



# IASLIC NEWSLETTER

Indian Association for Special Libraries and Information Centres

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## Editor

Prof. Amitabha Chatterjee

### Associate Editor:

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### Assistant Editor:

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## Quote of the Month

*“Saying you don't need a librarian because you have the Internet is like saying you don't need a math teacher because you have a calculator.”*

— A meme floating around on social media

## 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](mailto:chatterjeeamitabha@yahoo.co.in)

## IASLIC ACTIVITIES

### 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 24 - 26, 2022** (revised dates). The theme of the seminar is 'Library and Information Centres in Digital Age: Present Scenario and Future Strategies'. Further details are available on IASLIC website.

## CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

### National

#### Conference on Harnessing Digital Space

The 3rd National Conference of Federation of Health Science Library Associations will be held at AIIMS, Rishikesh, during November 25 - 26, 2022. The theme of the conference is 'Harnessing the Digital Space: "One India One Subscription" Initiative and Medical Librarians' Perspective'. For details visit: <http://14.139.54.114/opac-tmpl/bootstrap/en/fhsla.pdf>

#### Conferences on Public Library Services

A National Seminar on 'Services of Public Libraries in India: Trends and Innovations' is being organized by the Central Library of Vidyasagar University, Medinipur, West Bengal, in collaboration with Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, during November 25-26, 2022. For details visit: <https://storage.ning.com/topology/rest/1.0/file/get/10829420694?profile=original>

### International

#### Conference on Libraries' Changing Role

6th International Conference of Asian Libraries ICAL-2022, jointly organized by the Department of Library & Information Science and Maulana Azad Library, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh, and Asian Library Association (ASIALA), New Delhi, will be held during November 24-26, 2022 at AMU. The theme of the conference is 'Information, Knowledge & Research: Changing Role of Libraries.' For details visit: <https://api.amu.ac.in/storage/file/events/1661344650.pdf>

#### Conference on Knowledge Discovery

International Conference on Knowledge Discovery (ICKD 2022) will be held in City University of Macau, Macau Special Administrative Region, China, during December 16-18, 2022. For details visit: <http://www.ickd.org/ICKD2022.pdf>

#### Conference on Big Data

An International Conference on Big Data will be held in Guiyang, China, during January 4-6, 2023. For details visit: <http://www.icbd.org/>

### Conference on Digital Libraries

Poornima Institute of Engineering & Technology, Jaipur, is organizing an International Conference on 'Research Trends of ICT Using Digital Libraries with Human Values & Ethics (ICIDLHV-2023)' during February 10-11, 2023. For details visit: <http://www.piet.poornima.org/icidlhv-2023/>

### Conference on Big Data Management

The 6th International Conference on 'Big Data Management (ICBDM)' will be held in Zhuhai, China, during February 17-20, 2023. For details visit: <http://www.icbdm.org/>

### Conference of Asian Special Libraries

The 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Asian Libraries is being organized by Special Libraries Association - Asia Community, in collaboration with Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines and Cebu Libraries Association, at Cebu City, Philippines, during February 22-24, 2023. The theme of the conference is 'Advancing Asian Special Libraries towards the Fifth Industrial Revolution'. For details visit: <https://connect.sla.org/asia/events/icoasl2023>

### Conference on Smart Govt. Libraries

Central Government Library Association is going to organize the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference, in collaboration with Doon Library and Research Centre, Dehradun, on the theme 'Digital Revolution: Moving towards Developing Smart Government Libraries' during February 24-26, 2023. For details visit: [https://cgl.org.in/inter\\_conference.html](https://cgl.org.in/inter_conference.html)

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

### Magnificent Library coming up in Madurai

A magnificent library is coming up in the heart of Madurai city, says a story by S Chidambaram in *The Hindu*. Basement plus seven floors including three elevated floors covered with translucent glass, escalators, free Wi-Fi, a cafeteria, fully air-conditioned system, collection of 2.57 lakh books, a conference hall, surveillance cameras, a roof garden for reading books in natural light, a dedicated section in the ground floor for the convenience of the physically challenged and facility to park 100 cars and 200 two-wheelers will make it stand apart and unique of its kind. Chief Minister M K Stalin declared on June 3, 2021 that a library would be constructed in Madurai following the footsteps of his father M Karunanidhi who had established Anna Centenary Library in Chennai. Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar Memorial Library in Madurai too is expected to be a big boon to all readers, including those preparing for entrance or competitive examinations, researchers and litterateurs in the southern districts. The work thus began recently with the state government sanctioning ₹ 99 crore for construction activities, ₹10 crore for purchase of books and ₹5 crore for procurement of electronic equipment. Books on a host of subjects right from general knowledge to engineering, medicine, law, travelogue, biography, autobiography, periodicals and 12,000 rare books will be made available apart from Braille

books and digital studio for the benefit of visually challenged and hearing-impaired persons. Open access digital information system will enable readers to pick a book in a split second. Rooms for 27 sections in addition to kids' theatre, performance centre, reprographics, micro film and microfiche are being created. But there is no room for any kind of mischief as CCTV cameras will be rolling and watching the movement of everyone in the library. Job aspirants can have a field day with 30,000 books, audio and video systems in the competitive examination section. Tamil literature enthusiasts can select one among 63,000 books, while English book readers can pore over 96,000 books (63,000 books for lending and 33,000 for reference). With 20,000 books to be stored in the children section too, the library, spread over 2.04 lakh square feet, will be a storehouse of knowledge but it is up to the residents to make proper use of this institution. For full story visit: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Madurai/a-magnificent-library-coming-up-in-madurai/article65045840.ece>

### Villagers setting up Libraries

Does it take a village to raise a child? Yes, the villages of Ganauli and Chirori in Gaziabad and Mudi Bakapur in Bulandshahar have proved it, says a *The Times of India* story. Over the years, a few villages in NCR have pooled money to set up libraries in their panchayat buildings. Youths mostly visit the libraries - called gram pathshalas - to prepare for competitive exams. They started in a small village called Chirori in Ghaziabad and spread to nearby areas through word of mouth. Equipped with Wi-Fi, these libraries proved handy during the pandemic, when students attended courses and took tests online. The initiative yielded results - some got jobs in central ministries while others have joined the police in various states. Rinku Kumar (21), for instance, has recently cleared the CGL (combined graduate level) examination and is now preparing for the Indian Police Services. For the past two years, Rinku has been visiting the one-room library in Mudi Bakapur of Bulandshahr district and brushing up on his general knowledge and reasoning. When he is not preparing for his exams, Rinku, who is physically challenged, gives science lessons to the kids visiting the library. Home to around 20,000 residents, Mudi Bakapur got its first library in the panchayat building in 2020. The villagers are planning to set up another library solely for girls and are pooling money for it. Those visiting the library regularly also take care of the cleanliness. Some of them have planted saplings to beautify the area. So, how did the villagers collect funds for the library? Initially, a corpus was created and the villagers made contributions according to their capacities. Books were bought and even donated by students who left for the cities for higher studies. In Ghaziabad's Ganauli, for instance, around 100 government employees from the village contributed ₹5,000 each for setting up one such pathshala. For full story visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ghaziabad/i-am-next-how-libraries-are-plugging-the-study-gap-for-students-across-villages/articleshow/92629070.cms>

### J & K e-Library Initiative

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, launched the e-Kitab Kosh, an e-library initiative of the Information Technology Department. The e-Kitab Kosh can be accessed at [www.elibrary.jk.gov.in](http://www.elibrary.jk.gov.in), says a *Cross Town News* story. The e-Kitab Kosh is envisioned as an online library for providing access to a virtual repository of learning resources in five languages, viz., English, Hindi, Urdu, Dogri and Kashmiri. The Chief Secretary directed the I T Department to make available all e-books of JK BOSE and NCERT on the website for assisting students with easy access to the learning material in the spirit of Digital India Mission. The e-library is easily accessible on 'anytime-anywhere' basis through both computer and mobile devices. The interface is user-friendly and allows the readers to easily surf through its content. The said platform is designed on GIGW guidelines with mobile-friendly architecture and stretches its access to diverse contents on various fields of science, art, literature, etc. The accessible content also includes books, journals, newsletters, newspapers, audio and video materials, etc. For original story visit: <https://www.crosstownnews.in/post/76537/-e-kitab-kosh-an-e-library-initiative-by-it-dept-launched-in-jak-by-cs-.html>

### Bihar Varsities to have e-Libraries

Universities and colleges in Bihar will soon be provided with the electronic library facilities for the benefit of students and faculties. A decision to this effect was taken at a day-long orientation workshop on e-library organized by the Bihar State Higher Education Council (BSHEC) in Patna recently, says a *The Times of India* report. The state government would request the authorities concerned to provide all the institutions of higher education an access to the UGC's information and library network (INFLIBNET) in an integrated manner. A tripartite agreement will soon be reached between the state government, universities and the INFLIBNET. All the undergraduate and post-graduate students of conventional universities along with their subject teachers will be provided an easy access to this digital resource collection after the agreement. Addressing the workshop, Education Department's Additional Chief Secretary, Dipak Kumar Singh, observed that e-library was the best means of receiving education in the 21st century. He said that digital libraries provided the students with the convenience of learning at their own comfort. Students could access and read the library materials in various digital formats anytime and anywhere using their preferred devices. Singh asserted that the state government was committed to provide all sorts of facilities of e-library, e-books and digital resources to the state universities. BSHEC's Vice-Chairman, Kameshwar Jha, said that earlier, students of colleges and universities faced great difficulties in getting the desired study materials in their libraries, but now they could access any desired content with the help of e-library. The greatest advantage of e-library was that the same study material could be provided simultaneously to scores of scholars with great

ease, he added. The vice-chancellor of Bihar Animal Science University, Rameshwar Singh, pointed out that the UGC had taken a lot of initiatives for the popularization of e-libraries in recent years. Giving details of the advantages of e-libraries, he said that basic infrastructural arrangement and preparation and strengthening of electronic repositories were the prime necessities of a well-maintained e-library. INFLIBNET's expert scientist Abhishek Kumar gave details of the various digital resources, including 'shodh chakra', 'e-shodh', IRINS, 'vidya mitra', 'vidwan', etc, being made available by the organization set up by the UGC.

E-libraries could take advantage of all these resources, he said. The information scientist of Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Manish Kumar Singh, highlighted the facts related to e-resource management in detail. At the outset, Education Department's Secretary, Asangba Chuba Ao, welcomed the participants and introduced the basic theme of developing digital repositories and extending e-library facilities to all the universities and colleges in the state. For full report visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/a-new-chapter-state-varsities-and-colleges-to-have-e-libraries-soon/articleshow/93650525.cms>

### PS Storeroom turned into Library

'Book Nook' at the Police Lines in Ludhiana becomes the first-ever library in the state to have opened its doors to every child up to the age of 18 for free reading, cultural activities, and computer class. It all started with creating a reading-cum-activity area for the wards of police personnel, which now welcomes the children from the city's slums as well, says a *The Times of India* story. Developed by Saanjh Ludhiana Commissionerate, in collaboration with NGO Aas Ehsaas, the library has 50 daily readers. It started with the registration of 20 children of police personnel and has now grown to 5,000 regular members, including children from the underprivileged background. The library is the brainchild of Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (ADCP) Headquarters, ADCP III, and Saanjh District Community Police Officer Pragya Jain. She felt the need for a reading hall in the city for children. She told *TOI*: "I come from a small town in Uttar Pradesh called Baraut, which lacked reading resources, while my counterparts were well-read. To bring everyone on the same platform, there was a need to create infrastructure where 5 to the 18 year olds of the city and its slums could come to read routinely." She managed to create that kind of an aesthetic environment and infrastructure to inculcate the habit of reading among the children of the city to use this facility to the maximum and get motivated to study well, get a job, and serve society." Most of the books and toys at the library have come from donation through various sources. Pragya said: "We had 1,000 books on the initial day and now the count has reached almost 3,000. The titles are in English, Punjabi, and Hindi and cover various genres such as fiction, non-fiction, entertainment, educational, activity books, and encyclopedia. It includes titles by international authors." The library is a room that was once overloaded with police files. It was transformed into a children's library in just

72 hours. The aesthetic ambiance with a thematic star-studded tent, board games, and indoor educational activities attracts the children to reading. The library is fully air-conditioned with 4 CCTV cameras and can adjust 100 children at a time. It also has racks for shoes and bags, besides washroom and drinking water facility. Book Nook conducted a week-long summer camp for 70 children, including 40 from the underprivileged section. Computers class, drawing, art and craft, rhyme, and storytelling were various activities organized for the 4-8 year olds. They acquired reading and speaking skills and were engaged in mathematics and science quizzes, besides sports activities of children aged 9 years and above. The children also learnt fireless cooking, gift wrapping, and calligraphy. For full story visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ludhiana/in-72-hrs-room-full-of-police-files-turned-into-library-for-children/articleshow/92094669.cms>

### **Bus Library of Bhubaneswar**

A reason to rejoice greeted the bibliophiles of the Bhubaneswar city when a city-based social organization opened a library in an abandoned bus, says a *Odishstv* story by Mrunal Manmay Dash. Bakul Foundation, which made this library happen, named the bus, 'Bakul Library' that now stands parked at the Kala Bhoomi, near Pokhariput in Bhubaneswar. As per reports, the bus belonged to the Odisha State Regional Transport Corporation (OSRTC) and after ferrying passengers for years, it was left abandoned at the depot. As it happened, the Bakul Foundation was also looking for a place to open a new library mainly for kids and teenagers around Khandagiri and Pokhariput area. They needed space for books, a roof over it and a place to sit and read. The abandoned OSRTC bus sparked an idea and presented an exact match for their requirement. They wasted no time and help was sought immediately from the authorities to transform the bus into a library. The library on wheels has more than 4,000 books in all categories including fiction and non-fiction for all ages, but mainly for kids and teenagers. Biswajeet Mohapatra, the Chief of Bakul Foundation, who was also present in the bus during the inauguration said, "Though this area has a lot of schools, it lacked a public reading place and a library. When I came across the bus, I immediately decided to turn it into a library." "Our organization aims to make book reading a habit of people. So we try to come up with unique ideas so that more and more readers can get attracted to the books. We have stocked up 4000 books for now. If we witness demand from the readers, we will bring in more books later," Mohapatra added. A student who was seen reading a fiction in the library said, "They have a good collection of books, especially for children. I am happy that such a library has been opened in our area." "This is a very good initiative by Bakul Foundation. I am sure it will garner interest among readers. However, as readers we should donate books to this library to make it richer in terms of knowledge," said a visitor. The library was made operational in collaboration with OSRTC, SIDAC and Odisha Handlooms, Textiles &

Handicrafts Department and it is free for anybody with a penchant for reading. For original story visit: <https://odishatv.in/news/miscellaneous/train-derailment-at-gurpa-ecor-diverts-several-trains-originating-from-bhubaneswar-puri-188844>

### **Futuristic Library in Arunachal**

To inculcate the habit of reading and make it interesting for people of all ages, especially the youth, a state-of-the-art library - New Age Learning Centre (NALC) - has been established in Arunachal Pradesh's Miao subdivision in Changland district recently, says a story available on [www.indianarrative.com](http://www.indianarrative.com) website. The centre is the brainchild of Miao Additional Deputy Commissioner, Sunny K Singh, and besides books of diverse genres, it has books which are helpful for preparing for competitive examinations like Civil Services and National Defence Academy, smart screens and tablets, and free wi-fi. To create a conducive atmosphere, the Centre has comfortable space and air conditioning. Talking about the Centre Singh said: "It's like the essence of a library, cafe and smart, futuristic and interactive space interwoven together to achieve NALC in its present shape. The idea of NALC is to provide an impetus to dying reading habits amongst the youths, considering the fact that libraries are getting redundant in the present era of e-books, information overload on the worldwide web." He added that the initiative was intended "to provide an attractive alternative to youths who found traditional libraries as boring, clichéd and outdated. New Age Learning Centre intends to incorporate futuristic design based on aspirations of youths to make it relevant for the present as well as future generations. In a nutshell, NALC promotes smart and fun learning experiences for the readers." Housed in a two-storey building, the Centre has been set up on a 2,000 sq ft area with crowd and government funding at an estimated cost of ₹30 lakh. Membership is free for the first 200 children and those from economically- weaker sections. For others lifetime membership is ₹50 along with a security deposit of ₹100. Books in the library include those for children, fiction, non-fiction, academic, competitive books, biographies, autobiographies and motivational books. "It will be catering to the needs of all sections of the society who wanted to read before but could not afford to read. The NALC is a paradise for all the book lovers and it intends to promote the reading culture in the subdivision," Singh said. For full story visit: <https://www.indianarrative.com/india-news/arunachals-miao-subdivision-gets-states-first-futuristic-library-35908.html>

### **Library fueling Career Dreams**

Except Holi and Diwali, Nalanda Parisar, the lone 24\*7 autonomous oxy reading zone-cum-library sprawled over an area of six acres in Raipur, remains open for educated youths preparing for competitive examinations, making the library unique in nature, says a *The Times of India* story. The library has become so popular within a short span of time that it is now the first choice of youths when it comes to providing a

conducive environment for the preparation of exams like UPSC, CGPSC, NEET, JEE, NDA and CDS. Over 100 youths have so far been successful in different competitive examinations. However, the waiting list of educated youths, coming from different corners of the state to take advantage of this library containing wide range of over 50000 books meeting demands for almost all the competitive examinations, is increasing with every passing day, prompting Nalanda Parisar Prabandhan Society, an autonomous body managing the library, to move a proposal to state government for expansion of the campus. After its inauguration on June 2, 2018, the library campus was dedicated to the youths on July 1. The library has a capacity to accommodate 1000 students at a time. A lush green campus facilitates an equal number of students outside the library, however, not for all seasons. "We are running the library round the clock in shifts, so that more youths can be accommodated. Currently we can register 2500 active members as per the prescribed rules. Number of youths waiting today stands between 800 and 1000. We give admission on a 'first come, first serve basis' and clear the waiting list in a similar manner. We also have a high-tech facility called RIFD to issue books on demands. We take ₹ 2500 caution money, which is refundable, from students at the time of admission and charge general students with ₹ 500 per month and take ₹200 from students belonging to BPL families," nodal officer Kedar Patel said. Unlike other libraries, the air-conditioned Nalanda Parisar is self-financed which is a unique feature of this library. Funds generated from shops on rent and students' fee are used for the development and maintenance of the library, and staff salary. Students here are guided by senior IAS and state administrative service officers regularly under the 'Safalta ke Pathshala' programme. Presently, the library has 881 qualified B.Tech/M.Tech candidates followed by 528 graduates, 230 school students, 217 CA aspirants, 204 post-graduates, 98 medical students, including 50-60 doctors from AIIMS preparing for PG, 52 BBA/MBA students, 40 diploma holders, 38 pharmacy students, 25 BCA students, 15 PhD holders, ten journalists and six senior citizens. District collector and president of the society, Dr. Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, said that there was an urgent need for expansion of the library in view of space crunch and growing demand of youths. "Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has given his consent to construct two more such structures to facilitate more youths," said the collector. The monthly income of the Nalanda Parisar is ₹13.90 lakh and expense is ₹12.40 lakh, the rest is used for the development of the library and purchasing books. For full story visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/raipur/nalanda-parisar-library-that-fuels-career-dreams/articleshow/93419011.cms>

### Street Library in Arunachal District

A commendable endeavour to set-up genuine learning space for masses, the Arunachal Pradesh legislator, Tana Halk Tara, has inaugurated a street library at the T Cube

Futsal Ground in Arunachal Pradesh's Naharlagun District, says a story available on *northeasttoday* website. It intends to revive the art of reading, making books/reading materials easily accessible to folks, driving positive action and change, thereby engaging in community development. The space fills the shelves with diverse reads like novels, magazines, story books, educational books, departmental publications, dictionaries, pamphlets, and many others. An initiative undertaken by the Ngurang Learning Institute & District Administration, the effort aims to install nearly 26 libraries across Papumpar. For original story visit: <https://www.northeasttoday.in/2022/08/12/arunachal-pradesh-street-library-unveiled-in-naharlagun-effort-to-revive-art-of-reading-driving-positive-action/>

### Library Promoter Honoured

Padma Shri Sathyanarayanan Mundayoor aka Uncle Moosa of Arunachal Pradesh was recently feted with the DREAMSS 2022 Award by the Chennai based organization 'Dakshinaa' for promoting 'knowledge connectivity through the library movement in North Eastern India', says an *Eastern Sentinel* report. The award consisting of a plaque, citation and a cheque of ₹50,000 was presented by M K Narayanan, former Governor, West Bengal, and former National Security Advisor to the Government of India. The award has been constituted in memory of late Ramunni Menon, an eminent social worker of Tamil Nadu for his long selfless and sterling community services. Presenting the award, Narayanan, also a Padma Shri awardee and eminent administrator, lauded the youth library movement in Arunachal Pradesh for adopting the model of youth volunteers leading the reading promotion campaign across villages, rather than waiting for the government to set up libraries in such places. "I have travelled right up to the China border in Lohit and Dibang Valleys and I am fully aware of the challenges of promoting education and reading culture among such remote Himalayan communities. The country needs to produce many more such Uncle Moosas to strengthen the quality of learning and to build a new enlightened Indian society," he said. A highlight of the function was the Carnatic Kirtan recital by Wakro sisters Ashapmai Dellang and Behelti Ama, students of Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai. Thanking the Dakshinaa Trust for the award, Mundayoor said that the award truly goes to the youth of Arunachal for upholding the importance of the joy of reading during the last four decades. "Hence the entire award amount will be utilized for training new volunteer-trainers to continue to take the youth library movement forward in the coming years," he said. For original report visit: <http://www.easternsentinel.in/news/state/uncle-moosa-feted-for-promoting-library-movement-in-ne-india.htm>

### J & K PLs help Students

Jammu and Kashmir Director Libraries & Research, Mohammad Rafi, recently conducted surprise inspection of various public libraries in District Budgam to take stock of the facilities available there. The Director called for making

available the latest reference books and study material in all the public libraries for various competitive examinations including IAS, JKAS, NEET, JEE, CAT, CLAT, GMAT, SSB etc., says a report carried by [www.jkdirinf.in](http://www.jkdirinf.in) website. The Director urged the aspirants to visit the nearest public library in their respective area to benefit from these important references. The Director said that given the overwhelming demand by students, the Libraries Department had, on the recommendation of UT-Level Library Advisory-cum-Purchase Committee (UTLLAPC), this year made available around 350 titles of free reference books/study material in its libraries to help students, especially those who cannot afford to purchase such costly material, study and prepare for various competitive examinations. During his visit to the public library at Bagh-e-Mehtab, the Director interacted with the students present there and sought their inputs for further improving the facilities at public libraries to the best advantage of the users. He informed the students that besides making available the reference books/study material for competitive examinations, the Department of Libraries & Research was also in the process of tying up with some prestigious Coaching Academies in the country to arrange free online coaching for J&K youth for these examinations. During his visit to the District Library Budgam, the Director reviewed the progress of work on up-gradation of the library by way of construction of additional accommodation comprising a spacious Reading Hall, separate washrooms for ladies and gents and a store. The estimated cost of these works is around ₹30.20 Lakhs. For full report visit: <http://www.jkdirinf.in/NewsDescription.aspx?ID=76061>

### Library at Persian Poet's House in Kashmir

Jammu and Kashmir Department of Libraries & Research recently turned a new page in the cultural history of Kashmir when it threw open a public library and reading room dedicated to the memory of the legendary Persian poet of the 17th century Kashmir, Gani Kashmiri, says a *Scoop News* story. Housed in the ancestral home of the iconic versifier, redone at a cost of ₹ 41.83 lakhs, the Gani Memorial Library & Reading Centre was inaugurated by the Minister for Tourism & Culture, Nawang Rigzin Jora, at Rajouri Kadal in the old Srinagar city, at a stone's throw from the Valley's Grand Mosque. Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Ali Muhammad Sagar, Minister of State for Home, Tourism, Culture, Housing, Urban Development and PHE, Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Peer Afaq Ahmad and Director Libraries & Research, Khalid Bashir Ahmad, were present. The library was originally set up as a reading centre in the year 1971 in a rented accommodation, subsequently shifted to the residential house of Gani Kashmiri. However, it had to be again shifted out due to the dilapidated condition of the house. The new accommodation is a redone structure with dimensions and interior specifications of the original house retained. The library has a collection of about 8000 books on different subjects. A special Career Corner has been added for the benefit of students preparing for the competitive exams. Reference Section, General Section,

Children's Corner, Kashmiri Section and Reading Room are other facilities available. The Ministers hailed the significant contribution of Gani Kashmiri to the Persian literature and the name and fame it brought to Kashmir. They said that setting up of the library and reading room in his name was a befitting tribute to the greatest son of Kashmir. They asked the local people, especially the youth, to take full advantage of the facility and specifically referred to the collection of titles on competitive examinations. For full story visit: <http://www.scoopnews.in/det.aspx?q=14319>

## TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### Twitter lets Users share Spaces Clips

Microblogging platform Twitter has announced that now anyone can share Twitter Spaces clips on iOS and Android platforms, says an IANR report available on *india.com* website. The company recently said that it started testing a new clipping tool for Spaces. Now, the feature is being rolled out to all the users. "Testing went well. We are rolling out clipping to everyone on iOS and Android web on the way!" the company tweeted. Currently, the feature is unavailable to Twitter web users. However, the platform said support is "on the way". With this feature, users can now create 30 seconds of audio from recorded Spaces to share with others on the microblogging site. The new tool is a way for users to boost interest in their Spaces while also highlighting specific parts of a broadcast without having to share an entire recording. Clubhouse, the social audio app, that prompted the launch of Twitter Spaces, rolled out its clipping feature last September. The feature allows live listeners in public rooms to snip the most recent 30 seconds of audio and share it anywhere. Meanwhile, the microblogging site, recently, said it had begun testing a potential new feature "custom-built timelines," beginning first with one focused on The Bachelorette. For original report visit: <https://www.india.com/technology/twitter-now-lets-users-share-spaces-clips-on-ios-android-5526891/>

### Mixed Media Tweets

Mixed media tweet, which has been in testing for long, is now available to users, says a story by Mathuresh Paul in *The Telegraph*. The format allows people to express themselves beyond 280 characters by incorporating four types of media content, including GIFs, photos and/or videos. To access the feature, you need to tap the photo icon in the tweet composer and add the media of your choice. As you add content, it will show up side by side or in a grid-like format, depending on how many images, videos, or GIFs you add. "This update is the latest example of how we're working to make Twitter the easiest and most convenient place to share images, videos, and other creative content. It complements the rollout of two new video products full-screen videos and a new video carousel in the Explore tab that help make it easier than ever for people to find and watch what's happening on Twitter," the social media platform said in a statement. These tweets can

only be created on Android and iOS, but they are visible to users on all platforms. The new feature is coming at a time when the drama surrounding Elon Musk's potential acquisition of Twitter is on the rise; it goes on to show Twitter's commitment to innovation. It recently launched "immersive" full-screen videos on iOS and an endless video stream you can access through its Explore tab. A bigger introduction is allowing Blue subscribers in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand the ability to edit their tweets. For original story visit: <https://www.telegraphindia.com/my-kolkata/lifestyle/you-can-now-send-out-mixed-media-tweets/cid/1890563>

### YouTubers to have Account Handles

YouTube users will soon have a new way to identify themselves. The company has announced "handles", which comes with an @username format in order to interact with their viewers across YouTube Shorts, channel pages, in video descriptions, in comments and more, says a story by Mathuresh Paul in *The Telegraph*. Such handles are meant for everyone on YouTube and not just creators of a certain size or subscriber count. "It'll soon be simpler and faster to mention each other in comments, community posts, video descriptions and more. For example, creators can be shouted out in a mention in comments or tagged in the title of a recent collab, helping them increase visibility and reach with new audiences. Handles join channel names as another way to identify a YouTube channel, but unlike channel names, handles are truly unique to each channel so creators can further establish their distinct presence and brand on YouTube," says YouTube. Over the next month, YouTube will notify creators when they can choose a handle for their channel. If a channel already has a personalized URL, that will automatically become their default handle, or they can opt to change the handle for their channel as soon as the notification in YouTube Studio comes through. The move brings YouTube more in line with TikTok at a time when the company is pushing its investment towards Shorts. Last month, YouTube announced it would bring monetization to Shorts, letting creators keep 45 per cent of the ad revenue. Once a handle is established, YouTube will additionally create a matching URL in the format of [youtube.com/@handle](https://youtube.com/@handle), which would allow the creator to market their handle elsewhere on the web or in other media. Since handles must be unique and every channel on YouTube will have one, the company is rolling them out gradually. "The timing of when a creator will get access to the handles selection process depends on a number of factors, including overall YouTube presence, subscriber count and whether the channel is active or inactive," says YouTube. For original story visit: <https://www.telegraphindia.com/my-kolkata/lifestyle/youtube-users-will-soon-have-an-account-handle/cid/1891501>

### Instagram brings Age Verification Options

Meta-owned social media service Instagram has been adding more new features to the platform to make it a safer space for users and one of the areas it has been working on for this is age verification, says a *The Indian Express* story. The platform started introducing new ways to verify age in some regions earlier this year and these options are now coming to more countries, including India and Brazil. Already available in the US, the new age verification method will require users to use one of two methods to change their date of birth on Instagram, to edit their age from under 18 or 18 to above 18. These methods include uploading ID and video selfies. "We're testing this so we can make sure teens and adults are in the right experience for their age group. We are also partnering with Yoti, a company that specializes in online age verification, to help ensure people's privacy," Instagram said in a blog post. With video selfies, users can choose to follow on-screen instructions to guide them towards taking a video. The capture is then shared with Yoti, a digital ID service, which only verifies the age of the person based on facial features. The image is then deleted by both Meta and Yoti, according to the company. Alternatively, users can also share their IDs to verify their age. A third age-verification method called social vouching was also in use until Instagram took down the option to work more on it. Social vouching allowed users to ask three mutual followers to confirm how old they were and these users could then vouch for the user in question, provided they themselves are aged 18 and above. For original story visit: <https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/social/instagram-brings-new-age-verification-options-to-india-8207964/>

## NEW LIS LITERATURE

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

### Indian

1. BALASUBRAMANIAN (P) and NIJU (P). Documentation of Research Report. 2022. Ess Ess Publication, New Delhi. ₹ 900. ISBN: 9789392594076  
(The book aims to open the gates of knowledge for the students in research reporting)
2. BISWAS (Ashis) and DAS BISWAS (Mayuri). Panorama of Open Access: Progress, Practices and Prospects. 2022. Ess Ess Publication, New Delhi. ₹1600 ISBN: 9789392594366  
(Concept of open access, its foundation and prevailing status have been accentuated in this book)

## OBITUARY

**Prof. L S Ramaiah**, former Librarian of English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, breathed his last on September 2, 2022. Born on July 1, 1937 at Panchalavaram village of Tenali taluq, Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh, Prof. Ramaiah obtained M A degree from Banaras Hindu University and Diploma in Archives Keeping from National Archives of India, New Delhi. Prof. Ramaiah began his career as Archivist at A P State Archives, Hyderabad, in 1962 and later joined Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL), a Deemed University, as Archivist in 1971. He passed BLISc examination from Osmania University, Hyderabad, in 1976 and was awarded Gold Medal for securing first position. Prof. Ramaiah became the University Librarian of the English and Foreign Languages University (earlier CIEFL), Hyderabad, in 1977 and served there till his retirement in 1999. Prof. Ramaiah visited the USA, UK, Cuba and Yemen on professional assignments. He was at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign under the Mortenson Fellowship Scheme as Observer for four months. He wrote and edited 37 books and compiled a bibliography entitled 'International Bibliography of Dravidian Languages and linguistics (six volumes)'. His professional friends and well wishers brought out two Festschrift volumes in his honour. Prof. Ramaiah was a Life Member of IASLIC and he actively participated in IASLIC seminars, conferences, and special interest group meetings. He was the recipient of 'A K Mukherjee - IASLIC Lifetime Achievement Award for Retired Librarians' for the year 2013 and Prof. Gangadhara Rao 'Best Librarian Award' from Shri Potti Sree Ramulu Telugu University, Hyderabad. Prof. Ramaiah was also a Life member of ILA, APLA and ALSD. IASLIC deeply mourns his death.

3. GHANTE (P B) et al. Integrating ICT in Library Management. 2022. Ess Ess Publication, New Delhi. ₹1500. ISBN: 9789392594090

(Explores the various information sources including internet, e-resources and databases in meeting the timely information needs of the society)

4. KHAN (Md. Alamgir) and MUNSHI (Shamim Aktar). Library Management during Pandemic: Issues and Challenges. 2022. Ess Ess Publication, New Delhi. ₹1100. ISBN: 9789392594441

(The book focuses on the most relevant issues of libraries regarding the effect of Covid-19)

5. SINGH (Gurdev). User Studies: A Tool for Library Performance. 2022. Ess Ess Publication, New Delhi. ₹1800. ISBN: 9789392594502

(Provides sufficient knowledge about the various concepts related to user studies in detail, systematically and comprehensively)

6. VAISHNAV (Ashwini Anand). Knowledge Auditing in Context of Quality Teaching and Research in Higher Education. 2022. Ess Ess Publication, New Delhi. ₹2200. ISBN: 9789392594069

(The book aims to acquaint the students as well as information professionals with the fundamental concepts of knowledge audit)

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**Phone: (033) 2362 9651**

**Email: [iaslic.india@gmail.com](mailto:iaslic.india@gmail.com)**

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