Yes, it is a reality now! In a recent article by David Batty (Quart. J. Lib. Congress 1976, 33, 300-10) it has been mentioned that DDC translations exist, of full or abridged editions, in Afrikaans, Arabic, French, Hebrew, Indonesian, Korean, Malayan, Sinhala, Spanish, Thai, Turkish, and Vietnamese, in addition to a number of adaptations in other languages. Very appropriately the article also displays the title pages of DDC in seven different languages. David Batty's article could not include in its list the Hindi version. But one can imagine that even when the said article was being written preparations were going on to bring the Hindi edition before the end of the centenary year of DDC.

The Hindi edition of DDC has been published by the Forest Press, Lake Placid Education Foundation, printed by the Catholic Press, Ranchi, India and translated and edited by Dr. Prabhu Narayan Gour of Patna. The Hindi version is based on the current that is, the eighteenth edition of the DDC. The work is in a single volume of 701 pages. The title brings out clearly that the work is of a selective nature.

Selection, naturally, has to be in the context of Indian libraries and their needs. The translator has not spelt out how exactly the needs have been assessed. However, one thing is certain that the work of selection must have been an extremely difficult work. The extent of selection can be best brought out by an example only. The following extracts from the Sociology schedules from both the original 18th edition and Hindi edition may be compared:

Table 1 - A portion of the Sociology Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>301.4</th>
<th>Social structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>.42</td>
<td>Marriage and family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.421</td>
<td>Structure and functions of family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.421 2</td>
<td>Nuclear family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B Guha

Inasdoc, New Delhi-12

.421 3 Consanguine (Extended) family

.422 Types of marriage

Class interracial, intercultural, interreligions marriages [all formerly 301.422] in 301.429

.422 2 Monogamy

.422 3 Polygamy (Plural marriage)

.423 The family and social change

.426 Family planning

Former heading: Husband-wife relationship

Class marital sexual relations in 301.418, general husband-wife relationships in 301.427 [both formerly 301.426]

.427 Intrafamily relationships

Class here remarriage [formerly 301.4285], general husband-wife relationships [formerly 301.426], parent-children relationships

Class family planning in 301.426, marriage counseling in 362.82, child care and training in 649.1

For marital sexual relations, see 301.418

[.427024] Works for specific types of users

Do not use; class in 301.4272

.4272 Guides, manuals, advice for specific types of users

Add "Persons" notation 03-99 from Table 7 to base number 301.4272

.428 Family dissolution

Including separation and desertion

.428 4 Divorce

[.4285] Remarriage

Class in 301.427

.4286 Death
Even a cursory glance will reveal that the Hindi schedule is much shorter. In general, it can be seen, most of the classes with seven-digit numbers have been dropped. In the above portion of the schedule, the only exception to this policy of selection is the class 301.4284-Divorce. It will also be observed that a number of scope notes, relocation notes, and other instructions are not available in the Hindi schedule. Relocation notes have been avoided, apparently on the logic that this is the first edition. It may also be mentioned here that the Hindi edition does not include auxiliary Table 7 (Person). Hence, the notes directing the use of Table 7 in the original edition have been eliminated.

It has to be pointed out that adaptation in the Hindi edition does not mean reduction of the original schedules in all places. There are a number of areas where the schedules have been considerably expanded. As is known, some of the Indian libraries which have been using the DDC have for their own convenience expanded the Dewey schedules in area like philosophy, religion, linguistics, history, geographical divisions, art and architecture, etc. Many of these expanded schedules have been discussed in meetings and some of them also published in Indian library journals. Dr Gour says in the Introduction that such works have been taken into consideration in expanding some portions of the schedule where Indian libraries require more detailed schedule. To appreciate the extent of expansion of some of the classes under 954 - South Asia, India, may be compared.

954 South Asia India

.02 Asian dynasties and European penetration, 647-1774
.021 Early period, 647-997
.022 Moslem conquests, 977-1206
.023 Slave kings, Khalji and Tughluq dynasties, 1206-1413
.024 Sayyid and Lodi dynasties, 1413-1526
.025 Mogul Empire, 1526-1707
.029 European penetration 1707-1774
.03 British rule, 1774-1947
.031 East India Company, 1774-1858
.0317 Sepoy Mutiny, 1857
.035 Control by crown, 1858-1947
.04 Independence and partition, 1947-
.9 Pakistan
Title page of the first Hindi edition of Dewey Decimal Classification showing a part of the schedule on Hinduism.
As has been said earlier, similar expansions have been made in a number of places. In some cases subjects of considerable importance have been relocated also. Special mention may be made of the classes 410 and 810 which have been given to Hindi language and Hindi literature respectively. In the original edition these two classes are given to 'Linguistics and American literature in English. Both the new classes have also been expanded considerably to suit the requirements of Indian libraries.

One thing may be pointed out that by this relocation of Hindi language and Hindi literature have inconveniently been separated from other Indian languages and literature. Along with Hindi, the Urdu language has also been shifted to 419 from its original position in 491.439, and Urdu literature to 819. This brings Hindi and Urdu to a better juxtaposition. Since the present Hindi edition is an authorised version, the above extensions naturally become authorised.

Apart from the above mentioned reduction and expansion work, perhaps, the most important work has been the publication of the Hindi edition has been the translation work. Firstly, because of the all comprehensive detailed subject specification in the DDC, translation of names of subject included in the schedule is almost like creating a dictionary in another language. Secondly, it should be emphasised, translation into Hindi must have been quite a difficult task as the language of communication of any serious study is still English in India. Very appropriately, Dr Gour has taken into consideration the available Hindi glossaries of technical terms that have been prepared by various agencies. Even then a large part of the translation work must have been done by Dr Gour himself. The resulting Hindi schedule, the reviewer believes, could also be used as an important source of glossary of Hindi terms.

Some of the Hindi terms used in the schedule may appear unfamiliar and even queer. This is because many of the terms are not in general use and most of us are more familiar with their English equivalents. To cite an example, the Hindi word शीतल is quite familiar. Hence for family planning शीतल-निगरण should be quite acceptable and this has been used by the translator. But, as will be seen in Table 1, another less familiar term, namely, राखु is, has been used, such as, राखु-निगरण. The dictionary shows this to be an equivalent term but unfortunately this is less used and less familiar to many. There are innumerable cases of this nature. It appears, at times, it is difficult to choose the best available word and use it consistently. For example two different Hindi words have been used for 'notation'. They are शीतल and अक्षन. The first one has been used for class number also.

All these difficulties in terminology ultimately puts considerable stress on the index also, apart from other difficulties. For example, in the index there is a see reference from ग mercury ग mercury to ग mercury. The compiler is aware of the use of the former term, but he has evidently forgotten of the use of ग mercury, as there is no mention if it in the index. Perhaps, the classifiers would have been helped considerably if an English index could be provided.

The important consideration is that we have now a Hindi edition of DDC. Many Indian libraries will welcome it. The Indian library community will surely like to congratulate Dr Gour for his excellent work. The present editor of DDC, Mr Benjamin Custer, has expressed his view that the publication of the Hindi edition will encourage others to translate DDC into other Indian languages. Let us hope this will be possible.

The first hundred years of DDC in India has been fruitful. Let us hope the next hundred years, with the availability of a Hindi edition, will be much more fruitful.