Editor

Prof. Amitabha Chatterjee

Associate Editor:
Dr. Gurudas Ghosh

Assistant Editor:
Dr. Partha Sarathi Das

Editorial Board

Prof. K P Majumder
Prof. P K Panigrahi
Dr. Nitai Raychaudhury

Quote of the Month

"The idea of a library full of books, the books full of knowledge, fills me with fear and love and courage and endless wonder"

— *Elizabeth McCracken, American Fiction Writer*

Appeal to Readers

News from different regions / states are solicited from IASLIC members for inclusion in the newsletter. Send such news to the Editor.

Email: *chatterjeeamitabha@yahoo.co.in*

APPEAL FOR DONATION

At the outset, myself on my personal behalf and on behalf of IASLIC, convey my sincere gratitude to the esteemed members of IASLIC for their continuous support and patronage. We are also thankful to those members who made valued contribution in response to our appeal for donation made in 2012. The esteemed members of IASLIC are aware of the escalating prices and hardship in carrying out regular functions of IASLIC in the present pandemic situation. Under these circumstances, IASLIC again makes an ardent appeal to all of its honoured life members to please come forward to help IASLIC by donating liberally, at least Rs.1000, by DD / multicity cheque duly drawn in favour of IASLIC payable at Kolkata. The payment can also be made through electronic transfer. The Bank details are furnished below:

Bank Name: Punjab National Bank
Branch: New Manicktala
Account Name: IASLIC
Account No.: 0082010076724
IFSC Code: PUNB0008220

The donors' names will be published in the *IASLIC Newsletter* as well as in the Annual Report of the subsequent year.

General Secretary
IASLIC

IASLIC 29th National Seminar

IASLIC 29th National Seminar, which could not be held during last two years due to pandemic, will now be held at North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, in offline mode during November 2 - 4, 2022. The theme of the seminar is 'Library and Information Centres in Digital Age: Present Scenario and Future Strategies'. Further details will be available on IASLIC website shortly.

IASLIC ACTIVITIES

New Members
Institutional Members

1. Basanti Devi College, Kolkata, West Bengal
2. Bankura Sammilani College, Bankura, West Bengal
3. Netaji Nagar College, Kolkata, West Bengal
4. Pailan College of Management and Technology, Pailan, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal.

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/ WORKSHOPS

National

Professional Development Programme in LIS

A State Level Library Professional Development Programme (LPDP) on 'Transforming Library Professionals with 21st Century Skills' is being organized by the library of Dwaraka Doss Goverdhan Doss Vaishnav College (Autonomous), Chennai, in collaboration with SALIS, on August 4, 2022. For details visit: *https://storage.ning.com/topology/rest/1.0/file/get/10661593858?profile=original*

Conference on Recent Trends in Libraries

An offline National Conference on 'Recent Trends and Challenges in Libraries' is being organized by Library and Reading and Writing Club of Tagore Government Arts & Science College, Lawspet, Puducherry, on August 11, 2022. For details email to: *nationalseminartac@gmail.com* .

Webinar on Post-COVID Library Services

The Department of Library and Information Science, Vidyasagar University, Medinipur, West Bengal, is organizing a webinar on 'Sources and Services of Libraries in Post-COVID Era,' as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav Celebration, on August 12, 2022. The theme of the webinar is 'Sources and Services of Libraries in Post-Covid Era'. For details visit: *www.vidyasagar.ac.in* or email to: *soumen.mallik@gmail.com*

Conference on Scholarly Communication

Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kashmir, is organizing a National Conference on 'Changing Dimensions of Scholarly Communication and Role of Libraries to Attain Inclusive Knowledge Society' during September 6 - 7, 2022. For details visit: *http://lis.uok.edu.in/Files/9ebfb2f2-5003-47a4-9dfe-d3cdcc6a2020/Event/PDF855f77dc-eb68-4674-9e7a-cbadad3d45a2.pdf*

Conference on Challenges in Librarianship

The University Library, Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University, Melakottaiyur, Chennai, in association with Madras Library Association, is organizing a National Conference on 'Current Trends and Challenges in 21st Century Librarianship (CTCLIS21)' during September 30 - October 1, 2022. For details visit: *https://sites.google.com/view/ctclis21/*

DLA-SRFLIS Summit 2022

DLA-SRFLIS SUMMIT 2022: An International Conference on 'Infrastructure, Information & Innovation (I^3): Building New Bharat' will be held at University of Delhi, Delhi, during November 10 - 12, 2022. For details visit: *https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u3ePtxGt_aCRupYBLR4-TI0uqBZFbpda/view*

International

Asia-Pacific DL Conference

The 24th International Conference on Asia-Pacific Digital Libraries (ICADL 2022) will be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, during November 30 - December 2, 2022**.** The theme of the conference is *'*Augmenting Intelligence in Digital Libraries'. For details visit**:** *https://icadl.net/icadl2022/*

Conference on Asian Libraries

An International Conference on 'Libraries of the Asian Countries: The Road Ahead' will be held during November 25 - 27, 2022 at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand. For details visit: *https://10times.com/e15z-ffx7-p3p6*

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Teacher's Library on Bullock Cart

A teacher in Madhya Pradesh has found a unique way to reach out to the students and ensure that their education does not suffer as schools remain closed due to the third wave of the pandemic, says an *ETV Bharat* story. Kamala Davande, the head teacher of a school in a village in the remote tribal area of Bhainsdehi in Betul district, has set up a mobile library on a bullock cart thus personifying the adage 'where there is a will, there is a way'. The teacher goes door to door, calling out children and distributing books among the poor students, who have no means of accessing online classes and are still dependent on traditional means of mohalla or radio lectures. Her aide in this novel initiative is a young student who calls out the students by beating a plate as the bullock library ambles through the village. Parents, villagers and officials of the education department have praised the teacher for her out-of-the-box idea. Kamala Davande told *ETV Bharat* that there were 87 children and three teachers in the school in the village where she was teaching. One of the teachers, she said, had been made superintendent while the other one was on leave due to Covid-19. As such, she was the only teacher left and it was necessary to distribute books to all the children. "So, I kept all the books on a bullock cart, put up a banner of Mohalla class, and started distributing them to the children by going door to door. Apart from the bullock cart library, mohalla classes are also held in different houses in the village," she said. For original story visit: *https://www.etvbharat.com/english/national/state/madhya-pradesh/bullock-cart-library-in-betul/na20220128122109243*

Uttarakhand Assembly to have e-Library

The speaker of Uttarakhand Assembly Ritu Khanduri has directed the officials to set up an e - library in the Vidhan Sabha building. She gave this direction while undertaking an inspection of the Vidhan Sabha premises recently, says a report available on *pioneeredge.in* website. In the research section of the assembly and library she showed a keen interest and said that the library should be fully equipped and up to date because the

MLAs and the staff members of Vidhan Sabha sought and gathered information from it on various subjects. Khanduri directed the secretary of Vidhan Sabha, Mukesh Singhal, to prepare a proposal for setting up the e-library. She said that she herself was an avid reader so it was her priority to ensure that the library of the Vidhan Sabha was equipped and properly arranged. The speaker also directed the officers to keep the premises clean. In her visit she inspected the sections and other areas. She also sought suggestions from the officers and employees. For original report visit: *https://www. pioneeredge.in/speaker-plans-e-library-in-ukhand-assembly/*

Good Response to KDPL

Integrating a first-of-its kind user-friendly technology, digital library of Department of Libraries of Karnataka boasts of a whopping 2,50,11,312 registered members and 21,80,638 e-content as on June 16 last, says a story by Harsha in *The Deccan Herald*. The department's decision to go digital materialized with the opening of first digital library in February 2020. Within a period of two years, as many as 372 public libraries were transformed into digital libraries in a phased manner under Karnataka Digital Public Libraries (KDPL) initiative, informed Department of Libraries Director Satish Kumar S Hosamani. The digital library, which had about 92 lakh members and 20 lakh e-books in 20*21*, has been expanding by leaps and bounds. Hosamani attributes the exponential growth of digital library to the decision on including education books that are useful for students and also for those preparing for competitive exams. Thousands of digitized education books, text books from classes 1 to 12 (of both state syllabus and NCERT), international journals, question banks*, among others*, had been made available in the form of e-books to help its registered 1,18,549 students prepare for competitive examinations like National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test, Common Entrance Test, KAS and UPSC examinations. The digital initiative also includes lessons in Kannada, English, Hindi, Urdu and Marathi. The digital library, available as both web-based and app-based, helps registered users to access links of dailies, You Tube links, archives of All India Radio, Bengaluru station, among others. Hosamani, elaborating on e-content usage, said that 16,00,093 users had accessed e-books in June, while users had accessed 5,80,545 videos. The digital library has a collection of 10,30,594 educational videos, he added. Bengaluru Urban tops the list among 30 districts with 86,52,796 registered users, while Dakshina Kannada district is a distant second with 21,38,775 registered users. Karnataka has a vast network of public libraries (6,890), all of which will now go digital. For original story visit:*https://www.deccanherald.com/state/top-karnataka-stories/online-avatar-of-library-scripts-a-new-chapter-in-karnataka-1119608.html*

PL Revival in Karnataka Appreciated

The Modi administration has asked states to adopt Karnataka's approach in reviving public libraries using technology, says a story by Bharath Joshi in *The Deccan Herald*. Ministry of Panchayati Raj joint secretary Alok Prem Nagar, in his letter to the heads of the panchayat raj department of all states, stated that Karnataka's initiatives "are worth replication". The ministry has even prepared a concept note capturing what Karnataka has done to revive rural public libraries. Nagar asked states to "assess the efforts made by Karnataka" to revive public libraries "by bringing technological interventions". According to the union ministry, Karnataka has adopted a two-pronged approach to revitalize rural public libraries. "First, revitalization of rural libraries, energizing Gram Panchayat Libraries and Information Centres (GPLIC), and transforming them into places of multi-disciplinary and multi-generational learning; second, the Department of Public Libraries has developed Karnataka Public Digital Library portal to provide access to information," Nagar has explained. "Karnataka has 5,623 GPLICs that have more than 16 lakh, or 1.6 million, children enrolled for free as members in just a little over a year," Additional Chief Secretary (Panchayat Raj) Uma Mahadevan said, adding that over 1.1 million books were collected through donations. "It has been a very satisfying and meaningful project," she said. For original story visit: *https://www.deccanherald.com/state/public-libraries-centre-asks-states-to-learn-from-karnataka-1126087.html*

Bengali e-Book Library

Two technocrats and a digital media expert have teamed up to bring out an online Bengali e-book library, touted to be the world's first such initiative in the "truest sense of the term", says a PTI story in *The Telegraph*. "Borrowed e-books in epub files, and not in PDF ones that are available aplenty on the Internet, can be read on the library's application on mobile phones or tablets," the project's founders told PTI. The 'Ketab-e.net' library's application will initially offer a mixed bag of around 50 titles - classics, children's literature, unorthodox books - and all of that will be copyrighted materials. Old issues of some major little magazines that are not available now can also be found in this library, which was to be officially launched on July 17, according to Pinaki Mitra, one of the three directors of the company that is bringing the facility to bibliophiles. "The general perception is that e-books mean PDF. There are sites where many Bengali books in PDF files are available. They claim to be e-book libraries. Only one site came to our notice that offers some books in another format (not epub). But the problem is that many of these sites violate the copyright law," Mitra said. So, in the real sense of the term, it was the world's first Bengali e-book library, he claimed. Initially, a subscriber can read five books at a time and membership will be based on a token monthly subscription rate. "Our main target audience now is Bengalis living outside West Bengal and India. Those who stay abroad find it difficult to get books. Bringing physical books from Kolkata takes a good amount of time and money," said Debajyoti Bhattacharya, another director of Bestread Publications and Digital Services Private Limited. Such a mechanism was probably the only way to pass on the habit of

reading Bengali books to the next generation, he said. "The idea came to my mind when I faced difficulties in getting a Bengali primer for my daughter. We have been living in Sweden for the past few years. I found that many people like me have gone through the same ordeal. For the Internet giants in this field, Bengali is not a priority language," said Mitra. The local municipality-run library in Sweden, of which Mitra is a member, has digitized a portion of their collection and they are available in epub format which provides a better reading experience than PDF. "Neither Bengali classics nor books by modern-day authors are available in a format that can give you a nice reading experience. So, we started discussing among ourselves and finally took the plunge when people showed interest in the proposal of a Bengali e-book library," he said. They started working on the project around August last year and found that besides forming a viable business model, the technology part from reproducing old books in a digital form to securing the books from unscrupulous elements is the key. "Borrowed books will remain online and those will never be on the device of the reader. Readers won't be able to take screenshots of pages. Professional-level tests to check hacking of the application have been done and those will be carried out periodically," said Bhattacharya, who is currently based in the UK. The library's android application was scheduled to be formally launched at an event in Kolkata on July 17, though it may take a week or more for people to get access to the library on android platform. Soon, it will be available on iOS too. "Even after the launch, we will be working continuously to better readers' experience and add new features. However, currently our focus is on uploading more books," Mitra said. Dr. Nandini Ghosh, a banker and a bibliophile who loves to read Bengali books, welcomed the initiative and said that though she had no problem in reading PDF files, epub definitely would give a better experience. "Their success will depend on the basket of books they are going to offer. The technical aspects have to be very strong from the payment gateway level for the borrowers to copyright issues for the publishers or authors," said Ghosh whose job has kept her out of West Bengal for the past 25 years or so. There can be an online mechanism where readers can interact with each other about the books they are reading. And it will be great if readers can virtually meet authors, maybe once a month or so. These are the suggestions put forth by Ghosh for the *Ketab-e.net* authorities. *Ketab-e.net* is also a platform to sell ebooks as well as publish. "We have the technology to make ebooks from hard or soft copies. These are other ways to generate revenues. We are interacting with other publishers in this regard," Mitra said. For original story visit: *https://www.telegraphindia.com/my-kolkata/news/get-ready-to-browse-through-worlds-first-bengali-e-book-library/cid/1874617*

Rotarians help build Children's Library

In a novel gesture, members of the Rotary Club in Amritsar donated children's books to the Bebe Nanki Mother and Child Care Centre at Government Medical College for setting up a library for the kids undergoing treatment, says a *The Tribune* report. Members of the club said that the purpose was to engage children in reading activities while they were admitted at the hospital for treatment of various ailments. Dr. Manmeet Sodhi, Head of the Paediatrics Department, said it was very thoughtful on the part of the club members to gift books for the children's library. She said that the department would provide all necessary help to the club in its future projects. She also suggested that a children's park should be set up outside the OPD. The club members said that the project would be initiated soon. Club members Dr. Jaspreet Grover, President Dr. Shallu Aggarwal and Secretary Dr. Mavleen Kaur also gifted story books, crayons, stationary, colourful masks and fruits to sick children at the centre. Dr. Shallu said instead of giving mobile phones to bed-ridden children, they should be provided with books, drawing sheets and colours. "While they cannot indulge in outdoor activities due to an ailment, they should be engaged in such activities so that they can explore their creativity. We want these kids to learn and gain while they are healing," said Dr. Shallu. She said that they had procured books of all available genres for children and the choice had been made after many deliberations. For full report visit: *https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/amritsar/amritsar-childrens-library-at-gmc-soon-414326*

A Panchayat in Kerala having 15 Libraries

When it comes to reading, the people of Thiruvaniyoor in Ernakulam district are spoilt for choice. The quaint panchayat has 15 libraries. And these are not run-of-the-mill institutions. All of them are affiliated to the State Library Council, says a story by Anu Kuruvilla in *The New Indian Express*. Thiruvaniyoor panchayat vice-president and district library council member Sheeja Viswanath says that nine of them received state recognition in just one year. "We are also on the path to modernizing these libraries," she says. As of now, Mayyil village in Kannur, which has around 40 libraries, is known to have the highest number of libraries in the state. "Thiruvaniyoor comes in second," Sheeja points out. On the reason that led to the setting up of these 15 libraries, she says: "It all began when plans were afoot to set up a Lower Primary School in the panchayat. Even before the school was set up, nine libraries came into being." The man behind the move was K R Prabhakaran, who was a member of the Granthashala Nethrusangam, she says. "Prabhakaran Mash, as we call him, retired as the head of the Sanskrit Department of Changanassery NSS Hindu College." Prabhakaran says that they did not have an LP school in ward four of the panchayat. "So I decided to take up the issue and work towards getting an LP school sanctioned." However, after the plan failed to materialize, Prabhakaran

thought of setting up a library on the land that he had earmarked for the LP school. "This resulted in the setting up of a library called Bodhi Gramin Library. That was in 2017. Now, the library has around 6,000 books. It was a revolution and saw a large number of residents living in the area coming back to reading," he says. That was the start. "The success and the warmth with which the people of Thiruvaniyoor received the library propelled me to do the same in the other wards of the panchayat," Prabhakaran says. The members of the library council in the panchayat began identifying areas that were in need of libraries and started the groundwork required to set them up in these places. He says all these libraries were not established just for the sake of setting them up. "All of them are being maintained and handled efficiently. There are around 3,000 to 4,000 books in all the libraries. The library with the maximum number of books, around 10,000, is Changampuzha Smaraka Library. Each library is also equipped with projectors," he says. Eight of these were affiliated to the State Library Council in 2021, adds Sheeja, the panchayat vice-president. For original story visit: *https://www.newindianexpress.com/good-news/2022/jul/03/this-panchayat-in-kerala-has-fifteen-libraries-2472283.html*

Bangalore Varsity Building Green Library

The Bangalore University (BU) has come up with the concept of a 'green library' in the wake of the challenges posed by the pandemic, says a story by Niranjan Kaggere in *The Deccan Herald*. The idea is aimed at adapting to the new normal and attracting more readers to the library. The university plans to blend its existing library with the adjoining green cover comprising dense vegetation, which is spread over 10 acres. The project, estimated to cost about ₹ 1.5 crore, has begun to take shape in phases at Jnanabharati, the BU campus. During the pandemic, a dense forest was created using the Miyawaki method and close to 10,000 native tree species have been planted all around the library along with aromatic flower-bearing trees. "Libraries are central to students' performance at universities. But due to the pandemic challenges, we had to bring in changes to make the library more accessible, while ensuring the safety of students. So, we decided to open it up and blend it with the surrounding nature. While work on a part of the project is underway, the other plans will soon be approved," Prof. Venugopal K R, Vice-Chancellor of BU, told *DH*. As part of the project, BU will create four pergolas and a couple of machans amid the age-old banyan trees on the 10 acres around the existing library, for students to sit in natural surroundings and read books. "Students need not sit within a cubicle or closed environment. They can take a book from the stack and sit anywhere in the garden, which is linked to our digital repository of more than 62,000 e-books. A miniature open cottage-like structure will be built which will serve as a lounge for teachers, women and students for brief discussions

and consultations on academic issues," said Dr. B R Radhakrishna, the university librarian. With libraries taking the digital avatar, offering enough resources to shape the career of students, BU plans to convert the old canteen building within the 10-acre park into a language lab and Career Information Resource Centre (CIRC). "Bengaluru South has been the hub of competitive exams coaching. Our CIRC will have all resources and guidance for the exams under one roof," Venugopal said. An open-air amphitheater with a seating capacity of 200-300 will come up, to facilitate academic seminars and presentations. "The section housing periodicals, magazines and newspapers, that see the highest footfalls, will also be moved into nature's lap. Students have already started referring to books in the open, sitting under trees," said an officer at the BU library. For original story visit*: https://www.deccanherald.com/city/top-bengaluru-stories/change-is-in-the-air-as-bu-plans-green-library-1083559.html*

Restoration of Heritage Library Building

The over 160-year old building of the government public library, located at Chandreshekar Park in Prayagraj city is all set to be restored as per its old golden legacy, says a *The Times of India* story. The building, which is a marvel of the British architecture and has suffered major damage, would now be restored under the Smart City Project with the funds worth ₹5 crore under the supervision of The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), New Delhi. The restoration work would begin very soon for which a Gwalior based agency has been shortlisted after following the due process. The restoration work is the result of years of efforts, put in by the librarian, Gopal Mohan Shukla with active support of the chairman of the Smart City Project, the divisional commissioner Sanjay Goyal and conservation architect Divya Kumar of INTACH. "I have been raising the issue of conserving and restoring this architectural marvel at several forums but thanks to the interest shown by the present divisional commissioner, Sanjay Goyal that the funds were allocated for the restoration work of the building as this is heritage of the city and the funds were sanctioned from Smart City project", said librarian, Gopal Mohan Shukla . Among the list of work that the agency would be undertaking for the restoration of the building includes dismantling and demolition of the damaged structures, which would be replaced by exactly the same structure, using the same bonding material and keeping the original material intact. "The site and surface would be cleaned and masonry work would be undertaken. Besides the woodwork, flooring structural and roofing work will also be undertaken", said Shukla. The entire building would be restored in such a way that it will be 100 percent waterproof to check any further water seepage, he added. For full story visit: *https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/allahabad/160-year-old-library-to-be-restored/articleshow/91927928.cms*

Garden Libraries in Mumbai

With a view to countering zoom fatigue and encouraging spending of more time outdoors, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation has started free reading libraries in gardens across the city, says *The Times of India* story. Eight gardens which feature covered gazebos - from Colaba to Kandivli - already have these libraries, to which local residents have donated books. The plan is to eventually have at least one library garden per ward. The books will be kept in closed cupboards which will be managed by the BMC staff. "The horticulturist in-charge will inspect the books to ensure that they are of general public interest," says Jitendra Pardeshi, BMC Superintendent of Gardens. The books will be stamped and placed in cupboards which will be locked when the garden is not in use. They will not be available for borrowing. Project Mumbai, a non-profit organization, recently took on the garden library project for 20 such gardens in Bandra, Andheri, Jogeshwari and Powai. "We are collecting books across languages and are also inviting people to donate cupboards in which the books can be stored, especially the old steel ones from offices which are going paperless," says Shishir Joshi, CEO of Project Mumbai. "All our initiatives attempt to get citizens involved in doing something for their city. This is one of the many ways." Citizens can volunteer to be part of the reading drive, and also help monitor and curate the books. "One doctor and two retired librarians have already offered their services," says Joshi. The BMC has some 1,100 gardens, ranging from the largest at Bhakti Park in Wadala to tiny green spots in each ward. Some of the library gardens will feature benches made from recycled plastic made by Project Mumbai from its monthly Plastic Recyclothon drive which collects vast amounts of plastic waste from citizens across the city. For original story visit: *https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/breathe-free-browse-through-a-book-at-garden-libraries-popping-up-in-mumbai/articleshow/92776760.cms*

Doon Library to be made Human Library

The Mahatma Khushi Ram Public Library in Doon, which turned 101 years old last year, will be converted into the state's first human library, according to the library's trustees, says a *Times Bureau* report. The library has a collection of over 45,000 books on various topics, including rare original Sanskrit versions of Puranas, Upanishads, and Vedas. Under the human library model, a team of information professionals will be established who will volunteer their time to communicate with members. A human library allows a person to hear stories directly from a person rather than interpreting them from printed texts. According to Vijay Bansal, president of the board of trustees, the board of trustees considered the possibility of a human library in which real human beings are on loan to readers in the current situation. The library is compiling a group of experts from among the town's literati, which includes retired, industrial technocrats, bureaucrats, politicians, designers, economists, and subject matter specialists, who will volunteer to be empanelled and spend their free time communicating with library staff, according to him. In 2000, the first human library was built in Copenhagen (Denmark), and today it has been expanded to more than 85 countries. The library officials said that special arrangements were being made to quickly have in place a state-of-the-art studio next to the recently opened Authors Lounge with drive-in parking facilities in the already tile-paved driveway built with the support of Dehradun Municipal Corporation. For original report visit: *https://thetimesbureau.com/doons-century-old-library-will-become-the-states-first-human-library-202206/*

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Google New ChromeOS 13

Mountain View, California-based giant Google has launched its latest version of the ChromeOS operating system for Chromebooks, ChromeOS 103. ChromeOS 103 brings several new features like the ability to see your camera roll in Phone Hub and Nearby Share to share Wi-Fi passwords between devices, and more, says a *News18* story. Google's Phone Hub already lets ChromeOS users see their notifications from their Android phones on their Chromebooks, see recent Chrome tabs, see battery life/ cellular signal from their Chromebook, among other things. With Chrome OS 13, Google has also added Android phone's camera roll to the Phone Hub on ChromeOS. The update shows a new row of four "Recent Photos," including screenshots on the Phone Hub app. Tapping on these photos will immediately download the image to your Downloads folder for further editing and upload. Google has said that this feature will also work offline. To see the latest feature, users need to have their smartphone connected to the Chromebook. You can do so by going into Settings > Connected Devices > (you phone). Apart from photos in your Phone Hub, ChromeOS 103 also brings the ability to share Wi-Fi passwords from Android to Chromebooks. To do this, users need to open the network details page, tap Share, and then tap Nearby to see ChromeOS devices. After accepting, the Chromebook will automatically sign in to the Wi-Fi. Google has said that sharing is now "10 times faster," while the on boarding process has been streamlined. Another feature that has not yet been widely rolled out is the redesigned launcher, which can find and navigate open tabs. Furthermore, there is a new Screencast app on ChromeOS, which is aimed at teachers for making video lessons more smooth. The app allows teachers to draw and highlight their screen while recording from the front facing camera. There is also a transcription feature on the Screencast app. Another feature that Google had announced, but won't roll out till summer is Fast Pair, which the company had announced during the CES 2022 show earlier this year. For original story visit: *https://www.news18.com/news/tech/google-launches-chromeos-13-for-chromebooks-here-are-some-of-the-top-new-features-5430175.html*

Windows 12 Release in 2024

Microsoft might be looking into changing its release schedule for major Windows updates and a newly surfaced report now suggests that it will start following a three-year release cycle for the updates. Hence, we may now have details on when Windows 12 could arrive, says a story by Vanshika Malhotra available on *beebom.com* website. A report by *Windows Central* points to some sources, which suggest that Microsoft could release Windows 12 in 2024, which will be after three years since the release of Windows 11 in 2021. This will happen while keeping the current Windows 11 up-to-date with new features. It appears like a shift in its strategy as Microsoft had earlier moved away from a three-year cycle it used to follow before until 2015 when Windows 10 was released. Following that, it gave a gap of around six years before it finally came up with Windows 11. This comes after Microsoft announced a one-year release cycle for a major update for both Windows 10 and 11, much like how Apple and Google do every year. It is said that after the major Windows 11 22H2 update is released (expected later this year), Microsoft will get started with the "Moments" engineering effort, which will ensure that new features are added to Windows 11 (and future iterations too) at "*key points*" in a year, leading up to four significant updates per year. This cycle is expected to start next year. In addition, the 22H3 update aka Sun Valley 3 for Windows 11 could be dropped too. It is expected to be introduced in 2023 and instead of a proper update release, we might see features planned for this update to release as part of the "Moments" (name still not official) initiative. One thing to note over here is that this is official information and we need Microsoft to confirm on its plans for its release cycles. For full story visit: *https://beebom.com/windows-12-timeline-leaked/*

WhatsApp may let Posting of Voice Notes

Popular messaging platform WhatsApp is working on a new feature that may allow users to post voice notes on their status update, says a report available on *india.com* website. According to WABetaInfo, the feature is currently under development so it is not ready to be released to beta users. "WhatsApp is planning to extend the functionality of status updates by adding the support for voice notes," as per the report. A voice note shared as a status update may be called "voice status". The feature will only be shared with the people one chooses within one's status privacy settings, and the voice note will be end-to-end encrypted as other images and videos shared to one's status. Recently, the platform has announced that it is rolling out a new feature that will let users react to messages with any emoji of their choice. Currently, the platform gives several users the ability to react with a limited number of just six emojis. CEO Mark Zuckerberg mentioned that some more emojis like a robot, french fries, surfing in the sea, etc. would be added to the feature soon. Meanwhile, a recent report says that WhatsApp is also likely working on a feature that will give iOS users the ability to hide their online status from everyone. Currently, users can choose to display their "Last Seen" information to contacts, some people, or no one. For a future version of the app, WhatsApp will let users follow a similar approach to the online toggle. For original report visit: *https://www.india.com/technology/whatsapp-latest-feature-messaging-platform-may-soon-let-you-post-voice-notes-on-status-updates-5515482/*

Instagram launches Maps

Instagram is rolling out a new Maps experience that will allow people to discover popularly tagged locations around them, says a story in *The Indian Express*. Users can use the feature to filter locations by specific categories such as restaurants, cafes, and beauty salons. This feature was launched in Japan a year ago and is being rolled out globally. The searchable Maps feature is aimed at helping users discover popular locations nearby through tagged posts, Stories, and guides shared by other users. Users can find relevant locations on the map when searching with certain hashtags. Instagram Maps is also aimed at helping businesses get discovered. A Meta-commissioned online survey found that 96 per cent of respondents said that they discovered brands and products online. Here is how one can make use of Instagram Maps. One can discover new places by tapping location tags in the Feed or Stories content. One can also search for the name of a city or neighbourhood in Explore. Hashtag search is also available for local hashtags. For example, one can search for "#newdelhi". The previous stories one has posted with a location sticker can be viewed through the map in one's Stories archive. Instagram maps can be used to browse through recent stories, top posts, and relevant guides to tagged locations. Further, one can also filter by location categories to narrow one's search. One can use Instagram Maps to save locations to a collection so that one can plan to visit them sometime in the future. Locations can also be shared with friends and groups via direct messages. All one needs to do is use location tags or stickers in one's content and it will appear on the map if one's profile is public. For original story visit: *https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/social/instagram-maps-launched-to-help-users-find-popular-locations-and-businesses-8041698/*

Snapchat introduces Video Calling

Snapchat recently announced that it would bring features like chatting and video calling to desktop through a new web app for the first time, says an IANS report available on *india.com* website. Snapchat for Web is a new way for "our community to stay connected through our camera when they're at their computers," the company said in a statement. To begin with, the web platform will be available exclusively for Snapchat Plus subscribers in the US, the UK and Canada, and Snapchatters across Australia, and New Zealand. "We can't wait to bring it to our entire global community soon," said the platform that has nearly 332 million users. Snapchat for Web will only be compatible with Google's Chrome browser and not Apple's Safari at the launch. "With more than 100 million Snapchatters using our voice and video calling each month on average, we're excited to offer a new way for our community to keep

conversations going on on their computers," said Snap, the parent company of Snapchat. Snapchat for Web includes top messaging features like Chat Reactions and Chat Reply, along with Lenses which will roll out soon. For full report visit: *https://www.india.com/technology/snapchat-chat-video-calling-available-for-first-time-on-web-5521103/*

NEW LIS LITERATURE

[Note: Publishers of books enlisted here and/or any new book in LIS may send copies of such books to the Editor, *IASLIC Bulletin*, for review]

Indian

1. DHAMDHERE (Sangeeta) and LIHITKAR (Ramdas). Web Based Services: A Transforming Revolution in Modern Libraries. 2021. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹ 1000. ISBN: 9789387698321

   (The book not only focuses on web-based library services, but also most important area in the success of quality enhancement i.e. web-based best practices)

2. NAINK (Bhavanishankar). Advanced Technologies in Library and Information Science. 2022. Current Publication, Agra. ₹ 750.

Foreign

1. BUCKLEY (Kimberli S). Teaching Life Skills at the Library. 2022. ALA Editions, Chicago. $49.99. ISBN: 9780838948903.

   (This book guides libraries towards providing programmes and activities that help their users expand these life skills and accomplish their goals)

2. FLEMING-MAY (Rachel A) and MAY (Regina). Fundamentals of Planning and Assessment for Libraries. 2021. ALA Neal-Schuman, Chicago. $64.99. ISBN: 9780838949986

   (The book helps in understanding the basic principles of planning and assessment)

OBITUARY

Fr. Jose Viruppel, former Librarian of St. Berchmans College Changanassery, Kerala, breathed his last on July 19, 2022. Born on August 31, 1958, Fr. Jose Viruppel obtained Master's Degree in English literature from Agra University, BLISc degree from Aligarh Muslim University and MLISc, MPhil degrees from Delhi University. Fr. Jose Viruppel began his career as Librarian at St. Berchmans College (S B College), Changanassery in 1992 and served till his retirement in 2015. In 2002, Department of Library and Information Science was established in S B College and he became its founder Director. Fr. Jose Viruppel was the President of Kerala Library Association, Kottayam region, from 2009 to 2015. He was also the President of All Kerala Qualified Librarians Association and President of the Indian Library Association, Kerala region. Before joining S B College, he studied theology at St. Charles Seminary, Nagpur, and was placed in charge of the different ministries in the Diocese of Changanassery. He was the Chairman of Lourdes Matha Cancer Care Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, and Mother Teresa Old Age Home, Nedumangadu. He devoted his life in serving the poor and destitute. S B College is an institutional member of IASLIC. IASLIC deeply mourns his death.

BOOK POST

If undelivered please return to :

Indian Association of Special Libraries
& Information Centres (IASLIC)
P-291, CIT Scheme No. 6M,
Kankurgachi, Kolkata 700 054

Phone: (033) 2362 9651
Email: iaslic.india@gmail.com
Website: http://www.iaslic1955.org.in