

# IASLIC 30<sup>th</sup> National Seminar 2024

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**Department of Library & Information Science,  
Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh  
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## ***Abstracts of Papers***

*on*

**Information Literacy for Developing Enlightened  
Library/Information User Community in New Age**

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### **SIG01: Social Science Information**

Theme: *Bridging the Information Gap of Differently-Abled Library Users*

### **SIG02: Computer Applications in LIS**

Theme: *Raising Library Service Quality through Application of AI*

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# IASLIC 30<sup>th</sup> National Seminar 2024, Aligarh

## ABSTRACTS

### 1 Concept and Scope of Information Literacy (IL)

*INVITED PAPER*  
*Paper Ref : ST-1/59*

#### **IMPROVING INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS- IMPORTANCE IN PRESENT CONTEXT**

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**Purpose:** Information literacy is a set of skills that allow recognizing the specific or particular information from vast available and accessible resources at the time of one's need. Regardless of a career, one is expected to continuously grow his/ her soft and hard/ technical skills, such as information literacy. The paper focuses on those aspects requiring developing one's information literacy skills for sharing developing personal knowledge and ability to share efficiently.

**Methodology:** Scanning of different information sources both print and digital forms and discussing with different professionals and also personal experiences of the author have contributed in developing the paper. Basic concepts and its allied issues found in various internet sources contributed by specialist are of utmost important in this endeavour.

**Findings:** Development of information literacy skill is important from different perspectives. Sharing knowledge to the right person for his/ her personal and organizational benefits is a must. Different steps need to be adopted in that process and one has to be acquainted with all these steps so that practicing information literacy in right perspectives can boost the confidence of individual irrespective of one's activities: teaching or taught.

**Originality:** The goals in developing information literacy skill are to become more sophisticated, judiciously developing self-confidence. The process initiates the lifelong learning by creating an encouraging environment. It has resulted for developing research strategies, ability for scientific evaluation, positive views, and such other qualities. Besides, develop and demonstrate scholarly identity by generating meaning rather than merely consuming and restating information is visualized by way of developing skills in information literacy.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Communication skill; Job performance; Information literacy outcome.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/13*

#### **AWARENESS AND ADOPTION OF DIGITAL LITERACY AMONG SCHEDULED TRIBE COLLEGE STUDENTS OF RAJOURI DISTRICT, KASHMIR**

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**Purpose :** The digital divide has disenfranchised tribal communities from the opportunity of using technology to change their living status. It has been noted that internet access in tribal areas is lower than in the non-tribal

rural areas. However, many questions regarding digital divide still remain unanswered. The paper aims to explore the dynamics of the digital literacy and technology awareness among ST students of colleges of Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir.

**Methodology :** Survey method is used for data collection. Facilitating access to the basic needs like education, healthcare, and different socio-cultural dynamics are common things among the ST communities. Therefore, the questionnaire was designed keeping in view all such impediments and included all challenges and bottlenecks that tribal communities face in accessing such facilities. The data set used in this paper comprise of 179 responses. The sample size of the study was determined using Fishers formula.

**Findings :** The findings reveal that many college students remain unaware of several government initiatives aimed at supporting them under the digital India program. Although the adoption rates of new technologies are reasonably high among both genders, the use of educational resources through these technologies is lacking. This indicates a significant disparity between marginalised communities and more privileged ones.

**Value :** The study highlighted the importance of conducting more studies to understand and address the digital divide and emphasize more robust access to digital services in such communities. The stakeholders can develop strategies to overcome digital divide by framing policies to promote digital literacy by modernising public libraries and make internet accessible to everyone at their comfort zones. This is one of the studies conducted in the district to explore the awareness and adoption of digital technologies among the tribal students and other impediments like digital divide and disparity.

**KEYWORDS :** Digital divide; Tribal student; Digital India; Digital adoption; Digital literacy.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/14*

## **COMBATING MISINFORMATION AND FAKE NEWS IN LIBRARIES: A STUDY OF MAULANA AZAD LIBRARY, ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY**

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**Purpose:** The rise of falsehoods in the digital age has posed significant challenges to the credibility and reliability of information sources. Libraries as trusted institutions, have been at the forefront of combating these challenges by promoting information literacy (IL) and critical thinking among the users. So, this study aims to examine the role of IL in Maulana Azad Library, AMU in combating misinformation and fake news among its academic community. It is to explore library user's awareness of misinformation and fake news, their reliance on the library for accurate information and their perceptions of the library's effectiveness in addressing the spread of false information. The study is to examine the effectiveness of the library's services and resources in promoting information literacy and supporting academic integrity.

**Methodology:** A survey was conducted among 200 library users out of which 127 responded through a structured questionnaire distributed both online (via Google Form) and offline. The questionnaire consists of 21 closed and open-ended questions focusing on user's purpose of library visits, frequency of visit, awareness of misinformation and fake news and their assessment, the library's role in combating it and many such. Data were

analysed quantitatively to identify key patterns and recommendations.

**Findings:** The study reveals that 42% of respondents have moderate awareness of misinformation and fake news. A majority trust the credibility of the library's resources, with author credentials and citations being key trust factors. The results reveal a strong demand for more comprehensive digital and information literacy programs, which users believe are essential for developing critical evaluation skills. There was also significant support for the curation and promotion of trusted resources, the integration of fact checking tools into the library's digital platforms and workshops.

**Value:** The study provides insights into the role of academic libraries in addressing misinformation and fake news, particularly in an Indian context. It highlights the potential for libraries to strengthen their media literacy programs and engage users in critical thinking and information verification processes. The finding emphasise the need for academic libraries to adapt their services to meet the evolving information needs of their users and to actively participate in the fight against misinformation and fake news in the digital age.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Information; Misinformation; Fake news; Malinformation; Library; Maulana Azad library; AMU.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/15*

## **EXPLORING THE INTERRELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN LIBRARY, VISUAL, MEDIA, AND DIGITAL LITERACIES**

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**Purpose:** This study is to investigate the complex interactions between library literacy, visual literacy, media literacy, and digital literacy in the rapidly evolving information landscape of the 21st century. As digital technologies continue to transform, these literacies have become increasingly intertwined. The research aims to provide a comprehensive investigation of how these literacy types are understood and applied across different demographic groups and contexts, identify gaps in current literacy education programs, and propose more integrated models for developing the multi-dimensional literacy skills needed to navigate today's information-rich environment.

**Approach :** The study employed a mixed-methods approach, combining an extensive literature review, a large-scale online survey assessing literacy skills and attitudes across diverse populations (n=2,183), semi-structured interviews with 50 educators, librarians, and policymakers, and case studies of innovative literacy initiatives. Data were analysed using both quantitative and qualitative methods to generate key insights.

**Findings:** The results reveal several important trends, including the persistence of a digital divide with socio-economic factors limiting technology access, and the increasing convergence of literacy skills, where traditional boundaries between literacy types are blurring. The study revealed the role of critical thinking in navigating the multimodal information environment, the growing importance of visual and media literacy, and the need for lifelong learning to keep pace with rapidly changing information landscapes. Collaborative, cross-sector approaches to literacy instruction show particular promise in addressing these challenges.

**Originality** : This study contributes novel insights through a comprehensive examination of the intersection of multiple literacies and empirical data to inform literacy education and policy. It proposes a new framework for integrating multiple literacies and identifies both innovative practices and significant gaps in current approaches. The findings have significant implications for educators, librarians, policymakers, and researchers, enabling them to develop more inclusive and effective strategies for promoting the literacy skills essential for participation in today's complex information culture. By examining how different forms of literacy interact and support each other in contemporary information practices, identifying key competencies that span multiple literacy domains, and exploring how various demographic factors influence literacy skill acquisition and application, this research provides a foundation for more holistic and adaptive approaches to literacy education in the digital age.

**KEYWORDS:** Library literacy; Visual literacy; Media literacy; Digital literacy; Information literacy.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/16*

## **ASSESSING DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS AMONG LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS IN UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU**

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**Purpose:** The primary objective of the study is to assess the digital literacy skills among library professionals in the University of Jammu. It also aims to find out the ways used by library professionals to acquire digital literacy skills, as well as explore the barriers they face in acquiring digital literacy skills. By addressing this objective, the study seeks to provide a clear understanding of the current state of digital literacy among library professionals and to shed light on the challenges that hinder their ability to improve digital literacy skills.

**Methodology:** This study targeted library professionals working at the University of Jammu. The total population of the study is 58 library professionals. The census method was employed, and the number of respondents was 37, resulting in a response rate of 63.7%. Data was collected through a structured questionnaire distributed via Google Forms, with clear communication of the study's purpose and assurance of confidentiality provided to all participants. The responses were analysed using simple statistics, and the results were presented in tables and figures.

**Findings:** The study found that library professionals at the University of Jammu possess moderate to high proficiency in fundamental digital literacy skills, with notable gaps in specialised digital literacy skills, particularly in areas like reference management software, content management systems etc. This study reveals that many professionals are well versed in specialised digital tools, while some library professionals are either at a basic level or have never used certain advanced tools. This shows that there is a substantial need for targeted training and development in specific areas to ensure that all professionals can effectively utilise these specialised resources in their work. Informal learning and job training were the primary means of acquiring digital literacy skills, while the major barriers included a lack of training opportunities and time constraints. Despite these challenges, none of the respondents show lack of interest in acquiring digital literacy skills, this indicates a strong willingness to improve their digital literacy skills.

**Value:** This study emphasises the need for training programs to improve the digital literacy skills of library

professionals. The findings emphasises the importance of continuous professional development in digital literacy to ensure that library professionals remain digitally literate in the rapidly evolving digital landscape.

**KEYWORDS:** Digital literacy; Digital literacy skill; Library professional; University of Jammu; Training.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/19*

### **EMBRACING DIGITAL LITERACY: THE FUTURE OF LIBRARIANSHIP**

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**Purpose:** This present research is to investigate digital literacy's pivotal role in future librarianship. It delves into the essential skills, tools, and strategies necessary for librarians to navigate the digital landscape effectively, provide comprehensive services to patrons, and ensure the continued relevance of libraries in the digital age.

**Approach:** The study employs a comprehensive approach, combining literature review, case studies, and expert interviews to explore the multifaceted aspects of digital literacy in librarianship. The literature review provides a theoretical foundation, identifying key concepts and trends related to digital literacy, library services, and emerging technologies. Case studies of successful libraries that have effectively integrated digital literacy into their operations offering practical insights and best practices. Expert interviews with librarians and technology specialists provide valuable perspectives on the challenges, opportunities, and future directions of digital literacy in the field.

**Findings:** The findings highlight the critical importance of digital literacy for librarians to thrive in the digital age. Digital literacy encompasses various skills, including information assessment, online communication, and tool proficiency. It empowers librarians to manage digital collections effectively, provide knowledgeable advice to patrons, and stay relevant in a rapidly changing digital context. The study also emphasises the significance of data analytics and AI in enhancing library services, enabling more personalised recommendations, efficient resource allocation, and improved decision-making. Additionally, the research underscores the role of librarians in bridging the digital divide, ensuring equitable access to information and technology for all community members.

**Value:** This research contributes to the existing body of knowledge by providing a comprehensive and up-to-date analysis of digital literacy in librarianship. It offers valuable insights for library professionals, policymakers, and technology experts seeking to understand the challenges and opportunities of the digital age. The findings highlight the need for ongoing professional development and investment in digital infrastructure to ensure libraries' continued relevance and effectiveness in serving their communities.

**KEYWORDS :** Digital literacy; Data analytics; Digital technology; Data curation; Librarianship.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/21*

## **ENHANCING HUMAN CAPABILITIES WITH INFORMATION LITERACY IN THE ERA OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

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**Objective:** Information literacy is an important ability which allows individuals to find, generate and use information effectively. This article is to define what that means to be an information-literate person and how engaging a librarian can help you or your scholars enable these qualities. In the light of the same, it deserves to inform about the increasing importance of information literacy and digital citizenship in the age where artificial intelligence is growing by leaps and bounds.

**Methodology :** This analysis is used to discover how information literacy is introduced in college libraries and its connections to critical thinking and lifelong learning. It evaluates various models of information literacy, reviews what exactly is meant by the term information literacy, and highlights some of the barriers to acquiring these skills. The research involves a wide range of both qualitative methods, e.g. student and librarian surveys and interviews, as well as quantitative approaches in order to gather wide information on the current state of the field of information literacy instruction today.

**Findings:** Students with higher information literacy skills on average have better grades, write more research papers, and express more confidence in their ability to do research. Librarians become an important part of it and help with availability of vibrant data and resources thus improving the quality of education as a whole. The study point out information literacy is the key when artificial intelligence tries to enhance human capabilities, but only to the degree we know how to wield it towards our ethical ends. It highlights how critical such skills are in dealing with the information excess and forming knowledgeable assessments.

**Originality :** This study shows that people need to be more literate in the digital age. This emphasises the importance of learning but also encourages young people to examine where information comes from and use that data responsibly. This research contributes to the body of knowledge in information literacy evolution and its importance to an AI society by giving new perspectives. In its exploration of information literacy, this research is distinctive because it offers a comprehensive vision for understanding and supporting learning — with implications for teachers, librarians and learners. The study highlights the importance of information literacy in society, giving a nuanced perspective on what librarians do and what artificial intelligence chips at.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Information management; Digital literacy; Information literacy model.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/25*

## **IMPORTANCE OF DIGITAL LITERACY IN PREVENTING MISINFORMATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE PRESENT ERA**

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**Purpose:** The study is to investigate the possibilities and use of digital literacy the spread in preventing misinformation on social media, focusing on users' confidence level in their ability to identify misinformation, the methods they employ to assess the reliability of information sources, and what they do when they come

across misinformation online. Given the growing prevalence of misinformation, the study aims to highlight the importance of digital literacy for social media users, particularly students, to develop critical thinking abilities and make informed decisions. This will assist in promoting social media use that is both responsible and informed.

**Methodology:** A questionnaire-based survey was undertaken to assess people's confidence in spotting misinformation and evaluating information available on social media. A total of 121 responses were collected using Google forms, focusing on demographic data, confidence in recognising misinformation, credibility evaluation methods, and strategies adopted for handling misinformation. The data was analysed using descriptive statistics, which provided insights into the digital literacy patterns and strategies used by students to navigate the complex digital information ecosystem.

**Findings:** The study found that individuals have a moderate level of confidence in their ability to recognise misinformation, with a mean score of 3.4 out of 5. The respondents mostly preferred considering the source of information, followed by fact-checking and reading beyond the headlines in order to evaluate its credibility. Despite employing multiple strategies, they were reluctant to actively engage with misinformation on social media, rarely sharing or correcting false information. This passive response may be linked to lack of confidence and perceived ineffectiveness in confronting misinformation. The findings underscore the need for enhanced digital literacy training to empower users to critically engage with online content.

**Value:** The study provides empirical evidence of students' attitudes toward misinformation on social media, contributing to the ongoing discourse on digital literacy. In an increasingly digital environment, it emphasises the value of digital literacy as a tool against the spread of misinformation. The results highlight the need of incorporating extensive digital literacy programs into the educational system in order to better equip users for responsible information consumption and critical assessment of online content. The conclusions of the study have significant implications for social media companies, policymakers, and educational institutions in their efforts to address the issue of preventing misinformation.

**KEYWORDS :** Digital literacy; Social media; Misinformation; Information literacy; Digital information ecosystem.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/30*

## **INFORMATION LITERACY UNRAVELLED : DIGITAL LITERACIES AND THEIR ROLES IN THE LIBRARY**

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**Purpose:** This paper aims to explore the concept of information literacy by investigating how different types of digital literacy contribute to and interact with traditional library services. With libraries transitioning from physical spaces into digital knowledge centers, understanding the various dimensions of digital literacy, such as visual literacy, network or web literacy, etc. and examining their distinct roles within the context of the modern

library. As libraries evolve into digital knowledge hubs, understanding the varying forms of digital literacy has become essential for providing effective services to users. It aims to examine the different types of digital literacy and their implications within the libraries. This research seeks to define these literacies, highlight their distinctions, and analyse their specific roles in enhancing information literacy within the library context.

**Design :** The study adopts a mixed-methods approach, analyzing a systematic literature review from the different journal articles available on Google Scholar, Researcher Gate etc. Data were collected from various internet sources, including web of science, and scopus, to understand the theoretical application of digital literacy in different libraries. - Rewrite

**Findings:** The findings highlight that digital literacy encompasses multiple dimensions, including media literacy, web or network literacy, Computer literacy and information evaluation skills. Libraries play a pivotal role in fostering these literacies by providing access to digital tools, workshops, and training programs. It was found that while libraries excel in delivering basic information literacy, there is a growing need for specialized training in more complex forms, such as digital content creation. Additionally, the study reveals a gap in professional development for librarians in these emerging literacies. The research also highlights a need for ongoing professional development for librarians to keep pace with emerging digital literacy demands.

**Value:** This study provides a comprehensive analysis of the different types of digital literacy and their implications for library services. It emphasises the need for libraries to adapt their role in the digital age by offering a more nuanced and diverse range of digital literacy programs. The research contributes to the ongoing discourse on how libraries can stay relevant in a rapidly changing digital landscape and serve as vital educational and community resources.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Library literacy; Visual literacy; Media literacy; Digital literacy; Network literacy.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/66A*

### **ROLE OF INFORMATION LITERACY IN CIVIC LITERACY: A REVIEW**

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**Purpose:** This study tries to identify the significant role of information literacy in improving civic literacy, and assisting people to become well-informed and participating citizens. Information literacy consists of the competencies necessary to locate, understand, evaluate, effectively use, and communicate information in an ethical way across different contexts. These skills and competencies are particularly important in civic circumstances, where individuals must make informed decisions about community issues, government policies, and democratic processes.

**Methodology:** This research contained a systematic literature review, focusing on peer-reviewed articles that delve into the detailed relationship between information literacy and civic engagement. Information was collected from the Web of Science and Google Scholar. Searches were conducted using keywords like “Information Literacy” and “Civic Literacy.” Additional literature was selected from the citations of these papers. However, searches were restricted to publications in English. 96 results were shown for these keywords, and out of 96, we reviewed only 30 based on our proposed objectives and higher citations.

**Findings:** The review structures findings from 30 scholarly articles, showing that information literacy significantly



contributes to understanding how democracy functions, recognising and countering disinformation, and encouraging active participation in civic life. People with good information literacy skills are better trained to explore complex topics such as social justice, voting, and policy-making, all of which are important for successful civic engagement. A person who can evaluate the credibility of sources and identify reliable information is more likely to make informed decisions or choices during elections or support crucial changes within their community. The selected papers show that people possessing strong information literacy competencies are more likely to become civically literate, signifying they are better qualified to handle today's profound information landscape, where misinformation and disinformation can circulate quickly and influence public opinion. As a result, they can actively participate in democratic processes, ensuring their opinions are heard and their views are organized accurately. The findings show that information literacy not only improves civic literacy but also makes individuals competent to contribute meaningfully to their communities and society at large. When individuals can identify reliable sources, fact-check information, and interpret data correctly, they become more confident and capable of raising their opinions, engaging in community actions, and making choices that benefit society.

**Originality:** This paper underlines the necessity of incorporating information literacy into educational curricula to foster a generation of aware citizens who can explore the complexities of the modern information environment and participate actively in democratic life.

**KEYWORDS :** Information literacy; Civic literacy.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/68*

## **BREAKING BARRIERS: MEASURING PERCEIVABILITY OF SELECT NORTH INDIAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY WEBSITES**

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**Purpose:** This paper examines the accessibility of select North Indian university library websites by applying the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), a globally recognized standard for accessible web design. The study specifically evaluates adherence to the Perceivable principle within WCAG 2.1, which ensures that information and interface components are interpretable by users of all abilities, particularly focusing on vision-impaired individuals who rely on assistive technologies.

**Design/Methodology/Approach:** Using the Siteimprove Accessibility Checker, this study conducted a systematic evaluation of North Indian university library homepages. Siteimprove is a robust tool for assessing WCAG compliance, allowing an automated review of various success criteria within the Perceivable principle. Data from 20 select universities was gathered and categorized to identify recurring issues, providing a detailed view of accessibility barriers across different areas, including non-text content, information relationships, color contrast, and text adaptability.

**Findings:** The findings indicate significant accessibility issues across several North Indian university library websites. Notably, National Law University, Delhi, had the most issues with Text Alternatives (81), while the University of Delhi exhibited high levels of Adaptable Content issues (282). Central Sanskrit University showed the most challenges with color usage (23 issues), and Indira Gandhi and Jammu Universities had significant problems with minimum contrast (79 and 76, respectively). Additionally, Himachal Pradesh National Law University

led in Contrast Enhanced issues (92), and National Law University displayed the highest number of issues related to Images of Text (94). Although some websites were well-structured, these findings underscore a prevalent gap in accessibility that limits inclusive access for users with disabilities.

**Originality/Value:** This study fills a critical gap by focusing on accessibility challenges specific to North Indian university library websites, providing insights valuable for academic institutions striving for inclusivity. It highlights priority areas where targeted improvements could substantially enhance web accessibility for vision-impaired users. The methodology, based on WCAG 2.1 and Siteimprove, supports reusability and reproducibility, offering a framework for ongoing accessibility audits that can be extended to other regions and educational contexts.

**Keywords:** Web accessibility; Web content accessibility guideline; WCAG 2.1; Conformance level; Siteimprove; POUR principles; Perceivable issue.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/77A*

## **OPTIMISATION OF INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS IN MODERN LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTERS**

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**Purpose:** The present study investigates the effectiveness of libraries in promoting information literacy skills among their users in this ever-changing digital age. It aims to identify the specific IL skills that are most essential for searching, analysing and navigating the vast and complex information landscape and to assess the role of libraries in equipping users with these skills to make them fit for using the resources effectively.

**Methodology:** A qualitative research approach was employed, involving a review of existing literature on information literacy, skills needed, library services, and digital technologies. The study analysed various research articles, case studies, and reports to identify key themes and trends related to information literacy, its methods and libraries.

**Findings:** The findings highlight the critical role of libraries in promoting information literacy among users. Libraries serve as a valuable mediator for providing ubiquitous access to information, offering training programs, workshops, and can act as mentors for guiding users in seeking the relevant and filtered information. The study also identifies the specific information literacy skills that are essential for individuals to succeed in the digital age, including critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective search strategies.

**Originality:** This study contributes to the existing literature by providing an analysis of the role of libraries in promoting information literacy in the digital age. It offers practical insights and recommendations for libraries to enhance their efforts in serving the users for identifying and determining the reliable and relevant information.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Library; Digital age; Critical thinking; Problem-solving; Information seeking; User education; Library services.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/79A*

## **AN ASSESSMENT OF RESEARCH DATA LITERACY SKILLS AMONG RESEARCH SCHOLARS- A STUDY OF ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY**

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**Purpose:** Research data literacy is defined as the necessary skills and knowledge for the creation, management, sharing, and reuse of research data. The main purpose of this study is to assess the level of research data literacy skills among research scholars of Aligarh Muslim University. The study also address the need of research data literacy training module among researchers and investigate if researchers had received any formal data literacy training and if so, then how it has contributed them in their research work.

**Methodology:** The study has adopted the quantitative method to collect data through questionnaire survey method. The study has chosen four faculties viz., faculty of life science, social science, commerce and management studies & research. All research scholars from these faculties are considered as the population for this study. The details of each research scholar enrolled as a PhD student in each department of the sample faculty has been collected. Currently, 450 research scholars enrolled in these faculty. The researcher personally visited each department and distributed the questionnaire to all the research scholars. A total 360 research scholars were contacted during the visit, out of which, 305 filled in questionnaires were collected from the respondents with a response rate of 84.72 %.

**Findings:** The study reveals that students lack necessary knowledge and skills related to Research Data Literacy. Although, they are aware of the concept and benefits of Research Data Literacy, but do not possessed required skills related to extraction, organization, analysis, sharing, ethical use and reuse of research data in their research life cycle. The study also points out the requirement of a Research Data Literacy training program among researchers. The study shows that data literate researchers are better at handing and ethically using and sharing their research data.

**Value :** The study contributes to existing literature by assessing the research data literacy skills among researchers. This is an original work of the author and no research has been conducted on this issue to the best of author's knowledge.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Data literacy; Research data literacy; Aligarh Muslim University.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/82A*

## **INFORMATION LITERACY : A POWERFUL WEAPON OF RESEARCHERS IN DIGITAL AGE**

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**Purpose :** In modern information-rich world, information is generated at an unimaginable speed in diverse forms and fields of knowledge. The information seekers retrieve millions of hits for any query from search engines and Web OPACs. The users are bombarded with plenty of information sources in print and online forms. However, information available on various platforms- online or offline, is not always fit for use and cite. The mis-and-dis information and fake-and-false information are available alongside with the right information.

**Approach:** The predatory publishers have found their spaces in publishing industry. The predatory, deceptive, and fake journals have emerged worldwide and their publications have entered in libraries worldwide. The cloned copies of many leading journals are available online. The hijacked journal articles have entered in reputed databases. The pseudo- authors and researchers have been created. All these tactics have polluted the scholarly information world. Therefore, finding the right information at right time from the right source from the information universe is extremely difficult. It needs a set of skills to identify, find, retrieve, evaluate, use and cite information, popularly called as Information literacy. Information literacy is the ability to identify, find, retrieve, evaluate, organize, use, and communicate information in all its forms. Information literacy is absolutely essential for researchers, who are the primary consumers of information.

**Findings:** Researchers need to locate relevant information from a vast array of sources, including academic databases, journals, books, and online repositories. Information literacy equips researchers with the skills to formulate effective search queries and locate relevant information in least possible time. Besides, researchers must be able to understand and evaluate the credibility, accuracy, and bias of information sources to ensure the reliability of their research. In the age of misinformation, information literacy helps researchers identify and avoid unreliable sources. Besides, information literacy is important for researchers to understand copyright laws, fair use guidelines, and citation practices to avoid plagiarism and ensure ethical research.

**Value :** Information literacy promotes responsible data management, including data privacy and security. Information literacy empowers researchers to conduct independent unbiased research and draw informed conclusions. Therefore, researchers need to continuously update their knowledge and information skills to keep up with the latest developments in their field. In summary, information literacy is a cornerstone of successful research. It empowers researchers to find, evaluate, and utilise information ethically and effectively, leading to high-quality research outcomes.

**KEYWORDS :** Information literacy; Digital age; Library; Research support.

## 2 Need and Importance of IL of Library/Information Users

*Paper Ref : ST-2/17*

### ROLE OF INFORMATION LITERACY IN ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE AMONG SENIOR CITIZENS

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**Purpose :** The study tries to explore how information literacy can empower senior citizens, enhancing their quality of life by enabling them to access digital resources, make informed decisions, and actively participate in their communities. As technology becomes integral to daily living, many senior citizens face difficulties adapting to the digital world. This study emphasises the potential of information literacy to bridge this gap, promoting independence, well-being, and social inclusion for older adults. By focusing on the role of libraries, community organisations, and educational programs, the research advocates for tailored initiatives to support seniors in developing crucial digital skills.

**Methodology** : The study examines the challenges senior citizens face in the digital age, such as limited access to technology, unfamiliarity with digital tools, and physical or cognitive constraints. It highlights the role of libraries and community organisations in addressing these barriers through information literacy programs. Strategies like personalised training sessions, accessible resources, and community outreach are explored. Best practices, including partnerships with senior centres and mobile learning initiatives, aim to improve digital skills while ensuring seniors have the support, they need to effectively participate in the modern information landscape.

**Findings** : The findings reveal that information literacy significantly enhances the quality of life for senior citizens. Those with strong digital skills are better equipped to manage their health, finances, and social connections, leading to greater independence and well-being. Information literacy fosters confidence in using online tools for healthcare, financial decisions, and communication, reducing isolation and helping seniors stay connected with family and friends. The study also notes that seniors with improved digital literacy are more protected from online scams and fraud, contributing to their sense of security and autonomy.

**Value** : The paper provides a valuable contribution by focusing on senior citizens' unique needs in the digital age. It underscores the importance of inclusive information literacy programs tailored to older adults, advocating for libraries and community organisations to lead these efforts. This study offers practical insights into improving senior citizens' digital skills, promoting active participation in society, and addressing the digital divide, highlighting the long-term benefits of empowering seniors through information literacy.

**KEYWORDS**: Information literacy; Lifelong learning; Senior citizen; Digital age; Information landscape.

*Paper Ref : ST-2/20*

## **THE ROLE OF INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS IN OVERCOMING INFORMATION OVERLOAD IN THE DIGITAL AGE: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW**

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**Purpose** : This paper aims to investigate how Information Literacy (IL) can address the challenge of information overload in the digital age. Specifically, the study focuses on identifying the core IL skills needed to effectively manage the overloaded coping digital information with rapid technological changes. The paper also examines how libraries evolve IL programs to align with the digital world and foster lifelong learning. The research aims to provide practical recommendations for enhancing IL programs and helping individuals grow personally and professionally in a complex information environment.

**Approach** : This study employs a systematic literature review (SLR) following the 'Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses' (PRISMA) guidelines. Relevant literature was found through comprehensive searches in academic databases like Emerald Insights, JSTOR, Sage Journals, and SpringerLink. The inclusion criteria were focused on studies published from 2020 onwards that discussed IL and its impact on modern libraries to overcome information overload. Out of 422 articles, 398 were selected for in-depth review. The most relevant studies were analysed to extract insights on IL skills, library adaptations, and the relationship between IL and overcoming information overload.

**Findings** : The review reveals that IL is crucial for managing digital information and mitigating information overload. Essential skills such as evaluating the credibility of sources, selecting relevant information, and

applying critical thinking are vital components of digital literacy. Libraries are increasingly offering IL programs to develop these skills. However, there is a growing demand for more structured IL training, especially for students and professionals in rapidly changing knowledge economies. IL programs emphasising experiential learning and community involvement are more effective in promoting lifelong learning and building resilience against information overload.

**Value:** This paper contributes to the discussion on information literacy by offering a detailed examination of the skills needed to manage information overload. It showcases how libraries adapt their IL programs to meet the demands of a digital society. Additionally, the paper underscores the importance of lifelong learning to ensure individuals remain informed and adaptable in an era of continuous technological change. The findings have significant implications for educators, librarians, and policymakers aiming to enhance IL frameworks and empower users to navigate the digital information landscape more effectively.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Information overload; Digital age; Lifelong learning; Library; Digital literacy; PRISMA.

*Paper Ref : ST-2/32*

## **INFORMATION LITERACY IN PROMOTING LIFELONG LEARNING: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

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**Purpose:** This research is to highlight the critical role of information literacy (IL) in fostering lifelong learning. IL equips individuals with essential skills to effectively locate, assess, and utilise information, enabling them to make informed decisions and engage in continuous personal and professional development. The study tries to explore IL's significance in various academic and professional contexts and its impact on learners' ability to navigate an increasingly complex information landscape.

**Approach:** The research delves into challenges associated with integrating IL into learning environments, such as lack of awareness, limited resource availability, and the digital divide, which hinders equitable access to Information. It also examines the opportunities presented by technological advancements, the growing emphasis on digital literacy, and the integration of IL into formal education curricula. The study advocates for a holistic approach to IL implementation, involving collaboration among educators, librarians, and policymakers to create supportive learning environments.

**Findings:** The study identifies several barriers to the effective incorporation of IL into educational settings, including insufficient understanding of its importance, disparities in access to resources, and the ongoing issue of the digital divide. Despite these challenges, it also recognises the promising potential of recent technological advancements and increased focus on digital literacy. The integration of IL into formal education curricula has shown positive outcomes, suggesting that a comprehensive approach can significantly enhance learners' abilities to engage with and benefit from information-rich environments.

**Value:** The research provides a nuanced understanding of the critical role IL plays in lifelong learning and its integration into diverse learning contexts. It underscores the need for strategic collaboration among key stakeholders—educators, librarians, and policymakers—to overcome existing barriers and support effective IL programs. The paper’s emphasis on the interplay between IL, digital literacy, and formal education contributes valuable insights to ongoing discussions on educational reform and the development of a knowledge-based society.

**KEYWORDS :** Information literacy; Learning environment; Self-directed learning; Lifelong learning skill; Information ethics and competence.

*Paper Ref : ST-2/33*

## **INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS OF LIS PROFESSIONALS FOR RENDERING QUALITATIVE LIBRARY SERVICES**

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this paper is to survey the existing library to assess the automation status and skills acquired by the library staff in academic libraries. This paper attempts to investigate whether the professional skills adopted or not by the librarian and library staff in colleges of Nanded city.

**Methodology :** This study is based on survey method. Different streams/ faculties such as Science, Arts and Commerce of six NAAC accredited college libraries of Nanded city were selected for this study. A structured questionnaire in google form had been used to collect primary data from these libraries. Further collected data from all six libraries were analysed and interpreted using tables and graphs in order to understand proper and draw relevant conclusions.

**Findings:** The study has clues on basic parameters viz. Collection of reading resources and sufficient staff, automation status and professionals skills acquired by the library staff. The overall scenario shows that librarian and library staff both fulfills the desired professional qualifications. All these libraries have started computerisation long back but still some of them have yet completed. The six colleges mentioned in this study automate their libraries with SOUL software. However, three institutions utilised SOUL 2.0, whereas the remaining three colleges utilised SOUL 3.0, the most recent version, which is used by college libraries, appears to represent an advancement over earlier SOUL software. In light of these findings, we would like to suggest holding workshops on the latest SOUL 3.0 software updates and its new capabilities, especially for the library staff of the six institutions that were chosen. This will improve their skills and enable them to learn SOUL3.0 in detail. The current state of library software, however, demonstrates that Koha is more sophisticated, widely endorsed, user-friendly, and available for usage, editing, and suggestion.

**Value:** The study drawn new ideas and noticed areas where attention required to highlight neglected common aspects in the process of computerization, status of digital library and to take steps to apply AI. Based on these researchers have recommended few suggestions such as cooperation, helping approach and initiative in acquiring skills and also suggested to fill up vacant posts.

**KEYWORDS:** Digital library; Professional skills; Library; Library services.

**ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF DIGITAL LITERACY AMONG LIBRARY USERS  
OF KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN, PATNA REGION**

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**Purpose:** This research paper is to assess the digital literacy competencies among library users in Kendriya Vidyalayas of Patna region, focusing on the role of school libraries in fostering essential digital skills. With the rapid advancement of technology and the increasing integration of digital resources in education, understanding the impact of digital literacy among students is crucial for effective learning outcomes.

**Methods:** This study used quantitative survey method to evaluate digital literacy skills for effective use of library resources and programmes. The sample comprised several Kendriya Vidyalayas of Patna region of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, ensuring a comprehensive analysis of user competencies and library practices. Purposive sampling technique was used to select participants. Structured questionnaires were distributed through Google Forms to students in classes 9-12 (library users) from the selected Kendriya Vidyalayas, with responses received from 115 students. The survey included both closed and open-ended questions to allow for a thorough understanding of the participants' experiences and perspectives.

**Findings:** Findings reveal a mixed picture of digital literacy competencies among Kendriya Vidyalaya library users. While there is a strong foundation in basic digital skills, gaps in more advanced competencies and awareness of available resources highlights the necessity for improved training and support. Addressing these challenges will be essential for fostering a more digitally literate student body capable of effectively utilising the wealth of information available in the digital age. The findings of this study will provide valuable insights into the strengths and areas for improvement within the digital literacy initiatives of Kendriya Vidyalaya libraries. Ultimately, this research aims to contribute to the broader discourse on educational strategies that promote effective digital literacy in school settings, ensuring that students are well-prepared for the challenges of an increasingly digital world.

**Originality:** This research contributes original knowledge to the field of educational libraries by highlighting the critical role they play in promoting Digital Literacy. The study offers actionable recommendations for library practitioners and policymakers, aiming to improve digital competencies among students and better prepare them for the challenges of the digital age.

**KEYWORDS:** Digital literacy; School library; Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan; Kendriya vidyalaya library; KVS; NEP-2020.



## **DIGITAL LITERACY FOR ENLIGHTENED INFORMATION COMMUNITIES**

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this paper is to explore its essential role in developing enlightened and well-informed information communities. The study emphasises how digital literacy goes beyond basic technical skills, around critical thinking, media literacy, and ethical online behavior. It also examines the challenges faced in achieving widespread digital literacy and the pivotal role of libraries and information centres in addressing these issues.

**Design :** The paper uses a literature review approach to analyse key components of digital literacy, including technical proficiency, information evaluation, media literacy, and digital ethics. It draws upon recent studies, reports, and academic discussions to identify the significance of digital literacy for personal empowerment, workforce readiness, and civic engagement. The challenges, such as the digital divide, misinformation, and the lack of formal education, are explored to offer a comprehensive understanding of the barriers to digital literacy. Furthermore, the role of libraries and information centres in promoting digital literacy through education, access to technology, and community outreach is highlighted.

**Findings:** The review reveals that digital literacy is crucial for informed participation in today's information-rich society. It does not only empower individuals to access and critically assess digital information but also equips them with the skills necessary for lifelong learning, civic participation, and ethical online behavior. Libraries and information centers are found to play a critical role in bridging the digital divide by providing access to technology and offering digital literacy training. However, achieving widespread digital literacy remains challenging due to unequal access to resources, rapid technological changes, and the prevalence of misinformation.

**Value:** This paper provides a consolidated review of digital literacy in the context of the modern information society, offering valuable insights into its multifaceted nature and its critical importance in developing enlightened user communities. The study underscores the urgent need for more inclusive and accessible digital literacy programs, particularly in underserved communities. It also highlights the potential of libraries and educational institutions in fostering digital competence and ethical digital citizenship.

**KEYWORDS:** Digital literacy; Information communities; Digital divide; Media literacy; Library; Misinformation; Lifelong learning.

## **INFORMATION LITERACY PRACTICES IN DIFFERENT LIBRARIES: A GLOBAL AND INDIAN PERSPECTIVE**

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**Purpose:** Information literacy (IL) in the digital age is examined in this research as it relates to public, academic, and special libraries. It emphasises how essential libraries are in educating users the information literacy skills they need to successfully navigate increasingly complicated digital and information-rich surroundings. The study highlights how each type of library customises IL programs to meet the needs of its distinct community, providing equal access to information and encouraging lifelong learning, by contrasting methods and practices.

**Methodology:** The IL practices in academic, special, and public libraries are compared in this study. In order to comprehend the objectives, associated ideas, and skill sets that are promoted by IL programs in these contexts, the study consults case studies, current literature, and instances of particular library efforts. Underpinned by real-world case studies like the University of California, Berkeley Libraries' embedded IL model, the Chicago Public Library's YOU media program, and the specialised IL services at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Library and Tata Memorial Hospital Library, the methodology comprises a review of the literature on IL frameworks, library programs, and partnerships.

**Findings:** The results show that every type of library customises IL techniques to fit the unique requirements of its users. Public libraries, which frequently target underserved populations, place a high priority on digital literacy and fundamental IL in order to close the digital divide and promote community learning. In order to prepare students for academic achievement, academic libraries work with instructors, incorporate IL into curricula, and place a strong emphasis on data literacy, research skills, and ethical information usage. With a focus on thorough research support, evidence-based procedures, and specialised database use, special libraries focus on advanced information literacy (IL) abilities pertinent to professionals in specific professions.

**Value:** The study provides insightful information about how various library types use IL to serve their own audiences. It emphasises the necessity of focused IL programs that meet community needs and user-specific criteria. Its comparative scope, which bridges the knowledge of information literacy practices in academic, public, and special libraries and illustrates the diverse role libraries play in improving users' critical information skills in an era of digital proliferation, is what makes it unique.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Public library; Academic library; Special library; Library instruction; Lifelong learning.

## **LIFELONG LEARNING IN THE DIGITAL ERA THROUGH INFORMATION LITERACY: A PROPOSED FRAMEWORK**

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**Purpose:** Every individual or business/institution in the global information society depends on the strategic, mutually reinforcing relationship that exists between information literacy and lifelong learning. In an ideal situation, these two contemporary issues would complement and enhance one another in order for individuals and organisations to effectively thrive and contend in the digital era. The purpose of the study is to know, how does an individual can improve information literacy skills, why information literacy is crucial in the lifelong learning in the digital era. Also, this paper is to propose the ways to establish a lifelong learning framework in the digital era through information literacy.

**Methodology:** The study is based on documentary sources both online and offline. After collecting information from different relevant sources, those are analysed with the vast experiences of the practicing professionals to address about the information literacy. The crucial and important part of information literacy is how to shape the lifelong learning habits of the individuals in the digital age. Analysis is made to identify key components towards establishing a framework for lifelong learning based on information literacy in the digital era.

**Findings:** The study has come up with a very clear picture of the steps to enhance the information literacy skills of individuals. The main steps are noteworthy like as critical thinking, effective searching, evaluating sources, note-taking and organisation, understanding bias, digital literacy, lifelong learning and practicing ethical uses. Information literacy is crucial for lifelong learning, especially in today's rapidly evolving digital age. The key reasons found are empowerment and decision-making, adaptability, critical thinking, active participation in the society, problem solving. Authors suggest to establish a framework for lifelong learning mentioning the foundation concept, core skills, lifelong learning application, implementation strategies, and benefits of a lifelong learning framework with information literacy in the digital era. Finally, authors stated in concluding remarks that the framework cannot be established exclusively by the librarians in the library but this enormous task is the responsibility of all the learning community including teachers, faculties, parents, students and society in general.

**Value:** The study is an original work and has the potentiality to enhance further research on the systematic design of information literacy programme and lifelong learning framework through information literacy applicable for individuals of the digital era.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Lifelong learning; Digital era; User; Framework.

## **INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS REQUIRED FOR USERS IN MODERN LIBRARIES : A STUDY**

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**Purpose:** Today everything is related with the concept of information overload, which refers to an excess of

information. The development of information technologies has resulted in the multiplication of information and its resources. As the volumes of information are continuously increasing, the ability to search for relevant information is an essential skill required in order to gain access to authentic and relevant information. Information literacy is a set of skills that not only allows us to find, analyze, evaluate and use information, but also helps us in choosing most relevant information that are needed. It is a necessary skill that navigates the present and future of information landscape. Thus this study intends to discuss the concept for information literacy skills and offers an overview of literacy skills in this digital age. This study is mainly to focus on the information literacy skills of users and the need for such skill in modern libraries.

**Approach:** The study was conducted on the basis of available literature and analytical review of the existing literature. Through the various literature searches, this study provides a comprehensive understanding of how information literacy skills can contribute the effectiveness of library services. The study is based on the available information found in the secondary sources of information which includes- e-journals, conference papers, and research articles.

**Findings:** The findings of the study revealed that ICT have become the most powerful tool for the educational changes and reformation and the role of librarians in this regard is irreplaceable. The findings also reveal that in the context of technological advancement libraries must prioritize information literacy skills among the users. The study further highlights the very need of literacy skills in navigating the complexities of digital age, ensuring that libraries continue to be crucial centers of knowledge, learning, and community participation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Value:** The current study is limited to only the concept of information literacy skills, making it difficult to extract meaningful insights in real time. As the study is conceptual in nature it will only provide an overview of information literacy skills. Through this study the librarians can take recommendation to provide more valuable insights and strengthen their library services and develop an information literate society.

**KEYWORDS :** Information literacy; Literacy skill; Information competency; Library; Modern library

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## **SUSTAINABLE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT WITH MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY: A REVIEW OF CASE STUDIES**

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**Purpose:** The article aims to focus on global case studies and how they align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and libraries initiatives can support in sustainable development society. The review on global case studies tries to give an overview of the function and importance of Media and Information Literacy (MIL), especially as it relates to the MIL Alliance (formerly the UNESCO Media and Information Literacy Alliance), in encouraging students and general people to think critically and make well-informed decisions.

**Methodology :** A systematic approach is essential to ensure thoroughness and validity. For this purpose, relevant academic databases and grey literature sources (e.g., reports, theses) were identify and selected .This structured methodology ensures a comprehensive and rigorous review of case studies was the approach to cover global case studies has been used and reviewed such as UNESCO's GAPMIL; Media Smart (UK); MIL program in Jordan; Finnish Media Education Policies; MIL and Intercultural Dialogue (MILID); Africa Teen Geeks Digital Literacy Programs (South Africa) and DigComp and many others.

**Findings:** Media and information literacy (MIL) initiatives are crucial for promoting long-term social progress, particularly in developing countries. The results highlight how MIL contributes to the creation of knowledgeable, just, and resilient societies, making it an important instrument for long-term social progress. Through critical thinking, digital inclusiveness, informed decision-making, and environmental and economic sustainability, these case studies as examples show how Media and Information supports SDGs. The results indicate that in order to make MIL programs inclusive and successful in a variety of societal contexts, continuous funding, contextual flexibility, and community support are required.

**Value:** This study investigates the novelty characteristics of articles and research papers on different topics in the field of sustained development goals with MIL, case studies on Media and Information Literacy. By reviewing these research papers thereby providing new perspectives on the MIL are essential for societies to develop sustainably in the twenty-first century. The interdisciplinary value of MIL and its alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are highlighted in recommendations for its incorporation into curricula, which also emphasize the importance of digital inclusivity, regulatory frameworks, and community involvement.

**KEYWORDS:** Sustainable social development; Media and information literacy; GAPMIL; MILID; DigComp; Media smart; Library initiative.

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## **ROLE OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIES IN PROMOTING INFORMATION LITERACY, PREVENTING MISINFORMATION AND SUPPORTING LIFELONG LEARNING**

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this study is to explore the critical role of academic libraries in promoting information literacy, preventing misinformation, and supporting lifelong learning. The study will also provide recommendations to enhance libraries' effectiveness in these areas, supporting their role as essential hubs for informed and engaged communities.

**Methodology:** This study employed a review method to examine how academic libraries promote information literacy, prevent misinformation, and support lifelong learning. A comprehensive search of databases using targeted keywords identified relevant articles. Findings were summarized to highlight effective practices, concluding with recommendations for validating these initiatives.

**Findings:** The study reveals that the rise of digital resources and communication technologies emphasizes academic libraries' crucial role in fostering users' information literacy. Various characteristics of an information-literate individual, including the ability to use information technology, valuing information use, understanding the world of information, and approaching information critically. Academic libraries function as hubs of information literacy, serving as key centres for knowledge, learning, and discovery, and preserving resources such as manuscripts, books, and digital materials. They enhance information literacy through hands-on workshops, training sessions, online tutorials, guides, partnerships with schools, and community outreach programs. By providing information literacy skills, academic libraries teach users to navigate catalogs, databases, and academic journals. Additionally, they offer online resources like webinars, tutorials, research guides, and e-

books, enabling self-paced learning. The study also addresses types of misinformation, including disinformation, misinformation, and examines how academic libraries confront misinformation. It also highlights fact-checking websites useful for academic libraries and librarians in preventing the spread of false information.

**Value:** This study offers a unique contribution by examining the critical role of academic libraries in promoting information literacy, preventing misinformation, and supporting lifelong learning. The research provides a foundation for understanding the importance of these skills in today's information landscape. It further identifies and analyses the strategies academic libraries employ to advance information literacy, positioning these institutions as essential players in misinformation prevention through educational initiatives.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Academic library; Lifelong learning; library user; Misinformation

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## **THE ROLE OF INFORMATION LITERACY IN ACHIEVING SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES IN INDIA**

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**Purpose :** Information literacy empowers individuals by enhancing their capacity to access, evaluate, and use information effectively. This, in turn, can promote equity, inclusivity, and the ability to engage with civic life. Present study is to examine marginalised communities, their types, and the progression of information literacy, with key national and international milestones. It tries to explore the awareness of information literacy within marginalised communities in India, focusing on how these groups interact with information resources and develop literacy skills. The paper emphasises the essential role of information literacy in advancing social justice, providing marginalised populations with tools to navigate and challenge socio-economic and cultural barriers.

**Approach :** The researchers adopted a descriptive research approach, analysing relevant research articles, case studies, and secondary sources of information. This method helps exploring the connection between information literacy and social justice, showing how the ability to access and use information can promote equality and empowerment for marginalized communities. The paper provides insights into how information literacy contributes to social justice outcomes and suggests ways to overcome barriers that hinder marginalized communities from learning and applying these skills. The findings aim to inform strategies for improving access to information literacy among underserved populations. The study underscores that increasing information literacy awareness among marginalized communities in India is not only beneficial but necessary for achieving sustainable social justice and equity, aligning with broader global efforts to support disadvantaged populations in overcoming informational and systemic inequalities.

**Findings :** In Indian relevance, use of information literacy are dated from Pre-Vedic period i.e. thousands year before when term information literacy coined by Paul G. Zurkowski in 1974. This systematic descriptive study gives insight to different groups of marginalised community of India as well as their information literacy skills. Information literacy skills i.e. the ability to access, evaluate, and use information empowers individuals and communities, facilitating their participation in societal, economic, and political processes. Present research identifies the need for information literacy programs that address the needs of marginalised groups.

**Value :** Present paper is one of the few recent studies that explicitly link information literacy, social justice, and marginalised communities in India. Its findings have the potential to inform policies and programs initiated by governments and NGOs aimed at improving the welfare of marginalized communities, ultimately contributing to social equality and justice.

**KEYWORDS :** Social justice; Marginalised community; India; Information literacy.

### 3 Information Literacy Competency Development

*Paper Ref : ST-3/22*

#### RESTRUCTURING INFORMATION LITERACY APPLICATIONS: A DESIGN THINKING APPROACH

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**Purpose :** Information Literacy as conceptualised by the American Library Association in 1998 emphasizes that “to be information literate, a person must be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information. The information literate individuals are those who have learned how to learn”. Design Thinking on the other hand is a defined process used in problem-solving, with consultation of end-users to develop prototypes and devise solutions. It leads to transformation and innovation of products or prototypes, through using problem solving techniques. This article investigates the application of Design Thinking to enhance Information Literacy instructions, addressing the shortcomings of traditional methods. Despite extensive research on information literacy and various pedagogical approaches, there is a notable gap in addressing how traditional instructional methods fail to engage information seekers and effectively bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. Information literacy stands crucial for navigating today’s digital landscape however is often inadequately taught through static, lecture-based methods, which fail to engage learners or provide practical, real-world applications.

**Methodology :** This study adopts a design thinking framework, encompassing stages of empathizing, defining, ideating, prototyping, and testing, to develop and evaluate innovative educational tools for promotion of information literacy. It includes qualitative research to understand learners’ challenges, brainstorming to generate interactive solutions, and piloting tools such as online simulation games and interactive workshops.

**Findings :** The findings promise to contribute to the broader discourse on educational innovation, emphasizing the importance of adaptive, learner-centred approaches in preparing information seekers to thrive in the information age. This reveals that human-centred, iterative approaches significantly improve information seekers’ engagement and confidence in evaluating information sources, though challenges remain in bridging theoretical knowledge with practical application and addressing scalability issues.

**Originality :** Originality of this study lies in its application of design thinking to create adaptable, engaging instructional tools, highlighting the potential for this approach to revolutionize information literacy education. This integration of DT in IL enhances users’ ability to navigate complex information environments by fostering creativity, empathy, and critical thinking. It prepares learners and professionals to tackle information challenges in a systematic, innovative way that leads to more effective problem-solving and decision-making. The article concludes with recommendations for integrating design thinking into curriculum development and emphasizes the need for continuous feedback and adaptation to enhance educational effectiveness.

**KEYWORDS:** Curriculum development; Design thinking; Educational tools; Information literacy; Interactive learning

*Paper Ref : ST-3/31*

## **EXPLORING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INFORMATION LITERACY AND USER ENGAGEMENT IN A DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT**

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**Purpose:** This study is to investigate the relationship between information literacy (IL) and user engagement in digital environment, examining influences of information literacy skills upon user's engagement and identifying factors that enhance or hinder this relationship in the University libraries of Utkal University and Sambalpur University of Odisha State.

**Design/Methodology:** A total of 666 structured questionnaires with close-ended questions were distributed to the PG students and research Scholars of both university libraries to collect the data. To supplement the questionnaire and provide more clarity to the data, the researchers personally visited the libraries, conducted semi-structured interviews and made observations to gather the necessary information. Additionally, some other designated secondary data sources were consulted to obtain the required data.

**Findings:** A clear indication of positive relationship between information literacy and user engagement in both the selected university libraries are realised. The study identified that respondents aged 20-25 years contributed the most in both universities. In terms of gender distribution, the female respondents were more in Sambalpur University with 74%, whereas 54.68% of respondents at Utkal University were male. Major findings of the study discovered that the frequent usage of the online database of Sambalpur University is 1% less than that of Utkal University but still, the confidence rate of students of Sambalpur University is more than Utkal University by 3.72%. Students from both universities expressed a positive attitude towards information literacy programs. 88.83% of users from Sambalpur University and 70.83% from Utkal University believed that IL skills were necessary and beneficial. Although there is a high expectation for IL to enhance learning and research due to its accessibility and convenience, its usage is hindered by various challenges. The study identified challenges at Sambalpur University that include digital resource accessibility, individualised support, and technological access. In contrast, at Utkal University, barriers to IL skill included inadequate IL training programs, library events, and exhibitions.

**Originality:** This study presents original research to contribute to the relatively under explored area of how digital technologies have transformed, how people engage with information. It seeks to deepen understanding of the relationship between information literacy and user engagement in this evolving digital landscape.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Digital literacy; Digital environment; Online learning; User engagement; User experience.



## **EMPOWERING THE DIGITAL AGE-INFORMATION LITERACY FOR AN ENLIGHTENED LIBRARY COMMUNITY**

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**Purpose:** The issues of information literacy have turned out to be very significant, more so to the library community which has a new role of preparing users. More particularly this article looks into the factors that have contributed to the growing need for information literacy. The purpose of this study is to underscore the importance of libraries in fostering information literacy skills, reimagining them not only as information sources but as environments that encourage deeper user engagement. It advocates for the integration of information literacy into library services to empower users, building an “information civilization” where individuals make well-informed decisions based on critically evaluated content.

**Approach :** The conceptual model identifies three key elements – partnerships, capacity building, and e-readiness – that are necessary for the effective implementation of information literacy programs. Due to the fact that libraries must collaborate with academic departments, staff, and others in the attempt to include information literacy in education, there is a call for synergy and cooperation. This approach to information literacy is integrative and holistic because it makes information literacy extend beyond the concern of the library, improving the educational system as a whole.

**Findings :** The research has shown that the provision of library information literacy helps in developing critical thinking skills, promotes equity among individuals, and encourages the love for learning even at old age. Nevertheless, libraries must keep up with new ways of providing information inclusive of the digital information age, counter the potential drawbacks such as the digital divide and the algorithmic tendency, which calls for enhancing the digital capacity and flexibility of the libraries in their operations.

**Value:** This paper explores changing concept of libraries and information literacy is presented as an essential element in information age. In developing these competencies, libraries and their information resources seek to achieve their purpose of providing information at levels that are fair in serving people’s interests and promoting learning and civic engagement. This in turn produces an empowered economic base library community that is educated enlightened.

**KEYWORDS :** Information literacy; Digital literacy; Information literacy competency.

## **INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AND ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES: A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH IN LIBRARIES**

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**Purpose:** Libraries play a central role for both preserving intellectual freedom and addressing ethical

responsibilities in the sea of information surrounding us today. Libraries are sites of learning and information; these learning environments need to steward a responsible balance between the values of Intellectual freedom on one side and ethical considerations such as privacy protection, resource management, equitable access, etc. The nexus of intellectual freedom and ethical obligations is a complex matrix that invites a systematic, consultative means among multiple stakeholders.

The final paper in this section presents on how there is ethical obligation for libraries to forge a partnership between top brass, library staff, including faculty, as well as students regarding these complex issues placed before libraries. Drawing on systematic literature review and empirical cases, this article brings to light the ethical obligations applicable for each stakeholder type in the library ecosystem.

**Methodology:** The methodology for this paper involves systematic and comprehensive search for relevant literature related to intellectual freedom, ethical responsibilities, and collaborative approaches in libraries. A set of carefully chosen keywords and phrases, such as “intellectual freedom in libraries,” “library ethics,” “collaborative approaches in libraries,” and variations of these terms, are used to guide the search. Boolean operators (AND, OR) are employed to refine searches. Inclusion criteria focus on peer-reviewed academic papers, books, reports, and authoritative websites related to the topic. Collaborative approaches in libraries foster intellectual freedom by uniting librarians, educators, and communities to ensure balanced information access. Together, they address ethical responsibilities, promote diverse perspectives, and protect users’ rights, strengthening libraries as inclusive spaces for knowledge exploration.

**Findings:** Study reinforces that there should be common understanding about the philosophy of intellectual freedom and established ethics standards regarding issues related to accessibility, privacy, or resource management within libraries. By taking close look at multiple collaborative efforts and partnerships in high-impact library operations, the paper asserts that more integrated modes of doing responsibility can prove beneficial by ameliorating ethical situations as they arise while supporting intellectual freedom.

**Value:** Article explores some of the challenges and opportunities involved in supporting collaboration between actors, based on empirical cases. Libraries seeking to align their actions with ethical values are given concrete advice on how collaborative work will do more than resolve these situations but also provides opening for promoting intellectual freedom and diversity of ideas.

**KEYWORDS:** Ethical Guidelines & Responsibilities; Collaborative approach; Diversity of thought; Intellectual freedom.

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### **INFORMATION LITERACY MODEL : A COMPARATIVE STUDY**

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**Purpose:** Due to the information explosion, many individuals find difficulty in retrieving the right information at the right time. To solve this, from time to time different models of information literacy (IL) have been proposed by different researchers. The purpose of this paper is to present those models, find out their targeted users, and do a comparison between the models.

**Methodology:** In this work, explanatory and qualitative research methods were used. First literature related to specific aspect of the study area has been reviewed. Secondly, data relevant to Information Literacy Models have been gathered from online sources like Internet, research articles, theses etc. During the literature review, though a huge numbers of information literacy models have been found, only six out of them have been selected randomly as found through google search. Then different literature related to those models have been reviewed and elaborated descriptions for each of the six models have been prepared. Also, using a comparison table, the similarities and dissimilarities between the models have been discussed.

**Findings:** Information Literacy (IL) is the ability of a person to retrieve and use information. This study has figured out the type of information usually needed, locating the information, selecting the useful part of it, presenting them, communicating and using the right information at the right time. As the information sources are growing at a very fast rate, size of data and information available over different media is increasing very rapidly, the concept of information literacy becomes more and more important. Already a good number of researches are carried out. This research of comparing information literacy models have brought out many insights. It is found that there are a lot of similarities in the structure and processes proposed by information literacy models for solving an information access problem. Though there are varying numbers of steps in those models, the basic flow of work is almost same.

**Originality:** This research paper is an original piece of work which is being prepared after reviewing numbers of literatures related to Information Literacy and Information Literacy Models. Studying the design and workflow of each of the selected models, an overview is prepared making these models understandable to common users in simple language. Through this paper, users would get an overall route map of these models instead of searching them separately.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Information literacy model.

*Paper Ref : ST-3/69A*

## **ADAPTING TO CHANGE INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS IN MANAGING DIGITAL RESOURCES AND SERVICES IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTRES**

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**Purpose :** In the context of rapid digital transformation, the study aims to explore the significance of Information Literacy (IL) skills in managing digital resources and providing efficient library services. It tries to focus on how librarians and information professionals may acquire IL competences to fulfill the needs of contemporary users and adjust to changing digital contexts.

**Approach :** A theoretical approach has been adopted for the present study. For the study, documentary sources have been consulted for collecting relevant information. Reviewing of relevant literature on IL frameworks, digital resource management, and emerging trends in library services have also been conducted. The study examines the changing relevance of IL skills in the context of contemporary libraries and identifies key challenges faced by library professionals in acquiring and applying these skills. Additionally, the present study proposes strategies to strengthen IL competencies and discusses their impact on library services.

**Findings :** The study reveals that IL skills are essential for delivering innovative services to the users managing digital collection effectively. The study finds that in order to successfully navigate the complexity of digital materials, now library professionals need to have IL skills. The challenges such as limited training opportunities,

resistance to change, and lack of institutional support hinder the development of these skills. Collaborative learning, continuous professional development, and strategic use of emerging technologies are identified as essential strategies for building IL competencies.

**Value :** To ensure seamless access to digital resources and improve user experiences, libraries must prioritise the IL skills development. Strengthening IL competencies not only equips librarians to manage digital collections effectively but also help users to develop their critical thinking and independent learning skills. These skills are essential for libraries to remain relevant and promoting lifelong learning in changing information environment. The study contributes to the literature on library science by framing IL skills as essential for management of digital resources in modern libraries, particularly in the age of digital transformation. This study offers insights for library managers, policymakers, and academic institutions to design initiatives that support the continuous growth of IL skills among professionals. This paper's insights also help to support library professionals, administrators, and stakeholders in building future-ready libraries that meet diverse user needs and contribute to lifelong learning.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Digital resource; Library professional; Library service; Life long learning.

*Paper Ref : ST-3/74A*

## **INFORMATION LITERACY PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES IN IIT LIBRARIES OF INDIA**

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**Purpose:** The present research aims to explore the current landscape of information literacy (IL) programs provided by five prominent Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) Libraries of Madras, Delhi, Bombay, Kanpur, and Kharagpur. By assessing the availability and effectiveness of these initiatives, the study seeks to understand how well these libraries equip the students and researchers with essential information skills necessary for their academic success and technological adaptations for their career growth and development.

**Methodology:** A systematic approach was used to gather data on IL programs offered by the selected IIT Libraries. This involved reviewing library websites and relevant literature, supplemented by a comprehensive checklist of programs and methods of IL to ensure consistency in evaluating the types of programs available like workshops, webinars, orientation training programs, etc. The analysis focused on delivery of formats (in-person, online, or hybrid) and assessed how does each institutions presents its services to the users. Given the growing importance of digital resources and information access, understanding the strengths and gaps in existing IL programs is important for developing strategies that effectively support students and researchers in understanding, accessing, evaluating and using information resources effectively for their education and research.

**Findings:** The study revealed a diverse range of IL initiatives across five IIT Libraries with notable variations in their programs and workshops. Workshops were predominantly offered at IIT Madras Library, IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay, and IIT Kanpur, while user orientation programs were provided by IIT Madras Library, IIT Delhi, and IIT Bombay. IIT Kharagpur uniquely hosted exhibitions, showcasing projects and research. Online training was accessible at IIT Madras Library, IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay, and Kharagpur, whereas conferences and webinars were organised at selected institutions, reflecting a varied commitment to enhancing information literacy among

students and researchers.

**Value :** The insights derived from the present research contribute to a deeper understanding of functioning of IL programs within leading technical institutions of the country. This understanding can help library professionals and policymakers in making informed decisions to strengthen IL support, ultimately developing a culture of information competence among future technologists and re-engineer their services for empowering library users better.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; IL program; IL training; Webinar; Database; IIT.

*Paper Ref : ST-3/75A*

## **INFORMATION LITERACY AS A TOOL TO OVERCOME ANXIETIES OF INFORMATION EXPLOSION**

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**Purpose:** This study proposes to explore the complex issues of information overload, a growing challenge in today's data-driven society where the vast volume of information often hinders users from finding reliable sources. The research tries to examine the root causes of overload, including cognitive limits and rapid digital content growth, leading to decreased productivity and increased stress. By investigating how libraries address these issues through information literacy programs, this study aims to highlight strategies that improve users' skills in evaluating and managing information. Emphasising libraries' evolving roles, it tries to explore structured programs and AI tools that help users accessing information more effectively amidst abundant data.

**Methodology:** The topic was researched using search engines like Google and academic databases such as Emerald Insight and Google Scholar. Studies focusing on information overload, information literacy, and the role of libraries in promoting information literacy were carefully analysed. This analysis examined the effects and consequences of information overload on libraries and information users, highlighting relevant strategies and tools libraries use to mitigate these challenges.

**Findings:** The study finds that both personal cognitive limitations and the exponential increase in available information significantly contribute to information overload. This issue leads to reduced productivity, poor decision-making, and increased stress. Programs offered by libraries, along with advanced technological tools like AI chatbots, play a vital role in enhancing information literacy. These resources help users develop skills in source evaluation, critical analysis, and effective retrieval strategies, thus enabling them to manage and utilise information more efficiently.

**Value:** This study highlights the importance of library-led information literacy programs in addressing information overload, offering a unique perspective on integrating AI tools, such as Google Bard, within library services to enhance user support through real-time, interactive guidance. By presenting a list of tools and programs, this paper provides valuable insights into current practices that empower users to identify and access reliable information in an age of data abundance.

**KEYWORDS :** Information overload; Cognitive limitation; Artificial intelligence chatbots; Google bard.

## 4 Information Literacy Standards

*Paper Ref : ST-4/44*

### INFORMATION LITERACY INITIATIVES IN INDIA : AN ACADEMIC LIBRARY PERSPECTIVE

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**Purpose:** This study aims to characterise degree of information literacy competency of students using UNESCO-developed standards and indicators. This study is also to develop a plan to improve information literacy using library resources. Everyone is impacted by information and technology in all contexts, including jobs, schools, leisure, etc. This essay provides an overview of how information literacy can assist students at all educational levels to become proficient learners in the information-dominated digital age.

**Methodology:** Data was gathered from online resources, including Shodganga, ProQuest Dissertation & Theses, J-gate, Google Scholar, Ebsco Library & Information Science and Technology Abstracts, and Scopus. I performed searches using the terms “Information Literacy,” “Information Literacy Model,” “Information Literacy Standards,” and so forth. Additionally, supplementary literature was selected through citation databases and the citations of these publications. The searches were limited to English-language media, though. Broadly specified criteria were employed to ensure that every facet of information literacy was covered.

**Findings:** Academic librarians use a variety of information literacy (IL) principles in their contacts with customers, addressing a broad range of reported information needs. Most of the training is focused on assisting patrons in organising their information tasks, locating information, and evaluating information. Secondary themes revealed that despite librarians’ strong belief in the necessity and usefulness of instruction, situational and individual factors posed obstacles to good instruction. The article ends with recommendations for the successful advancement of information literacy in India. Higher education institutions should aim to develop informed graduates who may freely lead happy lives and change the information society they are a part of, rather than just graduates who are prepared to enter the workforce.

**Originality:** Considering the local context, cultural considerations, and educational needs, the article brings the unique opportunities and challenges faced by academic libraries in India. It would showcase current data on how academic libraries are changing in the digital age, including case studies, statistics, and new projects. It would go over cutting-edge instructional techniques, technology integration, and community involvement tactics that libraries use to improve information literacy. The article could address gaps in information literacy education by suggesting new projects or enhancements based on current developments.

**KEYWORDS :** Information literacy; Information literacy standard.

## **LEGAL INFORMATION LITERACY STANDARDS: A STUDY OF BRITISH AND IRISH ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIANS (BIALL)**

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**Purpose:** The American Library Association (ALA) describes Information Literacy (IL) as the ability to locate, evaluate and use information. It is a set of abilities requiring individuals to “recognise when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use the needed information effectively”. The present paper is the study of Information Literacy standards developed by the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians (BIALL) in all segments of law librarianship in the United Kingdom. These standards help Information professionals as well as law students, at both the academic and vocational stage. To develop comprehensive legal research skills at a stage and also the training provided to legal professionals. The same Information Literacy Standards may be useful to Librarians of Law University, National Law School, Supreme and High Courts, College & Legal firms in India for the same purpose.

**Methodology:** The present paper is a case study of BIALL. The Information Literacy Standards available on the website is presented. How organisations give literacy programs to legal professionals and also the information professionals. After successfully completing the literacy programme law students & Information professionals find the needed information required, it can be evaluate, organise, use it and communicate the same legal information These are useful to find, evaluate, organize, use and communicate legal information for decision-making, problem-solving or the acquisition of knowledge.

**Findings:** It is found that SCONUL 7 Pillars are helpful to locate, gather, evaluate, and manage the legal resources from the ocean of Literature. The association also provides training. The results of the same professionals getting a basic idea of basic concepts & terminology that is used, Public International Law and law of other countries, Theory of English legal systems, legislation, Case Law & practical experience etc. Five research skills of BAILL develop research skills among the legal professionals. These skills are the backbone of professionals as they become researchers.

**Originality:** The present study is the analysis and Interpretation of Legal Information Literacy Standards developed by the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Information literacy standard; Law librarian; British and Irish Association of Law Librarian; BIALL; Legal profession.

## **INFORMATION LITERACY COMPETENCY PRACTICES : STANDARDS AND MODELS**

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**Purpose:** Standards and models for information literacy are necessary to create information literacy programs and competences at the elementary, secondary, and higher education levels. Standards and models for information literacy are necessary to preserve the coherence of higher education's programs. The establishment of information seeking process roadmap requires the use of information literacy standards and models. The paper outlines — the necessity of IL for all disciplines, IL competence and IL standard in Higher Education Institution and IL Models and Standards for Universal Acceptance. The research examined different degrees of information literacy models and standards based on a critical study.

**Methodology:** The paper is based on exclusively critical study. Educating the public about IL is the main objective. A critical study about different IL levels served as the basis for the report. Information about models and standards for literacy is collected from a range of sources, including as websites, online resources, conference papers, and articles.

**Findings:** Standards and models are required in information seeking process when anybody does want information about answer to a particular question, complete the particular task and curious to know about something. The process of information literacy consists of simple and complex depends on the individual curiosity mind. Standards and models are a road map for information seeking process. The paper finds out the relationship among the Information Literacy, Computer Literacy and Broader Technological Competence. Standards and models are required to develop information literacy programs and competencies at the elementary, secondary, and higher education levels. Information literacy models and standards must be used when creating a roadmap for the information-seeking process. The discussion and conclusion part of the paper provides the fruitful result about importance of information literacy standard and model on present age.

**Originality/Value:** The paper provides information literacy standard which have been followed by different level of education. Various information literacy programs are succeeded based on information literacy model. The researcher outlines the particular model and standard on which library professionals used for understand information literacy.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Standard; Model; Education.



## **PROVISIONS OF INFORMATION LITERACY IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACTS OF INDIA**

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**Purpose:** Information literacy forms the basis for learning of entire lifecycle or it may call as a life-long process. Public libraries are indispensable for the development of education, information and culture among the people. Public Libraries Acts are the instrument of the public libraries providing a well organised library system from state and district, up to the remote village. In order to understand the relationship between the Public Libraries Acts and Information Literacy, the present study analyses the provision for Information Literacy in Public Libraries Acts enacted in different states of India. Another focal point of the study is to explore different opportunities provided by the Public Libraries Acts in the area of information literacy.

**Methodology:** The work is based on data gathered from primary and secondary sources. To study the Public Libraries Acts of the states and Union Territories of India, the respective state government's gazetteer notifications and website of RRRLF have been visited for data sources. To collect the data for literacy rate in the years 1991, 2001 and 2011 of different states and Union Territories, the official website of Census of India is the main source taken into account. An extensive literature search has also been done for collecting information on the area. The study has extensively analysed the provision of Information Literacy in different Public Libraries Acts in Indian and presents a picture of different methods or ways suggested by these Acts for information literacy. A comparative study has also been made among the different changes of literacy ratio that took place as an effective consequence after enactment of the Acts in the respective states as per Census Reports of 1991, 2001 and 2011 .

**Findings:** It is found that Chhattisgarh has been showing increasing trend of literacy rate after enactment of Public Libraries Act followed by Andhra Pradesh. Again, different initiatives taken by state governments for establishment of public libraries at grass root level and enacting libraries acts in those states have played a very positive role in the case Information Literacy of the state.

**Originality/Value:** It is revealed from the study that though there are provisions to literate the people in general the Public Libraries Acts, the need for appropriate amendment in view of changing socio economic and socio cultural environment and technological developments.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Public library; Public Library Act; RRRLF.

## **ADAPTING INFORMATION LITERACY STANDARDS : A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS ACROSS LIBRARIES, DISCIPLINES, AND GLOBAL CONTEXTS**

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**Purpose :** This paper aims to explore the evolution and implementation of Information Literacy (IL) Standards within diverse library settings, public, academic, and special libraries and across different subject areas. It tries to provide a comparative analysis that highlights how these standards are applied in various contexts and examines their role in assessing the information literacy skills of library users. Through this exploration, the study aims to identify any gaps or areas where enhancements to these standards may be beneficial, ultimately contributing to a more effective IL framework for libraries worldwide.

**Design :** Employing a comparative analysis approach, this study investigates IL Standards established by key national and international organisations. It examines how these standards vary by library type, specific subject fields, and geographic regions, reflecting the unique needs of different library users and institutional goals. By focusing on practical examples, the study aims to provide a clear understanding of how IL Standards function across different settings, emphasising both their strengths and limitations.

**Findings:** The study's findings indicate that IL Standards are increasingly customised to meet the specific requirements of various library environments. For instance, academic libraries may emphasize research and critical evaluation skills, while public libraries focus on general information-seeking abilities. Additionally, subject-specific standards often differ based on the expertise required in a particular field, such as health sciences or business. Despite these adaptations, notable inconsistencies exist in how IL Standards are assessed and applied, resulting in a lack of uniformity in IL program outcomes across diverse library settings. These discrepancies underscore the challenges of creating a standardised approach to IL that can be universally applied. The scope of this study is limited to selected countries and academic disciplines, which may affect the generalisability of its conclusions. Expanding future research to include a wider array of libraries and subject areas could lead to a more comprehensive understanding of IL Standards and their global applicability. Insights gained from this study can aid library practitioners and policymakers in refining IL Standards and designing targeted IL programs.

**Originality:** This paper provides a comprehensive evaluation of IL Standards across various library types, disciplines, and cultural contexts. It highlights the need for adaptable standards that accommodate diverse information literacy requirements, promoting a globally relevant approach to IL that can support users in different settings and strengthen overall IL proficiency worldwide.

**KEYWORDS :** Information literacy standard; Subject-specific information literacy; Global information literacy; Information literacy assessment; Library use skill; Knowledge navigation.

## 5 Information Literacy Initiatives

*Paper Ref : ST-5/3*

### DESIGNING INCLUSIVE DIGITAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS IN LIBRARIES FOR PATRONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

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**Purpose:** This study aims to design and evaluate a motivationally supportive digital learning environment within libraries, specifically tailored to bridge the digital divide for patrons with special needs. The research focuses on fostering social participation and inclusion by equipping these patrons with essential digital skills while promoting meaningful social interaction. The goal is to explore how libraries can serve as inclusive spaces that empower individuals with special needs through accessible digital learning environments, enhancing their engagement with technology and improving overall well-being.

**Methodology :** The study employs an exploratory research approach, utilising both qualitative and quantitative methods to comprehensively analyse the subject. Secondary data collection and case study analysis are the primary research methods. In addition, thematic analysis of existing literature and observational data provides deeper insights into best practices and effective strategies. Case studies from diverse library settings, particularly those serving patrons with special needs, are evaluated to assess the impact of these environments. Observational data is collected to measure the effectiveness of the digital learning spaces in terms of motivating patrons, fostering social participation, and improving digital literacy skills.

**Findings:** The research identifies several best practices for designing motivationally supportive digital learning environments in libraries, with a focus on accessibility and inclusion. The case studies reveal significant improvements in motivation, social interaction, and learning outcomes among patrons with special needs. These patrons demonstrated increased engagement with digital tools, improved self-efficacy, and a greater sense of belonging within the library community. The findings suggest that libraries have the potential to create inclusive spaces that foster both digital literacy and social participation, ultimately contributing to the overall well-being of individuals with special needs.

**Value:** This research adds valuable insights to the field by providing evidence of the effectiveness of motivationally supportive digital learning environments for patrons with special needs. It offers practical recommendations for library design, emphasizing the importance of creating engaging and empowering learning experiences. The study highlights the role libraries can play in promoting digital literacy, self-efficacy, and a growth mindset toward technology. By focusing on social participation and inclusion, this research contributes to the development of more inclusive and effective digital literacy programs in libraries, with broader implications for creating equitable digital learning opportunities for all.

**KEYWORDS:** Digital learning environment; Special need; Library; Motivation; Social participation; Inclusion; Assistive technology.

**PROMOTING INFORMATION LITERACY : A COMPARATIVE WEB ANALYSIS  
OF DELHI PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF INDIA,  
KOLKATA**

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**Purpose:** Library websites are the subject of the investigation that includes general contents, like how Lib 2.0 tools are used for enhancing services and facilities. This study is to investigate the possibilities of promoting information literacy through library websites.

**Methodology:** It is a survey-based study, and the researcher explores both library websites to collect the data with the help of observation technique. A methodical checklist has been created based on earlier studies to collect data and to evaluate the data in a feasible way the content was divided into two categories: available and not available. For available, a score of and for not available, a score of are used.

**Findings:** According to the current comparative study analysis, DPL secures the first rank however, NLI has also gave neck to neck fight. Each library specialises in a distinct subject and provides a vast array of services and content. For instance, the NLI is renowned for its utilisation of cutting-edge technologies and specialized learning resources, whereas the DPL excels in user-friendly services and overall website content. Both libraries have made impressive progress towards growing their digital footprints. These libraries will stay at the forefront of information supply in the digital age provided they continue to invest in technology and make improvements that are centered on the needs of the user. This comparative web analysis shows how a well created website can change library services and advance information literacy, and it can act as a standard for other libraries in India and around the world.

**Originality/Value:** This study is an original work, and it emphasises how crucial it is to keep making technological investments and using cutting-edge solutions to satisfy the changing needs of library user. The comparative analysis also shows that a well created website can promote information literacy and providing a standard for other libraries. This study is confined to National Library of India and Delhi Public Library only because the content available on these two libraries website was enough to evaluate productivity of their respective websites. The website of the Asiatic Society library was not working properly during the study period and the Connemara Public library website is not having sufficient content to evaluate; therefore, these two libraries were skipped.

**KEYWORDS:** Automation; Delhi Public Library; National Library of India; Library website; Information literacy; Library System.

## **DIGITAL LITERACY INITIATIVES VIS-A-VIS ROLE OF LIBRARIES : AN INDIAN PERSPECTIVE**

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**Purpose:** In the 21st century, digital literacy has emerged as a crucial competency for effective navigation and active participation in the digital world. India has recognised the importance of digital literacy and has undertaken numerous programs and initiatives. This paper aims to explore the initiatives undertaken by the Government, Non-Government Organisations (NGO's) to promote digital literacy across the country. It further tries to bridge the digital divide to ensure that all citizens can enjoy the benefits of digital advancements. This paper also aims to examine evolving role of libraries in fostering digital literacy and promoting digital inclusion among diverse communities.

**Design:** Being a descriptive type research, this study is carried out on the basis of documentary sources of data. Visions of different initiatives are analysed to understand the elements involved in empowering citizens with digital information literacy, advancing e-governance and fostering growth in electronic services, products, and device manufacturing. Analysis of digital literacy initiatives and programs, government policies and reports, websites etc. are carried out to identify components of effective digital literacy initiatives and programs. Different roles of libraries are compared with those components to emphasise on possibilities its enhancements.

**Findings:** This research study reveals that India has made significant strides in advancing digital literacy through Government initiatives such as Digital India, PMGDISHA (Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan), and other national and state-level initiatives conducted by NGOs. Though several programs and initiatives launched by various Govt. ministries, departments and non-government organisations, more attention need to be given on the rural area and efforts should be made to make people understand how to use information to bring value to everything they undertake. Today, the present world is depending on or adapting AI tools in teaching-learning and students making their educational assignments through it. In addition, this is the high time for higher education institutions by letting students know AI tools cannot be a tool for acknowledge.

**Value:** This paper adds value by linking the contribution of digital literacy initiatives and the role of libraries in India. It highlights the synergies between government programs and library services, offering insights into how libraries can evolve to meet the demands of the digital age. Through these combined efforts, a more digitally literate and empowered society can be achieved.

**KEYWORDS:** Digital literacy; Government initiative; Digital India Program; Digital education; Non-Government Organisation; Library.

## **INFORMATION LITERACY COMPETENCIES AMONG THE RESEARCH SCHOLARS: A CASE STUDY IN OPEN UNIVERSITY OF ASSAM**

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**Purpose:** This study investigates the information literacy competencies of research scholars of Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University (KKHSOU), an institution that is committed to offering accessible education in North-East India. The study aims to evaluate proficiency in navigating, assessing, and utilising information for research. Information literacy encompasses the abilities to discover, evaluate and apply information ethically. Information literacy is vital for scholarly success, especially in the present era of digital resources and abundance of data are predominant. Understanding how effectively researchers can manage these resources is crucial for enhancing their research outcomes.

**Methodology:** The research employed survey method, distributing a structured questionnaire through google form and got fifty-five responses. It assessed various dimensions of information literacy such as ability to locate information, proficiency in using search engines and databases and familiarity with scholarly databases. It explored the ethical use of artificial intelligence (AI) in research and overall satisfaction with information literacy training provided by KKHSOU.

**Findings:** Findings reveal that a significant portion of respondents are highly confident in locating information and using search engines, with 60% of respondents rating themselves good in locating information and 80% demonstrate proficiency in using search engines. However, proficiency with academic databases is comparatively lower, though still notable. The majority of respondents use online databases and search engines frequently, while citation management tools are less commonly utilised. The scholars are also aware of primary and secondary sources and can distinguish the source of information. Majority of researchers believe in the ethical use of AI in research. There are different opinions on the role and application of AI for research purpose. Around 51% of respondent use AI tools for literature search, they also use it for correcting grammar and for reference.

**Originality:** The study highlights a general satisfaction with the information literacy training provided by the institute but identifies a need for further enhancement. The results suggest that while research scholars at KKHSOU possess a solid foundation in information literacy, targeted improvements and additional training and workshop could significantly boost their competencies and research effectiveness. This paper recommends for developing a framework for ethical use of AI in research.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Open university; Research scholar; KKHSOU; Assam.

**ENHANCING INFORMATION LITERACY THROUGH EFFECTIVE RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT: A CASE STUDY OF B C ROY MEMORIAL LIBRARY AT IIM  
CALCUTTA**

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**Purpose:** Records are as crucial as books in a library, serving the needs of staff, professionals, and researchers. They help in tracking resources, in maintaining operational continuity and in making effective management of essential records. This study examines the types of records available at B C Roy Memorial Library, IIM Calcutta, and the methods used to manage them. Well-maintained records enhance information literacy by helping new staff quickly understand library functions and services. By bridging gaps in knowledge, it enables staff to locate, to evaluate, and to use information effectively, fostering accountability and operational integrity within the library. Thus this paper is to understand how does effective records management can enhance information literacy.

**Methodology:** A questionnaire was designed based on standards, guidelines, and some popularly known classification models for records management. The study's sample includes eight library staff members: one librarian, four section heads, and three staff, who are actively involved in library activities related to management of records.

**Findings:** The study found that B C Roy Memorial Library lacks formal records management standards, including a retention and disposal schedule, leading to the accumulation of both new and old records. While various classification methods are used, storage and ICT facilities are adequate, there is no designated records manager. Despite this, effective records management plays a key role in enhancing information literacy. Properly managed records enable staff to quickly access and use critical information, improving their ability to navigate library resources and make informed decisions, which ultimately fosters a more informed library community.

**Value:** The study highlights the critical role of records in library operations, identifying various types of records and examining how different sections manage them. Effective records management contributes to fostering a well-informed, information-literate environment within the library. This research offers practical insights for library staff and future researchers, emphasizing the importance of structured record-keeping to enhance information literacy and promote informed decision-making across the library community.

**KEYWORDS :** Records; Documents; Record management.

## **RESOURCE DISCOVERY SERVICE PLATFORM AT BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY : CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

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**Purpose** : The purpose of this paper is to investigate the scope, issues and challenges in conceptualising comprehensive Resource Discovery Service platforms to ensure that users can make use of them. To do this, special attention must be paid to creating user-friendly interfaces, which include using language that students are familiar with, clearly represented buttons and symbols, a simple GUI layout, and a smooth navigation stream.

**Methodology** : Since Resource Discovery Services are unique and creative information structures that are constantly evolving and changing, assessment is critical to ensuring not just their proper progression but also their adoption by the users. The paradigm for RDS platform acceptance built in this study is made up of four themes: Flexibility, Content, Transmission & Discovery. In the present research study researcher used descriptive survey research method which includes presentations of facts, class of events and involves procedure and enumeration of measurements to analyse the view of users about Resource Discovery Services in libraries.

**Findings** : The study discovered that low understanding of the advantages of RDS, lack of data, and lack of attention to the possible beneficial impact on work performance are among the main factors impeding the development of Resource Discovery Service platforms. RDS platform developers should bear in mind that, while these interface-related scheme features can entice users in the early stages, the content of the RDS platforms ultimately determines whether they use the system. Individual disparities in programming self-efficacy, computer familiarity, and subject awareness, for example, will make it easier for users to communicate with digital libraries.

**Value** : This paper has been written following a proper sampling method with questionnaire as a tool of data collection and result has been analysed in the light of the objective and scope being the users of the Sayaji Rao Central Library, Banaras Hindu University. It is intended to help, guide and reassure further study in the field.

**KEYWORDS**: Resource discovery; Technological transformation; Opportunity; Challenge, University library; Banaras Hindu University.

## **DIGITAL LITERACY AMONG LINGUISTIC STUDENTS OF ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY: A CASE STUDY**

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**Purpose**: This study tries to explore the digital literacy competencies among linguistics students at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU). This study encompassing the skills to locate, manage, evaluate, and communicate



information via digital platforms, has become essential in contemporary society. The study tries to assess students' proficiency in digital devices, engagement in digital practices, and satisfaction with digital literacy skills. This study also examines their ability to collaborate and share information through digital platforms and critically evaluate online interactions.

**Methodology :** This study used an online questionnaire-based survey method to collect data from the linguistics department of Aligarh Muslim University. The researchers have designed a structured questionnaire through Google Forms and shared it through e-mails and WhatsApp. Out of 70 students, including postgraduate students and research scholars, 56 (80%) have filled out the online questionnaire. A five-point Likert scale from "1=Strongly Disagree" to "5=Strongly Agree" was used to measure various aspects of digital literacy, including proficiency with digital technology, understanding of digital literacy concepts, and engagement in digital practices. A statistical software and a spreadsheet were used to analyse and interpret the collected data.

**Findings:** The study shows that most linguistics students (82.4%) preferred smartphones for studying. The majority of the respondents spend 4-6 hours daily on digital devices to complete assignments and do their research activities (88.2%). Social media is the most visited platform (52.9%) and the internet is essential for studies (70.6%). Furthermore, respondents agreed that proficiency in digital technology is beneficial to searching for information and managing online security. Moreover, engagement in digital practices includes positive self-presentation, participation in online exchanges, and verifying online contacts. Students also exhibit competency in using digital technology in education, managing information, and collaborating through digital platforms. However, critical evaluation of online interactions, particularly concerning social media content, remains an area for improvement.

**Originality :** No study has been undertaken at the Department of Linguistics at Aligarh Muslim University to address the topic mentioned above. This study measures proficiency with digital technology, understanding of digital literacy concepts, engagement in digital practices and the significance of digital literacy.

**KEYWORDS:** Digital literacy; Literacy skills; Digital literacy competency; Digital technology; Digital proficiency; Linguistic.

*Paper Ref : ST-5/41*

## **INFORMATION LITERACY PROGRAMS : A REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INITIATIVES**

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**Purpose:** Importance of Information Literacy (IL) in the present era are noteworthy. IL thus helps users to find the relevant or required information and makes them as information-literate citizens. The concepts of IL to lifelong learning and to shift this to Lifelong Digital Learning are quite significant to combat with misinformation and fake news. The purpose of the paper is to identify the core components of IL of the various fields and the different IL initiatives taken by the Government of India. IL and its core insights will help to enrich the core values in finding the appropriate information at the proper time. Thus, the Government is trying to implement such initiatives which would broaden the vistas of the citizens in this networked world.

**Methodology:** This review paper gave an overview of IL. In this regard, a literature review was done to identify the progress of information literacy in the present era. A sample literature review and details on information literacy are discussed here in the paper. The background of IL and digital information literacy are also discussed in the paper. The evolution of the concept of IL from the old times to the present times is also drafted here through the available existing literature.

**Findings:** It is found that there are 11 government initiatives. Most of them are centrally sponsored. Most of such initiatives are considered after 2010 which is a noteworthy feature. Most of such initiatives are scattered in the different fields of study. This indicates there are enough initiatives taken up by the Government to eradicate information illiteracy in India.

**Originality:** The major government IL initiatives in this regard are important for the citizens in India. It is expected that such initiatives will help to identify the information sources and elaborated briefly in the paper. Such information will help the researcher to identify the pertinent government help in Information Literacy. This overview-based paper will help researchers and scholars get deeper into the core concepts of information literacy and the efforts of the Government. Such efforts have been taken to eradicate the basic obstacle to making information-literate citizens.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Digital information literacy; Government initiative.

*Paper Ref : ST-5/54*

## **INFORMATION LITERACY AND ACCESS CHALLENGES FOR NLIST RESOURCES : A STUDY AMONG FACULTIES OF PROVINCIALISED COLLEGES IN ASSAM**

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**Purpose:** Provincialised colleges in Assam are government aided colleges and the lifeline of higher education in the state. These colleges are the main beneficiaries of the NLIST program and a significant number of colleges have participated in the program since its inception. However, it is noteworthy that due to lack of information literacy, the implementation of this program and distribution of e-resources among the targeted beneficiaries has been facing significant challenges. The purpose of this study is to identify the problems encountered in accessing NLIST resources for information literacy and to suggest appropriate remedial measures. Recognizing that NLIST e-resources in scholarly literature are significant for academic development, the study seeks to assess the level of use and explore specific barriers faced by users.

**Methodology:** A Descriptive survey and case study methods were used to explore user satisfaction levels towards facilities for access and accessibility of the resources and level of user information literacy. Data were collected from 12 Provincialised colleges through stratified random sampling design approach to collect the target data across the state of Assam. A closed questionnaire with questions regarding information literacy, accessibility of resources and user satisfaction level was designed and distributed to 10 faculties from each of the randomly selected Provincialised colleges. Data were systematically tabulated and analyzed using Excel to achieve the set objectives of the study.

**Findings:** NLIST is a consortium-based e-resource project that provides e-resources to colleges across India.

The NLIST e-resources of scholarly literature are recognised to have contributed significantly to the academic development of HEIs in terms of nation-building. However, in the state of Assam, the program does not seem to have succeeded in effective implementation. It appears to face some challenges, which appear to have failed to channel resources to their target beneficiaries in accordance with the program objectives. Therefore, it has significance in identifying the challenges for appropriate remedial measures. It is found that information illiteracy limits access to NLIST resources for approximately 10% of faculty members in provincial colleges in Assam, presenting a significant barrier to the program's objectives.

**Originality:** While the NLIST e-resources initiative was designed to extend scholarly resources to target beneficiaries, information literacy continues to act as a barrier to effective access and utilization. This study highlights the essential but often overlooked aspect of information literacy within the NLIST project's implementation, underscoring its critical role in achieving the program's objectives.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; NLIST; e-resources; Provincialised College; ICT; Gauhati University; Assam.

*Paper Ref : ST-5/57*

## **ICT SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES AMONG LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS FOR PROMOTING INFORMATION LITERACY: A CASE STUDY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN TAMIL NADU IN INDIA**

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**Purpose:** The Paper tries to find out the proficiency in ICT skills, the learning sources of knowledge about ICT tools and technologies, personal, professional, and technical competencies of library staff required for promoting information literacy as observed by the head of Connemara Public Library and librarians (head) of district central libraries in Tamil Nadu.

**Methodology:** Survey method using questionnaire was adopted to collect data from head of Connemara Public Library and librarians (head) of select district central libraries of Tamil Nadu. Krejcie and Morgan formula (1970) was applied for selecting the sample out of 32 district central libraries in Tamil Nadu and simple random sampling technique was used to obtain a sample of 27 district central libraries along with Connemara Public Library, Tamil Nadu.

**Findings:** Formal education, self-initiative, workshops, hands on training, and video tutorials were identified as the learning sources of knowledge about ICT tools and technologies. Library staffs, working in Connemara public library and all district central libraries have average personal competences for promoting information literacy. Library staffs, working in 76.19 % of district central libraries have professional competencies such as successful information retrieval, and instructing adult learners in computer literacy skills. Study shows that library staff working in state and district central libraries does not have advanced ICT skills to promote information literacy while providing innovative library and information services.

**Originality:** Public libraries cater to all categories of users from children to adults, and therefore have a significant role in promoting information literacy among users. So far, no significant studies have been undertaken to identify ICT skills and competencies required for library staff in promoting information literacy in public libraries in South India. This study is the first of its kind in identifying ICT skills and competencies for library staff in

promoting information literacy in public libraries in Tamil Nadu. The findings of this study contribute to the research on information literacy

**KEYWORDS:** Connemara Public Library; District library; ICT skill; Information literacy; Personal competency; Professional competency; Technical competency; Tamil Nadu

*Paper Ref : ST-5/58*

## **NEED OF INFORMATION LITERACY PROGRAMME IN HIGHER EDUCATION FOR MOE-GOI ICT INITIATIVES: A STUDY**

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**Purpose:** Ministry of Education, Government of India, so far has identified seventeen ICT initiatives. The literature search on the MOE-GOI suggests that massive awareness is required for maximum utilisation of all these resources. Information literacy is the traditional practice that is followed in the libraries. With the penetration of cloud based technology and the emergence of artificial intelligence, the skills for locating, adapting, and utilizing the resources have been shifted from traditional to technology-based learning. Information literacy is the basic skill required for handling all these resources. The study is confined to assessing the usage of four ICT initiatives of MoE-GOI. Based on the results, the study has prepared a roadmap for enhancing the information literacy program in HEIs of India.

**Methodology:** The ICT initiatives that are selected are SWAYAM, Virtual Lab, NDLI, and IRINS. Except IRINS, all the other initiatives of INFLIBNET are excluded from the study. The data are collected from the annual reports of the Ministry of Education, the All India Survey of Higher Education (AISHE), the INFLIBNET Annual Reports, and the online portal of the virtual lab.

**Findings :** After comparing with the national statistics on higher education provided by AISHE, it is found that

- In 2021-22, 89% of enrolment is done on the SWAYAM platform against the total enrolment in higher education. Similarly, the figures for 2020-21 and 2019-20 are calculated as 14.41 % and 15.03 % respectively.
- It is calculated that approximately 15.84% of the students of STEM courses have access to the virtual lab facility in 2020-21.
- It is calculated that till now 12.8% of the teachers are connected with the IRINS platform.
- There is a sufficient difference between the total registered user and the active registered user in the NDLI platform.

**Value :** The study's findings adds value to the field in terms of Government's initiatives and their analysis. The success of ICT initiatives can only be possible if the target audience receives proper information literacy on all these varies resources. There is a need organising awareness program from time to time so that information literacy can be fully achieved.

**KEYWORDS:** SWAYAM, NDLI, IRINS, Virtual lab

## **USE OF ACADEMIC SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES IN PROMOTING RESEARCH : A CASE STUDY IN ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY**

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**Purpose:** The present study is to explore the use of Academic Social Networking Sites (ASNSs) among research scholars at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) to understand their contribution to promoting academic research. Specifically, it aims to identify usage patterns, assess the benefits and challenges associated with these sites, and evaluate their impact on academic activities. As research scholars increasingly rely on digital tools and platforms for collaboration and communication, the study is to investigate how ASNSs such as LinkedIn, ResearchGate, Academia.edu, and others enhance or hinder scholarly activities at AMU.

**Design :** A quantitative research design was employed to collect and analyse data on ASNS usage among AMU scholars. A structured questionnaire, comprising both open and close-ended questions, was distributed among 200 research scholars. The questionnaire included sections on scholars' awareness, frequency of use, preferred platforms, perceived benefits, and challenges in using ASNSs. Out of the 200 distributed questionnaires, 140 responses were received, yielding a response rate of 70%. The data was then analyzed to identify trends and draw conclusions regarding the role of ASNSs in academic activities.

**Findings:** The study reveals that a substantial majority of Aligarh Muslim University research scholars (93.57%) are aware of ASNSs. LinkedIn and ResearchGate were found to be the most frequently used platforms, with scholars utilizing these networks to share their research, expand professional networks, and increase visibility for their work. Scholars recognized ASNSs' value in enhancing academic communication, particularly in research dissemination and collaboration. However, challenges such as the time-consuming maintenance of an active presence and concerns about data privacy and security were also cited.

**Value:** This study provides insights into the role of ASNSs in the academic landscape of AMU. It highlights both the benefits and challenges of ASNS usage, offering valuable information for university administrators and policymakers looking to promote more effective use of ASNSs while addressing concerns like time management and data security.

**KEYWORDS:** ASNS; ResearchGate; Mendeley; LinkedIn; Researcher; Aligarh Muslim University.

## **ADOPTION OF WEB 2.0 AND INFORMATION LITERACY IN LEADING WOMEN'S COLLEGES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF DELHI**

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this study is to explore the possibilities of the adoption of Web 2.0 technologies in promoting information literacy in leading women's colleges under the University of Delhi. It tries to assess the extent to which Web 2.0 tools enhance information literacy, promote academic collaboration, and effectively

integrate with teaching methodologies in the presence of social media. This study aims to examine how Web 2.0 technologies contribute to improving students' information literacy skills by exploring the major features and usage patterns associated with these technologies among students and faculty. Additionally, it aims to determine which of the top ten colleges of the University of Delhi demonstrate the highest levels of adoption and variety in their use of Web 2.0.

**Design :** This study analysed the websites of the top ten leading women's colleges affiliated with the University of Delhi. A total of 39 Web 2.0 applications, including Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), YouTube, and others, was examined across these institutions to assess their implementation and impact on information literacy.

**Findings :** Based on the analysis, the Institute of Home Economics and Indraprastha College for Women are the leading adopters of Web 2.0, each utilising five platforms, accounting for 12.82% of the total usage among colleges. In contrast, Maitreyi College, Kamala Nehru College, and Lakshmibai College used a smaller range, with only three platforms each (7.69%). Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) are the most popular tools implemented by all 10 colleges (25.64% of the total identified tools), while LinkedIn sees limited use, appearing in only three colleges (7.69%). Additionally, the Janki Devi Memorial College demonstrates a strong social media presence with 5,300 likes and 5,400 followers, underscoring its potential to significantly enhance information literacy among students. Conversely, Miranda House had minimal engagement, with no likes and only 62 followers, highlighting the need for improved social media strategies to support information literacy.

**Originality :** This study offers valuable insights into the adoption of Web 2.0, which is prominent in women's colleges, highlighting their role in enhancing information literacy. By examining the usage patterns of various platforms, this study identified key trends and gaps in social media engagement. The findings underscore the significance of these technologies in fostering academic collaboration and improving students' information literacy skills, thus providing a foundation for future initiatives and strategies in higher education.

**KEYWORDS:** Web 2.0; Information literacy; Women's college; University of Delhi; Social media tool.

## **SIG 01: SOCIAL SCIENCE INFORMATION**

### **Theme: Bridging the Information Gap of Differently-Abled Library Users**

*Paper Ref: SIG 01-A/9*

#### **THE GAPS IN THE INCLUSIVITY AND ACCESSIBILITY: A CASE STUDY OF SELECTED ACADEMIC LIBRARIES IN THE NORTH EAST INDIA**

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**Purpose:** Social inclusion is a universal concept, that has become a priority in international policy discourse. With the creative advocacy of inclusion in every aspect and appropriate support and awareness, young persons who are differently-abled are now confident of their interest and ability in higher learning. At such, the academic library is the only safe information haven that support the differently-abled students in their quest for information and higher education. Therefore, libraries need to be fully accessible and inclusive of their information

needs. This paper is a survey of the accessibilities to diagnose the inclusive practices in the academic library of selected central universities and institutes located in the North East Region of India. Though this topic seems to be an underexplored study in the Country, it is high time to create a serious awareness about the importance of an inclusive library that supports the students with special needs in their quest for higher education. The main aim of this study is to draw attention of the scientific community to the existing gaps in the library services to its users with special needs.

**Design:** For this research study, a qualitative data collection was done by using a structured questionnaire for the Librarians/ heads of the library of the institutions. Interviews were done both telephonically and face to face and where visit could not be done, structured questionnaire as Google Form was employed to collect qualitative data through emails.

**Findings:** Various accessibility measures were studied based on standard recommendations to have a holistic approach towards inclusivity in these libraries. The study found that most of these libraries are unable to be inclusive towards its users with special needs due to various barriers and constraints.

**Value:** The study realised the various hindrances to the inclusivity and therefore suggested that a proper framework of policy at the grass root level with a proper funding for the library may well be the main solution in overcoming barriers for an inclusive and equitable access these libraries under study.

**KEYWORDS:** Inclusivity; Inclusive education; Inclusive library; Accessibility; Academic library; Persons with special need.

*Paper Ref: SIG 01-A/12*

## **PROVISIONS OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES FOR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED STUDENTS IN CENTRAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES OF DELHI : AN ANALYTICAL STUDY**

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**Purpose:** This study is to evaluate the library services provided to differently-abled students across four central universities in Delhi viz. Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), University of Delhi (DU), Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University (SLBSNSU). This study aims to assess the availability of services in dedicated sections, specialised equipment, and assistive technologies, with the objective of identifying areas for improvement and offering recommendations to enhance accessibility for differently-abled students.

**Methodology:** A survey method, utilising purposive sampling, was employed to assess the library services and accessibility provided to differently-abled students in selected central universities. The survey investigated several dimensions, including the accessibility of information resources, the quality and range of services available to differently-abled users, and recommendations for service improvement. Data collection was conducted through a structured questionnaire, and researchers personally visited the university libraries to gather data.

**Findings:** The study reveals that all four universities demonstrate a commitment to inclusivity by maintaining

dedicated sections for differently-abled students and consistently offering basic services such as information retrieval, Braille translation, and scanning assistance. However, significant disparities exist in the provision of specialised services, equipment, and physical accessibility. Additionally, JNU is distinguished by its broader range of specialised equipment, including keyboard overlays and screen magnifiers, which are not universally available in the other libraries. SLBSNSU offers the least variety of specialised equipment, reflecting a potential gap in service. Variations in software availability were also observed, with DU, JMI, and JNU providing more advanced options compared to SLBSNSU. Moreover, there are inconsistencies in staff training, particularly regarding sign language, which only DU offers, potentially limiting communication with deaf students.

**Originality:** This study investigates the current state of library services for differently-abled users in central university libraries in Delhi, focusing on the availability of specialised equipment, assistive software, and tailored information services. The primary aim is to ensure equitable access to library resources for differently-abled students, thereby enriching their educational experiences.

**KEYWORDS:** Differently-abled student; Library service; Accessibility; Assistive technology; Central university; Inclusive education.

*Paper Ref: SIG 01-B/5*

## **ACCESSIBILITY EVALUATION OF LIBRARY WEBSITES OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSONS**

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**Purpose:** The Information era has brought digitisation in every field of information which nonetheless left libraries behind while visually impaired are not at the same pace in the present era due to inaccessibility to information at the right time as the websites are not accessible due to certain accessibility issues. Therefore, the present study is conducted to determine the accessibility issues on the websites of University libraries of Uttar Pradesh and Delhi.

**Methodology:** For evaluating the 13 selected library websites WAVE evaluation tool was chosen for this study. To generate the accessibility report URLs of websites were entered on the WAVE website at <http://wave.webaim.org> and the analysis was based on the summary reports generated by WAVE.

**Findings:** Evaluation of the study reveals that all the websites under study have certain accessibility errors, contrast errors, accessibility alerts, features, structural elements and ARIA present on the website. The study found that the lowest number of accessibility errors was reported on the websites of Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh; Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Agra; and Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi, while the highest number of errors were found on the website of National Law University, Delhi. Further, it was found that out of the total 13 websites evaluated 8 websites reported errors between one to ten. 2 websites reported errors between eleven to twenty. While twenty to thirty errors, thirty-one to forty errors and fifty-one to sixty errors were reported by one website each.

**Originality/Value:** It is anticipated that the study will be beneficial to universities which are adhering to accessibility norms and standard given by Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. They can spot issues and errors in their website and take necessary steps. At the same time the study will also be useful for website designer and developers to improve the accessibility.



**KEYWORDS:** WAVE tool; Visually Impaired; Library website; University; Web accessibility; India.

*Paper Ref:* SIG 01-B/24

## **UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING (UDL) AND ITS APPLICATION IN LIBRARY SERVICES FOR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED USERS**

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**Purpose:** This paper aims to explore the application of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles in library services to ensure equitable access for differently-abled users. It analyses UDL principles to foster inclusive environment through assistive technologies and practices while addressing the challenges libraries encounter in meeting diverse needs.

**Methodology :** The study employs a comprehensive literature review and qualitative analysis to investigate the implementation of UDL in library services. It synthesises existing research on assistive technologies, physical accessibility, staff training, and user engagement to understand their roles in fostering an inclusive library. Case studies from Indian libraries offer practical insights, identifying gaps in services for differently-abled users.

**Findings:** The findings reveal that libraries incorporating UDL principles effectively enhance the accessibility of their services. Key strategies include the integration of assistive technologies, such as screen readers and braille displays, and voice recognition software, which facilitate diverse learning needs. Moreover, creating a physically accessible environment and providing ongoing staff training significantly contribute to improved user experiences. Case studies from Indian institutions, viz JNU and TISS, show successful UDL implementation, highlighting the need for inclusive practices in libraries. Challenges like funding constraints and the need for greater awareness of disability issues remain prevalent, but proactive measures are being taken to address them. A framework for integrating UDL into library services is proposed, combining theoretical analysis with real-world examples.

**Value:** This study contributes to the growing body of knowledge on inclusive library practices by providing a focused analysis of UDL implementation in Indian academic libraries. It emphasises the importance of adopting UDL as a framework for enhancing library services, thereby promoting equity and social justice in education. By emphasising the potential of UDL to transform library services, the study calls for a shift in how libraries approach service delivery, urging professionals to adopt a proactive stance in accommodating the diverse needs of their patrons. It has implications for LIS professionals, libraries, and policymakers, supporting the development of training programs and capacity-building efforts to enhance understanding of assistive technology in library services.

**KEYWORDS:** Universal design for learning; Library service; Differently-abled user; Assistive technology; Accessibility; Inclusive education.

## **INFORMATION NEEDS AND USE PATTERN OF SCHOOL CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN KERALA-CHALLENGES FOR BRIDGING THE GAP**

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**Purpose:** A number of barriers — physical, social, or psychological, create information gap challenging for individuals with disabilities. Simply adding a ramp and elevator may not be sufficient to make a library barrier-free accessibility. The aim of this paper was to study the information needs and use pattern of physically challenged student's in the schools of Kerala. The purpose of this study is to combat with the challenges towards bridging the information gap allowing accessibility to information sources available in the respective libraries by the physically challenged school children of Kerala.

**Methodology:** Survey based questionnaire method was used to collect data from 111 physically challenged school children, who are studying in 45 schools scattered in Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Kozhikode districts.

**Findings:** The analysis revealed that 94.6% physically challenged students are aware of the library facilities in their school. Accessibility to the library is a significant problem faced by physically challenged students. 90.1% of students are getting information in the preferred formats from the library, whereas 86.5% of them can't access the library shelves easily. The study shows that 90.1% of students prefer teachers as the primary source of information for getting awareness on library services and 52.3% found that friends are the major source. It was also found that books are the major information sources available in their library and high priority (97.3%) is given to the availability of story books and magazines (97.3%), followed by newspapers (94.6%). It was found that school authorities (87.4%) are the major sources for giving training to physically challenged. It was also noted that no student is confident enough about the ability to use assistive technologies and devices. The analyses revealed that the information needs of the physically challenged students have become complex and problematic due to the insufficiency of adequate information sources and services and there are quite a number of challenges faced by them in accessing information from the libraries.

**Value:** The study is original in nature. It comes out with some practical suggestions to improve the library facilities for physically challenged students with the help of assistive technologies and proper training. The present study will help to further improve the services of the respective libraries and thereby improve the access and quality of the collection and use.

**KEYWORDS:** Information needs; Use pattern; Differently-abled; Physically challenged; Assistive technologies; Students; Kerala.

## **THE FIRST STEP: SIMPLIFYING LIBRARY ACCESS FOR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED USERS**

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this study is to propose an idea for the simplification of library access for differently abled users of the library. The study also aims to create awareness among library professionals about the available option of a Unique Disability Identity (UDID) card for hassle-free services to differently-abled library users. The difficulty faced by differently-abled users to avail services in libraries and other departments is also highlighted to understand the severity of this important issue. The study is also to urge the promotion of the idea of building an inclusive environment in libraries all over India.

**Approach:** The idea for this study originated based on the personal experience of the author by the use of a Unique Disability Identity (UDID) card for availing other services of the government. The paper also focuses on the other services which are available from different government departments for differently-abled users. The policy, rules, and regulations of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities are referred to in order to determine the feasibility of its implementation and impact.

**Findings:** The findings suggest that this innovative idea has potentiality in presenting to the authorities for further action in implementing it for the better cause of easy access to differently-abled users of the library across the country. The study also suggests a policy for implementing this by the national-level library organisations. It is also found that other departments are already using UDID cards as an authorised document to provide services to differently abled users. The recommendations made are based on the public library structure in Indian states.

**Originality:** This is the first of its kind of study that provides a means to identify differently abled users without asking for different identity cards and papers. This may be one of the solutions that may be implemented not only in libraries all over India but also by other service-oriented organisations. There have been many good works like the use of assistive technologies for print-disabled users and general accessibility issues, this study specifically addresses the role of official disability identification in streamlining library access, providing valuable insights for policymakers and library administrators aiming to foster inclusivity.

**KEYWORDS:** Library service; Person with disability; Differently-abled user; Unique disability identity; UDID.

## **INCLUSIVE HEALTHCARE INFORMATION IN AIIMS WEBSITES : AN ANALYSIS OF ACCESSIBILITY BARRIERS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

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**Purpose:** This study evaluates the accessibility of websites belonging to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Indian states with high populations of people with disabilities. The objective is to identify the frequency and types of accessibility errors based on the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 and assess how these errors impact the information-seeking behavior of patients with disabilities. This research aims to highlight the challenges faced by persons with disabilities (PWD) in accessing essential healthcare information online.

**Methodology:** The study uses a quantitative research design to assess the accessibility of AIIMS websites. Five states with the highest populations of people with disabilities, as per the 2011 Census, were selected for analysis. AIIMS websites within these states were chosen due to their central role in providing healthcare information. AChecker, a web evaluation tool, was used to assess each website's compliance with WCAG 2.0 at Levels A, AA, and AAA. The error frequency for each WCAG success criterion was recorded, and the impact of these errors on information accessibility was analysed. This method allowed for a thorough examination of the barriers that patients with disabilities face when accessing online healthcare resources.

**Findings:** The analysis revealed many accessibility issues across the evaluated AIIMS websites. Common errors included the absence of text alternatives for non-text content, insufficient color contrast, non-resizable text, and a lack of keyboard accessibility. AIIMS Raebareli had the highest error frequency, with 421 issues, indicating severe accessibility barriers. In contrast, AIIMS Nagpur reported no errors, suggesting either exceptional compliance or potential inaccuracies in data reporting. These accessibility barriers significantly hinder PWD patients from effectively seeking and obtaining healthcare information. Users with visual impairments, cognitive disabilities, or motor impairments face considerable challenges in navigating and understanding website content, limiting their access to critical health-related information.

**Value:** This study provides a detailed evaluation of the current state of accessibility on AIIMS websites, highlighting the urgent need for improvements to ensure inclusivity. By focusing on a critical healthcare institution in India, the research underscores the broader implications of web accessibility on public health information dissemination. The findings call for policymakers, web developers, and healthcare administrators to prioritise accessibility in digital environments. This study contributes to the discourse on inclusive healthcare and offers practical recommendations for enhancing web accessibility, ultimately fostering a healthcare information system that supports all users, regardless of their disabilities.

**KEYWORDS:** Inclusive healthcare; Website accessibility; PWD; AIIMS; Digital divide; WCAG.

**BRIDGING THE INFORMATION GAP: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF  
ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVITY CHALLENGES OF DIFFERENTLY-ABLED  
LIBRARY USERS IN INDIA**

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**Purpose** : This systematic review examines the obstacles experienced by differently-abled library users in India, focusing on technological, physical, and attitudinal barriers. A comprehensive search of three databases yielded 243 relevant studies published between 2020 and 2024. The study's primary aim is to identify the Information-seeking barriers, assess the accessibility of library services, and provide actionable recommendations to enhance library experiences for differently-abled individuals.

**Methodology** : The study followed PRISMA guidelines, strengthening the review's methodological rigor. Specific inclusion criteria were applied to ensure that only relevant studies aligned with the study's objectives were selected. The findings from the selected studies were systematically tabulated and analyzed to derive meaningful insights.

**Findings**: The results reveal significant challenges in information-seeking among differently-abled users, particularly highlighting issues like limited physical access to library spaces, inadequate availability of assistive technologies, and a lack of adequately trained library staff to assist users with disabilities. Despite these challenges, the study found that assistive technology and digital resources are the most frequently utilised library services among differently-abled users. To bridge the existing gaps, the research suggests several improvements, including targeted staff training to support better differently-abled users, orientation programs for users to familiarise them with available resources and services, and enhancing assistive technology offerings within libraries.

**Value** : This study contributes to developing more inclusive library services in India, advocating for equitable access to information for all users, regardless of their physical or cognitive abilities. However, there are limitations to the study that should be acknowledged. The exclusive focus on the Indian context means that the findings may not apply to differently-abled individuals in other regions, where cultural and infrastructural differences might result in varying experiences. Additionally, the literature review was limited to three databases, excluding grey literature and older studies, which may have resulted in an incomplete picture of the current state of knowledge. Furthermore, the study predominantly focused on the needs of visually impaired users, potentially overlooking the unique challenges faced by individuals with other types of disabilities. Future research should aim for a broader and more inclusive approach better to understand the diverse needs of all differently-abled library users.

**KEYWORDS**: Information access; Differently-abled library user.

## **DIGITAL INCLUSION AND EQUITY IN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES OF KAMRUP DISTRICT: BRIDGING THE DIVIDE**

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**Purpose:** The purpose of our study is to enhancing the digital literacy in university libraries by assessing the knowledge of library staff regarding various digital literary programs and identifying the range of digital resources available. Additionally, the goals includes exploring the types of services offered by the libraries, and determining which technology can be utilized to promote equity and digital literacy, and recognising the challenges that the university libraries of Kamrup district face in fostering digital inclusion and equity. Collectively, these efforts aim to improve user engagement and ensure that all community members have access to vital digital resources and support.

**Methodology:** Google form is used to collect data for analysing case studies from various institutions. 5 Universities were considered for the study. The paper highlights the importance of collaborative efforts among library staff, faculty, and community partners in fostering an inclusive academic environment.

**Findings:** The outcome of study reveals that the staff members of all 5 universities are fully aware about digital literacy programs and 2 of them are knowledgeable about all digital literacy initiatives. Govt. programs and workshops are the initiatives that are known to all the university libraries. The libraries offer various digital resources among the entire resources digital database and sodhganaga are available in all the selected universities. Reference services are universally available but selective dissemination of information (SDI) services is only available in 2 university libraries. Three university libraries utilise CCTV for assistive technology with Cotton University also providing Braille translation and screen reading services. Training programs are one of the aspects that luckily executed in all the university libraries but accessibility programs are common one among all the digital literacy initiatives. Different challenges are faced by different universities but the lack of awareness being a significant barrier to the effective incorporation of digital literary programs, but the Gauhati University faced no challenges for the same.

**Value:** This study helps to understand the present scenario of digital literacy in University libraries of Kamrup district and helps to develop digital inclusion and equity program in them. It also helps to know the current initiatives and best practices employed by university libraries to bridge the digital gaps, including outreach programs, technology lending services, use of ICT tools and targeted digital literacy training to ensure that the students can fully engage with digital resources.

**KEYWORDS:** Digital inclusion; Equity; Inclusivity; University library; ICT; Kamrup district

## **SIG 02 : Computer Application in Libraries**

**Theme : Raising Library Service Quality through Application of AI**

*Paper Ref : SIG02-I/34*

### **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LITERACY: BUILDING CORE SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE LIBRARIANSHIP**

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**Purpose** : The purpose of the article is to explore the concept of Artificial Intelligence (AI) literacy and to identify the core skills required to effectively use and understand AI in various contexts. It focuses on the essential competencies such as domain knowledge, mathematical foundations, programming skills, and soft skills, as well as the role of ethical considerations in AI applications. The article seeks to provide a comprehensive framework for individuals aiming to develop AI literacy in both educational and professional settings.

**Approach** : The article employs a multidisciplinary approach by mapping possible AI literacy skills onto Bloom's Taxonomy, offering a structured learning framework. It integrates theories from technology education, pedagogical models like TPACK, and existing research on AI. Through the use of case studies, systematic reviews, and educational models, the article synthesises key competencies and skills essential for AI literacy and suggests strategies for integrating AI education into school curricula.

**Findings** : The study reveals that AI literacy encompasses a broad range of technical and soft skills, from programming and data analysis to creativity and critical thinking. The alignment of AI literacy with Bloom's Taxonomy offers a clear roadmap for educators to scaffold learning in a way that progresses from foundational knowledge to complex application and ethical evaluation. The TPACK framework provides valuable insights for integrating AI literacy into school programs, emphasising the need for a holistic approach that combines technological, pedagogical, and content knowledge.

**Value** : This article contributes a novel framework for understanding and teaching AI literacy by combining established learning models with the unique demands of AI education. It highlights the importance of ethical development of AI, domain expertise, and practical skills like programming, making it a valuable resource for educators, students, and professionals aiming to excel in the AI field. By promoting AI literacy, individuals can better navigate the rapidly evolving landscape of AI and contribute responsibly to its future development.

**KEYWORDS** : AI literacy, Bloom's taxonomy, Communication skill, Creativity, Critical thinking, Data analysis, Domain knowledge.

### **AI-POWERED CLASSIFICATION AND CATALOGUING**

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**Purpose** : This paper is to investigate the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on library classification and cataloguing systems. It explores how AI-powered techniques, like natural language processing (NLP), machine learning (ML) algorithms, and expert systems (ES), improve the efficiency, accuracy, and scalability of these essential library operations. The research seeks to demonstrate how AI is revolutionising traditional library services by enhancing information accessibility, user engagement, and overall service delivery.

**Approach** : The study adopts a comprehensive literature review and case study approach, examining the various applications of AI in library services, with a particular focus on classification and cataloguing tasks. Specific AI techniques, including Support Vector Machines (SVMs), Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs), and Named Entity Recognition (NER), are assessed for their effectiveness in automating and improving these processes. Additionally, the paper reviews real-world examples of academic and research libraries that have successfully integrated AI technologies into their cataloguing and classification workflows, analysing the results and challenges they encountered.

**Findings** : AI significantly enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of library classification and cataloguing by automating routine tasks, reducing human errors, and improving metadata accuracy. Machine learning (ML) models like ANNs and SVMs provide a robust framework for categorising and indexing vast collections of resources, while AI-powered data catalogues increase the discoverability of library materials. These technologies streamline operations and reduce the workload of library staff, allowing them to focus on higher-value tasks. Although there are challenges related to ethical considerations, data security, and the complexities of implementing AI at scale, the benefits including improved scalability, multilingual support, and semantic understanding far outweigh these obstacles.

**Originality** : This paper contributes to the growing discourse on the role of AI in enhancing traditional library operators, with a specific focus on classification and cataloguing. Highlighting both the advantages and challenges of AI implementation, this study provides a balanced view of its potential to reshape how libraries manage, organize, and provide access to collections. The research underscores the value AI brings to improving the overall user experience, making it a crucial tool for libraries adapting to the digital age. The research also introduces the novel concept of hybrid systems, combining human expertise with AI-driven processes to achieve optimal outcomes, ensuring that libraries can leverage AI without compromising on professional judgment or user needs.

**KEYWORDS**: Artificial intelligence; Cataloguing; Classification; Library service; Machine learning; Metadata.



## EVALUATING THE EFFICACY OF HUMAN INTELLIGENCE VERSUS GENERATIVE AI IN SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION: A STUDY WITH DEWEY DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

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**Purpose:** This study investigates the efficacy of ChatGPT, a Generative AI tool, in classifying subjects within the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) system, comparing its performance to human expertise. The research aims to highlight the strengths and limitations of generative AI for library classification tasks, with a focus on *accuracy*, *error analysis*, and *consistency*. Additionally, the study assesses the AI's *feasibility* in handling other classification systems, including the Colon Classification (CC) and Universal Decimal Classification (UDC).

**Design/Methodology/Approach:** A comparative analysis was conducted using 200 book titles sourced from a comprehensive classification handbook. Each title was processed through ChatGPT to generate DDC classifications, which were then compared with standard classifications for accuracy. The classifications were analyzed for errors, which were categorized into types such as incorrect base numbers, incomplete classifications, “fake” numbers, wrong addition and wrong synthesis. Consistency was evaluated over 15 days using the *Friedman test*, a non-parametric statistical method. To understand broader applicability, the study extended its analysis to how ChatGPT performed in assigning classifications under CC and UDC systems.

**Findings:** ChatGPT's performance revealed that only 12.5% of the classifications were an exact match with standard DDC categories, while 87.5% showed mismatches. The most frequent errors included incorrect base numbers, incomplete classifications, and generating “fake” or non-existent DDC numbers. The analysis highlighted that while ChatGPT consistently generated classifications over repeated tests, accuracy issues persisted. ChatGPT's ability to handle more complex classification systems, such as CC and UDC, was also limited, revealing struggles with accurately assigning class numbers and adhering to the detailed rules these systems require.

The findings highlight that while ChatGPT can aid in preliminary or broad classification tasks, it falls short of the precise cataloguing needed in larger or specialized libraries. However, its significant error rate and limitations with complex classifications highlight that human oversight remains essential for accurate, reliable classification. Until advancements in AI technology improve the accuracy of such systems, the use of generative AI tools like ChatGPT should be considered supplementary, supporting classifiers, rather than replacing them.

**Originality/Value:** This study offers a thorough evaluation of ChatGPT in library classification, revealing both its potential and critical limitations. Subsequently, this research adds to the growing literature on the use of AI in library and information science, specifically evaluating the reliability of Generative AI in subject classification.

**KEYWORDS:** Artificial intelligence; Generative AI; Classification; Knowledge organisation; Dewey Decimal Classification; DDC.

## **LEVERAGING THE SWAY OF AI FOR INCULCATING INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS AMONG DIFFERENTLY-ABLED USERS**

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**Purpose:** The paper is to delve into the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to cultivate a more inclusive information landscape for individuals with disabilities. It is further to move beyond simply acknowledging the existence of AI to actively advocate for its ethical and effective implementation in breaking down existing barriers to information access. The paper aims to illuminate how AI can empower persons with disabilities to become confident and capable information users, fostering their full participation in an increasingly digital world. It is to examine specific AI-powered tools and methodologies that can be leveraged to achieve this goal, emphasising the importance of inclusive design and addressing potential bias to ensure equitable access for all.

**Methodology:** The paper adopts a conceptual and analytical approach, drawing upon existing literature and research on AI, assistive technologies, and information literacy to present its arguments. It analyses the potential benefits and challenges of integrating AI into information literacy education for persons with disabilities.

**Findings:** This paper illuminates the vast potential of AI in fostering information literacy for all. It reveals how AI-powered tools can personalise learning experiences, adapting to individual needs and promoting engagement of the differently-abled. Furthermore, it highlights AI's capacity to power targeted solutions for specific kind of disabilities, such as AI scribes for visual impairment with universal voice integration. Recognising the importance of digital literacy, the paper promoted accessible AI-driven training programs that empower individuals with disabilities to navigate the digital world confidently. Crucially, the paper advocates for inclusive design in AI, ensuring assistive features are seamlessly integrated into mainstream platforms for equitable access. Finally, it acknowledges the critical need to address potential algorithmic bias, preventing the perpetuation of inequalities and ensuring AI benefits everyone.

**Originality:** This paper, while grounded in existing research, distinguishes itself through its unique focus on the transformative potential of AI in fostering information literacy among individuals with disabilities. It provides a comprehensive analysis of diverse AI applications and their impact on information access, advocating for a proactive and ethical approach to developing inclusive AI solutions that prioritise equity and empower individuals of all abilities.

**KEYWORDS:** Artificial intelligence; Information literacy; Information accessibility; Assistive technology; Digital literacy; Person with disability; Differently-abled user.

## **A COMPREHENSIVE SENTIMENT ANALYSIS ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN SOCIAL NETWORK**

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**Purpose** : Sentiment analysis, a key technique in Natural Language Processing, helps organisations monitoring feedback, track trends, and assess sentiment in various sectors. The purpose of this study is to explore public sentiment toward AI in sectors such as health, education, economy, media, art, transportation, and energy. The research aims further to provide insights for policymakers, stakeholders, and researchers on the societal impact of AI technologies.

**Methodology** : Researchers employed sentiment analysis, to analyse public opinion on AI through social media platforms including YouTube, Instagram, and X-handle. Data collection was covered between 2020 and 2023 to capture AI-related discussions influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic and improvements in research and development. Social media comments and tweets were extracted via APIs and third-party tools and then cleaned and pre-processed. Sentiments were categorised into positive, negative, and neutral classes using Python libraries such as NLTK and Text Blob. The findings were visualised and interpreted using excel and Tableau for comparative sentiment analysis across platforms and domains.

**Findings** : The study revealed the positive sentiment towards AI applications, with notable variations by domain and platform. In the health, economy, transport, and media sectors, public opinion was predominantly positive (well over 40%), reflecting optimism about AI's potential benefits. In contrast, education showed mixed sentiments, with 35.7% positive, 32.4% negative, and 31.7% neutral. Platform-wise, X exhibited higher positive and negative engagement, while Instagram displayed a greater proportion of neutral comments, likely due to its visual-oriented interaction style and touches of sarcasm. Job security, privacy, and AI's role in misinformation are some of the concerning topics.

**Originality**: This paper contributes uniquely to existing literature by providing a comparative, cross-domain analysis of AI sentiment on multiple social media platforms over an extensive period (2020-2023). Unlike prior studies, it examines AI applications across diverse fields simultaneously, offering a broader perspective on public attitudes. This study highlights the need for nuanced, domain-specific policies and transparent communication from AI developers and policymakers. Its insights are invaluable for guiding ethical AI implementation and fostering public trust in AI technologies.

**KEYWORDS**: Artificial intelligence; Natural language processing; social network; Sentiment analysis.

## **EMERGING LIS LANDSCAPE-EXPLORING AI-IOT APPLICATIONS IN LIBRARY OPERATIONS AND SERVICES**

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**Purpose:** Innovations in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) have continued to shape the future of nearly every industry. AI is being used to assist emerging technologies like big data, robotics and Internet of Things (IoT), and generative AI. With the amalgamation of AI and IoT, machines are no longer merely dumb devices. IoT sensors collect vast amount of data from these devices, AI algorithms analyse this data and assist them in intelligently deciding and performing their tasks. The purpose of this paper is to explore studies related to AI based IoT technology across various disciplines and discuss its applications in library operations and services.

**Methodology:** The topic was searched through search engines like Google and Databases like Google Scholar, Emerald Insight, Science Direct, IEEE Xplore, Scopus and Web of Science. The studies introducing innovations in AI based IoT models, across disciplines were collected and analysed for their potential applications in libraries. Various library operations and services were encoded into themes and the technologies reviewed were thematically analysed to identify their particular use in different cases. The exploring of various models and designs of technological advances in other fields is necessary and same applied here to identify and know their applications in the field of Libraries and such studies are helping to identify the intrusion of new technologies and determine the emerging and recent facets impacting LIS field.

**Findings:** This study explores the integration of AI based IoT systems into the library operations and services. Eleven key applications based on the previous studies are explored. These are: 1) Classification and Cataloguing, 2) Mobile Libraries, 3) Information Literacy, 4) Smart Environment Control, 5) Personalised Recommendation Systems, 6) Data Security and Privacy, 7) Disaster Mitigation, 8) Resource and data management, 9) Smart Shelving, 10) Energy consumption Control, 11) Tracking robotic activities.

**Value:** AI based IoT innovations explored in this study show potential applications in libraries, while very few studies have been published on this topic in the field of library and information science, however their impact and influence is significant for the libraries and their services.

**KEYWORDS:** Artificial intelligence; Internet of things; Digital library; Library operation; Library service; Expert Systems; Robotics.

## **TRENDS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNET OF THINGS (IOT) IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES**

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**Purpose:** This study aims to examine the trends in the implementation of the Internet of Things (IoT) in

academic libraries. The study also explores the factors that influence the adoption of IoT in academic libraries of different nations.

**Methodology:** This study is based on the review of literature. A search was conducted on the Web of Science Core Collection database, using Boolean Search string, i.e., (“internet of things” OR IoT) AND (academic library OR academic libraries OR university library OR university libraries). The search was further refined to limit the publications from 2014 to 2023. The original research articles, review articles, case reports, and papers of conference proceedings were included in the search results. Using the above search strategy, a total of 663 articles were retrieved from the database. After scrutinising the retrieved articles regressively, 40 articles were selected based on their relevancy to the topic of study.

**Findings:** The findings, based on the review of the literature, indicate the use of multiple approaches in implementing IoT in the products and services of academic libraries. The main applications of IoT in libraries include RFID equipment, Smart-Card, Magic Mirrors, Pressure Pad Sensor, Kiosks, and Drones. The implementation of IoT in academic libraries of developed nations is faster than the academic libraries of developing and underdeveloped nations. Furthermore, the literature review highlighted the issues and challenges that academic libraries face in adopting IoT. The major issues, as discussed in the literature, include Infrastructure Backwardness, Financial Limitations, Organizational Barriers, Privacy Threats, and Standardisation. These challenges are being faced by libraries mostly in developing and underdeveloped countries.

**Value:** This paper helps library professionals understand how academic libraries are working across the globe to adopt and implement IoT. It will be a reference to those libraries which are planning to implement IoT gadgets in their libraries and to get familiar with the issues and challenges concerned in its adoption and implementation.

**KEYWORDS:** Internet of Things; IoT; IoT Tool; Smart library; Academic library; University library.

## POSTERS PRESENTATION

### 1 Concept and Scope of Information Literacy (IL)

*Paper Ref : ST-1/1*

#### INFORMATION LITERACY FOR DEVELOPING ENLIGHTENED ACADEMIC LIBRARY AND INFORMATION USER COMMUNITY IN NEW AGE

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**Purpose:** Information literacy skills, also known as digital literacy skills are the ability to locate, retrieve, interpret and process information. Understanding and developing them promotes sustained learning and professional success. When you are information literate, you can use your abilities to discover information, understand its origins and value, use it to create and share knowledge and take part in community discussions. A person who is information literate can plan and monitor the search for relevant information and review and critically evaluate information. Purpose of this paper is to pointing out how to developing Information literate library professionals and Library users also interactions and enlightened new technology. We all know that in present scenario many

hi-technology came in this fields, so that we have to aware of latest technology otherwise we cannot survive in this field.

**Methodology:** Qualitative analysis of different research papers and review of papers is done. This paper is designed for users of higher technology in library. This paper points out different tools for users to be information literate.

**Findings :** Teach information processes, such as decision making and problem solving, rather than just knowledge of information, so that students master the ability to learn

- Make information processes explicit in all the assessment techniques

Academic Institutions and Universities are facing so many challenges, pressure for educational reform. In this paper we have focused about a few technologies and approaches that have the eventuality to ameliorate advanced and enhance pupil literacy. These keys are given by publishers to access their contents with digital form using projector or laptop for teachers and students, electronic handbook, e-books and e-Journals, simulation technology, gamification, flipped (Smart) classrooms, etc.

Library associations can play vital roles to uplift and enhance their skill development programs. Thus, in this paper we have tried towards theme of information literacy for development enlightened library and information users.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Modern technology.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/2*

## **EVALUATION OF AUTOMATED LIBRARY SYSTEM AND SERVICES IN RAIN FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE: IMPLICATIONS AND OBSTACLES**

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**Purpose:** The present study aims to determine the status, library collections, services, applications and challenges of library automation in the Rain Forest Research Institute at Jorhat in Assam.

**Design/Methodology/Approach:** This study employed a questionnaire-based survey to collect data from forest libraries involved in the automation process. One of the researchers personally visited the institute to collect the data. The questionnaires were framed and undergone through the pilot test. A five-point Likert scale is also used to collect the data. The present study was conducted through two sets of questionnaires. The first set of questionnaires was designed to collect the data from the library. The second questionnaire was used to collect the data from the user's community. A substantial total of 100 questionnaires were distributed to the user's community, out of which only 75 (75%) questionnaires were returned by the participants. Jamovi statistical software and MS Excel spreadsheet were used to analyse and interpret the collected data.

**Findings:** The result of the study reveals that the RFRI library is partially automated. The result reveals that the RFRI library had started its automation with Libsys but could not continue due to high AMC. Subsequently, the library migrated to KOHA software. The library only has automated cataloguing and circulation modules. RFRI library is suffering from a scarcity of budgets. The study results show that most users of RFRI are unaware of OPAC facilities. Most of them prefer author and title searches to find the document. Most users revealed that they could not find the relevant documents and also stated that search results are lengthy and confusing. Most

users take help from library staff to utilise OPAC facilities whenever search options fail. Furthermore, this study also reveals that most students agree with library infrastructure, services and staff attitudes. Moreover, most of the users are some how agreed with library collections. The RFRI administration should take an interest in advancing library activities and services. They should conduct awareness programmes and workshops regarding library usage, increase library opening hours and increase library budgets to utilise better library services.

**Originality/Value:** No study has been undertaken at the Rain Forest Research Institute at Jorhat in Assam to address the topic mentioned above. This study encourages library professionals to automate their libraries, especially forest libraries, by adopting library software. This forest library should automate its library activities, serve the user community most efficiently and save their precious time.

**KEYWORDS:** Library Automation; Library Software; Automated Library systems; Forest Library; OPAC; ICT; RFRI; ICFRE

*Paper Ref : ST-1/6*

## **INFORMATION LITERACY IN HIGHER EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT: AN INDIAN SCENARIO**

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this paper is to provide a methodology for the development of a plan to incorporate information literacy program in higher education. The main purpose of the study is to highlight the need for librarian to incorporate effective methodologies in their delivery of information literacy process. This paper also traces the sources of information literacy i.e. library literacy, ICT literacy, ethical and legal use of information literacy, information literacy competency and other important information skills. After providing background information, the process of the project and how it can be implemented is described. The paper further explores about the information literacy initiatives in India, role of Government, higher education institutions, organisations and also of the Associations. This paper also tries to describe about how to create an outline of instructional strategies and build learning content, assignment and assessment.

**Methodology:** The purpose of this paper is to provide a methodology for the development of a plan to incorporate information literacy program. After providing background information about the role of interior design the process of the project implementation describes in detail. The project demonstrates how student learn to more beyond mere ability to excess information

**Findings :** The project shown that to gain critical thinking skill, librarian must determine what process and skill the student take through their program. The student work showed that information literacy produces batter result when it is applied in stages with objects that build a better skill. A study on information literacy program in India reveals that major initiatives have been taken at the elementary level. The curriculum is designed to provide information and knowledge at ground level. Many School have library hour as a part of the curricula, mostly to educate student for use of library. It is shown that, the institutions of higher learning in India, user educations, library orientation program and bibliographic instruction programmers are provided.

**Originality :** In India context University are taken great initiative, creative approach is needed in the information literacy program. The project demonstrated that how information literacy taught at ground level and used, assessed in the entire project. The Original value should be maintaining in the project. The information literacy helps in overcome the problem of identifying the right information and retrieving right information for right person at the right time in a right way.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Information communication technology; National Knowledge Commission; National Digital Literacy Mission; National Literacy Mission

*Paper Ref : ST-1/23*

## **MAPPING TRENDS IN INFORMATION LITERACY AND LIBRARIES : A SYSTEMATIC BIBLIOMETRIC STUDY**

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**Purpose:** This study aims to investigate trends in information literacy (IL) research spanning from 2008 to 2024, focusing on publication patterns, authorship contributions, citation analysis, and the influence of leading journals. The objective is to provide a comprehensive overview of the evolution of IL literature and identify key contributors, highly cited works, and thematic trends. By identifying key contributors and trends, this research intends to offer a detailed insight into the academic evolution of IL, highlight prominent global patterns, and bring to light regional disparities, especially in terms of technological adoption in different parts of the world.

**Methodology:** The study employs a robust methodology, utilizing the Web of Science (WoS) as the primary data source for retrieving academic papers related to IL. To enhance comparison and depth, supplementary data were drawn from SCImago Journal Rank (SJR) and Journal Citation Indicator (JCI). A well-constructed search strategy with specific keywords such as “information literacy,” “library literacy,” “digital literacy,” and “media literacy,” in combination with library-related terms, was used to identify relevant documents. From a total of 2,014 identified documents, 941 were selected after applying inclusion criteria, focusing on articles, conference papers, reviews, books, and book chapters. The data analysis was conducted using powerful tools like VOSviewer and Biblioshiny to examine publication patterns, keyword co-occurrence, and citation trends.

**Findings:** The study revealed a consistent rise in IL research, with a notable peak in 2016. Over the years, the annual growth rate was found to be 2.76%, reflecting the steady progression of IL literature. Key contributors include Pinto Maria (publication count) and Julien Heidi (citation impact). Leading journals “The Journal of Academic Librarianship” and “College & Research Libraries” played significant roles high volume of publications and citation influence.

**Value:** This study offers a detailed assessment of IL research trends over a 16-year period, providing valuable insights into the academic landscape of the field. By identifying key authors, influential journals, and thematic developments, the research lays the groundwork for future studies and highlights the global disparities in IL scholarship. The findings underscore the importance of expanding bibliometric analyses to include a wider range of databases for a more comprehensive understanding of IL research. This detailed assessment will serve as a valuable resource for scholars, practitioners and academics aiming to explore and advance the field further.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Library; Bibliometric analysis; Author productivity; Publication trend; Web of Science; VOSviewer; Keyword co-occurrence; Biblioshiny.



## INFORMATION LITERACY PUBLICATIONS AND ITS APPLICABILITY FOR SOCIAL MEDIA TRANSFORMATION: A STUDY WITH TRADITIONAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA MENDELEY METRICS

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**Purpose:** Information literacy is essential for library patrons to utilise resources and obtain credible information from electronic sources effectively. Librarians must possess proficiency in employing information literacy skills to address the information requirements of inquisitive patrons through web searching, evaluating, and retrieving information from the Internet.

**Design/Methodology/Approach:** This study employs quantitative research methods to analyze quantifiable data utilising mathematical and statistical techniques, assessing the applicability of publication data for altmetric events. For the present study, data collection was conducted in two phases; in the primary phase, bibliographic data were collected utilising the Scopus database; in the secondary phase, readership data were collected employing the Mendeley API. The primary data for the current investigation examines information literacy publications indexed in the Scopus database. The current study examines information literacy Scopus publications, specifically focusing on journal articles, conference papers, and review articles published between 2004-2023. The selection criteria involved searching relevant publications with the term “Information Literacy” within the specified timeframe and restricting results to English-language documents. The secondary readership data were obtained through the Mendeley API using an article Digital Object Identifier (DOI), and articles without DOI were excluded from the study. To focus on Mendeley readership activities in relation to information literacy publications and their correlation with traditional citation counts.

**Findings:** A total of 32,225 articles were retrieved, of which 87.93% were found to possess digital object identifiers (DOIs) suitable for Mendeley readership (altmetrics). Moreover, nearly all DOI articles (99.97%) corresponded to the Mendeley API for readership data. Of the DOI articles, 84.93% had received at least one citation, and 97.42% had at least one reader. The investigation revealed that journal articles exhibited the highest DOI coverage, followed by review articles, whilst conference papers demonstrated the lowest DOI coverage. Information literacy publications across different years exhibited a strong positive correlation (0.716-0.847) between citations and readership, except for 2022 and 2023, which displayed a moderate correlation.

**Originality/Value:** This investigation comprehensively analyzed the utilisation of citations and Mendeley readership for information literacy publications from 2004 to 2023. Considering analytical limitations, it evaluated the relevance and applicability of altmetrics events for these publications and examined the correlations between readership and traditional citation counts. Prior research has not demonstrated traditional and Mendeley metrics’ applicability to information literacy publications.

**KEYWORDS :** Information literacy; Social media; Traditional metric; Mendeley metric; Altmetric.

## **INFORMATION LITERACY FOR DEVELOPING ENLIGHTENED LIBRARY USER**

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**Purpose :** The purpose of Information Literacy (IL) is the ability to recognise the extent and nature of an information need, then to locate, evaluate and effectively use the needed in the present scenario.

**Design :** The design of Information literacy was built upon decades ago by long efforts of the library professionals to help users to learn about and how to utilise the resources of their Library with the emergence of new technologies. Information literacy skills enable individuals to navigate the vast information and landscape effectively. Proper training and program not only increases the self- confidence and improves morale of the workers but also increases services, reduces initial errors and improves the quality of the new work.

**Methodology :** Information literacy provides a set of methodology and allows someone to find, evaluate and use information. The five components of Information Literacy methodology are (i) Identify- Define the specific information needed, including the sources and differentiate between them; (ii) Find -Use appropriate search tools to access the information; (iii) Evaluate - Access the quality, usefulness and relevance of the information (iv) Apply - Use the information ethically; (v) Acknowledge - Communicate the synthesized the new knowledge.

Information literacy methodology is a lifelong learning process. It begins from college and continues to develop. Information literacy approach should be developing, which should be about a) Critical thinking, b) Problem Solving, c) Lifelong Learning, d) Ethical use of Information, e) Reinforces reading and writing skills, f) Help us identify what's real and relevant, g) Help us become a work informed individual, h) Help us gain control over your knowledge.

**Findings :** The findings regarding information literacy initiatives programs are that, to help people to get and use information effectively. It includes- The Public Library Association's (PLA) Super Searchers Program; The Institute Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Information Literacy Initiative; The International Alliances of Information Literacy (IAIL).

Information literacy programs can take place in libraries, educational institutions and in other places. Some goals of Information Literacy initiatives include, fostering reading habits, supporting academic performance, helping with problem solving and decision making. It is important because it helps people to make critical decisions, solve problems and participate in Society as knowledgeable citizens.

**Value :** To keep us updated, the information literacy programs help us to find, evaluate and use information effectively in 21<sup>st</sup> Century. It is a way of knowing how to deal with information, find out about information resources and interact with information. Therefore these types of important programs should be held at some intervals and in different parts of the country.

**KEYWORDS :** Information literacy.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/47*

## **INFORMATION LITERACY PRACTICES IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES**

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**Purpose:** The purpose of the study is to understand the various information literacy programmes and their practices in the libraries of higher education institutions. It is also to discuss different IL initiatives and the role of libraries for the acquisition of new knowledge that are included under the information literacy programme.

**Approach:** A critical literature review has been carried out for presenting a critical analysis of the review literature in the context of information literacy practice. The study also approached evaluation related literature for the assessment of information literacy practices in higher education institutions by considering different standard or framework for information literacy.

**Findings:** The findings and results of the study identified and established how higher educational institutes applied different information literacy programmes and practices and what are the different methods and techniques were used for lifelong learners. The study also discussed the best practices of HEI libraries, with the aim of achieving meaningful outcomes and shaping a new dimension of information literacy in the near future as a learned society.

**Value:** The researcher has provided a theoretical discussion and critical observation on the implementation of information literacy programmes in higher education institution based on the availability of literature. It has also discussed the major advancements in the field of literature and also highlighted different major tools and facilities that provided for the learners to find, access, evaluate, and use information in academic contexts. The study would benefit the student, faculty, professional in understanding the information literacy practices and application in every walk of life.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Higher education institution; Practice; Library.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/56*

## **SCHOLARLY IMPACT AND CITATION ANALYSIS OF LIS DOCTORAL THESES OF UNIVERSITY OF DELHI**

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**Purpose:** The paper aims to examine the citation patterns in Library and Information Science (LIS) doctoral theses submitted to the University of Delhi, focusing on document types, authorship trends, chronological

distribution, and the applicability of Bradford's Law of Scattering in analyzing journal citation frequency. It seeks to assess the academic impact of these theses and offers insights into the research trends and scholarly influence within the LIS field.

**Methodology:** Using a quantitative bibliometric approach, the study analyzes 41 LIS doctoral theses submitted to the University of Delhi. Citation data were collected from these theses and organized for analysis using Bradford's Law of Scattering and the Leimkuhler model. Various parameters, such as document type, gender distribution, authorship patterns, and chronological trends, were systematically examined. The data were processed in Excel, and the Leimkuhler model was applied to verify Bradford's Law for the distribution of citations across journals.

**Findings:** The analysis reveals that journals are the primary source of citations, constituting over 63% of the total citations, indicating their centrality in LIS research. Books and online resources are also prominent, reflecting the varied sources used by researchers. Gender distribution shows a higher representation of female scholars, comprising 63% of the total theses. Single-author citations dominate, suggesting a prevalence of individual contributions in LIS scholarship. The chronological distribution highlights that the majority of citations are from documents published between 2000 and 2019, indicating a reliance on more recent research. While Bradford's Law initially did not fit due to high error rates, the application of the Leimkuhler model successfully confirmed Bradford's distribution pattern, underscoring the validity of this model in bibliometric analysis.

**Value:** This paper provides a comprehensive citation analysis of LIS theses, showcasing the evolving citation trends and highlighting the importance of journals in scholarly communication within the LIS field at the University of Delhi. By applying the Leimkuhler model to verify Bradford's Law, the study contributes to bibliometric research methodologies, presenting a refined approach to citation analysis. This study offers practical insights for academic librarians, researchers, and policymakers in allocating resources and shaping LIS research agendas, especially in the context of citation behavior and journal selection.

**KEYWORDS :** Authorship trends; Bradford's law of scattering; Bibliometrics; Citation analysis; University of Delhi.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/65A*

## **AUGMENTING INFORMATION LITERACY IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES: PROMISES AND PROSPECTS**

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**Purpose:** It is essential to provide users with the ability to identify, assess, and utilise information and its resources effectively, and the academic libraries as excellent centres for promoting such skills to users in the form of information literacy (IL). The present study examines the degree to which academic libraries integrate information literacy programs and evaluates the efficacy of librarians in imparting these critical skills and abilities to users. The aim is to assess the extent of information literacy instructions provided by academic libraries in higher education, probing the efficacy of current information literacy programs, and identifying complications encountered by librarians in providing these services.

**Methodology :** The study methodologically employs a survey of secondary literature and case study of fewer

libraries to examine the development of information literacy programs and to identify best practices provided for their integration into the academic curriculum.

**Findings:** The study will highlight considerable deficiencies in the awareness and value of IL programs, highlighting the necessity for better curriculum integration with provisions of effective staff training. The study will also reveal difficulties including staff demotivation, resource limitations, and dependency on outdated instructional methods. It will likely emphasize on enhancing collaboration between researchers and library personnel, altering information literacy programs to meet digital literacy requirements, and increasing student participation, thereby developing lifetime learning and decisive information competencies among library users to develop a strong ecosystem of relevant information usage models and innovations.

**Value:** This research distinctly contributes by analysing information literacy practices specifically at AMU, JMI, and JNU, offering a unique perspective on information literacy difficulties and strategies at three prominent universities. The results support customised information literacy strategies that cater to the unique academic culture of each university, fostering ongoing information literacy advancement and an updated digital literacy foundation.

**KEYWORDS:** Information literacy; Academic library; Filtering relevant information; Search strategy; User empowerment; Literary instruction; Library staff training.

*Paper Ref : ST-1/67*

## **INFORMATION RETRIEVAL METHODS FOR ACCESSING ORIGINALITY IN RESEARCH PAPERS**

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**Purpose :** The purpose of this study is to explore the role of advanced information retrieval (IR) techniques in assessing originality within academic research. As digital publishing accelerates the accessibility of academic work, ensuring originality has become paramount for maintaining research quality and integrity. This study aims to provide a structured evaluation of IR methods, addressing their potential and limitations in enhancing the originality verification process.

**Approach:** A comparative analysis approach is utilised to examine key IR techniques, including text analysis, citation analysis, and Natural Language Processing (NLP), focusing on their efficiency in detecting redundant content and plagiarism across disciplines. Traditional methods of originality assessment, such as manual review, are increasingly being augmented by these IR techniques, which automate the identification of explicit and subtle forms of content overlap. Each IR method's strengths and limitations are explored, particularly in relation to cross-disciplinary application, potential false positives, and challenges in distinguishing conceptual originality. This analysis also considers the impact of digital advancements on the methods used for detecting and interpreting originality, evaluating the unique advantages NLP offers in assessing not just direct text matches but also thematic and contextual originality.

**Findings :** The findings reveal that a single IR technique is insufficient for a holistic assessment of originality, especially in interdisciplinary research, where definitions of originality vary. The study suggests a multi-faceted IR approach, integrating various tools and methods, to provide a comprehensive evaluation that addresses textual, conceptual, and thematic aspects of originality. This combined approach not only reduces false positives but also enhances the ability to detect nuanced similarities and the subtle replication of ideas.

**Value :** This research provides practical insights and recommendations for academia, research institutions, and

publishers. These findings are particularly valuable in supporting more accurate and reliable originality assessment practices, contributing to the broader goal of upholding academic integrity and fostering genuine intellectual contributions across disciplines. This study ultimately underscores the need for continuous innovation in originality verification to meet the evolving demands of the academic landscape.

**KEYWORDS:** Information retrieval; Research integrity; Text analysis; Citation analysis; Natural language processing; Plagiarism detection; Academic integrity.

## 5 Information Literacy Initiatives

*Paper Ref : ST-5/51*

### INFORMATION LITERACY AWARENESS AMONG STUDENTS OF UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGES: A CASE STUDY

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**Purpose:** With the rapid advancement of technology in today's world, information literacy may be the most important educational foundation since it provides students with the critical thinking and problem-solving skills necessary to excel in both their academic and professional lives. The main purpose of the research is to identify information requirements, awareness level regarding digital sources and skills of information literacy of Undergraduate students of Nalbari district. We also want to know the diverse retrieval techniques employed by the Undergraduate students. Information literacy may be the most crucial educational foundation in today's world of fast technological change since it gives students the abilities, they must succeed in both their academic and professional life as critical thinkers and problem solvers. The importance of this study is to know the literacy skills of Undergraduate students and make the students information literate and to explain the necessity of information literacy.

Students found difficult to navigate the relevant resources due to the lack of information literacy skills. The resources which are available in the library are not used by the students properly. Also, there are lack of sufficient computers to access the relevant resources.

**Design/Methodology:** This is a descriptive as well as exploratory research. For doing this research survey and observation method is applied. For doing survey questionnaire and interview method is applied here. Some data of institutions have collected by the websites of the colleges.

**Findings:** The majority of the students of Nalbari district are not information literate. In the digital age many students are unaware of different kinds of digital resources. Most of the students use both print and electronic media for their study purpose. YouTube and Google simple search is the information retrieval techniques used by most of the students. In order to find information in library many students depend on librarian or the library staff.

**Originality:** There are many papers in Information literacy but this research paper has high accuracy as compared to other because on ground survey method is applied. Findings are based on proper survey and interview of the students.

**KEYWORD:** Information literacy; Library user; Undergraduate student.

## **RESEARCH SUPPORT SERVICES IN MAULANA AZAD LIBRARY : A CASE STUDY**

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**Purpose:** Maulana Azad Library has played a vital role in supporting the academic and research community since its establishment. In the last few years, the library has expanded its collection and enhanced its research support services. This study aims to examine the research support services offered by the library, investigates their usage, and highlights areas where these services are most needed. Furthermore, it explores the challenges faces by library in providing research support services and examines research scholars' satisfaction with the current research support services in library.

**Methodolgy:** This case study adopts a mixed methods approach both qualitative and quantitative methods to collect data through survey method and interviews with the librarian, as well as observations of library's website to assess the availability and visibility of research support services. A structured questionnaire is prepared and distributed to research scholars for assessing the use of different research support services. All the research scholars from these faculties namely, faculty of social science, faculty of life science, faculty of commerce and faculty of management studies and research, serve as target population for this study. At this time, 450 research scholars enrolled in these faculties.

**Findings:** The findings reveal that Maulana Azad Library provides various research support services, including digital resources, an institutional repository, Academic writing assistance, Grammarly, similarity detection tools and access to specialized databases. The most frequently used research support services are digital resources, Similarity detection tools (DrillBit, TURNITIN) and access to specialized databases (SCOPUS, WEB OF SCIENCE, GOOGLE SCHOLAR, AND JSTOR). Although Maulana Azad Library regularly organizes workshops and seminars to enhance users' research skills, many research scholars express a desire for more personalized research assistance, particularly in navigating information from databases. Additionally, the study highlights technological limitations and lack of skilled staff as significant challenges affecting the efficiency of these services.

**Originality:** The study contributes to existing literature by assessing the research support services among research scholars. This is an original work of the author and no prior research has addressed on this specific issue, to the best of auther's knowledge.

**KEYWORDS:** Research service; Research assistance; Academic research; Research scholar; User satisfaction; Maulana Azad Library

## **SIG 01: SOCIAL SCIENCE INFORMATION**

**Theme: Bridging the Information Gap of Differently-Abled Library Users**

*Paper Ref: SIG 01-/61*

### **LIBRARY SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS : CHALLENGES AND SCOPE OF LITERACY OPPORTUNITY**

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**Purpose :** The figure of libraries that offer specialised facilities for clientele who are visually impaired is growing at an alarming rate. People who are interested in learning and growing in a society that places a high value on knowledge can benefit from the information that is provided by libraries and the staff that works there. It is the responsibility of libraries and librarians to ensure that information is accessible to all individuals, regardless of their gender, age, colour, perspective, or disability. On the other hand, there are still some individuals who do not have sufficient information, and it is still expected that their services would be user-friendly and will treat everyone in an equitable manner. In spite of the fact that people with physical disabilities are a part of this unique group, there are still challenges to overcome in order to guarantee that they have access to information in the same manner as everyone else.

**Methodology :** The current research is supported by a study of the literature and a detailed exploration of different services used to support disabled person. The whole research is carried out in literature search; identification of relevant literature; and available services. Analysis of those literature is carried out thereafter.

**Findings :** In order to find potential solutions and changes that can be made to enhance accessibility and inclusion within libraries, the goal of the research study is to investigate the difficulties that disabled users encounter while attempting to make use of library services and to identify prospective answers. To ensure that people with disabilities have equitable access to information and resources, libraries may provide specific training programs or seminars to improve their library literacy.

**Value :** By tackling these problems, libraries will be able to provide improved service to its clients who are impaired and ensuring that all individuals have equitable access to information and services.

**KEYWORDS :** Literacy opportunity; Library service; PWD; Visually impairment



## SIG 02 : Computer Application in Libraries

Theme : Raising Library Service Quality through Application of AI

*Paper Ref : SIG02/64*

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN LIBRARIES: A SCIENTOMETRIC EXPLORATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY INDIAN RESEARCHERS

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**Purpose:** This article provides a comprehensive scientometric analysis of Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications in libraries, with a particular emphasis on the contributions made by Indian academics. Considering the growing significance of AI in improving library services, the study intends to map publication growth, identify top authors and contributing affiliations, and discover prominent journals that have helped to advance the field. The goal is to provide useful insights that will drive future avenues of study and promote the development of contextually relevant AI solutions for Indian libraries.

**Design :** A collection of peer-reviewed literature was chosen as the primary data source for this investigation. A carefully constructed search string was employed to search for relevant literature using keywords related to AI and libraries. The initial search results were then refined using specific parameters, with an emphasis on contributions made by Indian researchers. This approach provided 88 publications that were considered appropriate for the investigation. After that, the selected articles' bibliographic data and other relevant information were exported in CSV format for analysis. Biblioshiny, an R-based bibliometric tool, was then used to analyse the dataset, allowing for a thorough examination of authorship patterns, publication trends, influential authors, affiliations, and important journals in the field.

**Findings :** The data analysis reveals a significant increase in publications related to AI applications in libraries contributed by Indian scholars between 2010 and 2024. Though, Library Hi Tech News had a higher citation effect, Library Progress International produced the most articles. Additionally, the three field plot diagram that included keywords, affiliations, sources, demonstrated the co-relationships among the major research contributors, key research fields, and high-impact publications.

**Value :** This study can be considered as one of the initial attempts to focus particularly on the contributions made by Indian researchers in the field of artificial intelligence applications in libraries. By focusing on this underexplored area, it provides a unique viewpoint on the use of AI in libraries and reveals the peculiar trends and contributions made by researchers in this region in this specific topic. The findings can be helpful for researchers, library personnel, and policymakers who intend to apply AI technologies that are compatible with the standards and environment of Indian libraries.

**KEYWORDS:** Artificial intelligence; Library; Scientometric analysis; Indian researcher.

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