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Quote of the Month

"Well-run libraries are filled with people because what a good library offers cannot be easily found elsewhere: an indoor public space in which you do not have to buy anything in order to stay."

— Zadie Smith
English novelist

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 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.

Triennial Election (2023-2025) of IASLIC

The Triennial Election (2023-2025) of IASLIC will be held as per following programme:

1. Publication of Voters' List: 09-09-2022
2. Dispatch of Nomination Forms to the members: by 27-09-2022
3. Last date of receipt of Nomination Forms at IASLIC Office: 28-10-2022
4. Scrutiny of Nomination Forms: on 29-10-2022
5. Declaration of valid Nominations (before withdrawal): on 29-10-2022 at 7pm
6. Last date of Withdrawal of Nominations: 05-11-2022
7. Declaration of valid Nominations (after withdrawal): on 07-11-2022 at 7pm
8. Ballot papers will be dispatched to the members: by 21-11-2-22
9. Last date of receiving ballot papers: 22-12-2022
10. Counting of ballot papers: 29-12-2022
11. Declaration of election results: 30-12-2022

N.B. Nomination forms have already been dispatched to all members. Other details regarding the election are available on IASLIC website.

IASLIC Foundation Day Celebration

The 68th Foundation Day of IASLIC was celebrated on September 3, 2022. On this occasion the Foundation Day Lecture was delivered by Prof. Amitabha Chatterjee, former Professor & Head, Department of Library & Information Science, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, and Editor, *IASLIC Newsletter* on 'Ethical Challenges and Dilemmas of the Librarians in the Changing Environment'. The programme was chaired by Prof. Krishnapada Majumder, former Prof. Prabir Raychaudhury Chair Professor, Department of Library& Information Science, Jadavpur University, and Vice President, Zone-6.

Welcoming the speaker and the participants, Shri Abhijit Kumar, Honorary General Secretary, IASLIC, mentioned about the activities of IASLIC and how foundation day lecture was introduced in 2011. He also recalled the contributions of founding members as well as other library professionals at whose inspiration and initiative IASLIC was established in Kolkata (then Calcutta) on September 3, 1955. In his introductory address Prof. Krishnapada Majumder gave a historical overview of IASLIC and its gradual development over the last 67 years.

Prof. Chatterjee, in his lecture mentioned that phenomenon of ethical challenges and dilemmas for the library and information (LI) professionals was not new and that this

issue had generated a lot of controversy during early years of *Library Journal* started by Melvil Dewey in 1876. He lamented that though over 60 countries had formulated ethical codes for LI professionals, our country was yet to have such a code and as result the LI professionals were facing problems in meeting the ethical challenges faced by them while performing their professional duties. He pointed out that there were four important factors which were causing ethical challenges and dilemmas among the professionals eternally, viz., social utility, need for survival, social responsibilities and respect for the individual. He further stated that due to the revolutionary changes in the role of LI professionals in the digital age as also enactment of intellectual freedom, censorship, intellectual property right, right to information, etc. the LI professionals were facing several new ethical challenges and dilemmas.

He said, in the information society, many critical issues related to information access and use involved balancing individual and public needs and protecting both an individual's privacy and the public's right to know. With advancement of technology, information products and services were being increasingly digitized. As information intermediaries, librarians needed to ensure that users adhered to the letters of the law on issues as downloading, photocopying and printing copies, he added. Prof. Chatterjee further stated that LI professionals often faced such situations when their individual values might differ with those of peers. When confronted with such issues, the LI professionals must know how to make ethical decisions so as to ensure ethical action, he stressed.

He said, where ethical challenge related to intellectual freedom, the librarian should ensure that the intellectual freedom did not lead to misuse of information and did not clash with the society's interest. Quoting Hauptman, Prof. Chatterjee concluded that "whenever there was a direct conflict between professional ethics and societal good, the latter must take precedence."

Commenting on Prof. Chatterjee's presentation, Shri Salil Chandra Khan, former IASLIC Governing Body Member, stressed on librarian's role as watchman in free flow of information. He stressed on librarian's ethical responsibility when censorship created barrier in flow of information and when restrictions were imposed on expression of independent opinions.

Shri Jagmohan Das, Honorary Treasurer of IASLIC, briefly traced the history of IASLIC and mentioned the contributions of some professional stalwarts in the development of IASLIC. He also shared his memories with them.

In his concluding remarks, Prof. Majumder called upon the library associations in the country to work for early formulation of a code of ethics for LI professionals in the country. In this context he stressed the need for revitalizing

the Joint Council of Library Associations in India (JOCLAI).

Shri Pradip Kumar Sarkar, Joint Secretary of IASLIC, proposed a vote of thanks. Around 30 IASLIC members were present on the occasion.

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/ WORKSHOPS

National

Library Workshop

The Library Department and IQAC of Deccan Education Society's Navinchandra Mehta Institute of Technology and J S Kothari Business School, Mumbai*,* are jointly organizing a Library Workshop on 'Making Your Library Truly Ubiquitous: Illustrated with Real - World Library Cases', on October 8, 2022. For details visit: *https://01415553 475663648847.googlegroups.com/attach/9b65cbcd87150/ Library%20Workshop%202022.pdf?part=0.1&view=1&vt =ANaJVrHin0ksdfMiaM7wKorz1HsyfP14KiyPi4Fl3rzEJS9 7MQ5GAB8kteXzyOHllxnGdusFtef2QEhWuG_NJ-mgr- WS91cjX7QkfbZPJhi2i76RAUcbMCo*

FHSLA National Conference

The 3rd National Conference of the Federation of Health Science Library Associations (FHSLA) is being organized by FHSLA and the Central Library of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, 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*

IATLIS National Conference

The 38th IATLIS National Conference is being jointly organized jointly by IATLIS and DLIS, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, during December 3 - 4, 2022. The theme of the conference is 'ICT, NEP 2020 and LIS Education & Research in India.' For details visit: *https://iatlis.org/ brochure.pdf*

International

Seminar on Innovative LI Services

An International Seminar on 'New and Innovative Library and Information Services' will be held at Galgotia University, Greater Noida, on October 10, 2022. For details visit: *https://www.galgotiasuniversity.edu.in/*

Conference on Revitalization of Libraries

The 5th I-LISS International Conference on 'Revitalizing Libraries to the Android Society' is being jointly organized by the central library of National Institute of Technology, Warangal, and International Library & Information Science Society during October 13 - 14, 2022. For details email to: *ilissic2022@gmail.com.*

Conference on Digital Preservation

An International Conference on 'Digital Preservation (ICDP 2023)'will be held in Cancun, Mexico, during April 3 - 4, 2023. For details visit: *https://waset.org/digital-preservation-conference-in-april-2023-in-cancun*

Conference on Library Science

An International Conference on 'Library Science (ICLS 2023)' will be held in Prague, Czechoslovakia, during July 8 - 9, 2023. For details visit: *https://waset.org/library-science-conference-in-july-2023-in-prague*

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

First District with Library in every Village

Jamtara in Jharkhand has become the only district in the country where all gram panchayats have community libraries. This district with a population of about eight lakh has a total of 118 gram panchayats under six blocks and each panchayat has a well-equipped library which is open for students from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., says an IANS story published in *Business Standard*. Career counselling sessions and motivational classes are also held free of cost here. Sometimes, IAS and IPS officers also visit these libraries to guide the students. Everyone is welcome to visit these innovative sites. The details, GPS locations, photographs and contact numbers of most of these libraries, have been provided on the district's official website. These libraries were set up around two years ago with the assistance of Deputy Commissioner Faiz Aq Ahmed Mumtaz. The story of the beginning of this initiative is also interesting. A Janta Darbar was initially organized by the district administration to know the problems of the villagers in Changidih Panchayat. However, when a villager complained about the lack of proper educational institutions and books here, Faiz decided to facilitate these libraries across the district. When he received information about derelict buildings in different villages, Faiz planned to renovate them and convert them into libraries. On November 13, 2020, the district's first ever community library was inaugurated. From the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds received from several companies and money received by the district under the 14th and 15th Finance Commission, ₹ 60,000 - 2.5 lakh were spent on the restoration and infrastructure of these libraries. Gradually, libraries were set up in panchayats such as Chandradeep, Panjaniya, Menjhia, Gopalpur, Shaharpura, Champapur, and Jhilua. The villagers elected a President, Treasurer, and Librarian from amongst themselves, to run these libraries. They also contributed furniture, water filters, blackboards and emergency lights for some. When schools were shut during the Covid-induced lockdown, villagers took help of at least two teachers to teach students at each library. According to Faiz, over 10,000 career guidance and motivational sessions have been organized in these libraries in the last one and a half years. Officers of various departments also take time off to teach in these libraries. Now over 350 teachers have joined these libraries, who regularly guide the 5,000 students enrolled here. Besides these, books for competitive exams, literature, history, spiritual and motivational topics are also available. Faiz, who is elated with the success of his initiative, told IANS: "The best society is the one which invests the most in education and health. It is our endeavour that capable people of the society adopt these libraries. Jharkhand Assembly Speaker, Rabindranath Mahto, who represents the Nala Assembly constituency in the same district, inaugurated many libraries here. He said that efforts to change the identity of Jamtara district through libraries had been successful. This model should also be adopted in other districts of the state. "Jamtara has been the work place of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, the great social reformer and educationist of the 19th century. He spent the last two decades of his life in Karmatand, Jamtara, awakening the light of education. It is to be hoped that this innovative campaign of libraries will bring back the old identity of Jamtara," he said. For full story visit: *https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/jamtara-becomes-country-s-first-district-with-library-in-every-village-122042400651_1.html*

3000 Library Books Stolen

Thieves targeted a village library in Udaipur, Rajasthan recently. The special thing is that in this public library located near the DSP office, the theft incident was carried out for two consecutive days. Thieves took away 3 thousand books, table-chairs and other items. A year ago, thieves stole the computer system from this library. This library is in Ghatol subdivision area of Banswara district. The police are yet to trace the thieves, says a report by Visva Gaurav available on *livehindustan.com* website. The library is being run in Ghatol town in the premises adjacent to Government Higher Secondary School and DSP office. One thousand books were stolen at night on the first day. On the next day the thieves left with two thousand books, 5 tables and 5 chairs at night. A case has been registered by the library superintendent at Khemra police station. It may be mentioned that this library was started in the year 2010. 25 chairs and 5 big tables were kept for the rural children to read books, out of which all the tables were stolen, and now 20 chairs are left in the library. For original report visit: *https://www.livehindustan.com/rajasthan/story-3-thousand-books-stolen-from-rajasthan-government-library-thieves-took-away-tables-and-chairs-6316697.html*

Film Writers Create Storytelling Library

Media consulting firm Ormax Media partnering with top Bollywood creators are launching a storytelling library called The SOURRCE, says a *The Hindu Businessline* story. According to the press note of Ormax Media, The SOURRCE endeavours to put a structure to the process of harvesting ideas

and concepts for story development. It claims that the agency has cultivated a network of story courts across 21 states. Acclaimed director Rajkumar Hirani sources the first story and steps in as Chief Creative Mentor. Shikha Kapur, Amit Chandra and Prabhat Choudhary will be launching the story library in partnership with Ormax. This library will harness original storytelling from India. Scouts from Kashmir, North East, Hindi heartland, Punjab, Bengal, Maharashtra and Southern states send stories and ideas to the SOURRCE's development team in Mumbai on a daily basis. The SOURRCE will offer an industry-wide subscription for access to its library and will also curate stories specific to development briefs. Additionally, the collaboration with Ormax Media will offer insights and audience feedback to the development team by curating an appeal score to every story before it makes it to the library. Shailesh Kapoor - Founder & CEO, Ormax Media said, "At Ormax Media, we have been testing scripts for films and series extensively over the last decade. But the association with The SOURRCE is particularly special because it gives us an opportunity to contribute in the development process right from the onset, from the insight or the idea, to the story and then the screenplay. In a rapidly-evolving industry, the importance of audience insights cannot be undermined, and I'm glad that the leadership team at The SOURRCE is committed to using audience inputs in their pursuit to develop great content for the Indian theatrical and streaming market." Filmmaker and Chief Creative Mentor Rajkumar Hirani said, "This is a very powerful idea and something that our industry needs. The content pipeline has just exploded and as an industry, we need more and more ideas. The SOURRCE puts a structure to the process of finding creative ideas. While I wouldn't be involved in the day to day functioning of the company I would be mentoring and guiding the creative team". For original story visit: *https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/variety/top-film-writers-create-storytelling-library-the-sourrce/article65438937.ece*

Cops to Open Street Libraries

The Coimbatore city police are planning to launch a scheme called 'Street Library' to educate the youth in 77 slums and 94 cluster houses areas of the cityp , says a story by A Subburaj in *The Times of India.* Comic books and moral stories will be displayed, and the youth and children can utilize the street library. Coimbatore city police commissioner V Balakrishnan visited Rathinapuri, Kannappa Nagar, Maruthappa Konar Street, Sivanand Colony, Gandhi Nagar and Sanganoor as part of foot patrolling recently. He interacted with the residents of the locality and came to know that a section of youths was smoking marijuana in the Sanganoor canal area. They were the trouble mongers of the area. They were hiding in the herbs and shrubs in the canal area. He advised the

Rathinapuri police officials to take necessary steps to clear the herbs and shrubs. "I have noticed hundreds of youths on the streets at Rathinapuri, Kannappa Nagar and Sanganoor areas. They are not engaged in anything. Sometimes, it leads to fights among them. So we have planned to create a street library in the locality. We will find a shop or house in the locality where we will set up a mini library. Moral stories and comic books will be available in the library, and the youth can utilize the library during the evening hours," said Balakrishnan. He further said, "we are going to set up 77 street libraries in slums and 94 street libraries in the group houses in the locality. We are approaching sponsors to set up the libraries. Those who want to extend their help can approach me in person at my office. We have to work together to make the youth engage to divert their focus towards reading books." He said that reading books would help them get away from crimes or other such activities. It would help them focus on their future. For full story visit: *https://timesofindia. indiatimes.com/city/coimbatore/coimbatore-city-police-to-open-street-libraries-to-reduce-crimes-by-youth/ articleshow/92901610.cms*

Library on Trees

Nisha Goala's favourite place to read is under the 'bhomora' tree (Belleric myrobalan) - she "plucks" out her favourite book and buries herself into it. The 'tree library' is an attempt by the Jorhat chapter of the NGO JCI Femina to make reading interesting for kids, says a story by Prashanta Mazumdar in *The New Indian Express*. The library, set up at the Girls' High School in Mariani, has comics, novels, autobiographies and other books in Assamese, Hindi and English. "We took permission from the school, and hired a carpenter and used household waste materials, largely containers, to make shelves. The library with 600 books was launched on Sept. 3," NGO president Dipika Poddar said. JCI Femina Secretary Shivani Agarwal said that they had spent around ₹15,000 to set it up. The school is planning to allot a teacher for the library, Bobina Tanti, the school's headmistress said. Children are elated with the project. "I always love to read books on great people. The library has plenty of them," said Nisha, a class X student of the school, which has 422 students. However, the idea is inviting concern from environmentalists. Saying that the concept is good but the trees could have been spared, environmentalist Mridu Paban Phukon, added, "They could have set it up on a bamboo or metal pole. Nails used to fix the bookshelves will have an adverse impact on the trees. They could have used ropes," Phukon added, pointing out that paints on the trees can harm the ecosystem of ants and insects. For original story visit: *ttps://www.newindianexpress.com/good-news/2022/sep/07/assam-a-library-on-trees-to-draw-school-students-to-world-of-books-2495641.html*

Language Museum in NL Campus

A first-of-its-kind museum in the country dedicated to languages, scripts and words is taking shape in the historic Belvedere House located on the National Library campus in Kolkata and is likely to be thrown open to the public early next year, says a *The Times of India* report. The Museum of Words, or Shabdlok, under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture, is an attempt to trace the evolution of 22 official Indian languages - Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Santhali, Maithili, and Dogri - and major linguistic trends in an interactive way. The primary aim, says National Library Director General Ajay Pratap Singh, is to preserve the history of languages, scripts and literature with special focus on prominent scholars, poets and writers. "Since the concept of museum has changed, technological tools will be used to express our unique heritage in an interactive way so that it appeals to everyone, from a kid to a senior citizen," Singh said. The museum will also chronicle the history of the printing press, the journey of public libraries and the history of Belvedere Estate. For full report visit: *https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/kolkata-now-a-museum-to-spread-the-word-on-indian-languages/articleshow/93684713.cms*

Sailor's Parents donate Land for PL

It has been nine years since Vishnu V, a Navy sailor from Haripad in Alappuza, along with 17 other personnel lost their lives in an explosion and resultant fire on board the submarine INS Sindhurakshak on August 14, 2013 in Mumbai. It is considered as one of the most major accidents in the Indian Navy. To commemorate his death anniversary this year, Vishnu's parents Viswambaran V and Sujatha will be giving away two cents of land, which they had earlier bought to construct a house for Vishnu, to Pallippad panchayat for setting up a public library in his name, says a *The Times of India* report. Though the public library project was announced during his first death anniversary by Alappuzha district panchayat in 2014, it remained only on paper as the authorities cited 'unavailability' of land. Hence, Viswambaran decided to donate the land near his house with the hope of launching the library in 2023, at the tenth anniversary of Vishnu's death. "Our son lost his life serving the nation and we want his name to be remembered. A public library with modern facilities will be beneficial for all. I have been approaching the authorities for the project, announced eight years ago. They said that the project would be completed if they got land for it. So we decided to use the land we had purchased for Vishnu," Viswambaran said. For full report visit: *https://timesofindia. indiatimes.com/city/kochi/martyred-sailors-parents-donate-land-to-construct-public-library-in-his-name/articleshow/93550605.cms*

Lending Libraries in Chennai Schools

In a bid to promote English speaking and reading capabilities among the Greater Chennai Corporation school students, the civic body has introduced lending libraries within schools. Students can now borrow and take books home to read, says a *The Times of India* report. In a Council resolution, the Corporation has said that the move will help kids prepare for competitive examinations, and also increase their scope in employment. The civic body has also said that daily newspapers will be kept in libraries at the 281 schools for children to stay updated on current affairs. In the guidelines to implement the initiative, the corporation has said that every school must have a library officer. The officers must encourage students from class IV and above to take books home and also ensure that they read it daily. Every month, the names of students who have read the highest number of books must be written on their classroom black-boards to encourage them. The books should be given to the students every month and they must be allowed to keep it for 10 days, the rules said. The civic body has also invited donors to give student-friendly books to improvise the libraries. Officials said that the corporation was planning to hold annual competitions such as oratory, essay writing, poetry reciting, spell bee, and similar competitions that would encourage children to speak in English and showcase their reading skills. "Books will be handed over as prizes to them," said an official with education department. The Corporation has also passed a resolution to create school pupil leader in categories of boys and girls, and also houses - named Kurunji, Mullai, Marudhal and Neidham. There will be elections held and the houses will be part of cultural activities and sports competitions. The Corporation has also introduced youth parliaments where it will hold mock sessions to make students understand how Parliament works. For original report visit: *https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/greater-chennai-corporation-schools-to-start-lending-libraries-to-promote-reading/articleshow/93260677.cms*

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Google's Online Safety Initiatives

Google has announced a slew of new initiatives in India with an aim to keep the users safe, says an *india.com* story. The American technology giant has said that more and more people in India were embracing the digital economy and ecosystem and it was imperative to create more awareness about online safety. Sanjay Gupta, Country Head of Google India, has mentioned in a statement, "Our campaign partners will further propagate awareness around these precautions using their own consumer channels such as website, apps, SMS and ATMs." Google's multilingual campaign against

digital fraud would encourage people to adopt basic precautions to stay ahead of the most common fraud and phishing attacks. The risks of online frauds and cyber security attacks have gone up overtime with the rise of digital transactions and users. To curb these risks the company has introduced several online initiatives:

- In a bid to keep the children safe, Google has launched the *ProtectingChildren.Google* website - a child safety toolkit which will be available in three Indian languages-Bengali, Hindi, and Tamil.

- A free online program, Be Internet Awesome program, teaches kids to become a smart and safe Internet user.

- The technology giant has collaborated with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to bolster its Be Internet Awesome program.

- The search engine is collaborating with Meity and Digital India to create a pan-India, multilingual user awareness campaign.

- The campaign would get support from HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Airtel, SBI, and ICICI.

- Efforts to keep senior citizens and other high-risk communities safe.

- Senior citizens are often targeted by fraudsters. To help senior citizens safe, the company is making a grant to HelpAge India to provide training to 50,000 elderly on digital safety.

- To offer better digital skilling support to its women, LGBTQIA+, Google has announced grants of USD2 million to three non-profit organizations namely Collective Good Foundation (CGF), HelpAge India, and Point of View.

- The collaboration with CGF aims to reach over 900,000 women and LGBTQIA+ people with specially designed training curriculum and resources to protect them from online risks.

- The company will organize a multi-city, hybrid format Cyber security Road show under this program with a target to reach nearly 100,000 developers, IT and start-up professionals.

- The participants will be given unique tools, detailed guidance, and taught best practices for developing safer apps.

- A foundational cyber security curriculum will be integrated into the annual DevFest and within the Android and Cloud Series for Startups and other programs.

For original story visit: *https://www.india.com/technology/google-announces-online-safety-initiatives-child-safety-toolkit-deets-inside-5593240/*

Satellite Support to Android Phones

Elon Musk-led SpaceX and T-Mobile recently announced their partnership to bring satellite connectivity to smartphones, enabling cellular connectivity anywhere in the world, says a story by Sourabh Jain available on *www.businessinsider.in* website. Now, Google has confirmed that it is working on adding satellite connectivity to Android 14. In a tweet, Hiroshima Lockheimer, the senior vice president of Android at Google, confirmed that the Android maker would add satellite connectivity to the upcoming Android 14. "Wild to think about user experiences for phones that can connect to satellites. When we launched G1 in '08, getting 3G + Wifi working was a stretch. Now we're designing for satellites. Cool! Excited to support our partners in enabling all of this in the next version of Android!" Hiroshi Lockheimer said in a tweet. While talking about satellite support, Lockheimer recalled the difficulties faced with adding 3G and Wi-Fi support to the T-Mobile G1, the first consumer Android smartphone released in 2008. We may soon see satellite connectivity support for iPhones as well. Apple analyst Ming-Chi Kuo in a post, said that Apple had completed hardware tests for satellite connectivity and whether the feature would be available on the iPhone 14 or not would depend on whether the Cupertino giant could reach an agreement with telcos. For original story visit: *https://www.businessinsider.in/tech/mobile/news/android-14-to-bring-satellite-support-to-phones/articleshow/93942444.cms*

Some I-Phones not to Support WhatsApp

If you are an active iPhone user, then you may get into trouble next month. Here is a warning for several users of the iPhone. Some of the older iPhone models might no longer support WhatsApp from October 2022, says a story available on *india.com* website. Hence, if you are using WhatsApp but own an earlier model of the iPhone, you will need to update your device. As per WABetaInfo, Apple is warning some iPhone owners that WhatsApp support for their devices is coming to an end and the warning says that iPhones running iOS 10 and iOS 11 software will no longer be able to use the texting service. Apple also needs to introduce certain functions that may not work in the older operating system. "WhatsApp is always used to dropping the support for some versions of Android and iOS, in order to let the company introduce certain functionality that may not work on old operating systems. In this case, WhatsApp is now planning to drop the support for iOS 10, iOS 11, iPhone 5, and iPhone 5C over the coming months," the report said. "If you're using iOS 10 or iOS 11, you need to update to iOS 12 in order to continue using WhatsApp: it means you can still continue using WhatsApp on iPhone 5S, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6S, but you need to update your iOS version. Unfortunately,

WhatsApp will no longer be compatible with iPhone 5 and iPhone 5C since iOS 12 is not available for these devices," it added. Other media reports suggest that WhatsApp has already started alerting iPhone users who are using iOS 10 or iOS 11 versions of the program. The iPhone users must note that iOS 10 and iOS 11 software versions are not widely used on iPhones and iPhone 5 and iPhone 5s are the only two iPhone models that will be impacted by this change, as per Mashable India. Several users have already received a notification that the software would soon stop functioning on their smartphones. However, if you want to continue using the messaging app under this situation, users will need to upgrade their iPhones. For original story visit: *https://www. india.com/technology/whatsapp-will-not-work-on-these-iphone-models-from-october-24-check-here-why-5608174/*

Instagram to Bring Retweet like Feature

Meta-owned social media platform Instagram is releasing a feature similar to Twitter's retweet option with a focus on sharing video stories, says a *The Hindustan Times* story. This new feature in the form of a repost tab, will help Instagram users to share other users' posts and videos on their profiles, a report by the *Hindustan Times* sister website *Live Hindustan* stated. Instagram users currently only get the option to share a post or video with their story, which automatically disappears after 24 hours. With the new repost feature, users will be able to share a post on their profile without it being automatically disappeared. Social media analyst Matt Navara has given information about this feature in a tweet and said that a new 'Repost' tab is appearing in many profiles, which will show the photos or videos reposted by the user. Users will be given the option to share a post on their profile in the share menu. Apart from this, while resharing a post the users will also be able to write their captions or reactions on it, as is the option currently available with the Quote Tweet feature on Twitter. However, this feature is not yet confirmed. Before adding the new repost feature to the app, Instagram will test it with select users and take feedback from them. If this feature gets a positive response, then the company can make it a part of both Android and iOS platforms after fixing the bugs, if any. It has also emerged that Instagram is withdrawing many of its shopping features, shifting its focus to increase e-commerce through direct advertising. Instead of buying from Instagram, the social media platform wants users to buy a product by watching ads that are featured on the app. The report says that Instagram's internal staff have also been informed about this change. For original story visit: *https://www.hindustantimes.com/technology/instagram-to-bring-retweet-like-feature-to-make-reposting-easier-report-101662806035178.html*

WhatsApp to Allow Editing of sent Messages

Another new feature is on its way for WhatsApp users. The instant messaging app might soon allow users to edit the messages they have already sent. Yes, you read that right. No more deleting the entire message or sending the corrected text with an astrix symbol, says an *india.com* story. According to a report by WaBetaInfo, the Meta owned company is likely to roll out Edit Message feature to help users get rid of those errors made in haste. WhatsApp is now working on the process that lets the app update the message by using its edited version: this is a sign that WhatsApp keeps working on this feature. In case you are using an outdated build of WhatsApp, you have to update the app when you receive an edited version of a message from the recipient or a linked device. The information about the time window to let people edit their messages is still unknown, unfortunately. As of now, it is not known how the feature will work. It is possible that WhatsApp may display the 'Edited' label alongside such messages. Also, the ability to edit a message may be available for a limited time period once a user hits the send button. For original story visit: *https://www.india.com/technology/whatsapp-udate-whatsapp-latest-news-whatsapp-users-will-soon-be-able-to-edit-sent-messages-details-here-5638865/*

SPECIAL FEATURE

A Library in a Bag!

For the children of Vasai village of tehsil Koli Wada (Thane) of Maharashtra, every Wednesday and Sunday is a special day of books. On these days the trolley bag of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Mobile Library comes for them to connect with the world of books. This Library is different from the common libraries. Here, the books are kept in the bag, not on the shelf. This library goes to its readers. Muntazir, Shaheed, Mehboob, Armaan, Shahid, and many of their companions leave to their respective destinations at a fixed time with their library bags. They go door to door calling children and then sitting under a tree, in the local park or even roadside as children settle down with their favourite books to read, says a story by Shahtaj Begum available on *awazthevoice.in* website. The children are also issued books for carrying home. The mobile library has a rulebook that says that the books will be issued only after the children attend a reading session and these must be returned within a week.

Muntazir Shaikh, who along with others launched the mobile library, says that the children do not even wait for a week; mostly they return the book they had taken on Wednesday on Sunday so that they can carry home another book for reading. Muntazir is the eldest among the founders of the library and he is studying in Class IX at Huzaifa Urdu High School, Vasai. Shaheed Mehboob Mansoori says that initially when

he moved around with the Mobile Library, only four children showed interest in reading books. However, today a large number of children wait for him. Armaan Sagir Ahmed Khan says that they follow the official address of their classmates to choose a place to visit with their library. However, books are offered to all and not only to their schoolmates.

The lockdown has had a variety of impacts on the lifestyle; education suffered the most. However, during this time people remembered the most valuable things of life, including books. The one-month *Aao Books Se Dosti Karein* (Come, let's be friends with books) campaign in December last was not a success but it also motivated the All India Ideal Teachers Association (AITA), Palghar, to arrange a mobile library and school children were given its charge.

The students in charge of the AITA library study in classes VII, VIII, and IX. The children of Zilla Parishad Urdu School, Vasai, occasionally accompany those in charge of the library. Salman and Abdul Kalam proudly announced to Awaz-the Voice that they had read all the books of the mobile library. "Today we will ask for the inclusion of new books in the library," they said. Abdul Kalam of the seventh standard said that he was happy to see the increasing number of children getting attached to the library. Earlier, he said, they were worried about whether the children would leave TV and mobile and read books. "Today, see, so many children request us to come around their house," he said.

Reading a book daily keeps the brain active. Like the body, the brain also needs exercise to keep it strong. Reading books not only expands vocabulary but also develops analytical skills, teaches important life lessons, builds self-confidence. In life, they play an important role in introducing the world of imagination, imparting knowledge of the outside world, improving communication skills as well as enhancing memory and intelligence.

[Note: As this inspiring story of a group of library enthusiasts may be liked by the readers of this newsletter, it is being reproduced here with due acknowledgement to the writer and the website concerned. The original story may be found at: *https://www.awazthevoice.in/education-news/students-run-mobile-library-is-a-hit-in-maharashtra-10594.html*

OBITUARY

Shri Amulya Ratan Chakraborty, Retired University Librarian, University of Calcutta, breathed his last on July 29, 2022. Born on October 12, 1934 in Sahebpur, Chattagram, Bangladesh, he migrated to Calcutta before independence. A master's degree holder in Bengali literature and also in Library Science from University of Calcutta, Shri Chakraborty joined Calcutta University library in 1960 and served till his retirement on October 31, 1994. He served as a guest faculty in Rabindra Bharati University, University of Calcutta and Indira Gandhi National Open University and in the Certificate in Library Science course of Bengal Library Association. He was a life member of IASLIC, ILA and BLA. IASLIC deeply mourns his death.

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