



IASLIC NEWSLETTER

Indian Association for Special Libraries and Information Centres

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Quote of the Month

“A library could show you everything if you knew where to look.”

— Pat Conroy,
American fiction writer

Appeal to Readers

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

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APPEAL FOR DONATION

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

Bank Name: Punjab National Bank

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Account Name: IASLIC

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

General Secretary
IASLIC

IASLIC ACTIVITIES

New Members

Institutional Members

1. Government College of Engineering and Textile Technology, Berhampore, West Bengal
2. Ramkrishna Mission Vivekananda Centenary College, Rahara, West Bengal
3. Sitabai Arts, Commerce and Science College, Akola, Maharashtra

Ranganathan Lecture: Brief Report

The 27th IASLIC - Ranganathan Lecture was held on March 21, 2022 through online mode. Prof. K S Raghavan, Retd. Professor, Documentation Research and Training Centre, Bangalore, and Editor, SRELS Journal of Information Management, delivered the lecture on the topic 'Organizing Information for Knowledge Management and Retrieval'. The programme was chaired by Prof. Narendra Lahkar, President of IASLIC. Extending hearty welcome to the speaker Prof. K S Raghavan, Chairperson Prof. Narendra Lahkar, members of Governing Body and Executive Committee of IASLIC, and all participants linked with the programme through GoogleMeet, Shri Abhijit Kumar, General Secretary, IASLIC, traced the origin of IASLIC - Ranganathan Lecture in 1993 following a decision of IASLIC Council Meeting held at Annamalainagar in 1992. He also introduced the speaker. Prof. Lahkar, Chairperson, expressed sincere gratitude to Prof. Raghavan for agreeing to deliver the lecture on such an important topic.

At the outset Prof. Raghavan paid his homage to Dr. S R Ranganathan and expressed his gratitude to IASLIC for inviting him to deliver this prestigious lecture. He started his lecture by defining the concept of 'Information Organization' and clarifying the difference between 'Information Organization' and 'Knowledge Organization'. In this context, he mentioned that Henry Evelyn Bliss first used the term 'Organization of Knowledge' instead of 'Organization of Information' in his well known books 'The Organization of Knowledge and the System of Sciences' and 'The Organization of Knowledge in Libraries'. Explaining the philosophical roots of 'Knowledge Organization' (KO), Prof. Raghavan said that LIS was an application oriented area addressing two major tasks - logical arrangement of books and creation of surrogate files of metadata. He highlighted the basic objectives of KO Systems and how a wide range of such tools support retrieval and information management. He also mentioned various approaches to KO, viz. pragmatic approach, facet-analytico approach, bibliometric approach, etc. and differentiated among them by pointing out their strengths and weaknesses. According to Prof. Raghavan, the Internet and the World Wide Web have led to a situation in which many communities, including the Knowledge Organization (KO) community within the LIS community, have seriously started addressing issues related to organizing knowledge to support information retrieval. He pointed out that 'Knowledge Organization' was an everlasting demand for efficient storage, retrieval and processing of information. Similar to Information Science, KO was such a common area that it was sometimes not seen as a discipline with the prerequisite of getting standardized, established, mediated and updated, he said. With the development of more and more complex information and communication technologies it started being understood as a sub-discipline and applicable to knowledge management and retrieval, he added.

In his concluding remarks, Prof Narendra Lahkar, Chairperson, shared his views relating to knowledge organization, knowledge management and retrieval. Finally a vote of thanks was proposed by Ms. Banasree Roy, Joint Secretary, IASLIC. Around 60 LIS professionals attended the programme. Smt. Manali Mitra Palodhi and Shri Sujan Saha, members of Information Services Division, IASLIC, and Shri Arun Samanta, Professional Assistant, Indian School of Business (Mohali) Library extended technical support in conducting the lecture programme.

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/ WORKSHOPS

National

Conference on Modern Libraries

Goa College Librarians' Association, in association with Goa University Library, is organizing a National Conference on 'Modern Libraries: Recent Trends, Challenges and Opportunities' on July 7, 2022 at the Conference Hall, Goa

University. For details visit: <https://storage.ning.com/topology/rest/1.0/file/get/10548020282?profile=original>

Workshop on Data Carpentry

A National Workshop on 'Data Carpentry for Library Services' is being organized by B C Roy Memorial Library, Indian Institute of Management Calcutta, during July 29 - 31, 2022. For details visit: <https://sites.google.com/iimcal.ac.in/dcls>

Seminar on Knowledge Resource Centre

PES Modern College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Ganeshkhind, Pune, is organizing an ICSSR sponsored National Seminar on 'Libraries@75: Journey of Libraries towards Knowledge Resource Centres' during September 15 - 17, 2022. For details visit: <https://storage.ning.com/topology/rest/1.0/file/get/10516470684?profile=original>

International

Conference on LIS

The Annual International Conference on 'Library and Information Science' is being organized by Athens Institute For Education and Research (ATINER), Athens, Greece, as a part of the Annual International Conference on Social Sciences, during July 25 - 28, 2022. For details visit: <https://www.atiner.gr/social>

Conference on Futuristic Information System

An International Conference on 'Futuristic Information Systems: Aspirations and Apprehensions' is being organized by C M Mohammad Koya Library, University of Calicut, Malappuram, Calicut, during August 24 - 26, 2022. For details visit: <https://library.uoc.ac.in/events/118-international-online-conference-2021-futuristic-information-systems-aspirations-and-apprehensions>

Conference on Webometrics, Informetrics

The 16th International Conference on 'Webometrics, Informetrics, and Scientometrics (WIS)' and the 21st COLLNET Meeting 2022 will be held during November 10 - 12, 2022 in Bangkok, Thailand. For details visit: <https://www.slp.org.in/collnet2022/>

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

1000 Digitally Equipped Libraries in Haryana Soon

The State Panchayat Department of Haryana will be setting up 1,000 libraries, equipped with digital facilities, in villages with an aim to provide better playing field for competitive examinations to youths in rural areas, says a story in *The Tribune*. Inaugurating the first such digital library in Dult village of Fatehabad district recently, the Development and Panchayat Minister Devender Singh Babli said that the work to establish such libraries had started in the first phase in the state. "3,200 buildings have been identified across the state and all of them will house digital libraries. In subsequent

phases all 6,225 villages will be covered under the project,” he said. A graduate youth of the village Kuldeep Kumar said that presently the students needed to go to Bhuna and Hisar for coaching for competitive examinations. “Such libraries that will be equipped with books, magazines and newspapers, Internet facility and digital display board will prove a boon for those who are serious for competitive examinations,” he added. He also urged the villagers to maintain the libraries as these would benefit the village youth who so far had been lagging behind due to lack of facilities and study material. Babli said that the state government had been focusing to improve education and medical facilities in the rural areas. The government was preparing a blueprint of the entire state in order to provide city-like facilities in the villages, he added. Aiming to improve education standards, the minister said that the libraries would be equipped with fiber-based Internet facility, computers, chairs, tables and other requisite infrastructure. For full story visit: <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/haryana/panchayat-dept-to-set-up-1-000-digital-libraries-in-rural-areas-386439>

Read India Movement in Maharashtra

One of the negative fallouts from the all-pervasive social media is that it has almost killed the reading habit. To revive this habit, a group of IT professionals and engineers has come together to start the 'Let's Read India' movement in Maharashtra by taking their library to the people's doorstep, says a story by Sudhir Suryawanshi in *The New Indian Express*. The campaign started a few months back in Maharashtra and in a short period, the group has more than 10 lakh books on a variety of subjects. Prafulla Wankhede, one of the founders of the campaign, says that it is getting an overwhelming response. “Our primary objective is to bring this WhatsApp and social media generation back to books. We want to rekindle the reading habit and culture among them. It will make them better educated and more civilized citizens,” he said. According to Wankhede, the library van goes to remote places lacking major facilities. “We want to reach out to every person who wants to read a book. We have three mobile libraries now. People can borrow books for a week for free with only one condition: the borrower should submit a 300-word review about the book to be able to take a second book,” he said. “Otherwise, people take the book and use it to adorn a corner of their home. Our objective is to ensure people read.” “Those who want to get books can connect through our social media site/website and app. This will enable them to know the locations of the mobile library that has GPS attached. Besides, there is a QR code for each book. The mobile library makes the weekly visit to the identified locations,” Wankhede said. Initially, 'Let's Read India' Foundation had planned to start the initiative in Maharashtra, Goa and Madhya Pradesh, but the plan had to be shelved because of the pandemic situation. “We are now

focussing on Maharashtra. In the next two years, we will be able to connect each and every village of the state,” said Wankhede. “Once we grow in Maharashtra, we'll then shift our focus to the rest of the country.” The foundation also plans to start a YouTube channel where well-known authors' speeches, interviews and reviews will be played. “We not only offer books, we also suggest what should be read. There are many people who are really confused about their reading choices. If they are able to read the kind of books they want, it will help them in their academic and professional life,” said Wankhede. For original story visit: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/good-news/2021/apr/05/this-library-on-wheels-in-maharashtra-inspires-people-to-go-back-to-books-2285907.html>

Gujarat School/College Libraries sans Librarians

For 23 years, Gujarat's government and grants-in-aid educational institutions have suspended appointment of librarians, says a *The Times of India* report. The draft new education policy (NRP), which is being studied threadbare, has a whole section on how libraries and librarians will play a pivotal role in helping provide an environment where a student is intellectually stimulated and where,.... the library becomes a learning hub.” For almost 11 years, there have been several representations before the Education Department, but there has been no budget allocation for almost a decade for appointments in colleges and schools. Of the 115 government colleges, 57 colleges do not have librarians. In government and grant-in-aid schools, librarians are missing in 5,600 of the approximately 7000 schools. In case of medical colleges, librarian vacancies touch 80 per cent. In government engineering colleges 60 per cent of the seats are vacant, while in case of Ayurvedic colleges, 70 per cent of the positions are vacant. “We had recently apprised the state government of the situation that for the last 25 years there has been no appointments in grants-in-aid schools. Government schools and colleges are no exception and face similar shortages, says a senior Education Department official. In April 2010, then Chief Minister Narendra Modi had launched the 'Vanche Gujarat' campaign to encourage reading. Modi, then Governor Srimati Kamala and 18 veterans donated 208 'floating books' from their collections. For original report visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/23-ys-no-librarians-for-schools-colleges/articleshow/90177327.cms>

Digital Libraries for Karnal Residents

With an aim to encourage learning among residents, Karnal Smart City Ltd. (KSCL), is establishing two state-of-art digital libraries with the capability of hosting audio-video and multimedia content, enabling members to share common information resources and communicate easily, says a story by Parveen Arora in *The Tribune*. The digital

libraries are being established in Ram Nagar and Budhakhera. The work on both digital libraries is almost complete, which are likely to open for the general public soon. A sum of ₹ 51 lakh has been incurred on both libraries, said an official. The library in Ram Nagar is being set up at the old building of the dispensary which was lying vacant. Senior Deputy Mayor Rajesh Aghi had raised the demand for a library in the vicinity across the railway lines for students and youth preparing for competitive exams, following which the KSCL Board of Directors approved it and the work was started in December. Similarly, another library is being established in Budhakhera, on the outskirts of the city, on the demand of residents. The civil work of this library also started in December. “Libraries have played crucial roles in learning and developing skills. Keeping this in mind and fulfilling the demands of the locals, the KSCL in coordination with multiple stakeholders is establishing two digital libraries with computers and other equipment. Each library has the seating capacity for 50 students at a time,” said Anish Yadav, DC-cum-CEO KSCL. For the security and surveillance of the libraries, CCTV cameras have been installed. The art work has been done on the walls to make the ambiance lively, the CEO Yadav added. The availability of high-end computers, up-to-date software, high-speed Internet, library furniture, ACs, uninterrupted power supply makes both libraries a-state-of-art digital libraries, he said. “Students, scholars and others can access electronic journals, multimedia content, global newspapers, electronic magazines, novels and reading materials for competitive exams. To sustain the libraries, nominal membership fee will be charged,” said DC Yadav. For full story visit: <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/haryana/two-digital-libraries-to-open-for-karnal-residents-in-april-377668>

4 Maharashtra Villages to be Book Villages

The Maharashtra Government has selected four villages from as many revenue divisions to transform them into book village also known as Pustakanche Gaav, says a *The Times of India* report. The villages that have been selected are Ankalkhop of Sangli district in Pune division, Pomburle of Devgad tehsil of Sindhudurg district in Konkan division, Verul of Aurangabad division and Nawegaon Bandh of Gondia district of Nagpur division. While Ankalkhop is located near Audumbar village that houses the famous Datta Temple along the banks of Krishna river, Verul is famous for Ellora Caves which is a Unesco World Herit Centre. Pomburle is the birthplace of Marathi journalist Balshashtri Jambhekar, whose birth anniversary is celebrated as Patrakar Diwas in the state. Nawegaon Bandh, on the other hand, is in the vicinity of Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary that is visited by thousands of tourists for tiger spotting. Bhilar in Satara district was the first in the state to get transformed into book village. It is near Mahabaleshwar and Panchagani hill stations that are famous for strawberry plantation. The

idea of book village has been adopted from the book town of Hay-on-Wye in Wales, England. The idea is to make books available in every corner of the village along with encouraging people to set up libraries in their homes and open it for public reading. Many artists had visited Bhilar village and made paintings, graffiti and suitable artefacts to attract book lovers. Rare books have also been made available and have become a major attraction for the readers, writers and scholars. The villages selected now have several sites where reading hotspots can be developed so that the readers can immerse themselves in both literature and local heritage. For original report visit: http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/90482747.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Karnataka Rural Libraries to adopt IT

The Karnataka Government is keen on embracing all available technologies to help train citizens, especially students, all across the state to unleash their full potential, said Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, while inaugurating Grama Digi Vikasana programme at Vidhan Soudha in Bengaluru recently, says a *The Hindu* report. Grama Digi Vikasana is an initiative by Sikshana Foundation, a Bengaluru based NGO in association with Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department (RDPR) and Dell Technologies. Under the programme, gram panchayat (GP) libraries would be upgraded with digital devices aimed at providing shared digital access to the rural population. Each Grama Digi Vikasana library would be equipped with four mobile devices, an Android TV, and an Internet connection. In addition, the programme would also train the youth on the necessary digital life skills, provide vocational training, educate them on various career choices. Some 75 chosen youths from GPs across Karnataka would be provided special training for engineering and medical competitive examinations. “It is important that we give opportunities to every human being to develop his or her fullest potential. We need to make sure that we embrace all the available technologies to the fullest to achieve this goal. I am sure that each and everyone in the gram panchayats across Karnataka will utilize the facilities provided by Sikshana Foundation and Dell in these gram panchayat libraries,” the Chief Minister said. Alok Ohrie, Managing Director, Dell Technologies, India, said, “Technology has become an integral part of our life. It is very important that every child has access to digital information. Dell, as a technology company, is happy to be part of Grama Digi Vikasana, which will create digital space in gram panchayat libraries.” For full story visit: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/dell-to-upgrade-libraries-facilitate-digital-courses-in-rural-karnataka/article65248781.ece>

Library without Membership

This is a library you can walk into without the hassles of maintaining a membership. You pay nothing here to read a book. You can just walk in, read the book and give it back when you leave. If you want to take the book home, you need to furnish a security amount. But that will duly be returned when the book is given back. For those in love with reading, 'Books n Beyond' is just the right place to walk in, says a story by Aathira Haridas in *The New Indian Express*. The unique library is a dream come true for Thiruvananthapuram resident Sukesh Ramakrishna Pillai. For the 43-year-old, reading is an emotion. "The sole aim is to nurture a habit of reading, which appears to be lost in the new generation," Sukesh says. "This is no business. That's why we haven't kept any membership fees. Anyone can walk in and take a book and read." He says that the capital city once had a vibrant culture where reading was celebrated. "We used to have the British Library. Its closure was a let-down for all those who loved books. This is an effort to bring people, especially children, back to books," says Sukesh, who works in a public sector undertaking. He is also the founder of the 'Love All Sports' initiative. Located on Janvilla Lane in Sasthamangalam, the library hosts over 9,000 books, most of which have been donated by book lovers. The idea took off when Sukesh spoke to two of his childhood friends - Asok P and Prakash M A - who shared his love of reading. Using the library platform, he has drawn up a lot of plans, such as holding frequent storytelling sessions. From comics to reference books, the library has a range of books for readers of all ages, he says. Attached to the library is a cafeteria, which carries paintings themed on literary characters. The three friends have pooled resources to set up the library and buy books to the tune of ₹ 3 lakh. The rest of the collection was contributed by book lovers from the city, and other parts of the country, Sukesh says. For full story visit: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/good-news/2022/may/08/books-n-beyond-upcoming-kerala-library-where-reading-is-fun-hassle-free-2451076.html>

Library at TN Police Station

A library-cum-reading room established in the premises of a police station in Theni district of Tamil Nadu has become a big hit among the children and youth of the area, says an IANS story published in *The Times of India*. The library, which is the brainchild of the station house officer of Chinnmanur police station, P Sekar, has a collection of more than 700 books and all the vernacular and English newspapers as well as magazines and periodicals. Sekar, while speaking to IANS, said, "There are around 15 schools in the locality with 8 higher secondary schools and we felt that a library with books including competitive examination books would help the children prepare for the competitive

exams. We also found that the books will be a major attraction for the youth and the children of the area and we can give a different perspective of the police station to the general public." People have started frequenting the police station just to read the books, periodicals and newspapers that are present in the reading room. Sunil Manikantan, a Plus two student of a higher secondary school near the police station, told IANS, "We were lacking good books in our school and did not have access to the newspapers, especially English newspapers. Inspector Sekar and the police station have given us a new opening and I have started preparing for the public service commission exam brushing up on my general knowledge, my numerical abilities as well as the English language." Sekar said that once he found space in the police station, he informed Superintendent of Police Dongare Pravin Umesh who gave the green signal. He said that the library did not allow people to take books to their homes but after the arrival of more books, this might be considered. For full story visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/books/features/library-at-tn-police-station-a-hit-among-youth-children/articleshow/90974931.cms>

Boat Library in Forest

Deep inside Odisha's Bhitarkanika National Forest, foresters have set up what is perhaps India's first boat library for children. The library housed in a stationary boat at Dangamal, the gateway to the forest, threw open its doors on June 5, the World Environment Day, this year., say a PTI story published in *The Indian Express*. The boat is stationed at the eco-tourism complex so that students of nearby schools as well children of visitors to Bhitarkanika, can use the library. Spread over 672 Square Kilometers, Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary is the second largest Mangrove ecosystems in India. Once the hunting ground of the princely Raj Kanika family, it is now famous for its large population of saltwater crocodiles. Bhitarkanika Divisional Forest Officer J D Pati, who, along with some others, had planned the boat library, said that a boat discarded by the department had been refurbished into a library. It was retrofitted for the purpose and a room was created in its hull to house books. Stairs were constructed to reach the room from the ground. "The aim of the library is to connect children and youth to nature and sensitize them about conservation," Pati said. Inspiration was drawn from commitment and continuous support for mangrove conservation by locals. "To commemorate their efforts and to build capacity of the next generation, we felt the requirement of a dedicated platform where data, books, documents can be shared with youngsters to motivate them to conserve the mangrove and wetlands," Pati said. He credited forest division officers including his wife for conceptualizing and designing the project. The library houses about 1500 books which have been funded by the

government-run Bhitarkanika Eco-Tourism and Eco-Development Society (BEEDS). As it is off-season for tourists now, the boat library is open to local children of the area, which is located in the coastal Kendrapara district of Odisha. Much thought has been given to attract children to the library. The boat has been painted in bright colours with motifs to attract them. A single room with 32 compartments has been created in the hull of the boat to house the books, which have been placed on shelves in a way that children find easy to use. For full story visit: <https://indianexpress.com/article/lifestyle/life-style/boat-library-for-children-in-odishas-bhitarkanika-national-forest-7971390/>

Library at Goa Bus Terminus

The recently inaugurated bus terminus at Marcel in Panaji will soon boast for an added facility - a public library containing over 20,000 books, says a story in *The Times of India*. The state cabinet has granted approval to waive rent for 99 years for the premises belonging to the Kadamba Transport Corporation Ltd (KTC). The library will be set up by the Directorate of Art and Culture on an area measuring 243 sqm. The cabinet stated that there was a long pending demand from senior citizens, the reading community and students, among others, from Marcel and surrounding areas for a well-equipped modern library. Accordingly, the Department of Art and Culture had approached various government departments, corporate and private organizations for space. When the new terminus at Marcel was inaugurated, the Department approached KTC and the government, requesting them for space for a library on a rent-free basis. A senior government official said that among others, the library would also greatly benefit people who have to wait for buses to arrive. Art and Culture Minister Govind Gaude said that all types of books would be made available at the library. "We plan to get nearly 20,000 books, including e-books," he said. For full story visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/soon-a-treat-for-book-loving-commuters-marcel-bus-terminus-set-to-get-library/articleshow/91161951.cms>

Beacon Library in Mangaluru

The first beacon library in Mangaluru taluk has been constructed by Dakshina Kannada panchayat, located in Permude village, which is dedicated to the visually impaired, says a *The Times Bureau* report. The initiative was started by the state government as part of a programme for the digitization of libraries. Over 160 books in braille are available at Permude library, along with more than 170 books on history, religion, culture, the Constitution, Kannada literature, biographies, fiction, and on M Visvesvaraya and Kuvempu's writing in digital format. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had announced in the 2020-21 budget that beacon libraries would be established exclusively for the visually impaired, at least in one gram panchayat in each

taluk across the state. At the Permude gram panchayat, the District Central Library, under the direction of chief librarian Gayathri, has established the first beacon library. According to Kumar, the CEO of DK zilla panchayat, the new beacon library has two computers with headphones. Librarians can help visually impaired people to listen to digital books using headphones, or they can provide braille books in accordance with their need. "We have a limited number of books in braille and digital formats for the visually impaired at the moment. The collection will soon expand," he said. Such libraries will be opened in all taluks in the district shortly, according to the official. According to the available estimates, there are 203 visually challenged and 224 visually impaired residents in Manglauru taluk. For original report visit: <https://thetimesbureau.com/the-first-beacon-library-in-dk-is-set-to-open-today-202205/>

Devastating Floods Affect Assam Libraries

The recent floods in Assam, especially in lower Assam, have caused unexpected havoc. The floods have inundated large areas of the state and many people have been forced to take refuge in relief camps. The floods have threatened the livelihoods of the people. The floods have also affected agricultural land, residential areas, public institutions, educational institutions, government offices, places of worship and several libraries too, says a report by Nirmal Ranjan Mazumdar, Librarian of Pub Kamrup College located in Baihata Chariali, Kamrup. His library has also been severely affected by the recent flood in the state. The college library was the worst affected area in this premier institute of higher education in the district, in the recent flood. Similarly the libraries of Barpeta Girls' College in Barpeta and Chayduar College in Biswanath district of Assam are also badly damaged in the flood, according to Mazumdar. Many rare resources of the affected libraries have been damaged. He pleaded that after the flood situation in Assam subsides, the government should survey the flood-affected libraries and provide one-time assistance and necessary grants for renovation of the infrastructure damaged by the flood. Mazumdar expressed the hope that the concerned authorities of the government would pay due attention to this issue, and formulate necessary policies towards that end. Having done all other sorts of relief activities, renovation of the libraries would definitely prove the government's concern for a congenial knowledge landscape, which was one of the primary national concerns in the way to implementation of NEP 2020, he said.

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

WhatsApp Bans 16.6 Lakh Bad Accounts

Meta-owned WhatsApp recently said that it had banned over 16.6 lakh bad accounts in India in the month of April in compliance with the new IT Rules 2021, says an IANS story

available on www.india.com website. The platform had banned over 18 lakh such accounts in the country in March. The company also received 844 grievance reports in April within the country, and the accounts “actioned” were 123. In March, WhatsApp received 597 grievance reports and the accounts “actioned” were 74. “This user-safety report contains details of the user complaints received and the corresponding action taken by WhatsApp, as well as WhatsApp's own preventive actions to combat abuse on our platform. As captured in the latest Monthly Report, WhatsApp banned over 1.6 million (1,666,000) accounts in the month of April,” a WhatsApp spokesperson said in a statement. For full story visit: <https://www.india.com/technology/whatsapp-bans-over-16-6-lakh-bad-accounts-in-india-in-april-5427648/>

WhatsApp Improving Reactions Feature

After releasing the Reactions feature, Meta-owned WhatsApp is now planning to improve the function even more with a few tweaks for iOS users, says an IANS story available on www.india.com website. With this feature, users can react with up to six emojis in any conversation, audio, photo, and more. Beta version 22.12.0.70 of WhatsApp for iOS brings detailed Reactions information. This tweak was pretty much about reacting to photos on an automatic album, citing WABetaInfo, 9To5, Mac reported. When users send a few photos in a chat, WhatsApp gathers them as an album. As of now, users of the stable version of the app will not know who reacted to each photo. With this future update, users will be able to know which reaction is to each photo. The messaging platform is also preparing a 2.0 iteration of Reactions by bringing the ability to react with any emoji available. As of now, the function is under development, just like an improved version of multi-device compatibility, but will surely come to life in a future update. When WhatsApp starts rolling out this improved Reactions feature, it will look just like the one available on Instagram Direct Messages, according to the report. By long-pressing a message, users will just have to click on the “+” button, and then select the emoji they want to use. For original story visit: <https://www.india.com/technology/whatsapp-improving-reactions-feature-in-new-update-5420865/>

6G Network to be Available by 2030

Presently, only a few countries have adopted the 5G network, and that too in selected places. To cut it short, the 5G network is yet to be available worldwide. Among all this, Pekka Lundmark, the CEO of global smartphone brand Nokia has claimed that 6G mobile networks will be commercially available by 2030, says a report available on www.india.com website. Pekka Lundmark, while speaking at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, said that he did not believe that smartphones would be the most “common interface”, as reported by GizmoChina. Telecom operators across the world are building up steam in 5G arena

but they are also focused on bringing 6G mobile networks to the market before 2030. “By then, definitely the smartphone as we know it today will not anymore be the most common interface,” Lundmark was quoted as saying. “Many of these things will be built directly into our bodies,” he added. For full report visit: <https://www.india.com/news/6g-network-2030-nokia-ceo-world-economic-forum-5g-network-5g-pekka-lundmark-smartphone-nokia-6g-mobile-networks-wef-davos-6g-smartphones-telecom-operators-geneva-switzerland-5420376/>

New Facebook Privacy Policy

Meta (formerly Facebook) has recently announced new privacy controls for users, saying that it is rolling out a new setting to make it easier to manage who sees your posts on Facebook, says an IANS story available on www.india.com website. Now, when someone selects a default audience, that audience selection will apply to new posts created in Facebook that they share to their timeline unless they select a different audience for a particular post. Previously, your default audience for posts matched whichever audience you chose most recently. So if you had just made a post that was available to the public, your subsequent posts would be as well. “This new setting will help make sure you're sharing with the right people in your community,” said Michel Protti, Chief Privacy Officer, Product at Meta. For full story visit: <https://www.india.com/technology/meta-announces-new-privacy-policy-for-users-to-manage-who-sees-posts-on-facebook-5415392/>

Instagram's New Look

In a bid to give a visual refresh to its app, the Meta-owned photo-sharing platform Instagram has announced that it is introducing a brighter icon along with its own typography, says an IANS story available on www.dnaindia.com website. The company said that its new design system puts content at the centre, with a focus on simplicity and self-expression. “We are bringing new energy and purpose to our colours, typeface, logo, and other brand elements with a refreshed visual identity. Our new system is designed to embrace continued evolution to help us create more immersive and inclusive experiences for our community,” Instagram said in a statement. The platform mentioned that its new typeface, Instagram Sans, was designed with heritage in mind and included multiple global scripts. “Our vibrant gradient was reimagined using an innovative 3D modelling process to make it feel illuminated and alive. The Instagram gradient, made up of our brand colours, is the foundation of our complete color system.” “Through illumination, the gradient signals moments of discovery in our marketing, logo, and even in-app as seen in Create mode, stickers and Instagram Story rings. We are excited to bring life to the Instagram experience through the energy of our reimagined gradient,” it added. For full story visit: <https://www.dnaindia.com/technology/report-instagram-dons-brand-new-look-rolls-out-new-logo-typography-2955505>

NEW LIS LITERATURE

[Note: Publishers of books enlisted here and/or any new book in LIS may send copies of such books to the Editor, *IASLIC Bulletin*, for review]

Indian

1. BALASUBRAMANIAN (P) et al. A Textbook of User Studies and Informetrics. 2021. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹ 1000. ISBN: 9788194739807

(Provides an integrated overview of user studies and informetrics).

2. BAQEE (Abdul) and PALLA (Ishfaq Ahmed). Changing Dimensions of Library and Information Science Studies. 2021. Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹650. ISBN: 9789387698888.

3. KANAUIA (Shiva) and JAIN (P K). Transitions and Transformations in Academic Libraries and Higher Education: Contemplations and Savoir Faire during Covid-19. 2021. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹ 2500. ISBN: 9789387698871

(Contains papers written by academicians and LIS professionals on various issue related to global higher education system and computer and Internet mediated services offered in academic libraries during the current pandemic conditions)

4. TELLA (Adeyinka). ICT and Entrepreneurship in Information: Perspectives from Developing Digital Economies. 2021. Ess Ess Publications, New Delhi. ₹ 2500. ISBN: 9788194739838

(Discusses how ICT has enabled entrepreneurship in information and expand the small-scale information

businesses. Also explains how information professionals through ICT can be self-employed and also create employment.)

Foreign

1. GARTNER (Richard). Metadata in the Digital Library: Building an Integrated Strategy with XML. Facet Publishing, London. £50.00. ISBN: 9781783304844.

(It is a complete guide to building a digital library metadata strategy from scratch, using established metadata standards bound together by the markup language XML).

2. JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RDA. RDA Glossary. Facet Publishing, London. £50.00. ISBN: 9781783305742.

(Features the complete terminology for RDA as it was constituted for the 15 December 2020 release to the *RDA Toolkit*).

3. MARCIA LEI ZENG and JIAN QIN. Metadata. 3rd ed. 2022. Facet Publishing, London. £ 69.95. ISBN: 9781783305889.

(This is a thoroughly updated edition incorporating many developments and changes in metadata and related domains).

4. BOWDEN (David) and ROBINSON (Lyn). Introduction to Information Science. 2nd ed. 2022. Facet Publishing, London. £ 55. ISBN: 9781783304950.

(Gives a comprehensive overview of all aspects of the subject, bringing it up-to-date with analysis of the changes in the information environment, now largely digital, and their implication for the discipline and the profession).

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