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IASLIC NEWSLETTER

For Members only



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Quote of the Month

“The library connects us with the insight and knowledge, painfully extracted from Nature, of the greatest minds that ever were, with the best teachers, drawn from the entire planet and from all our history”

- Carl Sagan,

Pulitzer Prize winning science writer.

Appeal to Readers

News from different regions / states are solicited from IASLIC members for inclusion in the newsletter. Send such news to the Editor.

Email: chatterjeeamitabha@yahoo.co.in

CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

National

Seminar on Online Research Tools

Dr. G Ramachandran Library of the Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram, is organizing a National Seminar on 'Online Tools for Research' on January 11, 2018. For details visit: http://api.ning.com/files/hit-WD0A99G18GKpuzr2cJJ0p8NNbCpEZWuZF*5jN7C2a-6R8YqgSDwoB2OzUnfO1SLjPHaUkufdrGjUgCPPvzIvTtj4dzVN/Screenshot_1.png

Conference on Role of Academic Libraries

A National Conference on 'Role of Academic Libraries for Excellence in Research' (ROALER 2018) is being organized by Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, during January 18 - 20, 2018. A workshop on 'Developing Library Mobile App' is also being organized on January 18, 2018, as part of ROALER 2018. For details visit: <http://roaler.iiserb.ac.in/index.php>

Conference on Trends in Information Management

Mysore University Information and Library Science Alumni Network (MILAN), in collaboration with SDM Institute for Management Development (SDMIMD) and DLIS, University of Mysore, Mysore, is organizing a Conference on 'Trends in Information and Library Management' (TIL 2018) during January 19 - 20, 2018 at SDMIMD, Mysore. For details visit: <http://sdmimd.ac.in/ti2018/index.html>

Conference on Use of ICT in Academic Libraries

A National Webinar and Conference on 'Challenge to Change: Use of ICT for Excellence in Academic Libraries Leveraging Modern Information Technology' is being organised by the library of Regional Institute of Education, Bhopal, during January 21 and January 24 - 26, 2018. For details visit: <https://ctcictconference.wixsite.com/conference>

Conference on Quality Indicators in LIS

The Department of Library and Information Science, Islamiah College (Autonomous), Vaniyambadi, Tamil Nadu, in collaboration with Academic Library Association, is organizing a National Conference on 'Quality Indicators for Library Information Services' (NACQLIS) on January 25, 2018. For details visit: www.islamiahcollege.edu.in

Workshop on Search Strategies

A Workshop on 'Developing and Conducting Search Strategies for Systematic Reviews' is being organized at Chitkara University, Punjab Campus, Chandigarh-

IASLIC wishes all its members a Happy New Year - 2018

Patiala National Highway (NH-64), Punjab, during January 31 - February 1, 2018. For details visit: <https://feeshub.com/event/workshop-on-developing-and-conducting-search-strategies-for-systematic-reviews/>

Conference on Global Trends in Libraries

A National Conference on Global Trends and Innovations in Libraries and Information Centres' is being organized by Directorate of Public Libraries, Tamil Nadu, at Anna Centenary Library, Chennai, during February 2 - 3, 2018. For details visit: <http://conexgenlib.annacentenarylibrary.org/>

Conference on Open Society Initiatives

OpenCon 2018 New Delhi, an official satellite event of annual OpenCon, will be held on February 3, 2018 at Acharya Narendra Dev College, New Delhi. The primary objective behind this event is to make the participants knowledgeable about various open society initiatives. For details visit: http://www.opencon2017.org/opencon_2018_new_delhi

Workshop on Bibliometrics Software

A National Workshop on 'Open Source Software for Bibliometrics, Scientometrics Analytical Tools (Bibexcel and SciMAT)' will be held at Maharshi Parshuram College of Engineering, Velneshwar, Dist. Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, during February 8-10, 2018. For details visit: www.vpmmpcoe.org

Workshop on Koha

A National workshop on 'Open Source Software KOHA for Public and Academic Libraries' is being organized by the Department of Library and Information Science, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu, during February 14 - 16, 2018. For details visit: <http://alagappauniversity.ac.in>

Virtual Conference on Open Source Solutions

The 1st Virtual Conference on 'Role of Open Source Solutions in Academic Libraries' will be held during May 26 - 27, 2018. For details visit: <http://rossal.dptripathi.in>

International

Web Conference on Innovations in LIS

An International Conference on 'Contemporary Innovations in Conjugative Management, Library and Information Science, Social Science and Technology for Virtual World' (ICCLIST'18) is being organized by *Modern Rohini Education Society (Regd.)* through technology platform i.e. Web Conferencing, on January 21, 2018. For details visit: <http://icclist17.rtmonline.in>

Conference on Innovations in Govt. Libraries

The Central Government Library Association (CGLA), Kolkata Branch, in collaboration with The Institution of Engineers (India), is organizing an International Conference on 'Recent Trends, Challenges and Innovations in Governments and Public Libraries' during February 9 - 10, 2018 at R N Mookerjee Auditorium of IEI. During the conference, tutorial/workshop on 'Building Leadership Skills of Librarian' will also be organized. For details visit:

<http://cgla.org.in/activities/seminar/>

Symposium on Libraries and Urban Public

A Symposium on 'Public! Debates on Libraries and the Urban Public' will be held during February 9 - 10, 2018 at Munich Public Library Am Gasteig, Munich, Germany. For details visit: <http://www.muenchner-stadtbibliothek.de/info-service/veranstaltungen/veranstaltungen-detail/public/>

Conference on Rejuvenating Libraries

The DLIS, Annamalai University, is organizing an International Conference on 'Rejuvenating Libraries for Information Access in the Digital Era' during March 9 - 10, 2018. For details visit: <https://icrlib.wordpress.com/>

e-Society Conference

The 16th International Conference e-Society 2018 will be held during April 14 -16, 2018, in Lisbon, Portugal. For details visit: <http://www.esociety-conf.org/>

Informing Science Conference

InSITE 2018: Informing Science + IT Education Conferences is being organized by Informing Science Institute and University La Verne, La Verne, California, USA, during June 23 - 28, 2018. The theme of the conference is 'Our Next Leap Forward'. For details visit: <https://www.informingscience.org/Conferences/InSITE2018/Overview>

World Library & Information Congress

The 84th World Library and Information Congress will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, during August 24 - 30, 2018. The theme of the congress is 'Transform Libraries, Transform Societies' with the additional tagline: 'Reaching out to the hard to reach'. The congress is being jointly organized by IFLA, Librarians Association of Malaysia and National Library of Malaysia, with the support of Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia, and MyCEB. The themes of the meetings of different special interest groups and sections are: Library History Special Interest Group - '*Transform Libraries. Transform Societies: Library outreach to marginalized populations: historical perspectives*'; Indigenous Matters Section - '*Diverse indigenous voices, decolonizing, transforming, centering practices*'; Library Buildings and Equipment Section - '*Designing inclusive libraries*'; Asia and Oceania Section '*Libraries Transformed to Transform Their Communities (Society)*'; Audiovisual and Multimedia Section - '*Video Games: Winning strategies for libraries*'; Education and Training Section - '*Teaching methodologies and curriculum development in LIS Schools: best practices around the globe*'; Health and Biosciences Libraries Section - '*Health Information: Targeting, Connecting and Transforming Lives*'; Document Delivery and Resource Sharing Section - '*Transform Resource Sharing: exceed expectations*'. For more details visit: <https://2018.ifla.org/>

Symposium on Information Sc. Education

An International Symposium on 'Future of Education in Information Sciences' (FEIS 2018) will be held in Pisa, Italy, during September 10 - 11, 2018. For details visit: <http://feis2018.di.unipi.it>

Open Repositories Conference

The Open Repositories Steering Committee, in conjunction with Universität Hamburg, will organize the 14th Open Repositories Conference in Hamburg, Germany, during June 10-13, 2019. For details visit: <http://or2019.blogs.uni-hamburg.de/?p=23>

Information Literacy Conference

The European Conference on Information Literacy (ECIL), organized by the Department of Information Management of Hacettepe University, the Department of Information and Communication Sciences of Zagreb University, the Information Literacy Association, and the Department of Information and Communication Studies at the University of Oulu, will take place in Oulu, Finland, during September 24 - 27, 2018. For details visit: http://ecil2017.ilconf.org/?utm_source=ECIL&utm_campaign=b4543792ed-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_12_15&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d316d3bd52-b4543792ed-64926957

Symposium on Information Management

The 8th International Symposium on 'Information Management in a Changing World' (IMCW2018) will be held at Hacettepe University, Beytepe Campus, Ankara, Turkey, during November 1 - 3, 2018. For details visit: <http://imcw2018.bilgiyon.etimi.net/>

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Cataloguing Functions of NL & CRL to merge

The Ministry of Culture (MoC) has decided to merge the cataloguing function of the Central Reference Library (CRL) with that of the National Library (NL), says a report by Soumya Das published in *The Hindu*. The CRL, located in the National Library campus in Kolkata, is responsible for the publication and sale of the Indian National Bibliography (INB). The INB is the list of all books published in India annually and is the key source for foreign libraries to know about the books published in India. "The Secretary (Culture) has directed that the work of cataloguing (National Library) and bibliography (CRL), should be merged..." the Under Secretary of MoC N K Sinha stated in a letter to the head Librarian of CRL and the Director General of the National Library. As for the purpose of the merger of two institutions' functions, the letter states that it will "reduce duplicity [the same book being catalogued twice by both institutes] and speed up the process of accession." For details visit: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/kolkata/new-book-cataloguing-system/article19110011.ece>

Award for Rly. Stn. Turned Public Library

An old railway station which turned into a public library in Rumia, northern Poland, has won the Single Space Design category of the 2016 Library Interior Design Awards, according to a post in www.globaltimes.cn website quoting Xinhua as the source of the news. It is the only project from Europe which has been recognized in that year's awards. The library beat out projects in the United

States, Canada and many other countries and regions. In September 2014, a deteriorating building of Rumia train station was reopened as Stacja Kultura (Culture Station), which combines the functions of a railway station, a public library and a cultural center. The revitalized train station is now the main office of Rumia Public Library, which serves both the local community and tourists travelling to the Polish seaside. The whole project cost 5 million zlotys (1.28 million U.S. dollars). Rumia's modern library design of black and red details refer to old railway infrastructure: stations and locomotives. The bookshelves resemble railroad tracks. The prestigious Library Interior Design Awards is organized every two years by the American Library Association together with International Interior Design Association. Its mission is to honour international excellence in library interior design. For the original post visit: <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/980256.shtml>

Largest Book Giveaway

The largest book giveaway on record was initiated at Sparks' Kate Smith Elementary School in Nevada, USA, some time back. It envisaged providing an estimated 1 billion e-books to families nationwide, according to a post in www.rgj.com website. Ustyme, a California-based company developing video-call apps, organized the initiative providing online access to 50 free children books. While the campaign was kicked off in Sparks, it is available to everyone nationwide. All a person needs to do is register at BillioneBookGift.org using an Internet-capable device. Books are then streamed to that device in English or Spanish, with no advertising or fees. Classics are available to the beneficiaries, including "Goldilocks," "Little Red Riding Hood," "The Three Little Pigs" and "The Gingerbread Man." The campaign is aimed at putting books in the homes of poor families, according to Ustyme founder Linda Salesky. "About half of American families don't physically have books at home for their children", she said. Ustyme will give every child their own 50-book library. For more details visit: <http://www.rgj.com/story/news/education/2016/02/02/nations-largest-book-giveaway-starts-sparks/79705036/>

Associates Programme in USA

Associates Program of The Mortenson Center for International Library Programs on 'Imagine, Design, Engage, A', will be held during May 23 - June 2018 at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The 2018 program will offer library leaders, innovators, and professionals working outside the United States an opportunity to learn about innovative and inventive practices and services. For details visit: <https://www.library.illinois.edu/mortenson/associates/>

Achievers' Love for Reading

Some of the world's highest achievers have one thing in common: it isn't a high IQ, nor is it an incredible lucky streak, but their appreciation for reading. Books were their most profitable investment, says a post by Sandra Wu in www.blinkist.com website. Tech entrepreneur Elon Musk reportedly learned how to build rockets by reading books. Musk was bullied a lot as a child in South Africa. He found comfort in fantasy and science-fiction books, which

inspired him to leave a legacy in the world. Bill Gates, who is a lifelong bookworm, reads about 50 books a year, but strictly non-fiction ones. Although he gets to visit a lot of places and meet interesting people, he would still rather read books to acquire new knowledge. Mark Zuckerberg invited the whole world to join him on his quest to read a book every two weeks in 2015. For details visit: https://www.blinkist.com/magazine/posts/reading-habits-of-highly-successful-people?utm_source=cpp&utm_medium=paid&utm_campaign=20170630_OU_PRO_ReadingHabitsSuccessful_Desktop_Universal&utm_content=00900a9090fb8a48999820df5ca9de88a9&utm_term=00c834d591afcee622651b9ba840b65f3e&install_callback=43ddf50090a04350942f217c63cd5ee3-00ce46e18505e0daf2c8e199828ac209e6

Award for Pondicherry Varsity Library

Pondicherry University library has bagged the Highest Profile Registration category award for effective utilization of the J-Gate@eShodhSindhu platform, says a report published in *The Hindu*. University Librarian R Samyuktha received the award at the first J-Gate@eShodhSindhu Forum and Information and Library Network Centers (INFLIBNET) meet, jointly organized by INFLIBNET and Informatics Publishing Ltd., at Gandhinagar recently. Pondicherry University is a member of the consortia of leading universities in the country for access to e-resources including electronic journals and electronic databases for major publishers. The UGC INFONET consortium was established three years ago. In 2016, three consortia such as INFONET for Universities, INDEST for IITs and IIMs and N-LIST for Colleges were brought under one umbrella e-ShodhSindhu by the Ministry of Human Resources Development. For details visit: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/puducherry/pondicherry-university-library-bags-award/article20609061.ece>

e-Information Service for Visually Impaired in BHU

Sayaji Rao Gaekwad Library (Central Library), Banaras Hindu University, has been providing electronic information services for the visually impaired students since November 2007, according to a report sent by Dr. Pravin Kumar Singh, Professional Assistant, working in the library, who has been a driving force behind this effort. The library has so far developed more than 515 digital course materials for the visually impaired students of BHU in audio format covering 306.48 GB in different subjects (i.e. English, Hindi, Sanskrit, History, Sociology, AIHC, Philosophy, Political Sciences, Education, etc). There are now about 100 visually impaired students who are using these digital course materials for higher education. During last few years, seven visually impaired students have cleared UGC Net/JRF and many students have attained higher degrees and got better jobs. Shri Manoj Kumar Pandey (Research Scholar in English) is an example of such students, who has been selected as Assistant Professor in a degree college in Bihar.

Varsities asked to enrich NDL

The Centre has asked all universities to digitize books and other study material in their libraries and forward them to

the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, for posting on the national digital library for students to access free of cost, says a report published in *The Deccan Herald*. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has also asked the vice- chancellors to turn their respective varsities into “digital campus” so that students can avail the benefits of Swayam, launched recently to offer massive open and online courses (MOOCs). The national digital library currently provides students of higher learning with free access to more than one crore material, which includes about 80 lakh books, audio-visual lectures and other study materials stored in digital format. Set up under the Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry's National Mission for Education through information and communication technology, the digital library provides learning resources for students from primary school to post-graduation, with a single window search facility. It also seeks to facilitate researchers to perform inter-linked exploration from multiple sources. The national digital library is managed by the IIT-Kharagpur. For original report visit: <http://www.deccanherald.com/content/629779/govt-asks-varsities-digitise-books.html>

Library for Patients

In a unique move, the students' union of the Government Medical College in Kottayam has launched a library for patients, bystanders and also for the medical community, which includes doctors, medical students, nurses, staff etc., says a report by Jaikrishnan Nair published in *The Times of India*. The library started functioning temporarily from the medical library of the college. Efforts are being made to get some space in the hospital complex to shift the library. The film director Sathyan Anthikkad inaugurated the library. At present, there are over 650 books in the library. According to Randeep Vijayan, chairman of the students' union, soon book banks will be launched in each of the medical wards in the hospital. “Books will be kept in a shelf there and anyone who volunteers to be a custodian will be given the charge. Periodically, the existing books will be replaced with new books from the central library”, said Randeep who is doing his third year MBBS. “The library is mainly aimed for patients who need long-term care like cancer patients and their bystanders. Most of them stay here for months,” said Randeep. For details visit: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kochi/kottayam-library-for-patients-bystanders-in-government-hospital/articleshow/59269216.cms>

A Library for, of and by Children

Imagine a full-fledged library run totally and successfully by a small group of children, all of them under the age of 17, from a remote village. Seems far-fetched? But, a look at the Children's Library in Chagaletti, a small village in North Bengaluru taluk, will prove you wrong, says a report published in *The Deccan Herald*. A revolutionary concept that has worked wonders for the children, parents, teachers and the entire neighbourhood of villages, is a library for the children, by the children and of the children. An initiative of the Child Rights Trust (CRT) that is

working for the cause of children, the library was set up in 2010 and within a short span of eight months it was presented with the best community library award by the Hippocampus Reading Foundation. The man behind this initiative is Nagasimha, a director of CRT. The library was started in a room in his house with a small collection of 200 books and was managed entirely by six children (five girls and a boy), aged between 10 and 17, at that time. The entire management of the library including borrowing, returns, inventory and maintenance was taken up by these children. Today, it is an institution that has over 4,000 books and 200 members, including those from neighbouring villages. The library has not only grown exponentially, but has had a positive effect on the reading habits of the children. For more details visit: <http://www.deccanherald.com/content/642510/meet-young-bibliophiles.html>

A Village Library for Women

A library for women in a Jind village was dedicated to the community recently by Sunil Jaglan, best known for 'selfie with daughter' campaign that had caught the attention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The library was opened in the government middle school in Taloda village, with books and furniture worth Rs 2.5 lakh provided under the Bibipur Model of Women Empowerment and Village Development (BMWEVD) society. Jaglan, a former sarpanch of Bibipur village in Jind, said women could be empowered only when they were literate and knew about their rights and duties. He said the BMWEVD model was selected to develop 100 Haryana villages into smart villages, by the then President Pranab Mukherjee. "The books have been selected in such a manner that they cover all topics relating to women empowerment. When women will come here to read, they will find inspiring and motivating stories that drive towards real change," he said. He said that he had adopted Taloda village on March 13 last year where a women empowerment programme was conducted, in which 20 women had shunned off their veils and agreed to stand for their rights wherever needed. The library at Taloda village, named Lado, was inaugurated by a village girl, Anu Khatri, who is the most educated person in the entire village. For original report visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/jind/now-library-for-women-opened-in-jind-village/articleshow/61612440.cms>

Reading ability prediction from DNA

Reading ability of kids throughout school years can be predicted from their DNA alone, say scientists who have developed a new genetic scoring technique, according to a report published in *The Deccan Chronicle*. The scores could one day be used to identify and tackle reading difficulties early, rather than waiting until children develop these problems at school, researchers said. The study shows that a genetic score comprising around

20,000 of DNA variants explains five per cent of the differences between children's reading performance. Students with the highest and lowest genetic scores differed by a whole two years in their reading performance. The findings from Kings College London in the UK highlight the potential of using genetic scores to predict strengths and weaknesses in children's learning abilities. "We hope these findings will contribute to better policy decisions that recognise and respect genetically driven differences between children in their reading ability," said Robert Plomin, from Kings College London. The study was published in the journal *Scientific Studies of Reading*. For full report visit: <http://www.deccanchronicle.com/lifestyle/health-and-wellbeing/300317/dna-can-predict-reading-ability-study.html>

Glossary of Medicinal Plants of NE

Although India's north-eastern region is often dubbed as one of the most important biodiversity hotspots in the subcontinent, yet hardly any record existed about the region's plant species till recently. Now a senior forest officer, Jatindra Sarma, has come out with a unique book 'Medicinal Plants and Mushrooms of India, with special reference to Assam' recording close to 1400 medicinal and aromatic plant species as well as wild mushrooms that are found in abundance in the wilderness of Assam, according to a report by Aditya Baruah published in *The Sentinel*. Some of these species contain medicinal properties to treat several critical diseases like cancer and AIDS, the report states. The book is the result of fifteen years' hard work put in by the author and is expected to be of immense help to foresters as well as scientists in the country. For full report visit: <http://www.sentinelassam.com/story/main-news/0/assam-gets-its-first-glossary-on-medicinal-aromatic-plants/2017-10-27/1/324096#.WkeppbeWbIU>

The Inclusive Internet Index

The Economist Intelligence Unit has recently launched a new index and whitepaper on the enabling environment for the adoption and beneficial use of the Internet in 75 countries. The index examines four factors: availability, affordability, relevance (including local language content) and readiness (including skills, cultural acceptance, and supporting policy). It finds that Nepal, Tanzania and Senegal are the best-performing low-income countries in enabling Internet inclusion. The study notes that realizing gains from local hosting requires patience, and that changing men's attitudes may help to bring more women online. For detail visit: <http://teletela.com.br/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/The-Inclusive-Internet-Index-Bridging-digital-divides.pdf>

IFLA Marketing Library Award

The IFLA Section on Management and Marketing, in collaboration with BibLibre, Paris, France, has announced the IFLA - BibLibre International Marketing Library Award for 2018, says a post in IFLA website. The IFLA - BibLibre

International Marketing Award honors organizations that have implemented creative, results-oriented marketing projects or campaigns. Up to 10 finalists will be chosen to recognize them for their outstanding achievements and three winners will be selected. The first and the second winner will receive airfare, lodging and registration for the IFLA World Library and Information Congress to be held during August 24 - 30, 2018, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Cash awards of €2000, €1000 and €500 respectively, which must be used to further their marketing efforts, will also be awarded to the first, second and third-place winners. The finalists and winners will be announced in March 2018. The winners will be announced officially during the IFLA WLIC Awards Ceremony. The deadline for application is January 10, 2018. For details visit: <https://www.ifla.org/node/6922>

IFLA Blog on Human Rights

To mark the start of the 70th anniversary year of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the IFLA Advisory Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) has launched a new blog to encourage awareness, debate and discussion on the topics at the heart of its work. A post on the blog has invited people to post their views and comments on the blog to build up a real conversation about how human rights form a part of the work of libraries. For more details visit the blog at <http://blogs.ifla.org/faife/2017/12/06/lets-celebrate-the-universal-declaration-of-human-rights/>

Young Readers Prefer Printed Newspapers

Despite the fall in newspaper circulation and increase in news consumption via smartphones, young readers are spending nearly twice as much time with print editions than on websites and apps, according to a British study, says a report published in *The Times of India*. In 2016, 18 to 34-year old readers of eight UK national newspapers spent a total of 21.7 billion minutes - or 65% of the time spent on news - reading the print editions, but just 11.9 billion minutes on websites and apps. The study shows that newspapers' millennial print readers spend an average of 23 minutes reading each weekday print issue (and more on Saturdays and Sundays). However, those same newspapers' 18 to 34-year old online readers visit brands' websites and apps for an average of 43 seconds. For details visit: <https://www.pressreader.com/india/the-times-of-india-new-delhi-edition/20171209/282196536291210>

Benefits of Reading

One of the activities that make us healthier, smarter and more empathic is reading. The benefits are plenty, which is especially important in a distracted, smartphone age in which many people don't learn to read. This not only endangers them socially and intellectually, but cognitively handicaps them for life, writes Derek Beres, author of *Whole Motion: Training Your Brain and Body for Optimal Health*, in *BigThink*. He cites a 2009 study, according to which, reading creates new white matter in the brain, which improves system-wide communication. White matter

carries information between regions of grey matter, where any information is processed. Not only does reading increase white matter, it helps information be processed more efficiently. Reading in one language has enormous benefits. Add a foreign language and not only do communication skills improve you can talk to more people in wider circles, but the regions of your brain involved in spatial navigation and learning new information increase in size. Learning a new language also improves your overall memory. Because reading does in fact make us more intelligent, according to Beres. Research shows that reading not only helps with fluid intelligence, but with reading comprehension and emotional intelligence as well. You make smarter decisions about yourself and those around you. All of these benefits require actually reading, which leads "to the formation of a philosophy rather than the regurgitation of an agenda," normally found in reposts and online trolling. Recognizing the intentions of another human also plays a role in constructing creative philosophy. Novels are especially well-suited for this task. A 2011 study found overlap in brain regions used to comprehend stories and networks dedicated to interactions with others. For more details visit: <http://www.mydigitalfc.com/content/reading-helps-rewrite-brain>

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

5-G Technology to Transform Internet Usage

Fifth-generation, or 5G, technology is on its way to not only changing the way we communicate, but also paving the way for new consumer-technology interactions, according to a recent post by Yisik Kim, chief strategy officer of Balance Hero India Pvt. Ltd. in www.livemint.com website. The telecom industry in India has evolved over the past few years, seeing numerous changes from 2G to 4G. Today, mobile handsets not only function as the means of communication with our loved ones but also as a source of entertainment. Now, fifth-generation, or 5G, technology is on its way to not only changing the way we communicate, but also paving the way for new consumer-technology interactions. The government has already set things rolling by creating a panel to ready a blueprint for the rollout of 5G mobile networks in India by 2020, a move that not only promises to make wireless connections seamlessly fast but will also provide for the spread of Internet-connected smart devices, says Kim. For details visit: <http://www.livemint.com/Opinion/cBeiTctst9qGxfQ4ISYMHN/Transforming-internet-usage-with-5G.html>

New High Speed Ram Developed

Researchers at IIT Roorkee have recently claimed to have made a breakthrough in memory device technology, which, they say, will usher in a new technological revolution, says an NDTV report. A team of researchers from the Department of Physics and Centre for

Nanotechnology has developed a high-density, energy-efficient and four-logic state memory device named Magneto-electric Random Access Memory (MeRAM). The device could provide a massive boost to overall computing processes and memory-intensive tasks like video and multimedia signal processing, pattern recognition, virtual reality, artificial intelligence and machine learning. "MeRAM has immense potential to be used in future memory chips for almost all electronic applications, including smart phones, tablets, computers, microprocessors, and for large data storage," Davinder Kaur Walia, a professor at the Department of Physics and Centre for Nanotechnology, said. The device was constructed in the Functional Nanomaterials Research Laboratory using magnetron sputtering technique, she said. "MeRAM's key advantage over existing technologies is that it combines extraordinary low energy with very high density, high-speed reading and writing times, and non-volatility--the ability to retain data when no power is applied", Ms. Walia said. For details visit: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/iit-roorkee-researchers-make-breakthrough-in-memory-device-technology-1775555>

SPECIAL FEATURE

Which is the Largest Book?

Which is the largest book in the world? It is an interesting question, no doubt. But answer is not simple. For, the claimants are many. In 2007 Guinness World Records recognized 'The Little Princes' edited by Eidouro Gráfica and published in Brazil as the largest book. The book measures 2.01m (6ft 7in) high and 3.08m (10ft 1in) wide when open and contains 128 pages. The book was presented at the XIII Biannual Book Fair of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 13 September 2007. This was superseded in 2012 by a book 'This is Prophet Mohammad', which is a compilation of stories highlighting the lifetime achievements of Islam's Prophet as well as the positive influence of Islam on the international and humanitarian scene. The book measures 5 m x 8.06 m (16.40 ft x 26.44 ft), weighs approximately 1500 kg (3,306 lb) and consists of 429 pages. The book was unveiled by Mshahed International Group, in Dubai, UAE, on 27 February 2012. It has been claimed that over 50 people took part in the production of the book.

Meanwhile, a father-son duo of Hungary Gabor and Varga took up a project to produce the world's largest book as they branded it. The 346-page book created by them measures 4.8 m x 3.77 m (13.71 x 12.36 ft) and weighs 1420 kg. This book is now on display in a watermill at the Aggtelek National Park in Szinpetri, Hungary.

If we go by broader meaning of the term 'book', another claimant of the largest book is the 350-year-old Klencke Atlas at the British Library measuring 1.78m (5ft 10in) high by 1.05m wide (3ft 5in) by 11cm (4in) thick. But by

size it is smaller than the book published in UAE. It could, at best, be called as the largest atlas of the world. The book, when it was first displayed in an exhibition needed six people to lift it. Another atlas that overtook the record of Klencke Atlas is Earth Platinum a giant atlas available in State Library of New South Wales in Australia. The atlas weighing 150 kg measures 1.8 metres x 2.7 metres.

Yet another claimant of this position is the stone tablets inscribed with *Tripitaka* which stand upright in the grounds of the Kuthodaw pagoda at the foot of Mandalay Hill in Mandalay, Myanmar. It has 730 leaves and 1460 pages; each page is 1.07 metres (3.51 ft) wide, 1.53 metres (5.02 ft) tall and 13 centimetres (5.1 in) thick. Each stone tablet has its own roof and precious gem on top in a small cave-like structure of Sinhalese relic casket type called *kyauksa gu* (stone inscription cave in Burmese), and they are arranged around a central golden pagoda. Each stone has 80 to 100 lines of inscription on each side in round Burmese script, chiselled out and originally filled in with gold ink. It took a scribe three days to copy both the obverse and the reverse sides, and a stonemason could finish up to 16 lines a day. All the stones were completed and opened to the public on 4 May 1868. The stones are arranged in neat rows within three enclosures, 42 in the innermost, 168 in the middle and 519 in the outermost enclosure. The caves are numbered starting from the west going clockwise. Unfortunately, the gold writing has disappeared from all 729 marble tablets, along with the bells from the *hti* (umbrella or crown) of each of the small stupas, and they are now marked in black ink. It is said that King Mindon of the then Burma wanted to leave something to posterity. As a book lover he thought that literature was one of the most valuable elements of an enlightened society; so he planned to leave a book behind him. And thus was created this book in the form of stone tablets.

Again if we consider the largest book from the point of view of its volume or thickness - i.e. thickest book - it is Agatha Christie's Miss Marple stories - 12 novels and 20 short stories collected and published in a single volume, brought out by Harper Collins, London, in 2009. The book contains 4,032 pages and weighs 8.04 kg.

No Indian book is nearer to these records. Can we also not think of producing some record breaking books?

[Sources: <http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/largest-book-published/>, <http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/largest-book>, <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2010/jan/26/klencke-atlas-british-library-exhibition>, <https://largestbook.wordpress.com/>, <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-06-19/world-largest-book-atlas-display-state-library-nsw/6557960>, <http://www.kuriositas.com/2010/03/biggest-book-in-world.html>, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tripitaka>, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E1%B9%ADaka_tablets_at_Kuthodaw_Pagoda, <http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/thickest-book-published>]

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]

Foreign

1. ALEWINE (Michael) and CANADA (Mark). Introduction to Information Literacy for Students. 2017. Wiley-Blackwell. \$79.95. ISBN: 9781119054696

(Presents a concise, practical guide to navigating information in the digital age)

2. BOLIN (Mary K). The 21st Century Academic Library: Global Patterns of Organization and Discourse. 2017. Chandos Publishing, Oxford. ISBN: 9780081018668.

(Gathers information on organizational patterns of large academic libraries in the US and Europe, providing data that could motivate libraries to adopt innovative organizational structures or assess the effectiveness of their current organizational patterns).

3. LAW (Margaret Zelman), Cultivating Engaged Staff: Better Management for Better Libraries. 2017. Libraries Unlimited Inc., Santa Barbara, ISBN: 9781440852220.

4. LUO (Lili) and KENNEDY (Marie R). Enhancing Library and Information Research Skills: A Guide for Academic Librarians. 2017. Libraries Unlimited Inc. ISBN: 9781440841729

5. MCMENEMY (David). Information ethics: reflection and practice. 2018. Facet Publishing, London. £49.95. ISBN: 9781856049399.

(A practical, comprehensive guide to ethical issues in library and information work)

6. MONTGOMERY (Susan E), Ed. Assessing Library Space for Learning. 2017. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Lanham, Maryland. ISBN: 9781442279278.

7. SCULL (Amanda). Developing Dynamic Intersections between Collection Development and Information Literacy Instruction (Innovations in Information Literacy). 2017. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. ISBN: 9781442272125.

OBITUARY

CRG Founder Member Passes Away

Eric James Coates, a founder member of the Classification Research Group (UK), and a close associate of late S R Ranganathan passed away on December 5, 2017 at the ripe age of 101 at Watford General Hospital, Hertfordshire, UK. His book, 'Subject Catalogues: Headings and Structure', first published in 1960 by The Library Association, London, is a classic and probably carries the most detailed exposition of Dr. Ranganathan's chain procedure and other subject heading practices and procedures. The book is still widely used as a textbook in LIS schools around the world. Mr. Coates along with a few other members of CRG participated in the International Conference on Ranganathan's Philosophy and the FID / CR regional conference held in Delhi in 1985.

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