



IASLIC NEWSLETTER

Indian Association for Special
Libraries and Information Centres



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Quote of the Month

*“ I fell in love with reading when I was allowed to choose whatever books I wanted to check out of the library
Adriana Trigiani, American Writer ”*

- Adriana Trigiani,
American 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.

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IASLIC ACTIVITIES

IASLIC 32nd All India Conference, 2019

December 3 - 5, 2019

Organized by

Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi

Main Theme - Future of Library and Information Profession in India.

SIG 1 - Digital Archiving (Computer).

SIG 2 - Performance Appraisal of Libraries / Information Centers.

(Facets will be published later)

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IASLIC 28th National Seminar: Brief Report

The 28th National Seminar of IASLIC was held at Visva-Bharati during November 27 - 29, 2018. The seminar was inaugurated on November 27 in the presence of luminaries from the domain of LIS and other subject fields. The inaugural session began with a very unique event where a group of Divyang students from the famous Sangeet Bhavan of the university sang the opening song. This was followed by lighting of ceremonial lamp by Smt. Kalpana Dasgupta, former Librarian of National Library, Kolkata, and former Director, Central Secretariat Library, New Delhi, along with other dignitaries on the dais. Delivering the welcome address, Prof. Nirmalya Banerjee, Professor-in-Charge, Central Library, Visva- Bharati, elaborated the role of Visva-Bharati in education and also explained the objectives and activities of Visva-Bharati Library Network. Thereafter, the Souvenir and the Abstracts Volume of the seminar were released. Smt. Kalpana Dasgupta, in her inaugural address, raised some befitting issues like needs of internship of LIS students, integration of academic libraries and public libraries for greater good and an integrated information system in the country. Prof. B K Sen, former Visiting Professor, University of Malay, Malaysia, in his speech, as Guest-of-Honour, pointed out the need of redefining library services in view of the ongoing changes because of the ICT revolution. He also stressed on developing of multilingual information retrieval system in a country like India. He also released a book written by Dr. Partha Pratim Roy, Dy. Librarian, Visva-Bharati. The Chief Guest, Prof. Sudhendu Mandal, former Director, National Library, Kolkata, in his address narrated the history and genesis of library development in the country and mentioned the philosophy and contributions of Rabindranath Tagore in developing libraries in India. The conference director, Prof. Amitabha Chatterjee, gave a brief account of the development of LIS education in India. Sri Sajal Kanti Goswami, General Secretary, IASLIC briefly explained the objectives and activities of IASLIC. Dr. J N Satpathy, in his presidential address, dwelt on the future goals of IASLIC. The inaugural session ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Partha Pratim Roy, Jt. Organizing Secretary of the national seminar.

The inaugural session was followed by keynote address by Prof. Sabahat Husain, President, Indian Library Association. Prof. Husain traced the development of LIS education in India right from the inception. He touched upon all facets of teaching-learning-evaluation in LIS and expressed his views on the future trends of LIS education in the light of CBCS based LIS curricula. The IASLIC GB meeting took place immediately after the keynote address. In the poster session which started after the lunch, out of 17 papers selected, only three papers were presented by the contributors, which depicted trends in LIS education; use of open access resources in LIS education; and application of web 2.0 tools in LIS education respectively.

Technical sessions I and II, held parallelly in the afternoon, were devoted to SIG meetings. The theme of the meeting of SIG1: Social Science Information was 'Tagore's Vision on Libraries and its Relevance in New era and that of SIG2: Computer Applications in LIS was 'Data Management in Libraries'. In the SIG1 meeting, chaired by Dr. Subodh Gopla Nandi, Retd. Librarian, Visva Bharati, and co-chaired by Dr. Tridib Tripathi, Retd. Associate Professor, DLIS, The University of Burdwan, nine papers were presented by the respective authors/co-authors which dealt with a variety of subjects like views of Rabindranath Tagore on Arts, Philosophy and thoughts of Tagore relating to library services, views of Tagore on rural reconstruction and the role of libraries, value based library services for transformation of the society, views of Tagore on the role of libraries in community education, educational philosophy of Tagore and Tagore's views on open education. Shri Sushanta Raha, Librarian, Suri Vidyasagar College, served as the rapporteur. In the meeting of SIG2: Computer Applications in Libraries, chaired by Dr. S Senapati, Principal Technical Officer, CSIR-CBRI, Roorkee, and co-chaired by Dr. P J Nirmala, Deputy Librarian, Karunya University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, two papers were presented out of three. The first paper dealt with linked open data principles and their possible applications in MARC record structure, while the second paper raised the issues related to the development of patents repository in India. Ms. Barnali Roy Choudhuri, Asstt. Professor, DLIS, Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata, served as the rapporteur. SIG meetings were followed by a unique session (possibly for the first time in the history of IASLIC seminars and conferences), chaired by Prof. Sabujkali Sen, Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Visva-Bharati, in which superannuated LIS teachers/professionals of West Bengal were felicitated. The organizing committee had invited 32 professionals, out of which only 18 superannuated LIS professionals were present on the occasion, who were felicitated.

The second day started with Technical sessions III and IV, held parallelly. In Technical session III, chaired by Prof.

Juran Krishna Sarkhel, Retd. Professor, DLIS, Kalyani University, Kalyani and co-chaired by Dr. Ziaur Rahman, Asstt. Professor, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, out of nine papers, eight were presented by the respective authors/co-authors. This session started with the paper by Prof. Amitabha Chatterjee, wherein he pointed out that around 500 LIS schools were now conducting over 850 LIS courses in the country churning out a huge number of trained personnel and explained the problems created by proliferation of LIS schools without building adequate infrastructure and abundance of manpower. Prof. Narendra Lahkar, Professor, DLIS, Gauhati University, in his paper mentioned the issues related to the employability of LIS students in the present day job market, while Prof. Sanjay Kumar Singh, HOD, DLIS, Gauhati University, in his paper highlighted the prerequisites for successful implementation of CBCS system. The other five papers covered the present status of LIS education in India, history of LIS education in eastern India, LIS education in Assam, LIS curricula of central universities and growth of LIS schools in India during 1912 - 2011. Ms. Moumita Ash, Librarian, Vidyasagar College for Women, Kolkata, served as the rapporteur of the session. In Technical session-IV, chaired by Dr. V K Thomas, Retd. Librarian, Visva-Bharati, and co-chaired by Prof. Amit Kumar Bandyopadhyay, former Professor, DLIS, The University of Burdwan, Burdwan, nine papers were presented covering the areas of measurement of LIS education, infrastructure requirements, LIS curriculum and teachers and teaching methods. Shri Mrinal Kanti Das, Librarian, Burdwan Raj College, Burdwan, served as the rapporteur of the session.

These sessions were followed by a panel discussion chaired by Prof. Subal Chandra Biswas, former Professor, DLIS, The University of Burdwan, Burdwan. The panel members included eminent LIS teachers like Prof. Shabahat Husain, former Professor, DLIS, AMU; Prof. Arjun Dasgupta former Professor, DLIS, Calcutta University, Prof. N Lahkar, Professor, DLIS, Gauhati University, Prof. Sanjay Singh, Professor & Head, DLIS, Gauhati University, and Prof. Juran Krishna Sarkhel, former Professor, DLIS, Kalyani University, Kalyani. Dr. Sibsankar Jana, DLIS, Kalyani University, served as co-chairman, while Dr. Bairam Khan, Librarian, Bolepur College, Bolpur, served as the rapporteur. In his introductory note, the chairperson explained the procedural pattern to be followed for the discussion. Prof. Shabahat Husain, in his presentation, emphasized the needs for uniform curricula, adequate ICT infrastructure, ideal student-teacher ratio, filling up of existing vacancies of faculty positions, and judicious application of CBCS system. Prof. Sanjay Kumar Singh pointed out the constraints that were contributing to low standard of education in some LIS schools. Prof. Lahkar opined that the present generation of students were much more progressive, informative and IT-

savvy compared to those of earlier generation and thereby the present LIS course curricula must include topics on emerging areas like e-learning, ontology, semantic search and multi-lingual information retrieval. Prof. Juran Krishna Sarkhel raised some important issues like teaching of uniform hard-core subjects in all LIS schools, need of an accrediting body for LIS education in India, training of the teachers of LIS schools and urgent need of redesigning Refresher Courses in LIS to suite the demands of the present age. The final speaker of the session, Prof. Arjun Dasgupta shared his views on the present LIS research on the basis of his vast experience as a faculty member and an academic administrator. He pointed out that same types of research, such as information seeking behaviour, bibliometrics and surveys, were being conducted repeatedly. He opined that the presence of 'analytical thinking' was often missing in present LIS research. He emphasized the needs of training of researchers in research methods and literature review and training of research supervisors on emerging areas of LIS. The chairperson then opened the session for discussion. Prof. Amit Kumar Bandyopadhyay, Dr. N C Ghatak, Dr. V K Thomas, Ms. Barnali Roychudhury, Prof. B K Sen, Smt. Kalpana Dasgupta and Prof. K P Majumdar took part in the discussion and added valuable comments.

The panel discussion was followed by two parallel technical sessions, namely Technical sessions V and VI. In Technical session V, chaired by Prof. Lahkar, and co-chaired by Dr. Saptarshi Ghosh, Asstt. Professpr, DLIS, North Bengal University, Raja Rammohunpur, seven papers out of nine were presented on issues related to e-learning in general, MOOCs and SWAYAM as online learning platforms, learning support tools and services. Shri Jitendra Kumar of NIT, Durgapur, served as the rapporteur of the session. In Technical session VI, chaired by Prof. Udayan Bhattacharya, Professor & Head, DLIS, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, and co-chaired by Ms. Snigdha Naskar, Asstt. Professor, DLIS, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, six papers were presented which were related to comparative LIS education and research, role of library associations in LIS education, LIS education in Bangladesh, LIS education in universities of West Bengal and analysis of the socio-economic background of students of LIS schools in West Bengal. Shri Keshab Chandra Sinha of Central Library, Visva-Bharati, served as the rapporteur. The annual general meeting of IASLIC took place after these technical sessions.

The final technical session i.e. Technical session VII was held in the morning of the last day i.e. November 29. All the 5 papers in this session chaired by Dr. P R Goswami, former Director, ICSSR, IGNC A and CSL and co-chaired by Dr. Susmita Chakraborty, DLIS, Calcutta University, covered topics like socio-technical challenges related to LIS education of the coming decade, use of wikipedia/wikitutor as learning tool for new age LIS education, enhancing text based information retrieval with geodetic search and use of

web 2.0 tools in imparting LIS education. Dr. Azizur Rahman, Librarian from Bangaldesh, served as the rapporteur.

The Valedictory Session was chaired Prof. Debabrata Dasgupta, Former Vice-Chancellor, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Visvavidyalaya (BCKV), Kalyani, Nadia, and formerly Professor, Visva-Bharati, while Prof. Durga Sankar Rath, Professor, DLIS, Vidyasagar University and Shri S B Banerjee, former Deputy Manager (Information), Hindusthan Paper Corporation Ltd., Kolkata, were the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour, respectively. The session started with handing over of financial assistance to five Visva-Bharati students. This was followed by presentation of the report of the seminar by Rapporteur General, Prof. Parthasarathi Mukhopadhyay, Professor & Head, DLIS, Kalyani University, Kalyani. The president and the secretary of IASLIC felicitated the organizing secretary, Prof. Nirmalya Banerjee, and three joint organizing secretaries, viz., Dr. Nimai Chand Saha, Dr. Partha Pratim Roy and Shri Kehsab Chandra Saha, with mementos. The dignitaries on the dais then delivered thought-provoking speeches. Thereafter the draft recommendations of the 28th national seminar were placed by the rapporteur general for approval. A considerable number of suggestions as proposed by the delegates and invited guests were noted down for incorporation in the final recommendation. In his concluding remarks, the Director of the Seminar, Prof. Amitabha Chatterjee, said that a lot of debate had taken place on the problems of LIS education in the country and that it was now time to act. IASLIC from its side had tried to draw the attention of the concerned authorities towards these maladies. But what was now needed was a concerted effort by all leading library associations of the country to stem the rot. Else, the future of LIS education in the country would certainly be bleak, he warned. The programme ended with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Koushik Ghosh, Assistant Organizing Secretary of the seminar, followed by the Asharam Sangeet of Visva-Bharati.

P C Shah Memorial Lecture : Brief Report

The first P C Shah Memorial Lecture on 'Corporate Information Management in Knowledge Economy' was delivered by Shri S B Banerjee, former Deputy Manager (Information), Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., Kolkata, and a former Vice-President of IASLIC, on December 6, 2018 at IASLIC seminar room. Dr. (Smt.) Jayati Ghosh, former Librarian (Grade-I), Commercial Library, Govt. of India, Kolkata, and a former Vice-President, IASLIC, was in the chair. At the outset, Shri Abhijit Kumar, Joint Secretary, IASLIC, welcomed the speaker, chairperson and the members of the audience. He mentioned that late Shri P C Shah was a former Vice-President of IASLIC (Zone-3). He was a dedicated librarian and was closely associated with IASLIC activities, he added. He further stated that IASLIC had created an endowment out of a donation of Rs. One Lakh

received from his nephew and other members of his family for organizing an annual “P C Shah Memorial Lecture”. Shri Kumar also introduced the chairperson and the speaker. Dr. (Smt.) Ghosh expressed her gratitude to IASLIC for giving her the opportunity of remembering late Shri P C Shah, with whom she was associated since IASLIC Zonal meeting (Zone- 3) organized by late Shri Shah as the then Vice-President of IASLIC of that Zone, at Surat. She narrated some of her reminiscences involving Shri Shah and paid her respect to his memory. She also highlighted Shri Banerjee's long experience in the LIS field, especially in the field of business and industrial information, coupled with his teaching experience in LIS and Business Management Schools. She also stressed on the relevance of the topic of the lecture.

Before dwelling on the topic of the lecture, Shri Banerjee paid his tribute to the memory of late Shri P C Shah, whom, he described as a luminary in the LIS field. Shri Banerjee briefly mentioned how Shri Shah gradually developed himself as a superb professional in the days when library profession was an unsung profession. Shri Banerjee asserted that his academic pursuits enriched with professional qualification, empowered him to monitor the profession. He was a founding father of Gujarat Granthalaya Seva Sangh (GGSS). It was also he who transformed ATIRA (Ahmedabad Textile Industry Research Association) Library into NICTAS (National Information for Textile and Allies Sector), of which he was the Assistant Director. He was monitoring many other professional organizations as well in various ways.

Delving into the topic of his speech, Shri Banerjee explained how information was the crucial resource for effective management of industrial and business organizations. In all stages of operational activities, information acted as the catalyst to transform other physical resources - man, money materials and machines (4Ms) - to value added goods and services. He gave some definitions of information and explained it as the “invisible resource and energy which do away with the imbecility of individuals, and unplanned and retarded growth of the society. In other words, it is that force which vitalizes all human activities bringing about structural change in all sectors”.

He said, “Energy Resources and Information” were the basics for the growth of industry and economy. Explaining graphically the concepts of Information Management (IM) and Knowledge Management (KM) and the differences between the two (IM and KM), he discussed how information acted as the problem solving process in business and industry, how information reduced the risks, stimulated strategic planning and decision making processes. He emphasized that an industrial information unit was unlike a traditional library. It was exclusively a unit with the responsibility to cater pinpointed and timely information for strategic planning and decision making processes at all levels of management. Obviously, an industrial information unit needed to specialize itself in scanning social, economic, political,

technological, legal, and geographical (SEPTLEG) environment. It should design newer service products, besides other traditional services, he stressed. Management digests, paper clipping services, information bulletins, and abstracting services, numeric data services were the most wanted service products for corporate management, he added. The information manager in a corporate unit, being responsible for providing management information of various nature, including numerical ones, to all levels of management, he needed to attain specialized knowledge for handling and managing management information, he pointed out. Finally, Shri Banerjee suggested that LIS departments in the universities should redesign their Master's level course to build up specialized manpower for the purpose.

CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

National

Seminar on Impact of ICT in Pls

Madras Library Association, in association with Directorate of Public Libraries, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, and Anna Central Library (ACL), Chennai, is organizing a National Seminar on 'Impact of Information & Communication Technology in Public Libraries' during February 7 - 8, 2019. For details visit: http://www.madraslibraryassociation.com/files/RRRLF_MALA-Brochure.pdf

Conference on Re-engineering Academic Libraries

The Learning Resource Centre, in association with Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), S M Shetty College of Science, Commerce and Management Studies, Mumbai, is organizing a National Conference on 'Re-engineering Academic Libraries: Traditional to Smart' on March 2, 2019. For details visit: <https://storage.ning.com/topology/rest/1.0/file/get/842048472?profile=original>

Conference on Emerging Trends in LIS

Department of Library & Information Science and Balasaheb Khardekar Knowledge Resource Centre, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, is organizing a National Conference on 'Emerging Trends and Technologies in Library and Information Science' on March 6, 2019. For details visit: <http://www.unishivaji.ac.in/uploads/homenews/brochure%20LIB.pdf>

Workshop on Libraries on Cloud

A National Workshop on 'Libraries on Cloud' is scheduled to be held during March 11-16, 2019 at INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar. For details visit: <https://hrd.inflibnet.Ac.in/docs/LibraryCloud2019.pdf>

International

World Library and Information Congress

Themes for discussion in the meetings of several IFLA

sections, SIGs and standing committees to be held during and after the World Library and Information Congress: 85th IFLA General Conference and Assembly have since been announced. These are mentioned below:

IFLA Audiovisual and Multimedia Section, joined by the *IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section* and the *Strategic Programme on Preservation and Conservation (PAC)*: The theme of open session to be held during IFLA WLIC is '*It's good to preserve, it's even better to share: Sound and visual cultural heritage in local communities*'.

IFLA Serials and other Continuing Resources Section (SOCRS) and the *Committee on Standards*: The theme of Open Session to be held during IFLA WLIC is '*Standards Relating to Serials, Continuing Resources and Scholarly Communications*'

IFLA Document Delivery and Resource Sharing (DDRS) Standing Committee: 16th ILDS (Inter-lending and Document Supply) Conference will be hosted by the National Library of Technology (NTK) in Prague, Czech Republic during October 9 - 11, 2019. The theme of the conference is "*Beyond the Paywall: Resource Sharing in a Disruptive Ecosystem*'.

IFLA Section on Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning: Satellite Meeting will be held at National and University Library in Zagreb, Croatia, during August 20 - 21, 2019. The theme of the meeting is '*Librarians and information professionals as (pro)motors of change: immersing, including and initiating digital transformation for smart societies*'.

IFLA Knowledge Management Section and the *Digital Humanities - Digital Scholarship SIG*: Satellite Meeting on 'Artificial Intelligence and its Impact on Libraries' will be held in Ionian University (Corfu, Greece) on August 22, 2019.

IFLA Environment, Sustainability and Libraries SIG (ENSULIB): The theme of Open Session to be held during IFLA WLIC is '*Let's Change Now: Libraries Driving Sustainability*'.

IFLA Government Information and Official Publications Section (GIOPS): The theme of Open Session to be held during IFLA WLIC is '*International Financial Institutions, Governments, and Austerity: Banks, Bailouts, and Information on Global Debt Crises*'.

IFLA Africa Section: The theme of Open Forum to be held during IFLA WLIC is '*Libraries at the Center of Community Transformation*'.

IFLA Management and Marketing Section: The theme of satellite meeting to be held during IFLA WLIC is '*Recruiting and managing the new generation of employees to attract new markets and create new services*'

IFLA Serials and Other Continuing Resources Section joint with *National Libraries Section*: The theme of Satellite Meeting to be held during IFLA WLIC is '*Grey Literature*'.

Conference on IPR

J K Business School, Gurugram (Haryana), Fr. Agnel College of Arts & Commerce, Pilar- Goa and the Society for Social Development and People's Action (SDPA), New Delhi, are jointly organizing an International Conference on 'Intellectual Property Rights: Digital Transformation' (ICIPRDT 2019) during March 27 - 29, 2019, at Panaji, Goa. For details visit: <http://www.sdpaindia.org/>

Conference on Revitalizing Library

The 7th International Conference on Libraries, Information and Society ((ICILIS2019), will be held at Melaka, Malaysia, during April 18 - 19, 2019. The theme of the conference is 'Revitalizing the Library for the Nation'. For details visit: <https://umconference.um.edu.my/ICOLIS2019>

Information Literacy Symposium

Information Literacy Network of the Gulf Cooperation Council is organizing the 2019 ILN Spring Symposium during April 24 - 25, 2019 at New York University-Abu Dhabi. The theme of the symposium is 'Education, Impact, and Reflections'. For details visit: <https://www.ilngcc.org/call-for-papers>

Workshop-Conference on School Library

The Philippine Association of School Librarians, Inc. (PASLI), in collaboration with International Association of School Librarians (IASL) - Southeast Asian Region, will conduct a Regional Workshop-Conference in Manila during April 24 - 26, 2019. The theme of the workshop-conference is 'School libraries establishing linkages towards 21st century literacy and development'. For details visit: <https://paslinews.wordpress.com/>

Information Literacy Conference

Western Balkan Information and Media Literacy Conference 2019 will be held during June 20 - 21, 2019 at Bihać, Bosnia & Herzegovina. The theme of the conference is '*Freedom, Accuracy and Truth*'. For details visit: <https://www.wbimlc.org/>

Conference on Innovation, Knowledge

The 8th International Conference on Innovation, Knowledge, and Management will be held in Da Nang, Vietnam, during June 24-26, 2019. For details visit: <http://www.icikm.org/>

Web Science Conference

The 11th International ACM Web Science Conference 2019 will be held during June 30 - July 3, 2019 at Northeastern University, Boston, USA. The theme of the conference is 'Synergies for the Good: The web and society'. For details visit: <https://websci19.Webscience.org/callforpapers.html>

Wiki Scientific Conference

International Wiki Scientific Conference (WSC 2019) will be held at Porto, Portugal, during March 11 - 13, 2019. For details visit: http://ocs.letras.up.pt/index.php/iwsc2019/IWSC_2019

Conference on Digital Transformation

TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute), India is hosting the 6th International Conference on Digital Landscape (ICDL) to be held during November 6 - 8, 2019. The theme of the conference is 'Digital Transformation for an Agile Environment'. For details email to: mailbox@teri.res.in

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

ALCTS Web Courses

Association of Library Collections & Technical Services, a division of American Library Association, will conduct the following web courses during 2019:

- (1) Fundamentals of Cataloguing: March 25 - May 3; May 20 - June 28; August 5 - September 13; October 21 - December 6.
- (2) Fundamentals of Metadata: March 25 - May 3; June 3 - July 12; August 5 - September 13; October 21 - December 6.
- (3) Fundamentals of Acquisition: February 11 - March 22; April 22 - May 31; July 8 - August 16; September 9 - October 18; November 4 - December 20.
- (4) Fundamentals of Collection Assessment: March 4 - April 12; May 6 - June 14; July 29 - September 6; October 7 - November 15.
- (5) Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management: February 25 - March 22; April 22 - May 17; June 10 - July 5; July 29 - August 23; October 28 - November 22.
- (6) Fundamentals of Electronic Resources Acquisition: February 11 - March 8; April 15 - May 10; July 15 - September 6; September 16 - October 11; November 4 - December 6.
- (7) Fundamentals of Preservation: March 4 - 29; May 6 - 31; July 22 - August 16; October 28 - November 22.

For more details visit:

http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/webcourse/fom/ol_templ

International Paper Contest

The Special Interest Group on International Information Issues (SIG-III) of the Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T), USA, has invited research papers for the 19th International Paper Contest (IPC) for Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals in developing countries, for the 82nd Annual Meeting, which will take place in Melbourne, Australia, during October 19 - 23, 2019. The theme of the Annual Meeting is 'Information...Anyone, Anywhere, Any Time, Any Way.' For more information visit: <https://www.asist.org/am19/>

Library sans Rules

Supriya Gaikwad's favourite place in the school is the library. Nobody can blame the eight-year-old as the civic school tucked away in Somwar Peth in Pune boasts of a library with a whooping 28000 books. The brain behind the library is Prasad Bhadsavale, a librarian at the Abasaheb Atre Day School in Somwar Peth. Bhadsavale's careful curation of books, sourced from publishers and famous writers, has worked wonders for these children, according to a story by Manjula Nair in *The Times of India*. "I have been working here for 21 years. There are 28,000 books in this library. I collected over 10,000 books through donations", he says. When he took up the position of a librarian, Bhadsavale told the school's committee members not to give him money for books or periodicals, saying that he would procure them all through donations. As of today, he has 1,200 book donors. "I have no rules in my library. There is no lock on any cupboard. Anyone can come into my library and borrow books, for free. Though this is a school library, I have taken permission from the education society to ensure anyone can borrow books and there should be no limit to the number", he says. For full report visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/how-this-tiny-schools-library-got-28000-books/articleshow/65919916.cms>

'Donate Books for Children' Campaign

Teachers of government-run primary schools in UP are running a campaign 'Donate Books for Children', says a report by Rajeev Mullick in *The Hindustan Times*. The idea is to motivate people to donate books so that community libraries could be set up in schools for the benefit of poor students and others. For greater reach, the teachers have taken this campaign to social media. A twitter account 'Donate Books for Children' has been created to spread awareness among Netizens. In this account, teachers are posting photographs of those who voluntarily came forward to donate books to schools. Citizens wanting to donate books can also do the needful by accessing the facebook page, 'Donate your books for students of rural area'. "Students, for whom books of previous class are of no use, can donate them for setting up the libraries," said coordinator of this initiative, Avnindra Singh Jadaun, a teacher in Upper Primary School of Etawah district. He credited Director of Basic Education, Sarvendra Vikram Bahadur Singh, who suggested him to launch a campaign for collecting books and setting up libraries in schools. Launched towards the end of 2018, the team of Mission Shikshan Samwad, a voluntary group of government school teachers, is fuelling the campaign. Now, every district has a coordinator. "Each time we receive messages from donors that they want to give away a few books, the district coordinator contacts them over phone and gets the books collected for the library," said a teacher-coordinator. After being collected, the books are segregated as per the need of schools. Once 100-200 books are collected,

they are handed over to a particular government-run primary and upper primary school so that the students can benefit from it. For full report visit: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/lucknow/donate-books-help-set-up-community-libraries-in-up/story-mQvK9LMOuPwn5vg8V0E9IP.html>

Scholarship Money Donated for Library

At Badalpur, a village in Contai in West Bengal's East Midnapore district, 16-year-old Navonil Das is right now the most discussed person. Navonil has written to the headmaster of his school that he will donate his entire scholarship money, a sum of Rs 24,000, to the school library so that students from poor families like him don't have to beg for books, says a report by Koushik Das in *The Hindustan Times*. The elder among two sons of a man who runs the family by making photocopies of documents with an old machine and selling crops grown on a small patch of ancestral land, Navonil does not enjoy the luxury of having anything in plenty. His younger brother is a class 6 student. Yet, the class 10 student from Badalpur Bidya Bhaban High School, from where he will appear for secondary examination next year, is ready to donate the money he received from the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development recently. He wants the state government-aided school to have a well-stocked library. In 2016, when Navonil was in class 8, he appeared for the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship. He received the money last month. "My grandfather always talked about helping people in need. I am paying homage to his memory," said Navonil. His father, 45-year old Debabrata Das, is the sole bread earner in the family. "Navonil is a meritorious student. We are aware of his father's financial condition. We never imagined that he would decide to donate the money. We feel proud of him," Subodh Kumar Karan, head master of the school, said. For full report visit: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/kolkata/bengal-boy-from-poor-family-donates-central-govt-scholarship-money-to-school/story-CgRtV9swNSTwp2QZ2SOzuL.html>

100 New School Libraries in Delhi

To inculcate the habit of reading among children in classes 1-5, the Delhi Government recently inaugurated 100 new libraries in government schools, says a report by Sanskriti Talwar in *The Sunday Standard*. These are in addition to the 100 libraries that the government had opened in 2017 in collaboration with non-profit organisation Room To Read. The government had then said that such libraries would be set up in over 430 Sarvodaya Schools over the next three years, as they play a huge role in supplementing the normal course of teaching inside classrooms. At the Dr Rajendra Prasad Sarvodaya School, President's Estate, the walls of the library have been done up with cartoons. Special shelves with levels for each class have been marked by using different colours such as Green for Class I, containing books that only have pictures, followed by Red, Orange, White and

Yellow. "The children are free to take books of their own choice. It's separate from a common library available to all classes and younger children find it more engaging," said the library in-charge at the school. Speaking with the teachers and students at the school, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said, "the children's library is a great place to read and learn, understand and explain." The Room to Read had signed an MoU with the Delhi government in 2017 to build 450 libraries in partnership with the Directorate of Education. For full report visit: <http://www.newindianexpress.com/thesundaystandard/2018/oct/21/100-new-libraries-opened-in-delhi-government-schools-1887769.html>

Van Converted into Mobile Library

"Without a book, so often the child is alone," says Antonio La Cava. The retired school teacher converted his three-wheeled van into a mobile library, the Bibliomotocarro. Driving the hills and mountains of Basilicata, Italy, La Cava is able to reach children in remote villages like San Paolo Albanese, which only has two children of primary school age, according to a story available on *bbc.com* website. "I was strongly worried about growing old in a country of non-readers." La Cava believes that it's important to spread the joy of literature to as many children as possible: "carrying out such action has a value, not only social, not only cultural, but has a great ethical meaning." La Cava hopes his Bibliomotocarro brings the message that culture is made by and for everyone, not just a privileged few. For full story visit: <http://www.bbc.com/culture/story/20190125-the-tiny-library-bringing-books-to-remote-villages>

Library of Forbidden Books!

"The literature... mainly consists of books that were published long before 1933 but then became a thorn in the Nazis' side for different reasons," says Gerhard Stumpf, librarian at the University of Augsburg, according to a story available on *bbc.com* website. "Most of them were Jewish authors - others were socialist or Communist authors - and also anti-war authors who experienced the pain of World War One." From 1976 until his death in 2013, Georg P Salzmann collected about 12,000 books that had been banned - and burnt - by the Nazis for being 'un-German'. His father - a Nazi - had shot himself in 1945, when Georg was a teenager. What became known as the Library of Burnt Books was sold to the University of Augsburg in 2009 - and is now open to the public. Stumpf describes the first book that Salzmann bought, as well as how one author witnessed his own books being burnt. For full story visit: <http://www.bbc.com/culture/story/20190117-the-library-of-forbidden-books>

PERSONALIA

A biopic, entitled 'A Jewel of Library Science', has been produced on the life of **Dr. P S G Kumar**, a well-known LIS teacher, and a former Professor & Head, Department of

Library & Information Science, Nagpur University, Nagpur. A prolific writer in the field of LIS, he compiled and edited 28-volume 'Indian Encyclopaedia of Library and Information Science'. Prof. Kumar also served as the President of IATLIS and ILA. A foundation named Dr. P S G Kumar Library Foundation has been set up, which has so far made donations amounting to Rs. 5 lakhs for instituting awards and lecture series. Dr. Kumar served as Director of the thematic session of 29th All India Conference of IASLIC held in Pune in 2013. The biopic can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vIgKRi_0lbc

OBITUARY

Veteran LIS Teacher Passes Away

Prof. Juran Krishna Sarkhel, Retired Professor, Department of Library & Information Science, Kalyani University, Kalyani, and a very popular teacher of LIS, suddenly died of cardiac arrest while introducing the keynote speakers on the dais at the inaugural function of the National Seminar on 'Libraries in Next Era: Digital Learning Landscape' at Kalyani University, Kalyani, on December 29, 2018. He was 64. He is survived by his wife and two children. Born in 1954, Prof. Sarkhel passed Master of Library & Information Science examination with gold medal and obtained Ph D degree from Jadavpur University, Kolkata. He started his career as an LIS professional in a college library and later joined DLIS, Vidyasagar University, Medinipur, as a lecturer and served there for next 21 years in different capacities. Besides serving as an Associate Professor and a Professor in the same department,

he served as Head of the Department for eight years and Dean, Faculty of Arts & Commerce, for four years. He also served as Director (Offtg.) of the Directorate of Distance Education for three years. Subsequently, he shifted to DLIS, Kalyani University, Kalyani, where he served for next ten years. At Kalyani University he served as Professor & Head of the Department for two years and Director (Offtg.), Directorate of Open and Distance Learning, for three years. He also served as Registrar (Offtg.) and Vice-Chancellor (Offtg.) on different occasions. After his retirement, University of Kalyani appointed him as Adjunct Professor (Hony). Prof. Sarkhel also served as a Visiting Scientist at Documentation Research and Training Centre, ISI, Bangalore, and as a Guest/Visiting Faculty at Birla Institute of Technology, Ranchi, Jadavpur University, Calcutta University, Rabindra Bharati University and Pondicherry University. He was a member of several professional bodies, viz., IASLIC, ILA, IATLIS and Bengal Library Association (BLA). IATLIS honoured him with Best LIS Teacher Award in 2017 in recognition of his outstanding contributions to LIS education and research. Prof. Sarkhel was a member of the Governing Body and the Executive Committee of IASLIC. He was also the editor of *Indian Library Science Abstracts*. At a condolence meeting organized by IASLIC and BLA on January 29, 2019, rich tributes were paid to the departed soul.

Radhaballabh Pal, former Documentation Officer, INSDOC (now NISCAIR), passed away on January 21, 2018. He was 75. He made substantial contribution towards the creation of ILSA (Indian Library Science Abstracts) database using CDS/ISIS. He is survived by his wife and son. IASLIC deeply mourns his death.

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