

Ms Kalpana Dasgupta
Advisory Board Member
READ Global,
Former Director, Central Secretariat Library, Government of India

Starting her professional career as Library Assistant in the Botanical Survey of India, she rose to positions of great importance. She was the Former Librarian of the National Library of India in Kolkata and Director of the Central Secretariat Library, New Delhi. Ms. Kalpana Dasgupta served as the Chairperson of the Working Group on Libraries of the National Knowledge Commission of the GOI and was the Advisor to the NKC on Libraries. She has served as the President of the Indian Library Association and has been the Indian representative in the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania of the International Federation of Library Associations & Institutions (IFLA) for four years. She has been active in other activities of IFLA for eleven years. She has served as member of many high-powered Committees of the Government of India. She was a member of several High Level Committees of the Ministry of Culture, Working Groups of the Planning Commission, the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Library Board of the Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library, Patna, Committee on Documentation Services and Research Information, NASSDOC, ICSSR, the Panel of Experts of National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (NISCAIR) and Chairperson, Advisory Committee for Review of Categorization of ICMR libraries etc.

After retirement, she has acted as Consultant and Advisor to various important organizations such as Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), National Institute for Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCED) under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), Archaeological Survey of India, Crafts Museum Library of the Ministry of Textiles, Indian Museum, Visva-Bharati University etc.

She was the Vice Chairperson of the Afro-Asian Book Council. She is a life member of the Centre for Women's Development Studies. Presently she is actively involved with the activities of READ India, New Delhi as a Trustee and was a member of the core group of experts to the Indian Public Library Movement (IPLM).

She has published more than hundred professional articles and has edited several books on different aspects of library development. She has traveled extensively abroad to represent the Government of India as well as several institutions in various international seminars and conferences. She also has the distinction of being the first, and the only woman so far to have held the posts of Librarian, National Library of India; and Director, Central Secretariat Library and she is the first woman President of the Indian Library Association, which was established in 1933.