



# IASLIC NEWSLETTER

Indian Association for Special  
Libraries and Information Centres



November 2019

A Monthly Newsletter Published by IASLIC

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## Quote of the Month

**"The standard library will serve both as a tool and as a teacher."**

— Bjarne Stroustrup

Danish Computer Scientist

## 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 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*

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## CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

### National

#### **Workshop on Writing for Research**

A National Workshop on 'Enhancing Writing Skills for Research' (NWEWSR - 2019) is being organized by the University Library and Department of Library and Information Science, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli, during November 1 - 2, 2019. For details visit: <https://msulibrarytv1.blogspot.com/>

#### **Workshop on Research Data Management**

A Workshop on 'Research Data Management and the Dataverse Project' is being organized at IIT Ropar on November 4, 2019. For details visit: <http://library.iitrpr.ac.in/workshop/index.html>

#### **Workshop on Transforming Libraries**

The Learning Resource Centre of Vignana Jyothi Institute of Management, Hyderabad, is conducting a Workshop on 'Transforming Libraries into Learning Resource Centres: Innovative Solutions for Academic Libraries' on November 6, 2019. For details visit: <https://vjim.edu.in/workshop/>

#### **Refresher Course in LIS**

The Human Resource Development Centre, Gauhati University, Guwahati, is organizing a Refresher Course in Library & Information Sciences during November 6 - 19, 2019. For details visit: [sksgu1@gauhati.ac.in](mailto:sksgu1@gauhati.ac.in)

### Seminar on Inclusive Library Services

A National Seminar on 'Special Needs towards Inclusive Library Services in India' is being organized by National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities, Kolkata, during November 16 - 17, 2019. For details visit: <http://www.niohkol.nic.in/WhatsNewPdf/NILD%20Library%20Seminar%20pdf.pdf>

### Conference on Emerging Technologies

TCS Information Resource Centre, Mumbai, is organizing the 5th Soference 'Social Conference' in the field of LIS and related areas on December 7, 2019. The theme of the conference is 'Emerging Technologies and Innovative Practices in Libraries'. For details visit: <https://sites.google.com/view/soference2019>

### Seminar on Prevention of Plagiarism

A National Seminar on 'Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism' is being organized by the University of Petroleum & Energy Studies, Dehradun, on December 20, 2019. For details visit: <https://www.upes.ac.in/>

### Conference on Development of DLs

The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on 'Development of Digital Libraries in IPR regime' (DDLIR 2019) is being organized by Madhu Limaye Library, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, Lucknow, during December 21 - 22, 2019. For details visit: <https://ddlir2019.webnode.com/>

### Conference on Reaching User

The 4th National Conference on Management of Modern Libraries (NACML - 2020) on 'Reaching out Users in the Digital Era: Opportunities and Challenges' is being organized by SEARCH - The Health Sciences Library and Department of Library and Information Science, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, during January 10 - 11, 2020. For details visit: <https://conference.manipal.edu/NACML/Default>

### International

#### ETD Symposium

The 22nd International Symposium on 'Electronic Theses and Dissertations' (ETD 2019) will be held during November 6 - 7, 2019, at Universidade Portucalense, Porto, Portugal. For details visit: <http://etd2019.upt.pt/etd-2019-program/>

#### Conference on Innovative Library Services

PG & Research Department of Library and Information Science, Bishop Heber College, Tiruchirappalli, is organizing an International Conference on 'Innovative Library Services for Cultural and Educational Transformation' during January 10 - 11, 2020. For details visit: <http://bhc.edu.in/ILSCET/>

### Congress on ICT

The Fifth International Congress on 'Information and Communication Technology' (ICICT 2020) will be held in London during February 20 - 21, 2020. For details visit: <https://icict.co.uk/>

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

### 12-yr old Author of 135 Books

A 12-year-old child prodigy from Uttar Pradesh has written 135 books on subjects like religion and biographies of well known personalities, including a biography of UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, according to an *ndtv* report. The child, Mrigendra Raj, said that he started writing books at the age of six and his first one was a compilation of poems. He uses the pen name of 'Aaaj Ka Abhimanyu' and already has four world records to his credit. "I have written books after analyzing 51 characters of the Ramayana. Each of my books runs into 25 to 100 pages. I even received an offer from the World University of Records in London for doctorate," he says. His mother who is a teacher in a private school in Sultanpur says that her son developed a keen interest in writing and she encouraged him. His father is an employee in the state's Sugar Industry and Cane Development Department. About his future, Mrigendra Raj said that he would like to become a writer when he grows up and write maximum number of books on various subjects and genres. For original report visit: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/13-year-old-mrigendra-raj-from-uttar-pradesh-has-written-over-100-books-2066874>

### Edu Service Cadre for WB Govt. College Librarians

The librarians working in government colleges of West Bengal have been included in West Bengal Education Service cadre with immediate effect vide GO No. 1685-Edn(A)/10M-97/15 (Part), dated 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2019. These librarians were earlier enjoying similar pay-scales and benefits such as pension, leave and CAS like other teachers in government colleges, but were not placed in West Bengal Education Service cadre.

### Prof. Baradol Endowment Lecture

Prof. A K Baradol, Retired Professor, DLIS, and Dean, Faculty of Science, Mangalore University, Mangalore, and former Visiting Professor, DLIS, Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women's University (KSAWU), Vijayapura, has instituted an endowment lecture - Prof. A K Baradol Endowment Lecture in Library & Information Science - at DLIS, KSAWU. The first endowment lecture was delivered by Prof. K S Raghavan, former Professor, DRTC, ISI, Bangalore, on the topic 'From Document Classification to Knowledge Management: Evolution of Knowledge Organization' on March 18, 2019. Prof. Raghavan, in his

lecture, traced the evolution of knowledge organization since Vedic period and elaborated on the knowledge organization system in the digital age. He pointed out how knowledge was organized in different time settings using different principles. He also discussed the trend of present research in the discipline.

### First Library for Transgender

For the first time in India, a transgender library has been opened as a part of the transgender resource centre in Viswanathapuram, Madurai, to increase awareness about bisexual people in the country, says a PTI report published in *The Deccan Chronicle*. "Programs for alternate-sex children should be announced in the National Children's Policy and transgender subjects should be included in the school education system," said Priya Babu, director of the transgender resource centre in Madurai. Launched in 2016, the centre focuses on the promotion of transgender people and making people aware of the no-binary gender. As per the 2011 census, there are 4 lakh 90 thousand transgender people in India and about 21 thousand are in Tamil Nadu. For original report visit: <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/current-affairs/240919/first-transgender-library-in-india-opens-in-tamil-nadus-madurai.html>

### Stolen Books Recovered from Varsity Library

More than 1500 rare books, stolen from the Raza Oriental College, were recovered from the library of Jauhar Ali University (JAU), Rampur, recently, say reports published in *The Hindustan Times*. The books were recovered in surprise raids conducted in the library of the university by a police team. Police arrested four persons who were reportedly trying to remove the books from the library. Circle officer Ganj area Vidya Kishore said, "The raid was conducted on an intelligence input that the books are kept at Mumtaz library of the varsity and efforts are being made to shift them to some other place. When we reached the library, we found that some persons were packing the books in cartons. We have arrested them for this." Investigation in the matter began on June 16, after the principal of Raza Oriental College in Rampur, Zubair Khan, lodged an FIR of theft at Ganj police station. In the FIR, the principal had alleged that over 9000 books were stolen from the school. Zubair Khan further alleged that the books were taken to the library in Jauhar University. According to sources, two Nawabi era statues of lions, which belonged to Rampur Club that was established in 1903 by the then Nawab, were also recovered. However, police are yet to confirm their recovery. For more details visit: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/1500-stolen-books-recovered-from-library-of-jauhar-university/story-4QJGvUdv9C3P0AG2JXJUFL.html> and <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/more-stolen-books-recovered-azam-s-s-on-detained/story-vUwrkVnNxRG7xg8B5z7kYO.html>

### Old Manuscript Turned into Book

A surviving manuscript of the *Bhagavat Purana* from South India, detailing the exploits of Lord Krishna in his later years, has been transformed into an illustrated book by eminent art historian B N Goswamy, says a PTI report published in *The Hindustan Times*. The manuscript was once in the library of the royal house of the Wadiyars of Mysore before it landed at an exhibition in London. Soon afterwards, Edwin Binney III acquired it, added it to his rich collection of Indian paintings and later donated it to the San Diego Museum of Art. "The subject of the manuscript is that great and ancient religious text, the 'Bhagavata Purana', and we know that it was written and illustrated for the Mysore ruler, Mummadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar (born 1794, died 1868; period of effective rule 1799-1831)," says Goswamy. His book 'The Great Mysore Bhagavata with essays by Robert J Del Bonta and Caleb Simmons' seeks to do a complete study of the manuscript. "The intention is to enable the reader to access all that is there in the manuscript, save the complete text in Kannada which in any case is based on the original Sanskrit text of the Bhagavata Purana," he says. According to the author, the Bhagavata Purana, as a subject, has been painted over and over again, but the section of it which this book deals with - the latter half of the tenth 'skandha', which leaves the winsome childhood and the seductive growing years of Krishna far behind - does not have too many precedents. In *The Great Mysore Bhagavata*, published by Niyogi Books, there are leaps of imagination that can mesmerise the readers, and the episodes picked up by its great but unnamed illustrators are explored in dense, brilliant detail. At each step, the painters seem to have been aware of the importance of the text itself. The author also describes in detail 60 significant paintings, most of which are related to Krishna. For details visit: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/books/bhagavat-purana-manuscript-preserved-by-the-wodeyars-of-mysore-turned-into-book/story-w155gg1FF0VVfoiM1CzZ1H.html>

### School Library Condition in UK

Primary schools in UK are less likely to have a dedicated library space than secondary schools, and in many cases, libraries are being used as classrooms or meeting rooms rather than for their original purpose, says a report in *The Western Telegraph*. Campaigners are warning that there is an "inequality of access and opportunity" that needs to be dealt with so that all children can benefit from what a school library has to offer. The study, based on a survey of 1,750 schools across England, Wales and Northern Ireland, found that 87% have access to a designated library space, meaning around one in eight (13%) does not. A breakdown shows that schools in England were most likely to have a library, at 90%, dropping to 67% in Wales and 57% in Northern Ireland. The survey also shows discrepancies between rich and poor - 91% of schools that have between none and 9% of

pupils eligible for free school meals - a key measure of poverty - have a library area. This drops to 81% among schools where 25% to 49% are eligible for free dinners, and to 56% where half or more pupils are eligible. Only 12 schools in this final category took part in the survey. "These findings indicate that pupils in schools with a higher proportion of free school meals are less likely to experience the range of positive benefits a school library can provide," the report said. Research has shown that the benefits include improving reading and writing skills, more enjoyment of reading and improving general academic achievement, the study added. The vast majority of secondary schools (96%) said that they had a school library, compared with 85% of primary schools. More than half (59%) of school libraries were reported to be used as a classroom for non-library lessons, and a similar proportion (51%) were used for meetings. A third of schools said that pupils continued to have access to the library space while it was being used for an alternative purpose. The survey was commissioned by the Great School Libraries campaign, a three-year project which aims to ensure all children have access to a decent school library. Nick Poole, chief executive of CILIP, said: "We welcome this landmark report as the first comprehensive picture of the state of play in our school libraries. On the one hand, it is a testament to the head teachers, teachers, governors and librarians that value and promote the importance of school libraries for learners and their school. On the other hand, the research paints a picture of inequality of access and opportunity and insecure employment that we cannot accept. The findings highlight the urgency of securing national school library strategies and investment in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, drawing on the example of Scotland." For more details visit: <https://www.westerntelegraph.co.uk/news/national/17973728.one-eight-schools-no-library---report/>

### Three Lakh Manuscripts Digitized

The National Mission for Manuscripts has digitised over 3.06 crore pages of three lakh manuscripts till August this year, says a report in *The Hindustan Times*. This includes 2,99,50,000 pages in June, 3,03,50,000 pages in July and 3,06,65,000 pages in August as per sources from the Ministry of Culture. In addition to that, the Mission has also catalogued 43,41,677 manuscripts till August this year. Some of these manuscripts are from the Bhubaneshwar's Orissa State Museum, Lucknow's Jain Manuscripts, Kashmir's Allama Iqbal Library, Guwahati's Shankardeva Kalakshetra, Pondicherry's French Institute of Pondicherry, Delhi's Jamia Hamdard, Patna Museum, and Kurukshetra University, among others. These pages are now part of the Digital Manuscripts Library of India, a searchable collection set up to allow for easy access to manuscripts, predominantly in Indian languages. Under the Mission, manuscripts of science, arts, culture, music, traditional medicine, vedas, tantras and other disciplines will be easily accessible to

everyone. The Mission has also developed an app and software under which meta-data can be entered online to be uploaded in the cloud server along with digital images which will be interlinked. The Mission, which was initiated in 2003 with an intent to locate, document, conserve and disseminate knowledge about India's manuscripts, had started with the digitisation of 5 caches of manuscripts. These manuscripts, some of which are rare ones, cover a variety of themes, textures and aesthetics, scripts, languages, calligraphies, illuminations and illustrations. For original report visit: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/over-3-crore-pages-digitised-by-national-mission-for-manuscripts/story-9FNPQyb6stQitBSYZiGhgM.html>

### MP to set up Office in Library

Bangalore South MP Tejasvi Surya's decision to set up his office at the public library located in Jayanagar 5th Block has come as a big disappointment to the public, with the MP being accused of snatching a space where kids from underprivileged families gathered to prepare for board examinations, according to a report in *The Deccan Herald*. The building in question belongs to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). While the first and second floor is meant for newspaper reading and public reference, the ground floor was utilised to conduct evening classes to coach children from under privileged families for SSLC board exams. The practice will end as and when the MP moves in. The BBMP commissioner already issued an order allotting the space for office use of Surya and even the renovation work is underway. As per details available, the initiative was started by former MLA late N Vijay Kumar in association with a private trust for a period of five years. "The agreement signed by Vijay Kumar was completed in March 2019 and another trust applied to continue the same project for which the BBMP council even extended permission," said a BBMP source. The coaching used to be conducted a few months before the final exams and also during the exams. "This year, students would be deprived of that facility," said an official from the library. Reacting to the news, Tejasvi Surya told *DH* that the space was also used as an office by late Vijay Kumar. "The library is located on the first and second floor of the building. We are making an office in an unused place. Whatever that has been said is false news," said the MP. The copy of the order issued by the BBMP states: "Keeping the interest of office activities of MP representing Bengaluru South parliamentary constituency Tejasvi Surya, the ground floor of the property belonging to BBMP at ward number 168 located at No.4, 11th Main Road, 39th Cross Road, Jayanagar 5th Block in Pattabhirama Nagara, opposite to Pu. Thi. Na park is reserved for office activities of Bangalore South MP." Speaking on the issue, RTI activist Mari Lingegowda Mali Patil, who has decided to write to Prime Minister Narendra

Modi about the issue, said student welfare activity was going on at the library and even government schoolchildren had access to special coaching during the SSLC exams. “But despite knowing about the activity MP Tejaswi Surya has snatched away the space. I will write to Prime Minister Narendra Modi about this incident,” he said. For original report visit: <https://www.deccanherald.com/city/bengaluru-politics/surya-s-office-hunt-ends-at-library-hits-students-762664.html>

### Colleges set up Village Libraries

Commemorating the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the 60th anniversary of the National Service Scheme (NSS), colleges affiliated with the University of Mumbai (MU) set up over 200 libraries in villages across the state and plan to set up 150 more by the end of the academic year, says a report by Shreya Bhandary in *The Hindustan Times*. “We have noticed that villages in interior Maharashtra are least equipped with books and libraries. Therefore, all MU-affiliated colleges with NSS units decided to participate in a book collection drive, which could later be placed in any of the libraries across the state,” said Sudhir Puranik, in-charge director, NSS unit, MU. Close to 350 MU-affiliated colleges are participating in this campaign and the idea is for each college to set up a library in their adopted village. While books are being collected by students across and beyond the city, NSS volunteers are very clear that they will not accept donations. “We’ve already set up over 200 libraries that boast of over 31,000 titles. School students in all these villages have displayed a lot of enthusiasm for the new libraries and books,” said a student from one of the participating colleges. These libraries have either been set up in the zilla parishads or gram panchayats of the villages to increase accessibility for students. “Once a month, a student NSS volunteer from the college also visits these villages and the libraries to check functionality of the new concept, and the response has been very positive,” added Puranik. By the end of the academic year, these colleges plan to set up 350 new libraries across rural Maharashtra, one by each of the participating colleges. “The number of books will keep increasing so students will never fall short of new books,” he said. For details visit: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/mumbai-news/mumbai-colleges-set-up-200-libraries-in-state-s-villages/story-3ZJCAB650bnMdGM1grDuLK.html>

### Kannada Open Online Library

Over the years, technology has proved to be of immense help to people with disabilities. New gadgets and assistive devices aid disabled people to do things independently in their day to day lives. When it comes to education, many people with disabilities, especially visually impaired, have access to technology that helps them to pursue higher education without any hassles. *Kannada Pustaka*, an open

online library of accessible Kannada audio textbooks, has come out with a text-to-speech project that aims to empower more visually impaired students, according to a story on *newzhook* website. *Kannada Pustaka* is the brainchild of Rakesh Kashyap, who lives in Leeds, United Kingdom, and is an eco-physiologist. Kashyap started *Kannada Pustaka* in 2015 after he quit his job as a consultant scientist and was gearing up to prepare for his higher studies. A conversation with friends about the challenges faced by visually impaired people motivated him to do something to make education accessible. One of the main challenges was that textbooks in Braille are massive in size and hard to carry around. Kashyap hit upon the idea of doing something audio-based so students can listen repeatedly, even doing a last minute revision before entering the exam hall. Kashyap says: “I felt having exclusive audio versions of textbook chapters is ideal because a visually impaired student can keep playing it as much as they want. The software for this was developed by Shivkumar and Ramakrishnan. People usually rely on cassettes, MP3s and now WhatsApp to record. But there are many loopholes as chances of errors are also high. For instance, the syllabi change every year. The speech versions that you hear on our website are synthesised text to speech versions so that even people without disabilities can access them”. Students of any age, be it in schools or colleges, can access *Kannada Pustaka*. They are also free of cost. Volunteers at *Kannada Pustaka* record the texts which are later scanned thoroughly by editors. “All the details including page number and headings of chapters go to Google Docs. That gives us a clear idea of the syllabus, years, and chapters, etc. Our work is done free of cost and we do not have any funding either. We do not want people to endorse our project. You can also play it on your Google assistant”, says Kashyap. Over 300 volunteers are a part of *Kannada Pustaka*. Currently, they have over 3,000 subscribers for the podcasts. For full story visit: <https://newzhook.com/story/22285>

### World's First Dated Book

With the holiday mood in the air and the sun blazing down in almost every part of our country, you might be one of those who does some reading to relax yourself after a draining session, playing outside. We’ve all taken to books at one point or another, be it just for the pleasure of reading, to do some activities or study for exams. Do you, however, know which is the oldest dated printed book still in existence even today? That honour goes to *The Diamond Sutra*, a Buddhist religious text, according to a story by A S Ganesh in *The Hindu*. While the book dates back to the year 868 AD, it was found only in 1907, having remained hidden for nearly 1,000 years. The credit for this goes to Sir Aurel Stein, a Hungary-born British archaeologist and explorer. Born in Budapest in 1862, Stein studied Sanskrit, Old Persian, Indology and Philology, preparing himself for a career in India. While his

formal positions from 1888 included being registrar of Punjab University, principal of the Oriental College, Lahore, and principal of the Calcutta Madrasah, his real interest was in exploring India, China, Central and West Asia. Stein carried out three successful Silk Road expeditions during which he not only carried out archaeological excavations and photographing, but also geological and ethnographical surveys. He eventually died in his 80s in 1943, a week after arriving in Afghanistan, while embarking on his long-dreamt expedition to the country. While this copy of *The Diamond Sutra* is now considered the oldest known printed book, its contents are central to Indian Buddhism, and are believed to have been translated from Sanskrit to Chinese in about 400 AD. The development of printing in China in the 8th Century paved the way for this book. For full story visit: <https://www.thehindu.com/children/the-worlds-oldest-known-printed-book/article27089571.ece>

### Online RDM Programme

Elsevier, a global information analytics business specializing in science and health, has announced the launch of the Research Data Management Librarian Academy (RDMLA), an online program created by a team of expert librarians in the Northeastern United States, according to a news-release on [www.prenesware](http://www.prenesware) website. The RDMLA is intended primarily for librarians but is also applicable for researchers. The program consists of eight units, which can be taken in sequence or at the user's choice separately. Each unit takes an hour to complete and consists of videos, slides, demonstrations, reading resources and self-assessments. The program is geared for the practicing librarian who wants to learn about research data management (RDM) but may be time-crunched and not able to leave work to obtain formal training. The information is practical and meant to be applied, with demonstrations of some of the key software and RDM platforms. For more details visit: <https://www.pnewsire.com/news-releases/elsevier-launches-the-research-data-management-librarian-academy-rdmla-300944790.html>

## TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### National AI Resource Platform

IIT Kharagpur has collaborated with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to develop a resource portal to promote learning and development in the artificial intelligence (AI), says a PTI report published in *The Hindustan Times*. Powered by Amazon SageMaker, a cloud machine learning platform, the National Artificial Intelligence Resource Portal (NAIRP) is aimed at making the search for AI learning resources simpler and more accessible to learners, practitioners and researchers in India, a recent IIT KGP statement said. The initiative has got funding from the Ministry of Human Resources

Development, as part of the National Digital Library of India (NDLI) project which is being spearheaded by the premier institute. With the launch of NAIRP, machine learning practitioners will be able to search quickly and get access to myriads of learning resources, it said. "The contributions from AWS will enable us to provide cloud computing to all learners and reduce the high barrier to make training in AI more available," former IIT Kharagpur Director and Professor Partha Pratim Chakrabarti said. There is a demand for professionals skilled in AI as well as resources, said Professor Sudeshna Sarkar, Head, Centre for Artificial Intelligence at IIT Kharagpur. NAIRP will index a wide variety of AI-specific learning materials and allow interested candidates access to different resources for converting concepts into working modules. Bratin Saha, Vice-President, AWS Machine Learning and Engines, said, "We are delighted to work with IIT Kharagpur in developing the NAIRP platform." For original report visit: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/education/iit-kharagpur-collaborates-with-amazon-web-services-to-develop-national-artificial-intelligence-resource-platform/story-MdSWlonIV4g58bJfWM0wKP.html>

### Bugs Found in Back-end Systems of Some Apps

Cybersecurity researchers have identified more than 1,600 vulnerabilities in the support ecosystem behind the top 5,000 free apps available in the Google Play Store, says an Indo Asian News Service report published in *The Hindustan Times*. While the researchers from Georgia Institute of Technology and The Ohio State University studied only applications in the Google Play Store, applications designed for iOS may share the same backend systems. The vulnerabilities were found in the back-end systems that feed content and advertising to smartphone applications through a network of Cloud-based servers. The vulnerabilities, affecting multiple app categories, could allow hackers to break into databases that include personal information - and perhaps into users' mobile devices, said the study scheduled to be presented at the 2019 USENIX Security Symposium in the US. "These vulnerabilities affect the servers that are in the cloud, and once an attacker gets on the server, there are many ways they can attack," said Brendan Saltaformaggio, Assistant Professor in Georgia Tech's School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. The researchers were still investigating whether attackers could get into individual mobile devices connected to vulnerable servers. "It's a whole new question whether or not they can jump from the server to a user's device, but our preliminary research on that is very concerning," Saltaformaggio added. In their study, the researchers discovered 983 instances of known vulnerabilities and another 655 instances of zero-day vulnerabilities spanning across the software layers - operating systems, software services, communications modules and web apps - of the Cloud-based systems

supporting the apps. To help developers improve the security of their mobile apps, the researchers have created an automated system called SkyWalker to vet the Cloud servers and software library systems. SkyWalker can examine the security of the servers supporting mobile applications, which are often operated by Cloud hosting services rather than individual app developers. For original report visit: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/tech/researchers-found-bugs-in-back-end-systems-of-top-5-000-free-android-apps/story-KUr9XEJEZkGloOD3pUh0YJ.html>

### New 'Unprinting' Method

Scientists have created a new way to erase black, blue, red and green toners from printed pages -- an advance that may help recycle paper, says a PTI report published in *The Business Standard*. The method, developed by researchers at Rutgers University in the US, can work with the standard, coated paper used in home and office printers. It uses pulses of light from a xenon lamp, and can erase black, blue, red and green toners without damaging the paper, according to a study in the *Journal of Cleaner Production*. "Our method makes it possible to unprint and then reprint on the same paper at least five times, which is typically as many times paper can be reused with conventional recycling," said Rajiv Malhotra, an assistant professor at Rutgers University. "By eliminating the steps involved in conventional recycling, our unprinting method could reduce energy costs, pollution and greenhouse gas emissions," said Malhotra. Conventional recycling of coated paper is a major contributor to climate change emissions, chemical pollution and energy use, according to the study. Extending the life of paper while avoiding these recycling steps would yield significant environmental benefits. The engineers' next steps are to further refine the method by testing additional toner colours on a wider range of paper types. Unprinting can be done with simple equipment and a wipe with a very small amount of benign alcohol, and the engineers are working to integrate unprinting with typical office and home printers. For original report visit: [https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-unprinting-method-can-help-recycle-paper-119062700259\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-unprinting-method-can-help-recycle-paper-119062700259_1.html)

## SPECIAL FEATURE

### Murder in a Library!

When you are at a library, you're expected to turn off the noise. Well, one evening recently at the Asiatic Society Library in Mumbai, a bunch of Mumbaikars were asked to turn on their torches to read, as the room turned pitch dark. No, it wasn't an electricity failure. The eerie setting was courtesy an interactive mystery evening, where folks switched on torches as they turned pages of Agatha Christie's mystery novels. Guess what? They played

detective a la Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple as a couple of corpses turned up later on, too! BT donned the detective cloak and dropped in on the fun, crime fiction event... Old windows, shadows and a rainy night...

Book reading events take on all kinds of themes, but this one certainly raised the hair on the neck. Imagine a crime novel coming to life with all the right ingredients dark, sinister-looking stairs, long dark halls, old bookshelves and silence. The Asiatic Society Library offered just that and what's more, it was for the first time in the history of this imposing library that the lights were to be turned off for participants as they read crime fiction by torchlight. Called 'Night at the Library', the idea was to get people to revisit the tales of the Grand Dame of Mystery Fiction, Agatha Christie. By about 6 pm, participants assembled inside a room in the library. They were quite thrilled to be part of the first-time experience. Said Esho Deo, a first-year student of MKS College, Juhu: "Mystery has been my fave genre and I have read about 10-12 Agatha Christie books. This is a superb way to live them, and what better time for it than after dark?" Added Kumael Doongerwala, a second-year student of IIT, Mumbai: "The very idea of being in this imposing building by torchlight was just so alluring to me." First up was an interactive trivia quiz on the author where everyone got into teams. Organiser Suchitra Dalvie took up the microphone and posed questions like, "Which was the first novel to feature Miss Marple?" The hardcore Agatha Christie fans managed to get quite a few answers right and after a few rounds, it was time for a tea break. Little did everyone know, they were in for a shock soon...

As they sipped on tea, a loud gong cut into the silence. A butler dressed as Poirot appeared. He shouted, "A murder has taken place. And you are all suspects, no one is to leave the premises!" Everyone had to move to another room at the end of a corridor. The whole room was dark, with loud sound effects of thunder and rain. A crime scene tape across a shelf signified that a crime had taken place. The participants were to sit down and find out the perpetrator, getting a first-hand experience of an Agatha Christie book. They brought out their torches and started to read the novels just as a blood-curdling scream was heard. "My husband is dead," came a yell from a woman, who identified herself as Rosalind Mc Alister. The 'inspector' then began to grill everyone present and ask their alibi for the night, classic-Poirot style. Belongings were checked, suspects were picked out and someone even shouted, "I want my lawyer" to much laughter. More fun ensued until finally the 'killer' was pounced upon and 'handcuffed'.

Mumbaikars have been looking for something non-monotonous. For busy folks in the city, an event like this was a much-needed respite, throwing up leisure and mind fodder in good measure. Said Sudhir Ajja: "I feel Mumbaikars have been looking for something non-monotonous, but at the same

time something short that they can sneak into and come out of. And what better than crime solving?" Added co-organiser Suchitra Dalvie: "The idea was to create a forum where readers can interact with each other as well as have some kind of an immersive experience. As book lovers, we found that there was a lack of such spaces in the city." Ranjini Krishnaswami, former school principal and book lover, summed up the general thought: "I love such new experiences and really think Mumbai should have more of these." Next up? It's science fiction novels, so get set for more fun!

[Note: This interesting story was published in *The Times of India*. As it is emulative, it is being reproduced here. Librarians may think of organizing such innovative events in their libraries to attract their users. For original story visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/staging-a-murder-at-the-asiatic-library/articleshowprint/70329092.cms>]

## 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. ASUNDI (A Y) and MEERA (B M), *Eds.* The Science and the Profession of Libraries - A Visionary's Perspective (Ranganathan 125th Anniversary Commemoration Volume). 2019. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹1750. ISBN: 9789387698093
2. RAJU (A A N) and RAMAIAH (L S). Biographical Dictionary of Indian Library and Information Science Professionals. 2v. 2019. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹3850. ISBN: 9789387698086.

3. SATIJA (M P). Colon Classification: A Student Companion. 2019. ₹1050. ISBN: 9789387698109.

### Foreign

1. BYSTRÖM (Katriina) et al, *Ed.* Information at Work: Information management in the workplace. 2019. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. £ 69.95. ISBN: 9781783302758  
(Provides a comprehensive account of information in the modern workplace)
2. CHRIS (J Collison) et al. The KM Cookbook: Stories and strategies for organisations exploring Knowledge Management Standard ISO30401. 2019. Facet Publishing, London. £39.95. ISBN: 9781783304318.  
(Describes the success stories and strategies for organisations wanting to know more about Knowledge Management Standard ISO 30401)
3. SCHOPFLIN (Katharine) and WALSH (Matt). Practical Knowledge and Information Management. 2019. Facet Publishing, London. £64.95. ISBN: 9781783303359.  
(It is a guide for knowledge and information management practitioners)

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