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## OCCASION

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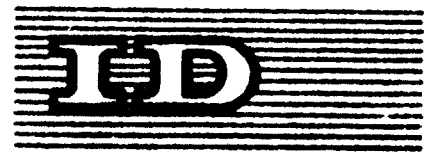
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COUNTRY PAPER <sup>1/</sup>

PAKISTAN

W. Ahmed  
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Pakistan Industrial Technical Assistance Centre

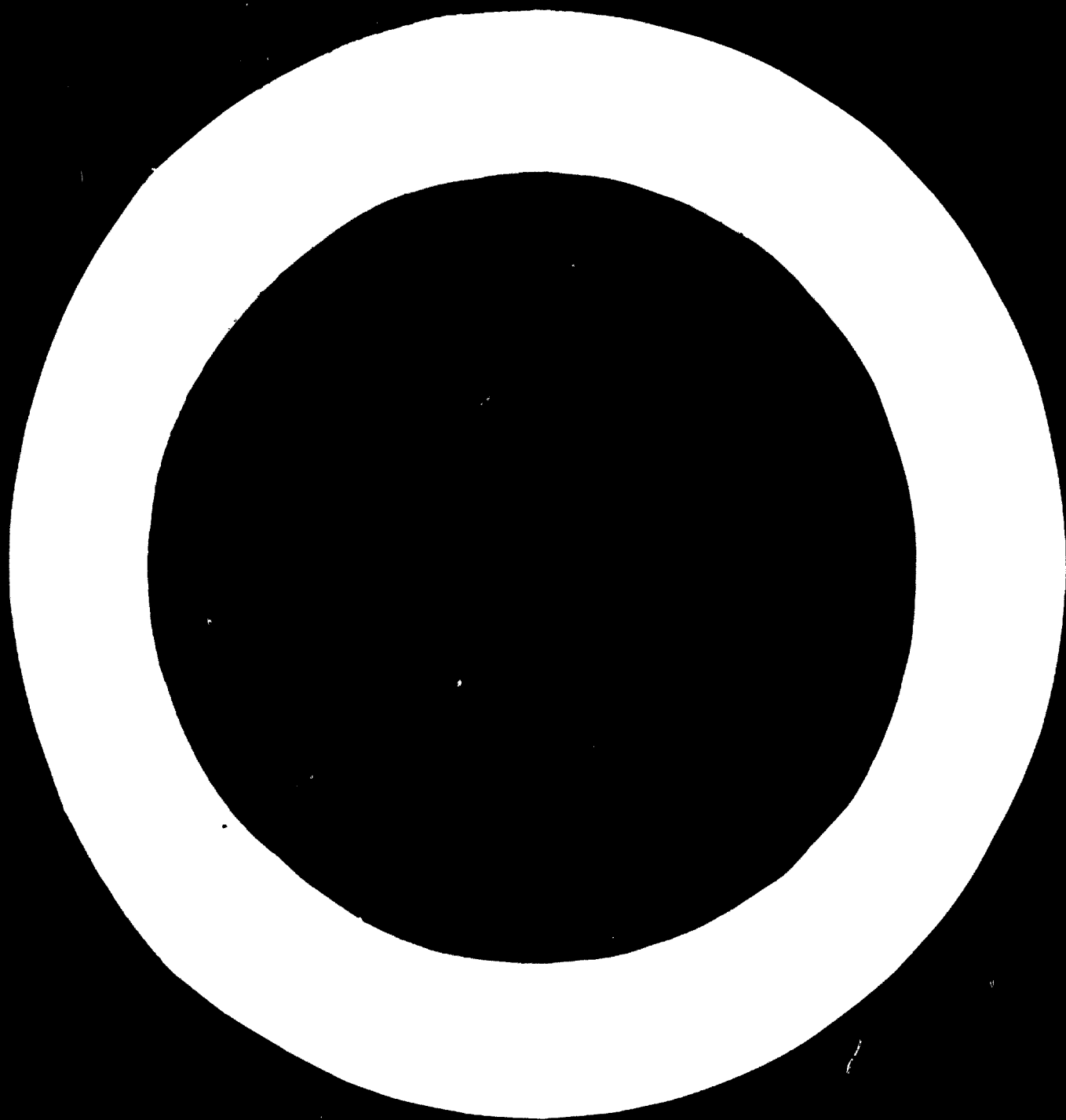
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Country Paper: PAKISTAN

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Pakistan

The area which now constitutes Pakistan had little or no industry at the time it gained independence some 23 years ago. A number of organizations and institutions were then set up with the purpose of establishing new industries. The assistance rendered by these bodies included the securing of land, water and power; the preparation of feasibility studies; the organization and management of new concerns; and guidance on the import of plant and machinery. The development of Pakistan's industry was initially somewhat haphazard, and the need for co-operation and organization became apparent. To combat the situation, further co-ordinating organizations were brought into being. Among these, the following include facilities for the collection and dissemination of the industrial information.

National Organizations

1. The Pakistan National Scientific and Technical Documentation Centre (PANSDOC) - established in 1957 with the assistance of UNESCO as a unit of the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, with the purpose of collecting and disseminating information on all branches of science and technology and distributing it to scientists, technologists and industrialists. The Centre, which has offices in Karachi, Lahore and Dacca performs the following tasks:

- Document procurement from local and foreign sources;
- Compilation of bibliographies and the annual publication of a list of the bibliographies prepared. This list is circulated to research workers free of charge. At present, a bibliography covering 150 years of scientific and technical research in Pakistan is under consideration.
- Technical translation. The Centre can produce translations from 14 languages into English. A list of translations made is published and sent to the British Scientific Liaison Office. This Office supplies

- the Centre with the Commonwealth Translation Index Cards which are used in the preparation of bibliographies and in searching translations. A current Awareness Service of the latest Russian scientific literature is also operated. This service could be extended to other languages.
- Document reproduction. The Centre possesses the most modern reproduction facilities in the region including apparatus for microfilm, photostat, photocopy and photo-litho-offset. It provides reproduction services to various scientific, technical and commercial organizations in the country.
  - Publication. The Centre's publications include abstracts in the quarterly journal "Pakistan Science Abstracts"; the Union Catalogue of Holdings of Local Libraries; Union Catalogue of Scientific and Technical Periodicals in Various Pakistan Libraries; Directory of Current Scientific Research Projects (published at the instigation of the National Science Council); Catalogue of Microfilm Holdings of the PANSDOC Library. At the request of the Government the Centre is now preparing a collection of statistical information on science and technology in the country.
  - Indexing. The Centre uses modern data processing equipment for the indexing and retrieval of information. It has established training courses at the academic level on INFORMATICS, the mechanical indexing and retrieval of information.
  - Organization of seminars and symposia.
  - Training. Facilities are provided for the training of personnel from Pakistan libraries and special libraries. In co-operation with the University of Karachi courses are given on document reproduction. The Centre is also concerned with the organization of scientific and technical information centres within the existing research institutes in the country.

The Centre maintains contact with documentation sources in South East Asia, with UNESCO and with the Commonwealth countries.

2. Pakistan Industrial Technical Assistance Centre (PITAC) - an amalgamation of the former Industrial Productivity Service and the Industrial Research and Development Service which were performing virtually the same functions. PITAC has offices in Karachi, Lahore and Dacca and its objectives are to work towards the upgrading of skills, to advise on productivity, to provide consulting services, and to disseminate information and modern technical know-how. In the dissemination of information, PITAC receives considerable assistance from the Asian Productivity Organization (APO) since it is the official government representative of Pakistan with the Organization. The Information Division of the Centre is divided into the following 4 sections:

- The Technical Information Section. The functions of this section are to supply information on new concepts, on productivity questions and techniques, and to undertake the translation of technical material. A technical information series is presently being published and selectively distributed to bodies and individuals. Other publications include team reports on foreign experience and a quarterly magazine on technical know-how designed for industrialists.
- The Audio Visual Section. This Section has a collection of films, film strips, and slides and also operates a film lending library. Films are obtained from the US Technical Co-operation Programme, the OECD and the APO.
- Reproduction Section.
- Library Section.

3. The Export Information and Advisory Centre of the Export Promotion Bureau - which supplies marketing data to Pakistan exporters and information on Pakistan concerns to prospective importers.

4. Pakistan Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology.
5. Pakistan Association for the Advancement of Science.
6. Small Industries Corporations of East and West Pakistan.
7. Industrial Advisory Centre.
8. Institute of Development Economics.
9. Pakistan Forest Institute.
10. Institute of Public and Business Administration.

Research organizations and institutes

1. Scientific and Technological Research Division of the Pakistan Central Secretariat.
2. Institute of Cotton Research and Technology.
3. Irrigation Research Institute.

Libraries


In addition to the Pakistan National Library and the Central Library of Pakistan which are still in the planning stage, the following libraries can supply information on various industrial sectors:

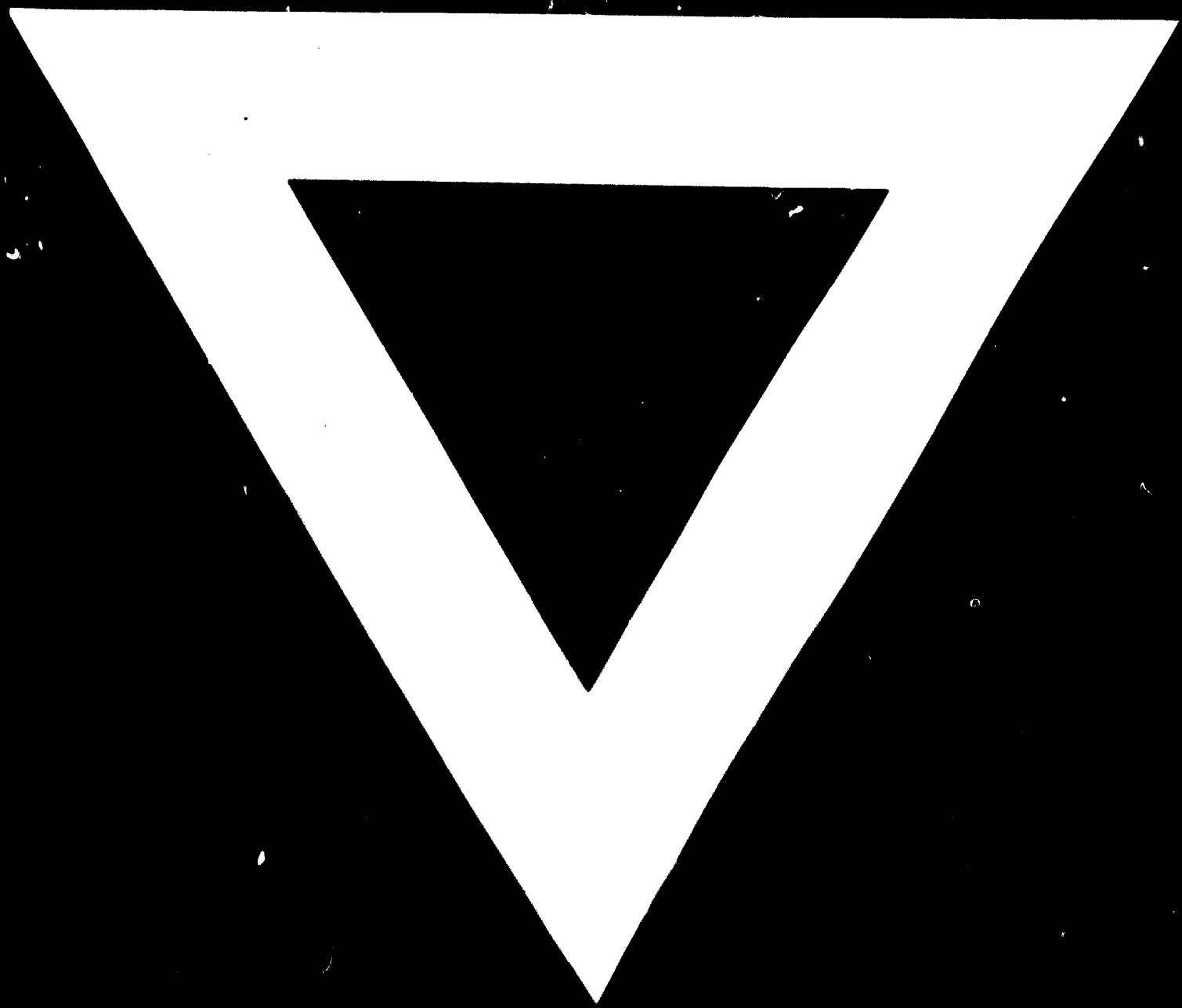
1. Liaquat Memorial Library - which has facilities for photo-duplication and microfilming and operates an international book exchange centre.
2. Central Library of the Pakistan Council of Scientific Industrial
3. University libraries.
4. Pakistan Association of Special Libraries (PASLIB) - which was set up to promote the development and improve the administration of special libraries and information services.
5. Pakistan Bibliographical Working Group - which compiles bibliographical works and encourages and promotes the scientific study of bibliography and documentation.



Conclusion

The shortcomings of the individual information services in Pakistan and of the general industrial information facilities stem largely from lack of resources. A government request for assistance from UNIDO would permit the country to undertake a much needed programme of expansion and improvement.





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