



IASLIC NEWSLETTER



71st Foundation Day of IASLIC, 03/09/2026 at IASLIC, Kolkata

Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres

October, 2026

A Monthly Publication of IASLIC

Editor

Dr. Nitai Raychoudhury

Associate Editor

Monali Mitra Paladhi

Assistant Editors

Sri Sourav Kanti Das

Dr. Sujan Saha

Editorial Board

Dr. P R Goswami
Prof. K P Majumder
Prof. P K Panigrahi
Dr. Banasree Roy
Sri Abhijit Kumar

Quote of the Month

"Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life."

----by Sidney Sheldon (1917-2007.
American writer and producer)

Appeal to Readers

News from different regions/
states is solicited from library
professionals/IASLIC members
for inclusion in the newsletter.

Send such news to the Editor.

Email: iaslicnl2023@gmail.com

Message from the President



Library Map of the World: Collecting Data on Libraries

As we all know, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is the apex body for development of libraries and librarianship. One can say it is the global voice of library and information profession. Three major functions of the IFLA are: a) to promote high standards of provision and delivery of library and information service, b) to encourage widespread understanding of the value of good library and information services, c) to represent the interest of its members throughout the world. The IFLA has launched a project 'Library Map of the World (LMW)'. While launching the project in the year 2017 the IFLA remarked "How can IFLA advocate at the global, regional and national level when it does not have basic information about the number and state of libraries across the world?"

LMW is an open access platform maintained by the IFLA. It provides global library data as well as insights into the library field and contains inspiring stories from different parts of the world. One can search by country for national level information or explore the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) related stories and data for deeper insights. A simple Google search under "Library Map of The World" can provide detailed countrywise data. NMW provides data related to India under the following heads:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Total Libraries (service points) | 14,66,348 |
| 2. National Level Libraries | 7 |
| 3. Academic Libraries | 42,238 |
| 4. Public Libraries | 1,46,173 |
| 5. Community Libraries | 16,500 |
| 6. School Libraries | 12,61,111 |
| 7. Others | 319 |

The IFLA has listed four organisations from where the data has been sourced.

They are: a) Valapattanam Grama Panchayat Library, b) Ashoka University c) Indian Institute of Human Settlement, d) Indian Library Association.

Someone interested to undertake research on state of Indian libraries can further explore how this data has been collected by these four institutions. Also, what criteria has been adopted to classify the libraries under the above mentioned heads; or what is the difference between a community library and a public library? Another question needs to be answered is what are the basic requirements to qualify as a public library according to the guidelines set by the IFLA?

The annual report of the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), 2018-19 says “Data on public libraries are being collected through the state library authorities and state library associations and the database of public libraries is updated.” But no data has been included in the report. This has happened possibly due to the lackadaisical attitude of the state-level associations and government departments. In a webinar organised by the IASLIC on September 3, 2020, Shri Kanchan Gupta, the former Chairperson of the RRRLF appealed to revive the culture of books and the culture of new ideas. According to the data maintained by the RRRLF, there were 46,000 public libraries in India. Shri Gupta also said that state authorities do not maintain lists of public libraries.

In its 70th Session, UN General Assembly 2015 adopted the document titled Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and 169 associated targets were identified. As a follow up, a set of 231 distinct global indicators were specified. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), Government of India adapted a National Indicator Framework (NIF) consisting of 306 indicators with data sources in consultation with concerned ministries. Though ‘Quality Education’ is one of the prime SDGs (No. 4), It is not known whether public library development is a part of these indicators.

No doubt, a lot of effort is to be made to prepare a reliable and classified database of libraries functioning in India for the purpose of adopting a suitable development plan.

Date: 01/10/2026

Dr. P R Goswami,
President, IASLIC

Apprentices Act 1961: Opportunities for Library and Information Science (LIS) Graduates

In one of the leading newspapers *Times of India* 30 September 2026, Delhi edition, Page 14 one can find an interesting advertisement. A public sector bank (Canara bank) has invited applications for the engagement of Graduate Apprentices under the Apprenticeship Act 1961. The monthly stipend is Rs 16650 per month. **The number of vacancies is a staggering 3500 (Three Thousand Five Hundred).** The engagement is for one year which is sufficient for a young graduate to learn banking related basic operations. And I believe even LIS graduates with a basic graduate degree should apply for these positions. After all, commercial banks also need people who are conversant with creation of databases in a standard format.

A large number of libraries in the higher education sector and research establishments have started recruiting Library Trainees under the said Act. Institutions like the IITs and IIMs provide ample opportunities to the young LIS graduates to go for training. They get exposure to new technologies. Moreover I think, many private universities also recruit short term trainees under the Act. They have no obligation to permanently absorb the candidates after the training. The prospect of getting a permanent job enhances when someone is trained in a good library.

Another important factor is data entry skill of LIS graduates. Candidates who are well versed in communicative English (without spelling or grammatical error) with data entry capability have better chance to get entry level jobs in multinationals or private IT companies operating in India. It all depends how a candidate prepares his/her curriculum vitae. There are recruitment agencies who recommend candidates having computer mediated data entry work and capable of creating error free catalogue records of books, patents, standards, reprints and other knowledge artifacts.

A person looking for job must have an alert mind. He/she should be able to scan the notifications appearing in newspapers or in various social media platforms. There are many LIS dominated groups which provide details of job and training opportunities.

IASLIC is exploring the possibility of providing gist of various LIS related job advertisements in the monthly newsletter.

Date: 01/10/2026

Dr. P R Goswami,
President, IASLIC

AN APPEAL FOR DONATION

At the outset, myself on my personal behalf and on behalf of IASLIC, convey my sincere gratitude to the esteemed members of IASLIC for their continuous support and patronage. We are also thankful to the members who made a valued contribution in response to our appeal for donation made in 2012 and 2022. The esteemed members of IASLIC are aware of the escalating prices and hardship in carrying out regular functions of IASLIC. Under these circumstances, IASLIC again makes an ardent appeal to all of its honoured life members to please come forward to help IASLIC by donating liberally, at least Rs.1000, by DD / Net banking / Multicity cheque duly drawn in favour of IASLIC payable at Kolkata. The payment can also be made through electronic transfer.

The Bank details are furnished below:

Bank Name: State Bank of India

Branch: Bagmari (Calcutta)

Account Name: INDIAN ASSO SP LIB AND INFO

Account No.: 10247890167

IFSC Code: SBIN0003682

The esteemed members who will donate by bank transfer are requested to kindly share the screen shot of transaction details to IASLIC secretary by email at iaslic.india@gmail.com.

The donors' names will be published in the IASLIC Newsletter as well as in the Annual Report of the subsequent year.

General Secretary
IASLIC



Indian Library and Information Science Abstracts (ILSA) – (Vol- 50 – 51) for the year 2022-2023 published on 16.08.2026

Indian Library and Information Science Abstracts (ILSA) – (Vol- 50 – 51) for the year 2022-2023 published on 16.08.2026

Indian Library Science Abstracts (ILSA), the only national abstracting and indexing periodical to cover the literature on Library and Information Science (LISc.) being published in India by the IASLIC since 1967. Volume 50 & 51 (2022-2023) of ILSA recently published on 16.08.2026 on the eve of Librarians' Day 2026 – organized by IASLIC, BLA, and WBPLeA at Panagarh Gram Prathamik Vidyalaya. Volume 50 & 51 (2022-2023) of ILSA consists of 815 entries from 14 journals and 2 conference proceedings. ILSA: Volume-50-51 (2022-2023) consists of two parts: Main or Classified Part and Index Part. Entries in the main/classified part are primarily arranged according to the classified order by using 22nd ed. of DDC. Under the specific classification number, entries are arranged alphabetically by the surname of the first author-[SURNAME (Forename)] of the article. Entries are serially numbered. Index part consists of author index and affiliation index as provided by the author in the source document.

Hard copy of ILSA Volume 50 & 51 (2022-2023) is available at the IASLIC office. The price of Hard copy of ILSA Volume 50 & 51 (2022-2023) is **Rs. 3000/- (Rupees Three Thousand only)**. The protected electronic version (PDF) of ILSA is also available. The Price of electronic version of ILSA is **Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five Hundred only)**. The esteemed members of IASLIC and professionals interested to purchase ILSA volume 50 & 51 are requested to please contact the General Secretary, IASLIC.

Professor Krishnapada Majumdar, Hony. Editor, ILSA on behalf of the Editorial Board of ILSA gratefully acknowledge Commercial Publishers, LIS Schools, Research Institutes, Professional Associations, Library and Information Science Professionals and students for their encouragement and support in publishing ILSA volume 50 & 51 (2022-2023)



Newly Joined Life Members

Sl. No.	Name	Membership No
1.	Noorjahan Shaikh	4105-L [Z6]
2.	Abhijit Chatterjee	4106-L [Z6]

Report

Celebration of 71st Foundation Day of IASLIC on 3rd September, 2026 at IASLIC Office, Kolkata

The 71st foundation day programme of IASLIC was organised at IASLIC office Kolkata on 3rd September 2026 at 6 p.m. The programme was chaired by Shri Jagamohan Das, V. P. Sixth Zone who welcomed the august gathering. LIS professionals and students from various institutions like public libraries, special libraries, universities and colleges had gathered to celebrate the occasion with great zeal and enthusiasm. The special invitees who graced the evening were the senior teachers and professionals from the LIS field like Shri S. B. Banerjee, former Deputy Manager (Information), Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., Kolkata, Shri Pranabananda Jana, Dr. Jayati Ghosh, former librarian Commercial Library, Kolkata and Sri Ramkrishna Saha.

The veteran LIS professionals were given a warm welcome and felicitated by the EC members.

The general secretary of IASLIC, Dr. Banasree Roy delivered welcome address by paying homage and tribute to the founding members like Jibananda Saha of Indian Statistical Institute, A. K. Mukherjee of the Anthropological Survey of India and G. B. Ghosh of Geological Survey of India. A meeting was held on 25th June Saturday at 4 pm in the Lecture Theatre of Indian Museum. The Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres (IASLIC) was formally established on September 3, 1955. Dr. S. L. Hora, the then Director of the Zoological Survey of India served as the first President, and Mr. J. Saha became the first Honorary General Secretary. It was modelled after international bodies like the Association for Information Management (ASLIB) in the UK and the Special Libraries Association (SLA) in the USA.

Shri SB Banerjee addressed the gathering cheerfully and he laid emphasis on the Infrastructure development of IASLIC. Shri P. Jana put emphasis on increasing the membership of IASLIC while Dr. Jayati Ghosh stressed

the importance of streamlining communications among its members and active participation of members in the activities of IASLIC.

Among the EC members present, Dr. S.K Senapati, convenor of Education Division of IASLIC announced the upcoming workshop on Green libraries for up skilling the young LIS professionals and he also announced conducting various practical hands on experience courses and workshop in near future for upgrading the LIS professionals.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Shri Jagamohan Das at the end of the programme.

He wished for the holistic development of the association.



IASLIC Workshop on Green Library held on 19.09.26: A brief Report

The Education Division of IASLIC was organized a workshop on “Green Library” in hybrid mode on 19th September 2026 between 11:00 hrs and 13:00 hrs. 86 participants had registered and joined the same from the different part of the country. Beyond the registered participants had also joined the Executive Members and members of Education Division of IASLIC on online and offline mode. Dr. Susanta Kumar Senapati, Former Principal Technical Officer, CSIR-Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee and Ex Associate Professor of the Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR), An Institution of National Importance, created by the Act of Parliament (www.acsir.res.in).

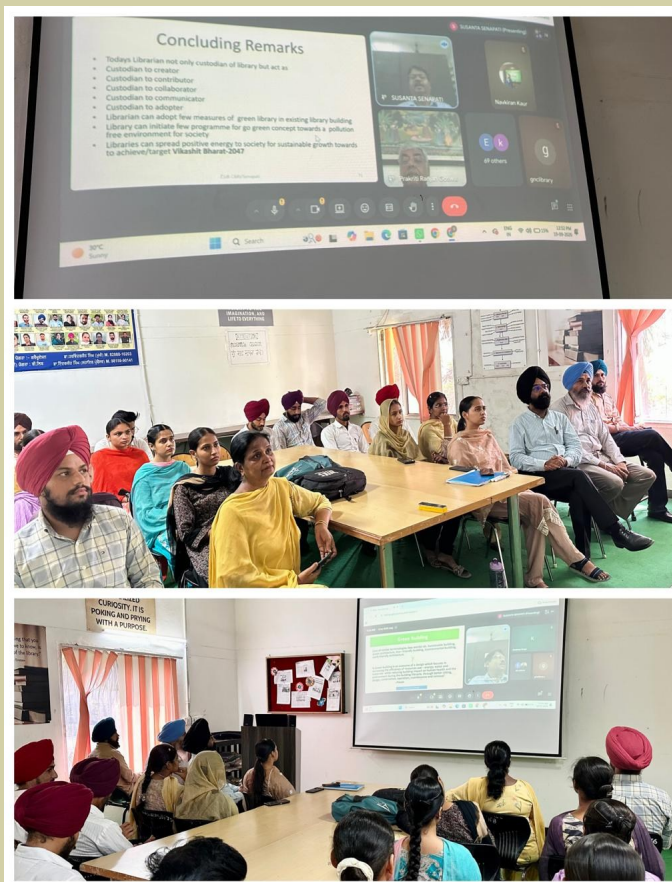
Dr. Senapati covered the totality of the concept of green library building and library: meaning, definition and features. Initially he clarified the meaning and differences on different terminology have been used viz. green building, sustainable building, earth friendly building etc. He discussed the active certifying and rating agencies in national and international level and their evaluating criteria and basis for certifying green buildings. He mentioned different national and international standards and codes has been used by the certifying agencies. He focused the whole green features may be implemented for new green library building and few green features may be incorporated in existing library building. He shown few case studies for cutting down energy especially electricity using few green features in existing library building. Dr. Senapati explained also about the green library materials. He also informed that how the research papers have been increasing on green library since last 30 years. He exhibits few green library buildings at national and international level rated by the certifying agencies. He discussed the IFLA’s contribution for propagating and awakening of green library and green library award through its section ENSULIB. He mentioned of Mr. Lawrie Bakers contribution towards green building and low-cost housing in India. He suggested the different measures for propagating and awakening of green library among the library professionals towards the contribution of carbon free and eco friendly healthy environment at a large scale in society. An interactive session also held just after the presentation.

The large numbers of feedbacks and reactions received from the participants. Among the few feedback worth to be mentioned here:

“It was a very informative workshop. It will truly beneficial for all participants. We will initiate the project on green library and I will get back for

necessary support”.

HOD, DLIS, Punjabi University, Patiala, Punjab



“---the wonderful and informative session on green library. The way you explained the topic with simple examples and practical ideas made the session very interesting and easy to understand.”

Sr. Technical Officer, CSIR-CBRI, Roorkee,
Uttarakhand

“It was a learning experience, and I appreciate the efforts of the IASLIC Education Division in conducting such useful programmes. I look forward to participating in future webinars and workshops”.

Dy. Librarian and Incharge, University
Library, KREA University, Andhra Pradesh

The PG students, research scholars and faculties of DLIS, Guru Nanak College, Budhiada, Punjab participated virtually on the Green Library Workshop. A captured snap for the same.

Dr. S. K. Senapati,
Convener, Education Division,
IASLIC

371st Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC held on 28.09.2026 at IASLIC Office, Kolkata: A Report

The 371st Study Circle Meeting of the Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres (IASLIC) was held on 28th September 2026 (Monday) at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room of IASLIC, located at P-291, CIT Scheme 6M, Kankurgachhi, Kolkata-700054. The speaker of the meeting was Dr. Avik Roy, Librarian, Derozio Memorial College, Kolkata, West Bengal. Dr. P. R. Goswami, President of IASLIC and Former Director (Library and Information), Kalandi Division, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi, chaired the session. The topic of discussion was “*Attention Literacy: Exploring Currency in Attention Economy*.” At the outset, Dr. Banasree Roy, General Secretary, IASLIC, welcomed the dignitaries, guests, and members of the audience. She briefly highlighted the history and development of the Study Circle Meetings of IASLIC. Thereafter, Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay, Convenor, Study Circle Division, IASLIC, introduced the speaker and the Chairman of the session. In his introductory remarks, Dr. P. R. Goswami briefly discussed the concepts of Attention Literacy and Attention Economy, thereby providing a contextual foundation for the main lecture. Following this, Dr. Avik Roy delivered his lecture on the theme “*Attention Literacy: Exploring Currency in Attention Economy*.” He discussed the nature, scope, and significance of Attention Literacy, with particular emphasis on the challenges faced by librarians and information professionals in the contemporary information environment. He also elaborated on the close relationship between Attention Literacy and Attention Economy. Dr. Roy explained how the Attention Economy has been expanding progressively and highlighted its impact on various spheres of contemporary society. He also discussed the gradual development of the Attention Economy across the world and drew attention to the declining attention span of users in the present digital environment. In this context, he emphasized that libraries and information centres need to respond to the changing needs and expectations of different categories of users. The lecture particularly focused on the importance of developing Attention Literacy and understanding the dynamics of the Attention Economy, especially in a developing country like India. The speaker's discussion highlighted the need for librarians and information professionals to understand how users interact with information and how attention has increasingly become a valuable resource in the contemporary information landscape. The lecture was followed by an interactive question-and-answer session. Prof. Krishna Pada Majumder, Prof. Pijush Kanti Panigrahi, Dr. Nitai Roychowdhury, Mr. Pradip Sarkar, Dr. Banasree Roy, Mr. Abhijit Kumar, Dr. Swarup Kumar Raj, Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay, and several other

senior members of IASLIC actively participated in the discussion. Students, teachers, and research scholars also took an active interest in the meeting and contributed to the interaction. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chairman, Dr. P. R. Goswami, presented a concise summary of the major points raised during the lecture and the subsequent discussions. The dignitaries and other participants appreciated the lecture and remarked on its informative, insightful, and thought-provoking nature. The session provided an opportunity for meaningful academic interaction on an emerging issue of considerable relevance to the library and information science profession. The vote of thanks was delivered by Mr. Abhijit Kumar, Former General Secretary, IASLIC. Thereafter, certificates were distributed among the participants. Subsequently, Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay, Convenor, Study Circle Division, IASLIC, expressed his gratitude to the dignitaries, guests, and members of the audience for their active participation and valuable involvement in the programme. The 371st Study Circle Meeting concluded with a formal expression of thanks to the Chair. Overall, the programme provided a fruitful academic platform for discussing the emerging concepts of Attention Literacy and Attention Economy and their implications for libraries, information professionals, and users in the contemporary information society.

Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay,
Convenor, Study Circle Division, IASLIC.



Announcement

4th ASLIP Conclave, New Delhi- 16-18 December, 2026

The Association of Senior Library and Information Professionals (ASLIP) is jointly organizing its 4th Conclave with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Maidan Garhi, New Delhi, from 16–18 December 2026. The theme of the Conclave is “AI Revolution and Future Libraries: Learning, Leadership and Legacy” and Dr. V. K. J. Jeevan, Librarian, IGNOU, New Delhi, is the Organising Secretary of the Conclave. The Conclave aims to provide a forward-looking platform for library and information professionals, academicians, researchers, educationists and students to deliberate on the rapidly changing library ecosystem shaped by Artificial Intelligence and emerging digital technologies. Its sub-themes are: ‘AI Revolution and Libraries’, ‘Moving on with Tradition and Technology’, ‘Preservation of Cultural and Documentary Heritage’, ‘Libraries for Sustainable Development’, ‘Ethics, Privacy and Responsible Research in AI Era’, ‘Librarianship, Policy and Knowledge Management in AI Era’, ‘AI Oriented Skills and Competencies’, ‘Future of Libraries with AI and Beyond’. The event will witness a range of academic and professional activities, including keynote address and invited lectures, Foundation Day lecture, award ceremony, panel discussion, poster and product presentations, quiz, talent hunt, fireside chat, and “कल, आज और कल”. ASLIP invites original research papers, empirical and theoretical studies and case studies from library professionals, academicians, researchers and students. Selected papers will undergo peer review and invited and contributed papers will be published in the ISBN bearing conference proceedings.

Conclave Timeline - Key Dates at a Glance:

- Date of Conclave: December 16-18, 2026.
- Last Date for Submission of Abstract: October 10, 2026.
- Notification for Acceptance of Abstract: October 20, 2026.
- Last Date for Submission of Full Text: November 15, 2026.

The Conclave is expected to provide a platform for examining how libraries can balance tradition, technology and human intelligence while preparing for an AI-driven information environment.

For more information, visit :- <https://www.aslip.in>

Enquiries and Details :-

Dr. Raj Kumar, Secretary, ASLIP. Mob. :- 9417461789.

ASLIP Awards to Honour Library Professionals

ASLIP Conclave 2026, IGNOU, New Delhi,
December 16–18, 2026

The Association of Library and Information Professionals (ASLIP) has instituted various awards to recognize and honour the exemplary contributions and professional excellence of library and information science professionals from India and abroad. The major award categories include ASLIP @80 Honour (Age – 80 years on November 30, 2026), ASLIP International Library Ratna Award (Age – 70 years and above), ASLIP–Neena Kumar Best LIS Teacher Award (Age – 65 years and below), ASLIP–Jang Pannu Best Senior Librarian Award (Age – 54- 60 years), ASLIP Best Progressive Librarian Award (Age – 53 years and below) and ASLIP Best School Librarian Award (Age – 40 years and above). Both Indian nationals and Indians settled abroad are eligible. Self-nominations as well as recommendations from senior professionals are accepted. There is no nomination fee and both ASLIP members and non-members may apply, with preference given to ASLIP members. Nominations along with the detailed biodata may kindly be sent on email – aslip2020@gmail.com on or before October 15, 2026. The selections will be made by a confidential five-member committee and selected professionals will be informed individually. The awards will be presented in-person during exclusive ASLIP Award Ceremony which has been a regular feature of every ASLIP Conclave. No award will not be conferred in absentia.

Book Post

If undelivered please return to: Indian Association of Special Libraries & Information Centres (IASLIC) P-291, CIT Scheme, No. 6M, Kankurgachi, Kolkata 700 054 Phone:7044559806

Email: iaslicnl2023@gmail.com Website: <http://www.iaslic1955.org.in>