedantic texts, some important works on music and various other translations and studies.
The library also publishes a journal 'Brahmavidya' since 1937. This Bulletin and other Adyar Library publications have become well known in this field and reach many oriental research institutions and scholars throughout the world through The Theosophical Publishing Houses, Adyar (India), Wheaton, Illinois (U.S.A.) and London (U.K.). The library has been lending its MSS and books to research institutions, universities, and scholars in India and abroad. Transcripts of MSS, as well as microfilms and photostat copies, are also supplied on request. A microfilm reader is also available. The library has also a microfiche reader and hopes to build up a collection of works and MSS in microfiche. The library's MSS have been used in many important publications such as those of the Pali Text Society, the critical edition of the Ramayana published from Baroda, publications in the Harvard Oriental Series, of the Wien University besides the Universities and Indological institutions in India.

The library's reading room is open to all those who enroll themselves as readers and wish to consult its priceless treasures.

As the library is ideally situated for quiet study in the midst of park-like surroundings, research students from various universities, and foreign scholars who are in Madras, avail themselves of the accommodation and other facilities provided for their research work.

The library has an up-to-date card catalogue with detailed entries useful to research students.
MSS Collection:

There are 18,000 Sanskrit MSS in the library, among which 2 Marathi MSS are there. The collection of MSS is acquired by way of donation in the institute.

Accessioning:

The MS collection has been accessioned. The accession register consists of the following columns. Serial No., Shelf No., and Title of the MS.

Cataloguing:

The MSS collection in the institute has been catalogued. The entries in the catalogue contain the shelf number at the right hand side, the title, Author, Language and script, the subject of the MS and completeness of MSS whether complete or incomplete.

Preservation and Conservation:

For preservation and conservation of collection, following measures are taken: The MSS are kept in an air-conditioned room. The MSS are cleaned with a solution of rectified spirit and water in a proportion of 50:50. Damaged and broken MSS are repaired by pasting.

MSS Catalogues and MSS Published:

There are number of publications of the institutes. So far MSS are concerned following catalogue have been published. (i) A Descriptive catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts subjectwise, (ii) A Descriptive catalogue for Pali manuscripts. (iii) A Descriptive catalogue of Tamil manuscripts is in progress.
The library of the institute provides microfilming and Xeroxing facility, but copying facility is not there with institute.

Marathi MSS:

The library possess two Marathi MSS these are:

1) Pavan Vijaya-paper MS.
2) Mahabharata in Marathi with Sanskrit Gita and Marathi glossary.

G.2. ANANDASHRAMA

22 BUDHWAR PETH, PUNE 411 002 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

The late Mahadev Chimnaji Apte, a leading advocate of Bombay, founded the institute Anandashrama in Pune, India, in 1888, and bequeathed all his property to it. The institute, with its seat in a massive building - now a century old - in the heart of the city, is since pursuing its mission in three areas:

1) Running a hostel for school and college boys chiefly from Apte family, and
2) Conducting religious rites in the Sachchidananda Shiva temple built by the late founder and the shrine of the late founder, both standing on the campus, and
3) Collection, preservation and publication of Sanskrit MSS and publication of related Sanskrit studies.

The institute is known to the scholars of Sanskrit and Indology all over the world as a Publishing House making available to Sanskritists valuable and voluminous Sanskrit
works at the cheapest possible price in the series Anandashrama Sanskrit Series.

Within half a century, the institute brought out 143 titles in 188 volumes in their first and successive impressions, extending over 61,000 printed pages, within the limitations of hand-compose and letter press. During recent decades, it switched over to photo-offset technique for reprints. It has now entered the new computer typesetting phase for the publication of fresh titles, an aspect of the institute's publishing activity, which was in lapse for decades.

Side by side, attempts are being made to develop the institute as a full-fledged research institute. With its reference library of over 2000 select volumes, some of them now rare, and a collection of about 14,000 MSS (a one-line catalogue of which is under preparation), the institute has pleasure in inviting bonafide Sanskritists for study, reference and copying work, and requests their guidance and assistance in all possible ways in furthering its cause.

MSS collection:

Sanskrit - Approx. 10,000 to 12,000, Marathi - Approx. 400 to 500, Hindi - Approx. 30 to 40, Other - Telagu and Tamil.

The Anandashrama is autonomous body.

Budgetory Provisions:

For Maintenance it has Rs. 1,90,000/- under project and Rs. 3000 from National Archives of India. The MSS are acquired by way of donation.
Founder of the institute the late Mahadev Chimnaji Apte had bequeathed all his property to the institute.

Cataloguing:

The MSS Collection has been Catalogued / Classified under the following heads-Cataloguing under progress one line catalogue procedure has been adopted elements in entry are as follows:
Title of the MSS, Folios, Complete/Incomplete, Size, Lines

E.g. Alankar Chintamani F315 C 21 x 16 cms. LN 1-2-12.

Classification has been done under following heads - Alankar, Upanishad, Kamashastra, Kavya, Kosha, Chanda, Jain literature, Jyotisha, Dharmashastras, Niti, Nyaya, Puranetihas, Mantratantra, Mimansa, Yadnik, Yog, Ved, Vedanta, Vaidyak, Vyakaran, etc.

Preservation/Conservation:

For the purpose of preservation use of Acorus calamus i.e. Vekhand in form of powder as well as sticks, is done. The work of preparation of catalogue is in progress.

MSS Published:

There are more than 172 title published, basically from sanskrit.

G.3. BHANDARKAR ORIENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE,
DECCAN GYMKHANA, PUNE - 411004 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona, was founded on July 6, 1917, to commemorate the name and
work of Ramakrishna Gopal Bhandarkar, who may be justifiably regarded as the foremost pioneer of Scientific Orientology in this country. The event was intended to synchronize with that Savant's eightieth birth-anniversary. The institute is a public organization registered under Act XXI of 1860, and is administered by a Regulating Council duly elected by the General Body of members and an Executive Board elected by the Regulating Council. It is partially supported by annual earmarked grants from the Maharashtra Government which nominates five representatives on the Regulating Council and two on the Executive Board. The institute has also received grants from the Government of India and the University Grants Commission for specific research projects.

The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute normally works through its four main Departments: 1) Mahabharata and Research Unit, 2) Manuscripts, 3) Publication, and 4) Post-Graduate Teaching and Research.

MSS collection:
It comprises of Sanskrit - 28,000 (18,000 Govt. Collection, 10,000 newly added as Institute's collection.) Marathi - About 200, Hindi - About 100

Budgetary Provisions:
The budgetary provisions are done for 1) Publication of MSS. Rs. 17,000/-, 2) Preservation of MSS. Rs. 4000/- 3) Insurance (Buildings and MSS) Rs. 15,000.

The MSS in the institute have been collected from 40 sources about 10,000 MSS in last fifteen years (From Maharashtra,
Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh).

Accessioning:
The MSS privately collected are not accessioned and catalogued yet. But the government collection has been accessioned under following heads - 1) Name of MSS. 2) Author 3) Extent 4) Age / Date of MSS.

Cataloguing/Classification:
The MS collection has been catalogued and classified.
1) List form 2) Library catalogue with the same columns in accession register. Subjectwise classification have been adopted.

Preservation/Conservation:
1) Dusting every week, 2) Using chemicals etc.

Catalogues of MSS Published:
About 30 volumes of MS catalogues have been published by the institute until now. Apart from this several MSS published through scholars and institutions.

Special Collections:

The institute have following types of special collections
1) Govt. collection 2) 40 private collection

There are facilities like - Microfilming, Xeroxing, Copying in the institute.

Marathi MSS:

There are about 200 Marathi MSS, mainly saint literature like Jnaneshvari etc; which can be called as special feature of Marathi MSS.
Further Plans:

Librarian of the institute provides some suggestions for the betterment of institutes with MS collections.

1) There should be a Central Library of Marathi MSS.
2) These MSS may be catalogued Methodically
3) Source book of Marathi MSS. may be published and circulated.

G.4. BHARATA ITIHASA SAMSHODHAK MANDAL,
1321, SADASHIV PETH, PUNE - 411030 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

This institute was founded on 1910. Right from the beginning the institute began to collect MSS and documents from private sources. Very revered names like those of the late Itihasacharya V. K. Rajwade, M.M.D.V. Potdar and Mr. G.H. Khare were associated with this institute. They visited various places in India and seats of old families and collected a great treasure of MSS and documents. The institute have a large collection of about 60 thousand MSS in Sanskrit, Marathi, Kannada and Persian. This institute is run by those, who are keenly interested in history of Maharashtra in particular and India in general. The purpose of this institution is to provide a platform for discussion and infrastructure to scholars in history.

MSS Collection:

Sanskrit - 80 thousand pothies in Sanskrit, Marathi, Kannada and Persian, Marathi, Hindi. Beside this, there is a collection of Tamra-patras, Coins and paintings.
Budgetary Provisions;

Though the Institute possesses voluminous noteworthy collection, it does not have regular and sufficient funds.

There is no budgetary provision for acquisition of MSS.

All MSS are given to the institution by way of donations. There are no maintenance grants from the Govt. The Mandal spends from its own funds as and when required.

The collection has been developed by way of donations, bequeaths or will.

Accessioning:

It has been accessioned under the following heads - 1) Accession Number 2) Title of the MS 3) Name of the Author 4) The date of composition 5) The name of the scribe 6) The date of the copy 7) The subject 8) Miscellaneous information.

Cataloguing/Classification:

The collection is partially catalogued and while classifying major subject heads have been taken into account.

Preservation/Conservation:

Following measures are taken for Preservation/Conservation of the collection. Each MS is carefully wrapped in a piece of cloth. From time to time these bundles are dusted and insecticides are applied.

MSS Catalogues and MSS Published:

A partial catalogue has been published, which has been edited by G.H. Khare. This is unique example of one line catalogue. This
catalogue has a tremendous potential of covering more number of entries, due to its unique feature.

So for the following MSS have been published:

The institute has microfilming and Xeroxing facility, but unable to provide copying service for want of manpower. The Collection is rich.

The MSS have not been classified and the MSS in different languages are kept in the same collection. Thorough and careful exploration of collection may add to the area of knowledge.

Users of MSS:

The institution caters to the needs of scholars, who wish to do research in historical MSS. On the request of the scholars, the MSS are made available to them. Eminent scholars from abroad have made use of this facility.

G.5. KAIVALYADHAMA S.M.Y.M. SAMITI,
LONAVLA, DIST. PUNE, PIN-410403 (MAHARASHTRA)

MSS Collection:

Total Collection of MSS in the institute comes around 1000. Out of that MSS in Marathi - language will come around 15. The MSS have been acquired by way of donations.

Accessioning:

They have been accessioned in regular accession register.
Cataloguing/Classification:
The collection have been catalogued. Following are the columns in catalogue entry,

Classification of the collection has not been undertaken still as yet.

Preservation/Conservation:
For the purpose of Preservation/Conservation MSS have been laminated.

G.6. MARATHWADA SANSKODHAN MANDAL
1/1009, GURUPRESAD, LAXMI COLONY,
LATUR-413531 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:
Individual efforts of Shri. Sudhakar Ganpati Joshi to establish this unit on May, 1974 with individual collection of 30 to 40 MSS. Earlier he worked with G.H.Khare. Then departed and came down to Latur. The Mandal was registered in 1990-91 till that working as one man industry and while registering they prepared trust as per the requirement. No financial aid from any private or Government body.

MSS. Collection:
Total collection of MSS in the institution comprises of - Sanskrit, Marathi, Hindi, numbers around 1200 to 1300 out of which 100 (Marathi) approximately.
Budgetary Provisions:
There is no budgetary provision for acquiring MSS. Individual efforts to acquire MSS by asking for donation.

Preservation/Conservation:
For Preservation/Conservation - they are wrapped in red cloth. Some of the MSS pertaining to 16th century some illustrated MSS.

Marathi MSS:
The MSS collection has been used by Suresh Puri, Maya Patil. They sought help of the collection for their M.Phil. studies. Shri. Gopal RajeDeshmukh, At and post Deskund, Tal. Ausa, Dist.Latur, donated his collection of ancestral property giving details of Sanada's to the family. This collection was voluntarily donated to Marathavada Sanshodhan Mandal.

G.7. ORIENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE,
MYSORE UNIVERSITY, MYSORE-570 005, (TAMIL NADU)

Brief History:
Year of Establishment: 1891. The Oriental Research Institute is one of the earliest of its kind. It was established in 1891 at Mysore, under the name of Government Oriental Library, Mysore. It is an evidence to the forethought of Shri. Chamraj Wodeyar, the Maharaja of Mysore for preserving and conserving records of our ancient Indian culture and civilization. It was intended to bring out editions of rare and valuable works.
MSS Collection:

Total collection of MSS in the institution comprises of 20367 bundles containing about 75,000 Sanskrit works. There can be some Marathi MSS in the collection, the information provided is simply approximation.

Budgetary Provisions:

There is provision of Rs. 17,000/- annually for purchase and maintenance.

The MSS are mainly acquired by way of purchase and donation.

Accessioning:

The MSS collection is accessioned as under:

Date, Acc.No, Author, Title, Script, Language, Subject, Material, Size, Folios of paper, Lines, Letters, Granthis, Condition, Complete or not, No. of copies in ORI, Price, Source, Date of Manuscript, Old No., Remarks, Director's attestation.

Cataloguing/Classification:

It is Catalogued, under following heads - Serial No., MS No, Title of work, Name of Author, Name of commentator, Material, Script, Size in cms., No. of folios, Lines per page, Letters per line, Extent, Condition and Age, additional particulars, and Classified, under the following Categories.

Preservation and Conservation:

Following measures are taken for preservation and conservation of MSS:
1) Micro-filming
2) Oiling
3) Cleaning by cleaning Machine
4) Fumigation.

MSS Catalogues and MSS Published:

There are Seventeen Volumes of Descriptive Catalogues published in different subjects for Bibliographic Control. Beside this 180 books are published on the basis of unpublished MSS.

Special Collections:

There are special collections like -
1) Sritatrauldlin
2) Sankyaratnamala etc.

There are facilities like Microfilming, Xeroxing in the institute, whereas no Copying facility available in the institute.

MSS Users:

Users of MSS are researchers, associates of ORI and staff members, teaching faculty and other interested persons. This ORI library is famous for collection of MSS, preservation of MSS, and utilization of MSS.

G.8. PRADNYA PATHSHALA MANDAL

315, GANGAPURI, WAI 412803, DIST. SATARA (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

Pradnya Pathshala initially instituted as 'Pathshala' on 6th October 1916, Vijaya Dashami, to impart education of Sanskrit
language, literature and Dharma.

It was started by Guruwarya Narayanshastri Marathe alias Swami Kevlanand Saraswati (1877-1955). On 21st July, 1920, it was converted into 'Pradnyapathshala Mandal' with the Pathshala as one of the activity of the Mandal. It was named, 'Pradnya Pathshala' to commemorate the Guru 'Pradnyanand' alias Krishnashastri Paranjape.

Swami Kevalanand Saraswati accepted Fourth Ashrama, 'Sanyas' on 21st October, 1931, and vested the responsibility of the pathshala and dhammakosha into the hands of Tarkatirtha Laxman Shastri Joshi (1901-1995).

On 19th Nov. 1960, Government of Maharashtra established Maharashtra Rajya Sahitya Sanskriti Mandal under the Chairmanship of Tarkatirtha Laxmashastri Joshi. This Mandal was vested with the responsibility of preparing 'Marathi Vishvakosha' on the line with 'Encyclopedia Britannica'.

This is how, work of Dhammakosha, alongwith the 'Marathi Vishwakosha' are the twin activities performed at the Pradnyapathshala. Besides this, there are other publication activities, seminars, symposiums, lectures etc. are conducted in the Pradnyapathshala.

After demise of Tarkatirtha in 1995, Prof. M. P. Rege have been nominated as Chairman of the Pradnyapathshala. He has restructured the activity of the Pradnyapathshala as, Institute for the study of Indian traditions.
MSS Collection:

There are 11,783 MSS in the institution, out of that 11,449 Sanskrit 323 Marathi and 11 Hindi MSS. All the MSS have been gathered by donations and bequests.

Budgetary Provisions:

There is no budgetary provision for purchase. Director of Libraries, Government of Maharashtra provides Rs. 2500/- per year for Newspapers.

Accessioning:

Sr.No., Author, Title, Subject, Commentator, Material, Script, Size, Donors name, Name of the Collection, Special features.

Cataloguing/Classification:

MSS collection is catalogued in standard format prescribed by the National Archives of India under the following heads:


It is classified under Kavya, Ganitshastra, Jyotishshastra, Dharmashastra, Puran, Yoga, Vastushastra, Vedant, Vaidyak, Vyakaran, Stotra and miscellaneous.

Preservation/Conservation:

MSS are wrapped in red cloth and kept in a wooden cabinet. Pesticides are sprayed for white ant treatment and other pest control purpose.

MSS Catalogues and MSS Published:

Catalogues of Sanskrit MSS have been published in 1970 under the editorship of Tarkatirth Laxmanshastri Joshi. Prominent MSS
in Sanskrit have been published.

Special Collections:

There are special collections under the donors name like Tatke, Bivalkar, Ghorpade, Ghaisas, Shende etc.

Copying service is provided by the institute, subject to availability of copies.

Marathi MSS:

There are some Marathi MSS like Kekavali of Moropant with Sanskrit commentary.

Pradnyapathshala is recognized as a research institute by Shivaji university from 1986. Scholars both Indian as well as foreign Universities refer Sanskrit and Marathi MSS collection.

G.9. ITIHASACHARYA VI. KA. RAJWADE SANSHODHAN MANDAL
DHULE 424 001 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

Itihasacharya Vi. Ka. Rajwade Sanshodhan Mandal was established on 9th January, 1927, at Dhule is a well known institute not only in Maharashtra but through out India, for its valuable and rare collection of MSS, historical papers, silver, copper and gold coins as well as some other antiquarian objects. The palacial building of the Museum presents all these historical collections well preserved. It is looked as the window of the past history. Mandal is a Research Institute in the field of History. Archology, social and cultural activities. Mandal has solid achievement to its
credit in publishing constantly 'Sanshodhak' quarterly established during the last 62 years and other publications also. From the opinions of distinguished Visitors about the institution, Mandal proudly says that it has achieved some status in the field. The name of Rajwade museum, Dhule (M.S.) is enlisted in the directory of Museum of the Asia-Pacific countries 1993 Vol.I.

MSS Collection:

Sanskrit - 2800, Marathi - 800 Pothis + 74 Daptar and Other-Pharasi Daptar, Purandare Daptar, Nandurbar Daptar.

For the purpose of purchase and maintenance of MSS sufficient amount is alloted in the budget.

Manuscripts are procured in the institute by way of Purchase, Donation and Bequeath or Will.

Accessioning:

1. Entry No. 2. Date of Receipt 3. Source 4. Description

Cataloguing and Classification:

The Manuscript Collection is Catalogued as indicated below:

1. Marathi Kavya (phatka, powada, katav, lavani etc.)
2. Marathi Vedanta, 3 Katha Purane, 4 Jyotish, Vaidyak, Charitre,
5. Marathi Bakhar, Patranche vivid Mayane, Hakikat,
6. Marathi Kosha, Yadniki Grantha, Mahatmya,
7. Other- Aankganit, Jamakharcha, Bhumiti Kamshatra, Bhugol etc.

And classified as indicated below:
Preservation/Conservation:

1. By Chemical treatment to preserve valuable books and documents from the possible destroy of 'Silver fish' insects and white ants. The entire building is sprayed with chemicals for destruction of white ants.

2. Lamination.

MSS Catalogues and MSS Published:

Following MSS Catalogues have been published by the institution: Rajwade Sanshodhan Mandiratil Marathi Hastalikhit grantha va durmil granthanchi suchi.

The following books are published in this respect:

1. Some historical documents are published in Sanshodhak Quarterly
2. There are 43 books published with help of MSS.
3. 'Smritishalaka' 1992, a magazine is published by the Mandal.

There are noteworthy MSS in the institute, some of them have been published.

6. Aitihasik lekhan charcha, 7. charachatamk Nibandha

Special Collections:
1. Shila lekh, 2. Tampra pat, 3. Topha (cannons), 4. coins
5. Pashan Shilp (sculpture), 6. Kashatha shilp
7. Sashtragar (armoury), 8) Dhatumurti-Bhandi (metal idols-vessals)
9. Miniature paintings, 10. Taila chitra (oil paintings)-50
11. Adivashinche dagine (ornaments).

The institute provides Xeroxing and Copying facility.

Marathi MSS:
The Salient features of Marathi Manuscripts and Collection are as follows:
There are 30 thousand old documents and 6000 old MSS. All are kept in 10 steel cupboards. There is reference library in which more than 10 thousand books are kept in 16 steel cupboards for research work. Students do take advantage of this facility.

Users of MSS:
The collection of the institute is appreciated by- Students who use the MSS for their study. Those who got the Ph.D. degree, expressed their deep gratitude in preface for rendering help from the Mandal, while utilizing the documents for their Thesis.
Apart from this, the institute has following special features and activities:
1. To establish a Tribal Museum, to develop an archaeological Museum, to reprint the entire literature of I.V.K. Rajwade in
22 Volumes, Classification and Cataloguing of more than 35,000/-
historical documents in "Mandurbar Daptar" are the projects
taken by the Mandal to fulfill in future.

2. University of Pune have approved recognitions as research
institute for Medieval Indian History.

3. Some students has taken 'I.V.K. Rajwade Sanshodhan Mandal' as
a subject for study at the M.Phil level.

G.10. SHRI. SAMARTH VAGDEVATA MANDIR
OLD AGRA ROAD, RAMWADI, DHULE, PIN 424002 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:

The Vagdevata Mandir which was established in 1935 has a
brief history as follows. The institution was established in
1935 by Late Shri Nanasehab Deo to keep the treasure of
MSS safe in a separate building for the use of scholars of any
sect. religion and creed. The institution is a part of
parent institution Satkaryottejak sabha established by Late
Shree Nanasaheb Deo in 1893. The instution mainly does
the work of collection, preservation of old MSS especially of
Samarth Ramdas's and all saints and poets.

MSS Collection:
Total Collection of MSS in the institution comprises of -
Sanskrit : - 857, Marathi : - 2286, Hindi : - 25, and Other : - 25

Budgetary Provisions:
The institute has following budgetary provisions on -
Purchase - Rs. 3500/-, Maintenance - Rs.5000/-, Other - Rs.15000/-
The Collection of MSS in the institute is mainly developed by donations.

Classification:

The Manuscripts Collection is Classified by giving numerical number:

1) Medicine - 45  4) Astronomy - 42
2) War - 53  5) Mantra - 20
3) Picture Art - 23  6) Folk Music - 06

There are many unclassified papers, MSS in the institution.

Preservation/Conservation:

For preservation and Conservation following steps are taken:

1) Plasticization, 2) Spraying of insecticised, 3) Xeroxing
4) Properly wrapping them.

MSS Catalogues and MSS Published:

Until now, 50 MSS from Takali Math have been published. Likewise many Marathi MSS are published in last hundred years.

Special Collections:

There are special collections of MS and pictures of different style and in different colours, which are 2-3 hundred years old. The institute provides xeroxing and copying facility.

Marathi MSS:

Following are the Salient features of Marathi MSS. MSS are of different sizes, complete or incomplete, with brittle quality paper, pages varying from one to many, of many poets in the 12th to 17th centuries.

Users of MSS:

The collection is widely used by the scholars preparing an article, book, thesis and for reference.
The institution does not get any financial assistance from the Government since it started in 1935. There is a huge collection of papers and MSS classified as well as unclassified for the use of scholars in this institution. The institution exists only on generous donation from the public at large.

G.11. VAIDIKA SAMSHODHANA MANDALA,
T.M.V. NAGAR, GULTEKADI, PUNE-411 037 (MAHARASHTRA)

Brief History:
Vaidika Sansshodhana Mandala was founded on the 1st of Aug.1928 in the sacred memory of the late B.G.Tilak. The Mandala is a registered institute under the Society's Registration Act xxi of 1860 and Bombay Public Trust Act 1950.

MSS Collection:
Total Collection of MSS in the institution:
Almost all MSS are Sanskrit and Marathi - 20.
Hindi and Other about 20 with grand total of 14,293 MSS.
MSS in the institute are acquired by way of donations.

Accessioning:
The Manuscript collection is accessioned under following heads-
Acc.No, Name of the MSS, Name of the writer, Date of accessioning, Donors name, subject, Length, width and height, Pages-folios-lines, Date of writing or provenance, Remarks.

Cataloguing/Classification:
The Catalogues of the collection are published. Work is in progress for remaining MSS. There is facility of Xeroxing in the institute.
(II) INTERVIEWS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH SCHOLARS

Interviews with scholars:

Number of surveys and studies made by earlier scholars in the field, revealed that the institutional MSS collection can be identified by using some reference tool, whereas investigating individual scholars' collection is tedious job.

This tedious job can be smoothened, provided the researcher succeeds in acquiring letter of recommendations indicating the urge of the study and getting certified his sincerity, by the authority in the field.

The present author planned to have such interviews schedule with veteran persons in the field like, 1. Prof. P. M. Kulkarni, 2. Shri. Krishna Gurav, 3. Prof. Dr. Vasant Joshi, 4. Shri. Aanant Karvirkar, all from Kolhapur 5. Shri. S. G. Joshi from Latur, 6. Dr. Y. M. Pathan from Aurangabad and Shri Balasaheb Patil from Paithan.

Initially, letters were posted asking for their appointments and as stated earlier, letters of recommendations were acquired from the Registrar, University of Pune and Prof. Dr. Ashok Kamat Namdeo Adhyasan (Photocopies in Appendices 6-7).

1. Shri. P. M. Kulkarni - A Veteran Scholar in the field of MSS, who struggled for more than 20 years to bring out critical edition of oldest MS of 'Jnaneshwari'. The MS of that copy dates back to s'ake 1490, i.e. 1568 A.D. He claims that this was the oldest copy referred so far, for printing critical edition of Jnaneshwari.
During the interview with present author, he expressed his agony on declining attitude of researchers, specially in the field of old MS literature. He gave number of suggestions and told his several experiences, how one has to undergo number of difficulties, in this type of research.

He admired the work undertaken by the present author and told that it is the need of the time to have such roaster of institutes, having MSS holdings. He is having some personal collection of himself. He has given information of it, through scheduled questionnaire.

2. Shri. Krishna Gurav - Founder of the spiritual school 'Paschanyanti Vidya Valaya', and devoted ardent scholar of saint literature, Shri. Krishna Gurav, was very much pleased to receive the present author at Kolhapur. He had been to Jayakar Library for several times, in connection to his reference work for various Diwali issues of his annual 'Pailatir'. One can see, unique collection of books and MSS related to saint literature, in the harmony of environment, retained by plantation of number of holy trees.

Overwhelming response received from Shri. Gurav and the hospitality shown can't be expressed in words. His response to questionnaire has been incorporated in the study.

3. Dr. Vasant Joshi - A retired scholar teacher of Marathi, who recently completed assignment of compiling catalogue of Marathi MSS available at Thanjaur, Thiruvananthpuram and Madras.
The assignment was vested on him by, 'Rajya Marathi Vikas Sanstha'. He realised the importance of work and guided present author about number of institutes and individuals having Marathi MSS. He also expressed his wish, while concluding our discussions that, the work undertaken of compiling information about the Marathi MSS and their preservation and conservation needs to translated in Marathi and subsequently be published for the use of Marathi scholars.

4. Shri. Anant Karvirkar - He is a unique testimony of devoted scholar, who inspite of his poor economical condition, gave all his active time to the work of MSS. 800 MSS from Toran family, were compiled, edited and catalogued by him. He is having list of places, where the MSS are likely to be there with the individuals and the small institutes. He is very well acquainted with the process of disintegrating the pages of wet and soiled MSS, without damaging the ink on the folios.

During his interview, he further told that Gujrati families in Kolhapur may have some MSS. Exploration of these MSS is on his schedule of forthcoming activity.

Besides the MSS, he is very much interested in stone inscriptions. Some of the prominent inscriptions from the Yadav period, explored in Kolhapur, are there with him.

His family background is very pathetic. His children stays away from him and old wife, who underwent some operation year ago, remains bed ridden. But the spirit of research embedded in both of them, surmounts the difficulties and every
researcher is welcomed with smile at his door. All these four prominent scholars were contacted at Kolhapur.

5. Shri. Sudhakar Joshi - Earlier co-worker of historian, G.H.Khare, now settled at Latur, with his project of 'Marathwada Sanshodhan Mandal'. Though the trust for the work of sanshodhan Mandal has been established, he is the only person, behind the establishment and development of the institution. In fact, it has been located in his own house 'Guruprasad'. He is a full time worker, always in search of old monumental things and MSS, in the vicinity of Latur and around, His wife a school teacher working at Ausa (a neighbouring town), is the only earning member of family.

The entire house of five rooms, built by acquiring loan from LIC, is filled with number of MSS and historical monumental things. But that doesn't repay the loan acquired for construction of house. The major portion of salary of Mrs. Joshi is diverted for repayment of loan. Their only son is deprived of good educational facilities due to this difficult situation.

Shri. Joshi narrated the hurdles in his way. In his opinion, this type of research, 'does not earn bread.' The priorities in our country are different. Naturally, we are not able to spend funds on these issues. But then also his stubborn will says that—this is our ancestral heritage, it gives you enough of information to plan your future. That is why these studies needs to survive and flourish as of those in developed countries.
6. Dr. Y. M. Pathan - An eminent researcher in saint literature, has collected MSS during his tenure as Head of the Department of Marathi, Marathwada University. More than 25 research scholars worked under him on saint literature. The well organised and documented MSS collection, in the Marathi department, became a prime attraction of foreign scholars. He told in the interview that no single individual should establish collection with him. Because it is possible, that after his death perhaps nobody may pay attention to it.

He appreciated the idea of surveying institutes with MSS collections, coupled with individual scholars.

7. Shri. Balasaheb Patil - A landlord at Paithan, with the ancestral rights of `Patilki', developed the hobby of collecting antiques and MSS out of his profession. He could have an access to the rich cultural and varied heritage of the sant bhumi paithan, the dwelling place of saint Eknath. Which is known as `Dakshin Kashi' with the former name `pratishthān'.

During his narrations, how he excavted these antiques, he told number of thrilling and enchanting episodes. How his chief position in the village in those earlier times, helped him in acquiring these antiques and MSS.

People out of piety, how they were offering these MSS to river Godavari and how he could get rid of them and succeeded in acquiring them, are really the enchanting stories.
The information regarding the holdings, he has gathered, is encouraging to the new researcher in the field.

Availability of Private Collections - discussions with

Dr. S.R. Chavan

Marathi 'lavani' (a poetic form) literature is abundently available throughout Maharashtra, with individuals and group of performers.

Dr. S. R. Chavan's Ph.D. thesis: 'Marathi Adhyatmic Shâhiri', Shivaji University, 1980 and personal discussion with him, gives testimony of the availability of such MSS collection.

Deulgaon Raja - The Shahir Pundlik Thombre at Deulgaon Raja, in vidharbha, is heading the 'Ākhāda' (place of recital and nurturing lavani), which is dedicated to the sect of 'Kalgi' (form of literature in poetry). Likewise other sect 'Turâ' is headed by shahir Rangnath kulkarni. Both of them possess traditional literature in the MS form, which they use for 'Savāl-Jawāb', (Question-Answer session during the performance).

Aurangabad - There are around 10 to 15 Akhade at Aurangabad nurturing and performing 'Kalgi-Turâ' tradition, 'Tuknagiracha Ākhāda', which is known for its contribution in 'Tura' tradition, did have renowned shahirs in their camp like - Shahir Risalgir, Sidhagangagir, Mahadu Malhari, Manoram, Kisankavi, Mahadubuwa, Panditrao etc. whose remarkable literature is still available in 'Ākhāda'.

Likewise tradition of Kalgi is well maintained by 'Shaha
Alicha Takiya', by competing the 'Tukangirach Ākhāda' from time to time.

Paithan - Near to Aurangabad the place named 'Paithan', which is very well known for its ancient history and the luminary of Varkari Tradition-'Saint Eknath', also maintained 'Kalgi-Turā', literature harmoniously.

Here the Ākhāda of shahir Ranbhid is very well known. Shahir Ranbhid himself was well versed and talented poet. His disciples Dado Naiku, Yamaji Sali, Bala Sali etc. were well trained to compete the established Ākhāda's like -Tukangir'. Their literature still prevails in the Akhada.

Jalna - Unlike paithan, Jalna is equally famous for its rich Shāhiri tradition. More over it surpasses all places nurturing this tradition. The competitions of 'Kalgi-Turā' taking place at this city, has gained a title- 'Shāhirānchi Pandhari'. These competitions used to take place at the Dargh of Hazartbaba'. Thorough exploration of this tradition needed to be undertaken.

Tuljapur - Kshetra Tuljapur, which is one of the famous shakti peetha, is equally known for its shahiri heritage. Number of shāhīr's used to come for presenting their performances. Naturally the Ākhāda's at this holy place are enriched with shahiri literature. Late historian K.B.Prayag had huge collection of this type.

Parbhani - 'Vanvas Math'at parbhani and the places around parbhani like - Gangakhed, Nilanga, Ahamadpur, Bid, Latur and
Vaijapur etc., are the places, who had nurtured this tradition equally well. There are number of Shahir's in these places, having their own collection of either 'Kalgi or Turā'. Besides this at Parli-Vaijanath' in the 'Nathpanthi Ākhāda, there is ample MSS literature.

Mohol - The place 'Mohol' is known for its famous Nagesh Panthi Kavi, Nagesh. The poetry of this sect in the form of Gana, Sāki, Powāde, Lāvani, etc. adds to the decorum of Marathi literature. Shahir Vithalnath Londhe, presently holds the literary legacy of this sect in a MSS form.

Madha - 'Dev-Rustum', had established 'Turā' Ākhāda at Madha, which is said to be contemporary of Shivaji's period. The competition episode amongst 'Kalgi-Turā' taken place at this place in 1950, gives account of spirit between the two parties and the winner party honoured by offering silver shield.

Pandharpur - The word pandhar, which is tamil, means singer and the word 'pur' means place of residence i.e. Pandhar (singer) + pur (residence) together means singers residential place or Pandharpur. The etymology of the place has been evidently proved by the scholars. Naturally, it does have a rich heritage of MSS legacy coming down from generation to generation. The names of following Akhada's are the testimony of this fact. (a) Kishvanandancha Ākhāda, (b) Shahir sidhabal nathancha Ākhāda, (c) Shavir
Sawantancha Ākhāda, (d) Zaverincha Ākhāda, (e) Shāhir Shahu Patharvatacha Ākhāda, (f) Bhoinchā Ākhāda etc. are to name a few.

Solapur - Solapur also is rich in 'Kalgi-Turā' tradition. The Ākhāda's maintained by Shāhir More, Shāhir Yashwant Ingwale, Shāhir Shivram Dongre, Shāhir Dattu Gaikwad etc. are still nurturing the rich heritage.