

# LIBRARY AND INFORMATION DATABASE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY : AN EMPIRICAL CASE STUDY OF Smt. HANSA MEHTA LIBRARY

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## ABSTRACT

*This database for biotechnology discipline has been created for the researchers, students and teaching staff who are the users of the M.S. University Library. Perhaps this is the first database created from the data of Smt. Hansa Mehta Library which is not only unique in its collection but vast in nature and classified in Library of Congress Classification System. The Bio-technology discipline comprises the biological, chemical, technological and other physical disciplines. There are about 176 periodicals, 122 books and about 344 Index terms having total Volumes 8386 pertaining to biological chemical and related to biotechnology subjects.*

## AIM

The purpose of the created database is to browse, the in house search for bibliographical information in biotechnology and related disciplines for the students, research workers of the Biotechnology department and other faculty members who are interested in quick and easy search from the M.S. University Library. Recent exciting developments in Biotechnology have been resulted in intense R & D activities all over the world in universities, research institute, Industrial research centres and specialized biotechnology centres. The need to keep abreast with the latest information on advance and developments in biotechnology has become imperative for rapid progress in research and manufacturing application. To fulfil the growing need, the users of BTISNET can access the information through INTERNET.

## INTRODUCTION

The presented database is an effort to provide the bibliographic information on biotechnology from the M.S. University of Baroda, Library. The database consist of 8386 periodical volumes having selected total 176 titles of periodicals in biotechnology and related disciplines. This database is organised from the catalogue of Smt.Hansa Mehta Library. This Catalogue mainly consists of three parts.

- (1) Name Catalogue
- (2) Subject Catalogue
- (3) Subject Index.

The database consists of three main files.

- (1) Biotechnology index file (BC.DBF)
- (2) Periodical-List file (PERIODIC.DBF)
- (3) Books on Biotechnology subject (BKCAT.DBF)

The above all three files constructed on well known package DBASE three plus.

## METHODOLOGY & DISCUSSION

The database is based on the catalogue entries of Smt. Hansa Mehta Library. The Catalogue of Smt. Hansa Mehta Library has a unique system of Classification and Cataloguing. The classification system is based on Library of Congress and rules for Cataloguing according to Anglo-American Catalogue. Though it does not follow strictly the rules but, more or less pattern is the same and needed modifications and other Indian provisions are made.

Each file of above mentjoned database has been created in DBASE III as the following :

- (i) Biotechnology Index File (BC.DBF)

Each record in this file contains four fields :

- |                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
|                             | e.g.            |
| (1) Class                   | Africa          |
| (2) Subject Class           | Natural History |
| (3) Division                | A - Z           |
| (4) Call No. or (Class No.) | QH 195          |

The file consists of 344 records displaying all the elements of each index-entry of the Catalogue in above manner. This implies freedom to the user

to search through any field he or she has in his or her mind as any field can be displayed through index. Hence relevant Class number/Call number can be easily found and user can know, if the books exist in the Library. User can access all the bibliographical information from this file.

#### (ii) Periodical-List file (PERIODIC.DBF)

It is the file name created in DBASE. Manual list of periodicals having the entries in the following sequence in each record is as the following :

- (1) Sr. No.
- (2) Title (alphabetical)
- (3) Volume
- (4) Call Number
- (5) Remark.

Retrieval of this record has the provision of index file. e.g. Call INX-NDX (Call numberwise in order)

Hence retrieval is possible through TITLE or index file number (call INV NDX), as desired by the users. (fig. 1)

This title is very useful file as it contains important 176 titles of periodicals and strength of their volumes is 8386.

#### (iii) Books on Biotechnology file (BKCAT.DBF)

This file has 122 most useful book records in the following fields:

- (1) Author
- (2) Title
- (3) Year
- (4) Call Number

This file is very useful to the student as it shows the existence of books on author, or on title or on call no. Such more books can be listed or added in the bibliographic record. Above mentioned three files are very useful which can be up-dated through network, it can be used for resource sharing purpose also. Though limitations of the database are there but it will be very useful tool for searching the bibliographical information in the university libraries of the Gujarat and specifically M.S. University Library System as it follows the unique L.C. Classification Code and AACR.

#### EXPERIENCES

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