

IASLIC NEWSLETTER

Indian Association for Special Libraries and Information Centres



MARCH, 2019

A Monthly Newsletter Published by IASLIC

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Quote of the Month

"My Alma Mater was books, a good library... I could spend the rest of my life reading, just satisfying my curiosity."

- Malcolm X, American Human Rights Activist

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

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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CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

National

Conference on Managerial Competencies

Department of Library & Information, Bishop Heber College, Tiruchi, is organizing a National Conference on 'Managerial Competencies for Library Professionals: Trends and Opportunities' on March 2, 2019. For details visit: http://bhc.edu.in/news_content/mclp.pdf

Workshop on Koha

A Workshop on Wheels is being organized at BIMTECH Greater Noida, during March 2 - 4, 2019. The theme of the workshop is 'Library Automation with Koha'. For details visit: http://www.bimtech.ac.in

Seminar on Libraries for All

A National Seminar on 'Libraries for All: Exploring the Role of Public Libraries and Information Centres for Sustainable Development' is being organized by the Department of Library & Information Science, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata during March 7 - 8, 2019. For details email to: ziarbu@gmail.com or snigdha.naskar@rbu.ac.in.

Workshop on IPR

Department of Library and Internal Quality Assessment Cell of Sonubhau Baswant College of Arts & Commerce, Shahapur, Dist. Thane, is jointly organizing a National Workshop on 'Intellectual Property Rights, Copyrights and Plagiarism' on March 7, 2019. For details visit: http://library.sbcshahapur.ac.in/pdf/libraryworkshop.pdf

Workshop on Information Literacy

The Central Library, IIT Bombay, is organizing a workshop on 'Innovative Information Literacy: Active Learning and Engaging Pedagogies' on March 8, 2019. For details visit:

https://www.library.Iitb.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/ 2019/One Day Workshop-08 March 2019.pdf

Workshop on Koha

IIT Bombay will conduct a workshop on 'Koha and Library Automation' under the aegis of the National Virtual Library of India (NVLI) on March 9, 2019 at Malla Reddy College of Engineering & Technology (MRCET), Hyderabad. For details visit: www.mrcet.ac.in

Workshop on LIS Research

Department of Library and Information Science, Mizoram University, Aizawl, Mizoram, in collaboration with INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, is organizing a National Workshop on 'Trends in LIS Research: Approaches and Methods' during March 11-15, 2019. For details visit: https://www.mzu.edu.in/index.php/downloads/forms/finish/9-seminars-workshop-notices/12228-national-workshop-on-trends-in-lis-research-approaches-and-methods-date-11th-15th-march-2019

Conference on Academic Libraries

A National Conference on 'Re-Inventing Academic Libraries of Higher Education' is being organized by Goa College Librarians' Association, in collaboration with Narayan Zantye College of Commerce, on March 15, 2019. For details visit: http://www.goacla.org

Seminar on Role of Libraries

A National Seminar on 'Role of Libraries in Socio, Cultural & Economic Development: An Emerging Perspective' is being jointly organized by Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts and Asian Library Association, New Delhi, on April 12, 2019 at IGNCA. For details email to: asianlibraryassociation@gmail.com

Conference on Professional Ethics

A National Conference on 'Professional Ethics of Library Development and Services' will be held at L N Mishra College of Business Management, Muzaffarpur, Bihar, on April 20, 2019. For details visit: https://madhurasheesh.files.wordpress.com

<u>International</u>

World Library and Information Congress

Themes for discussion in the meetings/workshops of some more IFLA sections, SIGs and standing committees to be held before, during and after the World Library and Information Congress: 85th IFLA General Conference and Assembly have since been announced. These are mentioned below:

IFLA Women, Information, & Libraries Special Interest Group in partnership with Libraries without Borders: The theme for the SIG's session is 'Building Best Practices to serve Women & Girls'

IFLA's Science & Technology Libraries Section, jointly with Reference & Information Services Section and Audio Visual & Multimedia Section: The theme for open session is 'Moving Beyond Traditional Collections & Services: Supporting Science in Innovative Ways'.

IFLA Science and Technology Libraries Section joint with Evidence for Global and Disaster Health (E4GDH) Special Interest Group: The theme for satellite meeting to be held on August 21, 2019 at Institute of Science and Technology Austria (IST Austria), Klosterneuburg, is 'Library Services for Open Science'.

IFLA Local History and Genealogy Section, joint with Asia and Oceania Section and Library History Special Interest Group: The theme of the open session is 'Local History Collections, Genealogy, and Oral History as Critical Information Services in Libraries'.

IFLA Journal Editorial Committee and *IFLA Social Sciences Section*: Theme for workshop on mixed-methods research for library and information professionals, to be held during August 22 - 23, 2019 at Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation Library, Defteras, Merarchias, Pireas, Greece, is '*Doing Research in Real-World Settings*'.

IFLA Division V (Regions), joint with Management of Library Associations Section and LIS Education in Developing Countries Special Interest Group: The theme of the satellite meeting to be held during August 20 - 21, 2019 at Bibliotheca Alexandria, Alexandria, Egypt, is 'Leadership Roles in International Librarianship: How Can Information Professionals from Africa, Asia & Oceania, Latin America & Caribbean be part of it?'.

IFLA News Media Section, joint with Digital Humanities-Digital Scholarship Special Interest Group: The theme for open session is 'Success Stories and Challenges: News Media Re-used in Research and by the General Public'.

IFLA Health and Biosciences Libraries Section: The theme for satellite meeting to be held on August 23, 2019 at National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, Library of Health Sciences, is 'International and Local Developments that Enhance Scholarly Communication in the Biomedical and Social Sciences'.

IFLA Health and Biosciences Libraries Section: The theme for open sessions is 'Health Information Professionals - Developing the Dialogue, Addressing the Challenges of the Future'.

IFLA Academic and Research Libraries Section, with Health and Biosciences Libraries Section: The theme for the open session is 'Library Integration into the Research Lifecycle: A STEM Perspective'.

IFLA Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section: The theme for open session is 'Navigating Your Own Professional Development: Effective Use of the 2016 IFLA Guidelines for Continuing Professional Development'.

IFLA Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section and Evidence for Global and Disaster Health SIG: The theme for open session is 'Active and Interactive Learning and Development Strategies to Extend LIS Practice: The Need for New Skills to Meet the Challenges of Our World'. IFLA Information Technology Section: The theme for satellite meeting to be held during August 21 - 22, 2019 at Technical University of Applied Sciences Wildau, Berlin, Germany, is 'Robots in Libraries: Challenge or Opportunity'. IFLA Acquisition and Collection Development Section: The theme for satellite meeting to be held during August 21 - 22, 2019 at American University of Cairo, New Cairo, Egypt, is 'Building Digital Libraries through International Collaboration'.

For more details, visit IFLA website: https://www.ifla.org/.

Conference on Varsity Library Services

The Nazarbayev University Library, LN Gumilyov Eurasian National University Library, and the Association of University Libraries in the Republic of Kazakhstan, are organizing the 8th International Conference on 'Emerging Global Trends in University Library Development'. The theme of the conference is 'University Library Services and Resources for Research and Innovation, during June 5 - 87, 2019 in Astana, Kazakhstan. For details visit: https://easychair.org/cfp/ICEGTULD2019.

Conference on Access to Information

Latin American Conference of Librarians, Archivists, and Museologists will be held during August 5 - 9, 2019, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The theme of the conference is 'Access to Information and Cultural Heritage: Shared Social Responsibility'. For details visit: http://www.ebam.com.ar/

Conference on Digital Transformation

An International Conference on 'Digital Transformation: A Cognitive Learning towards Artificial Intelligence' is being organized by Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab, Patiala, during September 6 - 8, 2019. For details visit: https://icdt2019.webs.com/

LIDA 2020 Conference

Libraries and Information Institutions in the Digital Age 2020 (LIDA 2020) conference will be held at Dubrovnik, Croatia, during May 19 - 22, 2020. The theme of the conference is 'Reshaping Identity in The Digital Age: People, Libraries, Data, Technology & Ethics'. For details visit: http://lida.ffos.hr/

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Commonwealth Scholarships

The Global Development Institute (GDI), The University of Manchester, has announced the availability of ten scholarships for distance learning, funded by the Commonwealth Scholarships Commission (CSC). The scholarships are for applicants from developing Commonwealth countries, covering all tuition fee costs for the MSc in Management and Information Systems (Distance Learning), commencing in January 2020. The closing date for CSC scholarship application is March 22, 2019. In order to ensure that the necessary MSc M&IS (DL) offer has been

received, applicants have been advised to apply for the programme as early as possible, and not later than March 4, 2019. For details visit: https://www. Gdi.manchester. Ac.uk/study/taught-masters/funding-opportunities/commonwealth-scholarships/

Best Student Research Paper Award 2019

As part of its strategy to remain one of the premier library and information science journals, Libri: International Journal of Libraries and Information Studies has issued a call for "Best Student Research Paper of 2019." This competition supports Libri's goal of publishing the best articles from the next generation of library and information science professionals. Students who are currently enrolled for a Master's or Ph D or who have completed their Master's or Ph D during the 24 months preceding the closing date of the competition can submit their papers. There is no stated theme. Research papers should address one of the significant issues facing today's librarians and information professionals. The length of the paper should be approximately between 5,000 - 7,000 words (excluding the abstract and list of references). The paper should be in English. The deadline for submission is June 30, 2019. The best paper will be published in Issue-4 of 2019. The author of the winning paper will be honoured with an award of € 500 with a complimentary subscription to *Libri* for 2020. For further details visit: http://www.degruyter.com/view/ supplement/s18658423 Instructions for Authors en.pdf.

Bill Seeking Libraries in Concurrent List

Shri Tej Pratap Singh, MP from Mainpuri in Uttar Pradesh, has introduced a Private Member's Bill (Bill No. 1332 of 2018) in the Lok Sabha seeking shifting of the items of libraries from State List to the Concurrent List. In the Statement of Objectives of the Bill, it has been stated that "Since Independence, only nineteen out of twenty-nine States have passed the library legislation through Public Library Acts in their respective States. Due to lack of funds, resources and trained manpower, majority of public libraries in the country are in pathetic condition." It is further stated that "Due to partial and ineffective implementation of State legislation, a National Library Legislation is needed to bring in a robust legislative framework to make India a knowledge society. The Bill, therefore, seeks to amend the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution with a view to transfer entry 12 of List-II, State List pertaining to 'Libraries', to List-III, Concurrent List so that the Parliament and the Central Government can also play vital role in the overall development of a National Library Policy, systems and services in the country". The text of the Bill can be viewed at: http://164.100.24.219/BillsTexts/LSBillTexts/ AsIntroduced/605as.pdf

Dist. Library Helps Build Amritsar Jail Library

District Library Amritsar made a call to library community for books to open up a library for prisoners, and with their support collected 1000 books and gifted to *Kendriya*

Sudhaar Ghar (Amritsar Central Jail), says a report by Dr. Prabhjot Kaur, Librarian of District Library, Amritsar. These books cover all subjects, specially religion, literature, biographies, personality development, and education. Dr. Kaur was invited to guide as how to set up the library in the prison for prisoners. This project is now undergoing and library is in the process to gift more books.

Harsh Step to Recover Long Overdue Books

State-run brick and mortar libraries, struggling to stay relevant at a time when people are accessing information on smartphones and e-book readers, have another problem on their hands. They are struggling to get the few patrons they have to return borrowed books. Text messages, fines and frantic calls have failed to strike fear among members. In desperation, the Department of Public Libraries of Karnataka has now decided to lodge police complaints against members who fail to return books within the stipulated time, says a report by Tanu Kulkarni in The Hindu. Measures such as keeping a copy of a member's address proof, contact numbers and even asking for a letter from a gazetted officer to get membership are proving to be futile. "If all else fail, Deputy Directors of the department will issue warning letters to the members informing them that a police complaint will be lodged against them if they do not return the books. If even after this they do not comply, we will turn to the police," said Satish Kumar S Hosamani, Director of the department. Deputy Director Venkatesh C J, who oversees 313 libraries in Hassan and Bengaluru, said that nearly half of the books borrowed are not returned and they are unable to trace many of the members. Often, members submit addresses of their rented homes, but do not update the information when they move. "We have managed to get addresses of the new homes of readers and written to them to return the books. If they are not returned by the end of the year, we will lodge complaints," he said. Sources in the department say that many members are careless with the books as the membership amount is a nominal ₹100. For full report visit: https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/inpublic-libraries-borrowers-are-keepers/article25528295.

Cloud Based Digital Libraries

In a unique initiative, the Department of Public Libraries of Karnataka will set up cloud-based digital libraries to help around 10 lakh students in government high schools and pre-university colleges in the state. Students can access national and international publications at their institutions. Apart from government schools and colleges, this technology will also be used in 26 city central libraries and 216 taluk libraries which come under the department. The department has created the advanced Digital Rights Management (DRM) protected software. A user or member who accesses documents through cloud technology cannot save, copy, delete, send or print documents. He or she can refer to the document only for 15 days. Department of Public Libraries

Director Satish Kumar S Hosamani said that the project was being initiated at a cost of Rs 5 crore. Students from Class 1 to Class 12 can access information in their classrooms. School and college heads will be given a user ID by which students can access information. "The department has digitised its books and documents in Haveri, Raichur, Chamarajanagar and Tumakuru district central public libraries with the support of Kerala-based Sai Sanjeevini Trust free of cost," he said. Hosamani said students can access DSERT and NCERT books, competitive exams books, previous years' question papers free of cost. "There are issues with regard to copyright during digitizing. At a publishers' meet at Kalaburagi recently, all 101 writerparticipants agreed to provide soft copies of their books for digitizing and uploading to the cloud," Hosamani said. For full report visit: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ mysuru/public-libraries-in-karnataka-to-use-cloudtechnology/articleshow/67889543.cms

Books that can't be read until 2114

In a small clearing in the forests of Nordmarka, one hour outside the city limits of Oslo, the capital of Norway, a thousand spruce trees are growing. They will grow for the next 96 years, until 2114, when they will be felled, pulped, pressed and dyed to serve as the paper supply for the Scottish artist Katie Paterson's 'Future Library: an anthology of 100 previously unpublished books' written by some of the 21st century's most celebrated writers, says a story by Merve Emre in *The New York Times*. There will be one book for every year the trees will have grown, each a donation from a writer chosen by the Future Library's board of trustees - a gift from the literary gatekeepers of the present to the readers of the future. This summer, nearly 100 people made the annual pilgrimage to the clearing to watch the Turkish novelist Elif Shafak present Paterson with the fourth manuscript for the library, which already houses novels by Margaret Atwood, David Mitchell and the Icelandic novelist Sjón. The Handover Ceremony, as it is called, is a modest ritual. The audience is called to order by the flutings and shouts of a Norwegian folk singer who blesses the land its offerings. Anne Beate Hovind, Chair of the Future Library Trust, established by the Oslo city government in 2014, introduced the audience to Paterson, Shafak and the seedlings, which now stand just over a foot tall and are dressed up for the occasion. Pretty red schoolgirl bows are tied around their centre stalks, and the tops of their needles are turned out a younger, brighter green than the wild grass that surrounds them. In 2020, the manuscripts will be moved to the New Deichmanske Library, currently under construction in Oslo, where they will be displayed in a "Silent Room": a womb-shaped chamber facing the forest, lined with wood from its trees. Visitors will be able to enter, one or two at a time, to gaze at the manuscripts lying under their protective glass cases, waiting for the years to pass. More like a prayer closet than a reading room, Paterson

describes the Silent Room as a "contemplative space." Her hope is that it will prompt the visitor's imagination to journey through "deep time" to probe the mysteries of the forest. For full report visit: https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/01/t-magazine/future-library-books.html

Mobile Library for Sex Workers' Children

Do you remember the first time you read an edition of Twinkle? Or how about, much later, when you were blown over by the sheer poetry that is *God of Small Things*? Books can bring joy, wonder, are the little windows to the world, and everyone must get to experience them. With this thought in mind, NGO Apne Aap Women World is gathering children on B K Pal Park in Kolkata, and giving them books to read. Why is that a big deal? Well, these kids are children of sex workers in the city's infamous red light area, and through this exercise, introducing them to the sheer pleasure of reading. The organization, which works to fight child trafficking too, now has a minivan stuffed with books for the children to read and enjoy. From an abridged version of Pride and Prejudice to Jawaharlal Nehru's biography in Hindi, the library on wheels is bursting with books from all genres, reports The Telegraph (India). Understanding the importance of these children accessing books, the mobile library was launched by Apne Aap Women World, in collaboration with Apeejay Anand Children's Library, and Coal India, on January 20 this year at the Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival. Now, the mobile library pulls up at Sonagachhi and Kidderpore from 2 pm to 5 pm every Monday and Wednesday for kids to come and pick up books. On Fridays, the minivan visits children of leather workers in Topsia as well. Not just books, but also storytellers and volunteers hop on for the ride and conduct storytelling sessions. Speaking to The Logical Indian, Ruchira Gupta, Founder of Apne Aap Women World, said, a lot of college and university students have signed up for the storyteller programme. This exercise would also instil a sense of responsibility among the children. For original report visit: https://yourstory.com/2019/01/ngo-sexworkers-mobile-library

Books Better than Screens

Young "digital natives" are much more likely to absorb information from printed books rather than screens even though they have grown up surrounded by iPads and smartphones, new research shows, says a report by Carl O'Brien in a post on www.irishtimes.com website. The analysis of how more than 170,000 people are learning across Europe finds that paper is the preferred reading medium for both children and young adults when reading novels and longer-form articles. Researchers have found that young readers are more likely to skim longer pieces of text when using iPads or e-readers, especially when under time pressure. They are also less likely to take notes for comprehension or "get lost" in the immersive experience of a novel when reading on screens. Dr Ann Marcus-Quinn, a

lecturer at University of Limerick, who is part of an EU-wide research team, said the findings have implications for how students learn both at home and in the classroom. "Just because young people can master electronic devices doesn't mean that they have the critical skills to interpret texts," she said. "While there is a bigger focus on independent learning, students still need expertise and help [from teachers] . . . and if students are taking notes, the old approach of using a pencil and pen or Post-It notes has its place." The research also indicates that teachers tend to underestimate the negative impact of digital technology when their students read longer texts, while students are more likely to be overconfident about their comprehension ability, researchers have found. However, Dr Marcus-Quinn cautioned against ditching technology entirely and said "shorter texts, such as poetry, can work well on screens". She said she was involved in research which indicates "that engagement with poetry can be boosted when there is access to layers of richer content on screens, such as deeper analysis of the text". There have been a team of almost 200 scholars and scientists researching the impact of digitisation on reading practices across the EU as part of a wider research project. It has involved more than 50 individual studies with more than 170,000 participants over the past four years. Dr Marcus-Quinn said there is a major challenge to discover ways in which to facilitate deep reading of long-form texts in a screen environment given the growing use of screens. As part of the project, Dr Marcus-Quinn and Dr Triona Hourigan of UL have been focussing on the impact of elearning for reading-based activities in secondary schools. They are investigating how typographic presentation can optimise users' experience of learning from screens. Experts involved in the research group - known as E-Read, or Evolution of Reading in the Age of Digitisation - have called for caution when introducing digital technology into education on foot of these findings. They have also urged that teachers should be made aware that a "rapid and indiscriminate" move away from paper is "not neutral". "Unless accompanied by carefully developed digital learning tools and strategies, they may cause a setback in the development of children's reading comprehension and emerging critical thinking skills," the group said, in a joint statement. For original post see: https://www.irishtimes. Com/news/education/books-better-than-screens-forstudents-study-finds-1.3772618

Library at all Coimbatore Police Stations

Books are not something people normally associate with police stations. But now it looks like the state government of Tamil Nadu plans to change that perception, with the inauguration of libraries at 24 police stations in the Coimbatore city recently, says a report in *The Times of India*. The libraries, set up with the help of Lions Club International 324 B1, have books on the Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), Indian Evidence Act, special Acts

and even general knowledge. Apart from police personnel, civilians can also make use of the facilities for reference. The government will open such libraries at all police stations in Tamil Nadu, Municipal Administration Minister S P Velumani said after inaugurating them. City Police Commissioner K Periaiah requested police personnel to make use of the facilities. "Officers as well as public should visit these libraries and update their legal knowledge. Libraries give knowledge and people should understand that knowledge is power," he said. "As per the National Crime Records Bureau data, Coimbatore was selected as the safest city for women and children. Also, R S Puram Police Station was selected as one of the best police stations in India. We will soon set up a library at the Police Recruitment School (PRS) campus that will have books for civil service examination. Family members of officers will be able to use them any time," Periaiah added. For original report visit: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ coimbatore/libraries-opened-in-all-24-police-stations-incity/articleshowprint/65926689.cms

Report on Kids' Reading

Renaissance, a global leader in pre-K-12 education technology, marked National Reading Day in USA on January 23 with the release of its 2019 edition of annual What Kids Are Reading report. For the first time, the study includes book difficulty data from MetaMetrics. This year's report finds that literacy advocates have their work cut out for them: Nearly half of the students read less than 15 minutes per day, while research shows that double that -30 minutes or more - is linked with accelerated reading achievement gains. However, reading time isn't consistent across all grades. It peaks in elementary school, then begins to decline after fifth grade and never recovers. In high school, the typical student is reading no more than 10 minutes per day. "Reading is an academic practice," said Gene Kerns, vice president and chief academic officer at Renaissance. "We wouldn't expect a football team that practices for 15 minutes to be very good, and we expect band students to practice with their instruments for 30 minutes a day. Yet with reading - the most essential skill that there is for students - we aren't insisting on the same discipline. If our students are strong readers, everything gets easier, and if they're weak readers, everything gets more difficult." To help educators and families encourage students to read, the report offers information about the most-popular books for each grade, cross-curricular lists on topics such as science and social-emotional learning, and tips on how to help students maximize the effects of the time they do spend reading. Reflecting students' growing access to digital texts, the report also highlights some of students' favorite digital reads in each grade. New to this year's report, a Lexile text complexity measure is included with each title, in addition to an ATOS reading level, to help educators find texts at the "just-right" reading level for each of their students. For details visit: https://www.Renaissance.com/2019/01/23/news-worlds-largest-annual-tudy-student-reading-habits-reveals-critical-gaps-key-strategies/

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Snag in WhatsApp Authentication Feature

WhatsApp had rolled out biometric authentication feature for iOS users of the messenger app. However, it is now being reported that the implementation of biometric authentication using Face ID or Touch ID has a bug that grants access to anyone without verification, according to a recent post on www.businesstoday.in website. The privacy screen lock bypass bug was first reported on Reddit. WhatsApp has acknowledged the problem and will soon be coming out with an update to fix the same. According to the Reddit post, the bug occurs if the user selects any option other than "Immediately" inside WhatsApp Settings -> Account -> Privacy -> Screen Lock. The other options include 'After 1 minute', 'After 15 minutes', and 'After 1 hour'. The bug could allow any user to bypass the iPhone's Face ID or Touch ID authentication by using iPhones share feature used to send files over WhatsApp. If the user has set verification requirement as 'immediately' then they would have to provide Touch ID or Face ID input each time they open WhatsApp. The authentication system fails when the user selects a particular interval option other than 'immediately'. Confirming the bug, a WhatsApp spokesperson said, "We are aware of the issue and a fix will be available shortly. In the meantime, we recommend that people set the screen lock option to 'immediately." For more details visit: https://www.businesstoday.in/technology/top-story/bug-inyour-whatsapp-iphone-users-face-security-risk-thanks-toface-id-touch-id-glitch/story/320881.html

SPECIAL FEATURE

Prodigies of the Web World

Age is a just a number, says an adage. Achievers can be from all spectrums of age groups - child prodigies, achievers in their teens, middle-aged crew or even senior citizens. All those successful people have proven age doesn't matter for them as long as their passion and perseverance keep them going, says a post on *kalamfanclub.com* website, in the context of the achievements of a child prodigy - Sreelakshmi Suresh - the youngest girl web designer and CEO in the world. It is equally true in case of another child prodigy - Ajay Puri - the youngest boy web designer.

Born in 1996 and initially brought up in Thailand, where his father was employed, Ajay could then use with ease Microsoft products like Word, Excel, PowerPoint,

FrontPage, Access Database. He could himself send out emails with attachments. He could scan pictures, record video mails and email or talk live on Internet. Microsoft Thailand gifted him FrontPage for making websites which he had already mastered. He designed his own web page www.microsoftkid.com at the tender age of 4. Thus he became the "Youngest Web Designer of the World" and entered the Book of Records. This news rocked the cyber world and amazed the software professionals.

In the resume page of Ajay on www.microsoftkid.com website, it has been mentioned that at an age when kids play with wooden blocks Ajay played with key board and started making websites with all hyperlinks, thumb nails, background music, frames, DHTML, Forms, etc. using FrontPage. He could insert pictures, type out documents with all formatting, create graphs, sort out data list, create sub-totals, create a power-point presentation with all animations and sound. At that small age Ajay was also able to perform routine maintenance of the computer. In Access Database Ajay could create fields, make forms for entering data, enter data, create SQL queries and make reports based on required data. Ajay also mastered Adobe FLASH. Ajay could use Gif Animator for creating Gif images. Ajay later started learning Visual Basic and Animation technology for movie-making. After being an achiever of a slot in Book of Records, Ajay showed his skill in computer applications before software/hardware giant companies like Microsoft, IBM, INTEL and MAN Group, Thailand. Ajay also passed all the Microsoft certified examinations securing about 95 % marks - highest in the world so far for his age group. At the age of 5 Ajay passed Microsoft Office User Specialist certification exam with 98% marks to become the Youngest Microsoft Certified Office User Specialist in the world.

Ajay's achievements were hailed not only by the former Presidents of India, HE K R Naryanan, and HE A P J Abdul Kalam, former Prime Ministers of India Shri Atal Bihar Vajpayee and Dr. Manmohan Singh, and many other Indian leaders, including Sonia Gandhi, but even several world leaders like Mikhail Gorbachev and Bill Clinton. Microsoft chief Bill Gates honoured him by gifting him his autographed book "Business at the Speed of Thought". Interestingly, however, Ajay has opted for study of economics instead of computer science/application and is now pursuing his studies at Hong Kong University of Science & Technology.

The other prodigy Sreelakshmi Suresh was born two years later in 1998 at Kozhikode in Kerala. Though not coming from an affluent family which could afford all modern gadgets, she was very much interested in computer applications from her early childhood. When she was 3 years old, she used to draw pictures using MS Paint program in computer. Then she learnt typing alphabets and gradually started studying web designing. Recalling her initiation in web designing, Sreelakshmi told children's magazine

Chandamama that it was her father who one day showed her a website designed by Ajay Puri and said that if she wanted she could also design a website. She was thrilled and her father taught her web designing basics using MS-Word and later MS-Frontpage. When Sreelakshmi realised that her school, Presentation Higher Secondary School, did not have a website, she couldn't drum up the courage to ask her headmistress for permission to set up a site. So she asked her father to ask on her behalf. Permission granted, the budding designer set to work and six months later the school launched the site. 'It was the proudest day in my life,' Sreelakshmi told Chandamama. A scroll on the site - www. presentationhss.com - reads: 'This website is designed and developed by Sreelakshmi Suresh, an 8-year old, 4th standard student of this school. She is the 'Youngest Web Designer Girl of the World'.

When Shreelakshmi started her own web designing company eDesign Technologies (*www.edesign.co.in*) at the age of 11, she was identified as one of the youngest CEOs of the globe. Her another early venture was *TinyLogo.com* which is a logo based search engine. This was launched in association with Cybrosys Technosolutions, the company owned by Sainul Abideen, who is world famous for his rainbow technology.

Sreelakshmi has by now designed more than 100 fully functional websites for various institutions and organizations, including Bar Council of Kerala, Angels International, EHP India and Mammas Passion, besides her own website http://www.sreekutty.com/. Her website for the deaf, www.kozhikodedeaf.org, was officially launched by Shri Binoy Viswam, the then Minister for Forest of Kerala and that for kids in Malayalam, www.e-sandesh.com, was inaugurated by the then Chief Minister of Kerala, Shri V S Achuthanandan, on December 7, 2008. The latest website created by her is www.stateofkerala.in containing all the details about Kerala to attract visitors from all over the world.

Sreelakshmi has won more than 40 awards, which include awards not only from her own country but many other countries, such as USA, UK, Canada and Brazil. The Association of American Webmasters has honoured her by giving their membership along with their highest award for excellence in web designing, the Gold Web Award. She is the only member of the Association of American Webmasters, ever, under the age of 18. "I would like to become a software engineer. My dream is to develop an operating system which is more user-friendly and with more facilities than any OS available at present", says Sreelakshmi when asked about her future plans.

The two child prodigies have proved their intellectual prowess and brought immense honour to our country. We hope that there will not be dearth of such geniuses in our country in future too.

[Sources: https://best9.wordpress.com/2011/01/17/worlds-youngest-web-designer-2/, http://www.microsoftkid.

com/resumepage.html, https://www.quora.com/ What-is-child-prodigy-Ajay-Puri-doing-now, http://kalamfanclub.com/sreelakshmi-suresh-a-web-designer-and-a-ceo-at-the-age-of-6/, http://www.sreekutty.com/, http://news.asiaone. Com/News/Education/Story/A1Story20090724-156800. html, https://www.youthkiawaaz.com/2010/02/interview-with-sreelakshmi-suresh-worlds-youngest-ceo/]

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 NARAYANA (G J). The Roses and the Thorns in the Career of an Information Scientist: A Managerial Insight. 2018. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹ 625. ISBN: 9788193431146 (Presents experiences, thoughts and reflections drawn from the working life of the author in the domain of library and information service, and teaching management science in different capacities over a period of three decades)
- 2. RAMAN NAIR (R) et al. Information Management in Digital Environment. 2018. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹1200. ISBN: 9788193431191
 - (Contains papers and proceedings of a national conference on the above area, organized by Toc H Institute of Science & Technology libraries, Arakkunnam)
- 3. SANJEEV. Essentials of Digital Content Management and Preservation. 2018. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹500. ISBN: 9788193431184
 - (Focusses on all possible and relevant theory and practical issues of digital preservation in the libraries)
- SATIJA (M P) et al. Library Classification and S R Ranganathan: A Guide. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹1200. ISBN: 9788193607473

(Discusses importance of Ranganathan's work in classification)

Foreign

- 1 HARMEYER (Dave) and BASKIN (Janice J). Implementing the Information Literacy Framework: A Practical Guide for Librarians. 2018. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Lanham, Maryland, USA. \$58.50. ISBN: 9781538107577.
- 2. KELSEY (Marie). Cataloging for School Librarians. 2nd ed. 2018. Rowman & Littlefield Lanham, Maryland, USA. \$95. ISBN: 9781538106082.
- 3. KIRSCH (Breanne A). The LITA Guide to No- or Low-Cost Technology Tools for Libraries. 2018. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Lanham, Maryland, USA. \$35. ISBN: 9781538103111.
 - (Provides a practical guide on how to find and use technology tools for a variety of purposes in libraries and, more broadly, in education)
- 4. MANGUEL (Alberto). Packing My Library An Elegy and Ten Digressions. 2018 Yale University Press. \$ 23. ISBN: 9780300219333.
 - (Illuminates the highly personal art of reading and affirms the vital role of public libraries)
- 5. MAYBEE (Clarance). IMPACT Learning: Librarians at the Forefront of Change in Higher Education. 2018. Chandos Publishing, Oxford. \$80.95. ISBN: 9780081020775.
 - (Describes how academic libraries can enable the success of higher education students by creating or partnering with teaching and learning initiatives that support meaningful learning through engagement with information)
- 6. PATNAIK (K Rama). Changing the Scope of Library Instruction in the Digital Age. 2018. IGI Global, \$ 174.42. ISBN: 9781522528029.
 - (Provides emerging information on data visualization tools, creating effective instructions, and instructional design in library sciences)

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