

No. 151, October 2006

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Experimental provision of text data of the National Diet Library List of Subject Headings (NDLSH) now starts

Bibliographic Control Division, Bibliography Department

This is a translation of the article of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 546 (September 2006).

The National Diet Library List of Subject Headings (NDLSH) is a controlled term list compiled and maintained for producing bibliographic data in the NDL. Since 2004, the list has been enhanced by introducing a thesaurus structure and is now used as an important means of subject access, especially when searching the NDL-OPAC.

The NDLSH has been already available in pdf file on the NDL website. In addition, we have started to provide the list in text file on an experimental basis in the hope that it will be more widely used. We also aim to seek a better way of making it available as a digital tool through this experimental data provision.

The list will be provided in TSV (Tab Separated Value) file containing the whole content of the FY2005 edition which is available on the NDL website. Supplements published in and after April 2006 are not included.

To obtain the NDLSH text data, you need to submit an application to the Bibliographic Control Division, Bibliography Department, NDL. Please note that using the data is limited to noncommercial research and there are some conditions when publishing a research product.

The conditions for data provision, sample text data and an application form have been available on the NDL website since September 1, 2006. You can find more detailed information about data provision and the application on our web page (http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/library/data/ndl_ndlsh.html) (Japanese only).

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Centennial commemorative event of the former Imperial Library building

This is a translation of the article of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 545 (August 2006).

Introduction

The building of the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL) was opened in 1906 as the Imperial Library. As a typical example of Western, Renaissance-style architecture built in the Meiji era, it has been designated as a metropolitan historic building by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

As this year marks the 100th anniversary of the completion of its construction, the ILCL is holding a centennial commemorative event.

History of the building

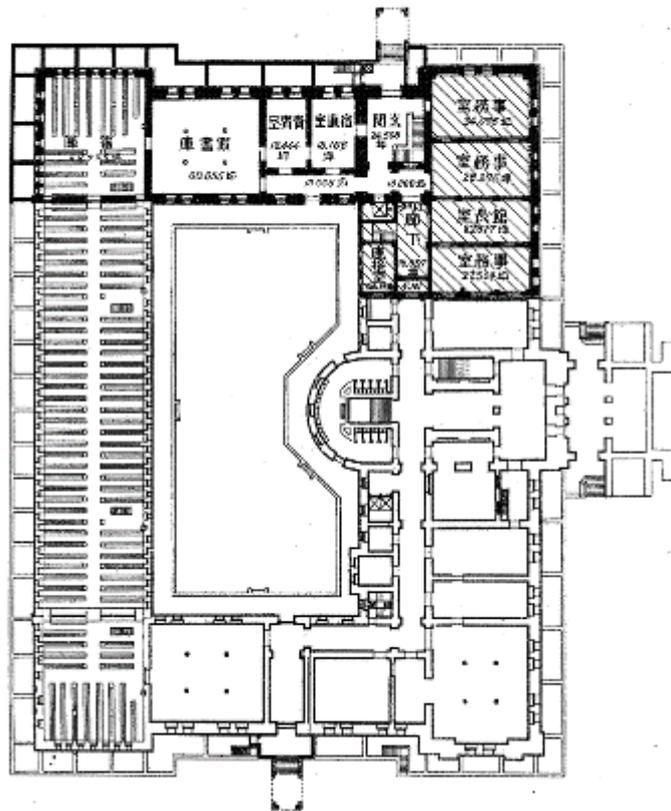
In February 1896, at a plenary session of the House of Peers of the 9th Imperial Diet, a "Proposal for constructing an Imperial Library" was introduced. The following year, in 1897, based on the promulgation of the "Regulations for the Imperial Library Administration," a national library of Japan was founded.

Nine years later, in 1906, a Western-style mansion with three floors above ground and one floor below was completed at Ueno Park, Tokyo. The building was constructed by gathering together the finest of Japanese technology, but it was far short of the original design, a square-shaped brick building with an inner court, the total area amounting to 3,636 square meters. The remaining part was expected to be added in the future.

In 1929, the second-phase construction was finished. In 1952, the stacks were expanded but the original plan was not realized.

The figure below is the schematic plan of the whole. The part surrounded by the black border the original construction. The cross-hatched section was the added in 1929.

圖面平階一



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After the war, from 1949 to 1999, the building was used as the Ueno Library, branch of the National Diet Library.

Entering the Heisei era, to meet the social demand for the need of a specialised national library of children's literature, the ILCL was fully opened in 2002, after renovation.

On renovating, "preservation" and "ensurement of security" was emphasized. Renovation and preservation of the interiors, such as decorative plaster, lighting fixture, and fittings were paid attention, and also to meet the present quake-resistance standards, seismic isolation for retrofitting was adopted, a first for a masonry construction building in Japan to prepare the building for big earthquakes.

To provide a space where children and researchers feel comfortable and secure, as well as up-to-date functions to meet the demands of the information society, the added facilities have been kept to a necessary minimum not to damage the historic value of the building, such as stairs, elevators, cafeteria, and technical units for information system, air-conditioning and disaster prevention.

Commemorative event

For the centennial commemorative event, the National Diet Library will hold an exhibition. The exhibition presents the history, beginning with the Imperial Library and continuing through the Ueno Library and on to the ILCL. A comparison of the old and new reading rooms and the technical aspects of the renovated building will also be introduced by panels. The exhibition will be held at the ILCL and the Tokyo Main Library.

Information

Centennial commemorative exhibition

International Library of Children's Literature

Open period: Tuesday, September 26 - Sunday, December 17, 2006

Time: 9:30 - 17:00

Closed: Monday, National holidays and the third Wednesday of the month (for refiling).

Place: Lounge (3F) and partly in the Hall (3F)

Tokyo Main Library

Open period: Thursday, December 21, 2006 - Tuesday, February 20, 2007

Time: 9:30 - 19:00 (-17:00 on Saturday)

Closed: Sunday, National holidays, third Wednesday of the month (for refiling) and the yearend and New Year's holidays (December 28, 2006 - January 5, 2007)

Place: Regular exhibitions corner (2F of the main building)

For more information

Planning and Cooperation Division, International Library of Children's Literature

URL: <http://www.kodomo.go.jp/english/index.html>

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How do the on-site users view the NDL? : Report of user questionnaire survey of FY2005 (part 2/2)

This is a translation of the article of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 540 (March 2006).

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What improvements to the NDL services would you like to see most?

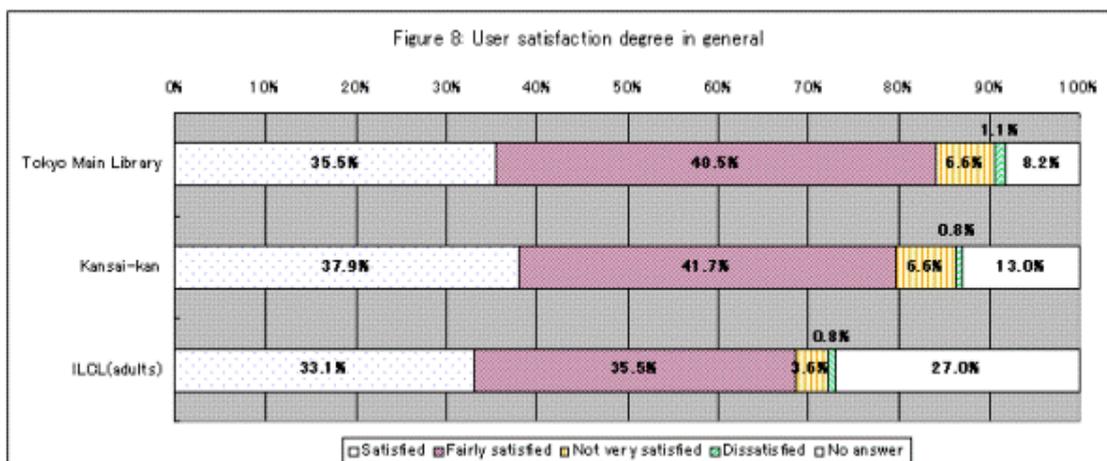
[Conclusion](#)

2. Satisfaction and needs for improvements in our services

2.1 How do you rate your degree of satisfaction in general?

80% of visitors to the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan, and 70% of those to the ILCL answered "satisfied" or "fairly satisfied" about the on-site services ([Figure 8](#)).

Figure 8: User satisfaction degree in general



*click on the graph for clearer image

2.2 How do you rate your degree of satisfaction with each of the services specified below?

What improvements to the NDL services would you like to see most?

[Figures 9–11](#) show the results to the question about visitors' satisfaction and needs for improvements with each aspect of on-site services in each of the three facilities of the NDL. In these figures, the pink line and the blue line represent user satisfaction degree (points) and the percentage of users who want to see improvement with each service (%) respectively. The user satisfaction degree is calculated as follows: (1) specify each answer as "satisfied"=100 points; "fairly satisfied"=50 points; "not very satisfied"=minus 50 points; "dissatisfied"=minus 100 points; and "No answer"=0 point; (2) multiply the point given with the percentage of each response; (3) and sum up all of the points.

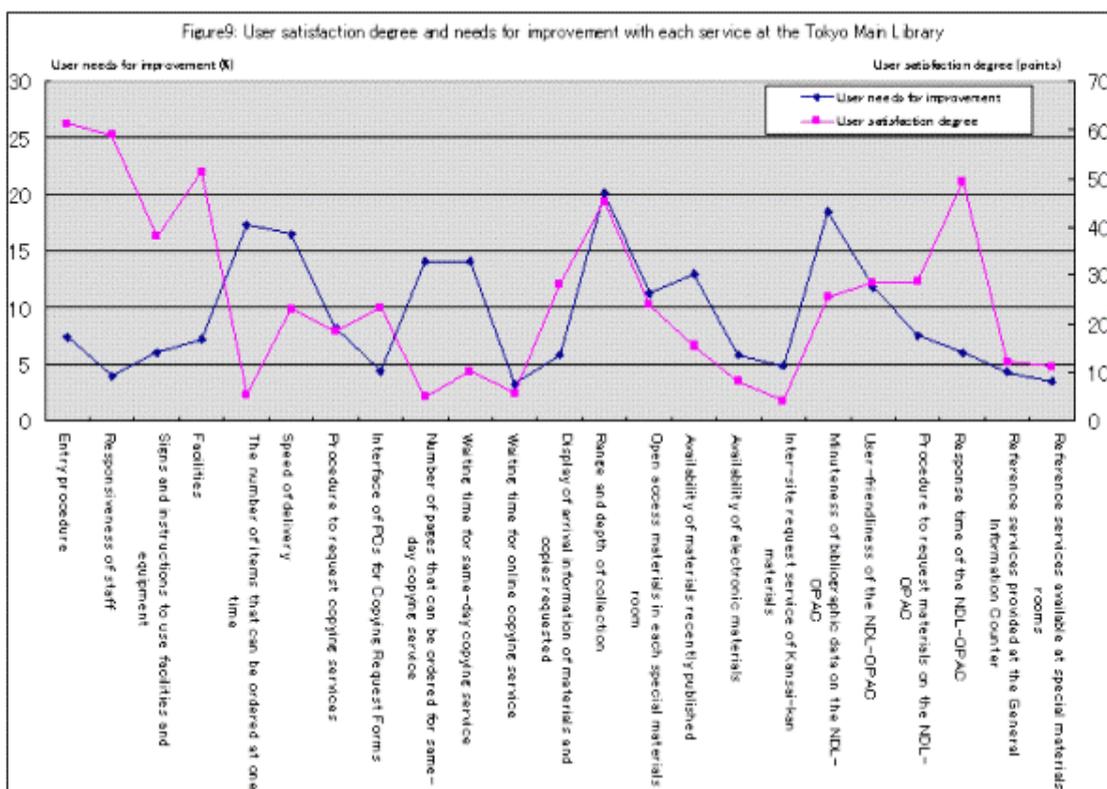
A high rate of requests for improvement in the range and depth of the collection is common to all three facilities, which indicates that users seem to place much expectation on the NDL as the only national library that collects various materials and information inside and outside Japan through the legal deposit system and other methods. The NDL has been working on revising its collection development policy to organize information resources shared by all citizens in Japan. In addition, the Kansai-kan aims for a higher degree of users' satisfaction with its services by enhancing its open access materials and distinctive collections.

At the Tokyo Main Library, three aspects, "number of items that can be ordered at one time," "speed of delivery" and "waiting time for same-day copying service" with which users expressed quite low satisfaction in the survey of FY2003, have been improved in both user satisfaction and demands for upgrading. Also more users expressed contentment with "facilities," "signs and instructions to use facilities and equipment" and "response time of the NDL-OPAC" than that of the previous survey. These changes are probably due to the remodeling of the Tokyo Main Library in October 2004 and the corresponding adoption of a new system and easing-up on various restrictions. Nonetheless with some advances, demands for improvement of reading and copying services still remain high.

At the Kansai-kan and the ILCL, users expressed high satisfaction with "facilities" and "responsiveness of staff" as in the results of the FY2003 survey conducted just after the opening of the two libraries. Many users were satisfied with the "museum (exhibitions)" although requests for improvements were also high. With more visitors coming to see the "museum (exhibition)," the NDL aims to hold more enjoyable exhibitions to meet their expectations.

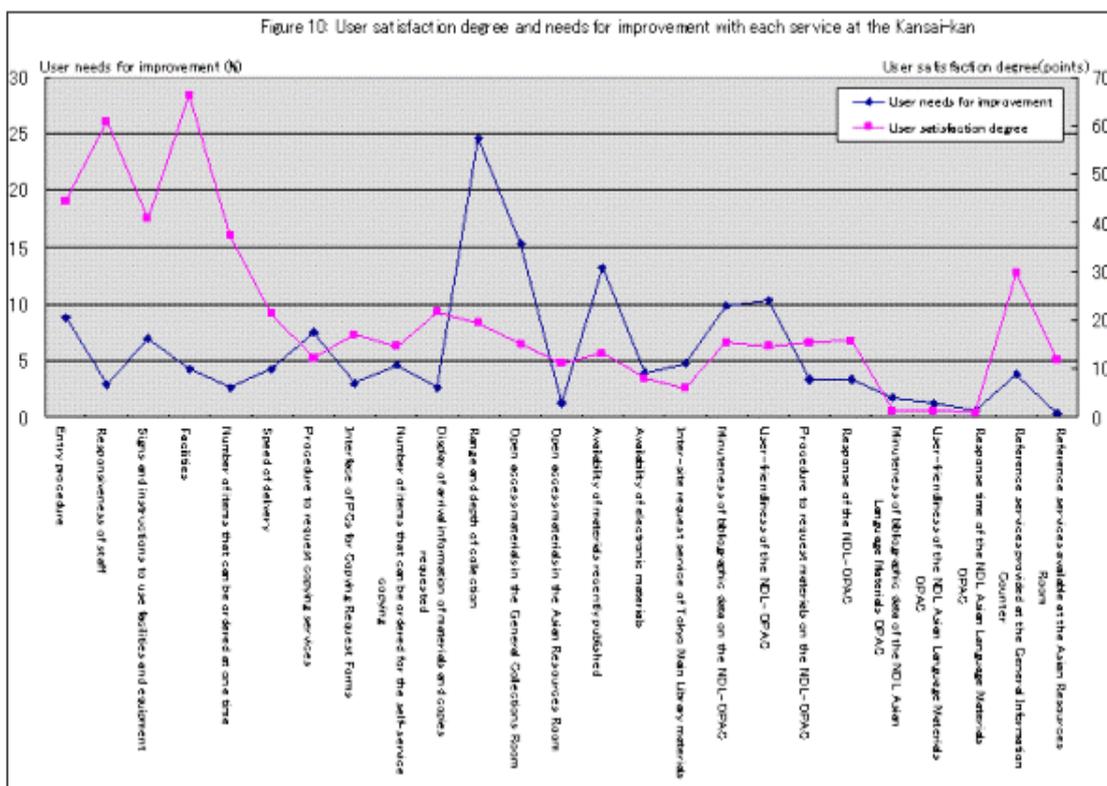
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Figure 9: User satisfaction degree and needs for improvement with each service at the Tokyo Main Library



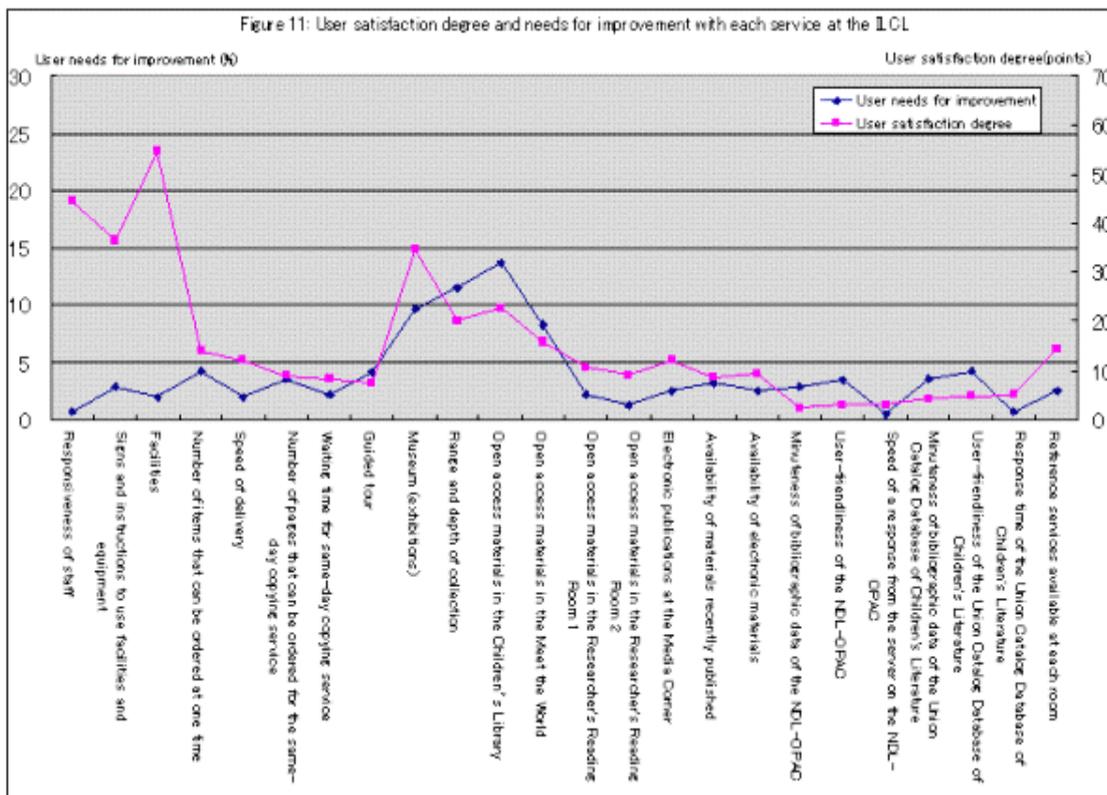
*click on the graph for clearer image (PDF file 81.24KB)

Figure 10: User satisfaction degree and needs for improvement with each service at the Kansai-kan



*click on the graph for clearer image (PDF file 77.96KB)

Figure 11: User satisfaction degree and needs for improvement with each service at the ILCL



*click on the graph for clearer image (PDF file 80.17KB)

Conclusion

The NDL will earnestly take into account the issues and user needs we have identified through this survey in order to improve our services and operations. We are also planning to conduct alternately a survey for on-site users and a survey for remote users. The next survey will be targeted at remote users including both individuals and libraries and related institutions in Japan.

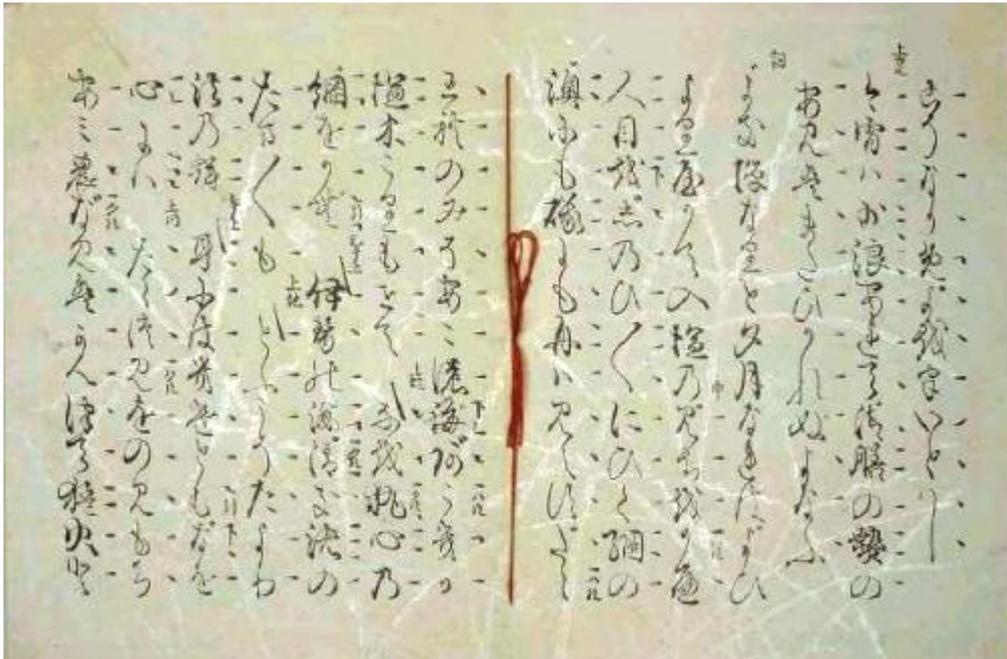
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[Related article: Report of user questionnaire survey of FY2003](#)





Selections from NDL Collection Akogi / Akoki



Akogi / Akoki

Copy dating from the late 16th to early 17th century

1 volume

24.1 cm in height

Owned by the National Diet Library

Noh is a classical Japanese performance art which developed into its present form during the 14th and 15th centuries under the patronage of the shogunate. Noh drama consists of dance and music. Utai-bon, a book of lyrics, was made for each song in the drama. Noh was most popular during the 17th century. The ruling class regarded Noh as one of their favorite hobbies.

So many Utai-bon, Noh libretti, were published during the 17th century. This is one of them.

This is a part of an Utai-bon of Kanze-ryu, one of the schools of Noh, printed with wooden types during the Keicho period (1596-1615). There are 100 poems in 100 volumes, and this is one of them, titled "Akogi" or "Akoki." The types in this book are the Koetsu school style. The Koetsu school's Utai-bon are divided into several groups according to the decorations and printing style. This book is of the "special style" as it has mica-like patterns all over the covers and pages. "Special style" books are the most beautiful of all those of the Koetsu school because they have delicate decorations in every part of the book.

"Akogi" is the name of the bay, Akogi-ga-ura. Akogi Bay was in the sacred domain of the Ise

Shrine where fishing was prohibited. In this Noh drama, the ghost of a fisherman who had been put to death by drowning for fish poaching in Akogi Bay tells his story of agony. Ghosts or the restless dead, recounting their own tragedies, is one of the most typical story patterns in Noh drama.

*You can see the whole text (Japanese only) and images of this book in the [Rare Books Image Database](#) in the NDL website.

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National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 151, October 2006



Selected list of articles from NDL periodicals (Text in Japanese)

National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin

(Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan Geppo)

If you click the volume number of each issue, you can read the full-text of NDL Monthly Bulletin (no.517-). The text is provided in PDF format* (Japanese only).

*To see the full-text (PDF), you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader (free download). Click [here](#) to download. ([Adobe Website](#))

No. 547, October 2006 [[PDF Format, 1.6MB](#)]

- Legal Deposit System [related article](#)
- Comments from the supervisor of the digital exhibition "[Modern Japan in Archives – 100-year history from the opening of the country to the San Francisco Peace Treaty –](#)" [related article](#)
 - Present situation of the U.S. federal government libraries
- Completion of the retrospective conversion of the former collection of the Shanghai Xinhua Bookstore
 - New services starting October
- Improvement of the digital information service at the Tokyo Main Library
- Provision of microfilm reproductions of the children's books in the Prange Collection through the microfilming cooperative project (Phrase 1)
 - Revision of copying charges from October 23, 2006
- Excerpts from the Annual Report of the NDL, FY2005: statistics (2)
 - <Announcement>
 - Changes in use of interlibrary loan
 - NDL Database Forum
 - NDL to take part in Library Fair & Forum 2006
 - Events related to the exhibition at the International Library of Children's Literature: Northern gifts – Children's books from the Nordic countries
 - Announcement of regular exhibition

No. 546, September 2006 [[PDFFormat, 1.2MB](#)]

- Progressing remote services of the NDL – current status and future vision of utilization of the remote copy service
 - The British Library's copy services
- Completion of the experimental project on acquisition and provision of content on the Internet and future efforts
- Invitation of Dr. Deanna B. Marcum, Associate Librarian for Library Services of the Library of Congress [related article](#)
- Overseas research report: Georgetown Public Policy Institute, Georgetown University
 - Excerpts from the Annual Report of the NDL, FY2005: statistics (1)
 - <Announcement>
 - Partial suspension of the digital information service at the Tokyo Main Library
 - Lectures related to the exhibition at the International Library of Children's Literature: Northern gifts – Children's books from the Nordic countries
 - [Experimental provision of text data of the National Diet Library List of Subject Headings \(NDLSH\) now starts](#)
 - Announcement of regular exhibition

