



IASLIC NEWSLETTER

Indian Association for Special Libraries and Information Centres



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Quote of the Month

*"Bad libraries build collections,
good libraries build services, great
libraries build communities."
- R. David Lankes, Professor and Di-
rector of the School of Library & In-
formation Science at the University
of South Carolina.*

Appeal to Readers

News from different regions/
states is solicited from library
professionals/IASLIC members
for inclusion in the newsletter.
Send such news to the Editor.
Email: iaslicnl2023@gmail.com

New Year Greetings from IASLIC!

IASLIC wishes its esteemed members, professionals a fabulous New Year with the hope that you will have many blessings in the year to come!



Announcement

348th Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC

The 348th Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC is scheduled to be held on 11th January, 2024 (Thursday) at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of IASLIC which is situated at P-291, CIT Scheme 6M, Kankurgachi, Kolkata -700054. The Speaker of the Session will be Dr. Ashis Biswas, Librarian, Victoria Institution (College), Kolkata. The Chairperson of the above mentioned session will be Dr. Jayati Ghosh, Former Librarian, Commercial Library, Kolkata. Dr. Ghosh is also the Former Vice-President of IASLIC. The topic of Discussion is "Effectiveness and Functionality of Preprint Repositories: An Analysis of Technical Aspects".

All are requested to be present at the said Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC along-with friends, colleagues and other fellow members to make it a Grand Success. The Honourable Teachers, Students, and Research Scholars of Library and Information Science are hereby requested to be present at the aforesaid study circle meeting of IASLIC.

Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay,
Convenor, Study Circle Division,

IASLIC, Kolkata.

Indian Library Science Abstracts [ILSA] -Volume 45-49 (2011-2015) – Recently Published

Indian Library Science Abstracts (ILSA), being brought out by IASLIC since 1967, is the only national abstracting and indexing journal of India in the field of library and information Science. Due to the phenomenal growth of LIS literature in India in English as well as regional languages and the lack of volunteer professionals it has become a herculean task to collect, organize and compile data for the ILSA. The last cumulative volume (Vols. 40-44, 2006-2010) was published in 2018, the print copies as well as e-copies (in CD) of which are available for sale at IASLIC Office.

ILSA Volumes: 45-49 (2011-2015) published in July, 2023. The volume consists of 1365 entries from 17 journals and 6 conference proceedings. Complete bibliographical description of the abstracted document as furnished in the source journal has been provided in order to facilitate the users to identify the document. The volume consists of two parts: Main or Classified Part and Index Part. Entries in the main/classified part are primarily arranged according to the classified order by adopting 22nd ed. of DDC.

We humbly acknowledge the patronage of the honourable members of the Editorial Board. We also gratefully acknowledge commercial and academic publishers, LIS schools, research institutes, professional associations, library and information science professionals for their encouragement and support in getting data from various sources distributed in different states of India. The team hopes that ILSA will be an authentic and comprehensive surrogate of Indian intellectual output in Library and Information Science.

Snapshots of some pages of the **ILSA Volume 45-49 (2011-2015) is available in the IASLIC website**. The hard copy and soft copy will be available from IASLIC Office. **The Price of Print version is Rs. 2500/- and e-version is Rs. 500/-**. For any query, please mail to: iaslic.india@gmail.com.

CONFERENCE/SEMINAR/TRAINING/WORKSHOP

33rd IASLIC All India Conference: A brief Report

The ICSSR sponsored, IASLIC 33RD ALL INDIA CONFERENCE

on “Collaborative Librarianship” organised by the Department of Library and Information Science, Pondicherry University, on December 7-8, 2023. This national conference received an overwhelming response. Around 150 delegates participated in the conference.

The inaugural ceremony of the conference began with a University Anthem and Prof. Sevukan, the Organizing Secretary welcomed the dignitaries and the august gathering. The conference was opened by lighting the lamp by Prof. Tharanikkarasu, Honourable Vice-Chancellor of Pondicherry University along with other dignitaries Honourable Vice-Chancellor of Pondicherry University released the Book of Abstracts.

- Shri. Abhijit Kumar, Hony General Secretary IASLIC gave an overview of IASLIC and its role in supporting the LIS professionals. He thanked the organisers and their team for their support and technical modalities in pursuance of the conference program. He also mentioned that Pondicherry University organising its 2nd IASLIC event at Pondicherry. He mentioned that 38 papers were accepted for presentation and 8 papers for poster presentation.
- Prof. Narendra Lahkar, President of IASLIC, in his Presidential address emphasise the importance of Collaboration and co-operation among library professionals. He said that IASLIC motivates LIS professionals to work together to move towards advancement.
- Prof. Tharanikkarasu, Hon'ble. Vice-Chancellor Pondicherry University delivered the inaugural address. In his inaugural speech, he highlighted the silent role played by the Libraries for the development of the academic community. Further, he said the library is the soul of educational institutions. He also emphasized the need for library professionals to have multi-tasking skills.
- Prof. Ravi in his keynote address highlighted the significance of libraries and their role as a driving force in the modern era. He also said that it is a profession of silence and achievement.

- This was followed by the presentation of IASLIC. Prof. AK Mukherjee IASLIC Lifetime Achievement Award for Retired Librarian for the year 2018 was conferred on Dr. A.L. Moorthy, Former Director-DESIDOC, while that for the year 2019 was conferred on Dr.V K Thomas, former University Librarian, Viswa-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal.
- Dr R. Jeysankar, Joint Organizing Secretary & HoD, LIS Pondicherry University, proposed a vote of thanks, and Mr. Ashutosh Kumar Singh was the master of ceremony anchored the inaugural program.
- Thematic sessions on Collaborative Librarianship followed the inaugural session. Dr. M. Vijayakumar, Conference Director and Pondicherry University Librarian, gave the overview of the conference.
- In the thematic session, Prof. Narendra Lahkar, President of IASLIC, delivered a lecture on Collaborative Librarianship: The need for Pro-Active efforts. He spoke about the importance of collaboration and co-operation among the librarians.
- Dr. Elavazhagan, Librarian and chief Knowledge Officer delivered an invited talk on Collaborative Collection Development and Knowledge Sharing. He highlighted various issues emerging in the licensing agreement and price negotiation. Also highlighted the uniqueness of the IIM Libraries Consortium. This session was Chaired by Dr. V K Thomas, and Smt. Sanjukta Roy was the Rapporteur.

The first technical session on the Concept of Collaborative Librarianship was chaired by Prof. Dr. K.G Sudhier, CUTN, Tiruvarur and Dr. Vijaykumar, Assistant Librarian, Pondicherry University, served as Rapporteur. There were eight papers, out of which two papers were presented. The second technical session was chaired by Dr K.M Shibu, Assistant Librarian, Pondicherry University and Mr Samuel D Raja, CMC served as Rapporteur. This session has six papers in which three papers were presented. In the evening, the organising team offered a feast in the form of a Cultural Program, which Dr. Rekha R.V, PU co-ordinated.

Dr V K Thomas delivered the IASLIC – PC Shah 6th Memorial Lecture on “Equitable delivery of library services: a case of non-users. He said that more attention needs to be given to non-users or underserved users.

On the second day of the conference, Dr. Venkatesavan, Head Times Archives and Knowledge Centre, Mumbai delivered an invited talk on Mass Media Information & Knowledge Services in the Digital Era. He highlighted how Media Librarianship today is witnessing tremendous change, the changing concepts and developments in ICTs, rapid growth of information resources (both in volume and variety), changing user needs, etc., has made a great impact on their business which in turn demands innovative information skill to inspire the user community. This session was Chaired by Prof. Panigrahi and Dr. Bina Medhi Lahkar served as a rapporteur.

The Third technical session was chaired by Dr R. Jeysankar, HoD, LIS Pondicherry University and Dr. Kohila GT served as Rapporteur. This session has seven papers in which six papers were presented. The fourth technical session was chaired by Dr Rekha, associate professor of LIS Pondicherry University, and Dr. Nilakshi Sharma served as rapporteur. There were four papers, and all the authors presented their papers. Prof. S K Singh of Gauhati University chaired the fifth technical session, and Dr. Baskar served as rapporteur. There were four papers, in which three papers were presented. The sixth technical session was chaired by Dr S K Senapati and Dr. Sivasubramanian served as Rapporteur. There were eight papers, in which five papers were presented along with one Poster paper presentation.

On December 7, 2023, at 9.30 am the IASLIC Governing Body (2023-25) meeting was held and the General Body meeting of IASLIC was held on 8 Dec 2023.

The Valedictory Ceremony was held on December 8, 2023 at 3.30 pm. The valedictory function was graced by Prof. Rajneesh Bhutani, Registrar, Pondicherry University, Prof. Clement Sagayaradja Loures, Director, Culture & Cultural Relations, Pondicherry University, Prof. Narendra Lahkar, President, IASLIC, Prof. R.Sevukan, Organising Secretary, Pondicherry University, Shri Abhijit Kumar, Hony. General

Secretary, IASLIC, Dr M Vijayakumar, Director of Thematic Sessions, Dr K Elavazhagan, Rapporteur General and Dr M Leeladharan, Associate Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Pondicherry University.

Dr Leeladharan of Pondicherry University welcomed the gathering and Dr M Vijayakumar, Director of Thematic Sessions, gave enlightening words about the conference and its overall success. Dr Elavazhagan, Rapporteur General, submitted a detailed report about the conference and highlighted the number of technical sessions and papers presented along with the 6th IASLIC – P C Shah Memorial Lecture and invited talks. In his valedictory address, Prof. Rajneesh Bhutani appreciates librarians' role in providing excellent support to the academic community in the digital era. Prof. Clement Sagayaradja Lourdes, in his special address, highlighted the importance of the libraries and their support to the community. Prof. Narendra Lahkar, President of IASLIC, elaborated on the role of IASLIC and the support offered to the LIS community across the country. Shri. Abhijit Kumar, Hon. General Secretary proposed the vote of thanks to all on behalf of IASLIC Dr R Sevukan, Organising Secretary was honoured and felicitated with the memento for organizing a successful conference. Dr R Sevukan, Organising Secretary, thanked all participants, dignitaries, guests, invited speakers, volunteers, sponsors, and participants. The program ended with the National Anthem.

The Rapporteur General of the Conference Dr. K. Elavazhagan sincerely acknowledge the VC of Pondicherry University, the IASLIC Team, the organising Secretary Prof. R Sevukan and his team, Dr. M Vijayakumar, Director of the Conference and his team, for making this event a grand success. He also thanked all the chairpersons, rapporteurs, authors of the papers, and delegates of the conference for their effort and support in making this conference a memorable and great success.

The 346th Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC: A brief report

The 347th study circle meeting of IASLIC was held on 21st December, 2023 (Thursday) at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting

room of IASLIC which is situated at P-291, CIT Scheme 6M, Kankurgachhi, Kolkata - 700054. The speaker of the said study circle meeting was Dr. Madhushree Ghosh (Upadhyay), Deputy Librarian, Netaji Subhash Open University (NSOU), Kolkata. The President of the meeting was Prof. Krishna Pada Majumder, Former Professor (Prof. Prabir Roy Chowdhury Chair), Department of Library and Information Science, Jadavpur University. The topic of the Lecture was "Resources and Services of Open and Distance Learning Universities of India: With a Special Reference to the Netaji Subhash Open University". At the outset, the welcome address was delivered by Mr. Abhijit Kumar, General Secretary, IASLIC, Kolkata. After that, the Speaker and the President of the Session were introduced by Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay, Convenor of the Study Circle Division, IASLIC.

Dr. Madhushree Ghosh (Upadhyay), the Speaker of the session elaborated the origin and development of the open and distance learning Universities of India and West Bengal. She has also described the various courses offered by the Open University System as well as NSOU. She highlighted the resources and services provided by the Netaji Subhash Open University. Dr. Madhushree Ghosh (Upadhyay) has vividly discussed the history and development of the library system of NSOU. She has also clearly described the library services of the NSOU that includes - How to use the electronic resources, On-line Public Access Catalogue, Electronic Self Learning Materials, Open Educational Resources, and the Digital Repositories etc. She has stated about the Study Centres, Internship Programmes and the 'Netaji Corner' etc. She said that the NSOU Library is not a building only, it is playing an important role in spreading its resources and services throughout the state of West Bengal. After that Prof. K. P. Majumder, the President of the session has summarized the entire lecture and discussed about the efficiency of the Speaker as a Professional very precisely. At the end Vote of thanks was delivered by Mr. Pradip Sarkar, the Treasurer of IASLIC and Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay, the Convenor of the Study Circle Division of IASLIC thanked all the dignitaries and the audience for attending the meeting and making it successful. The meeting was ended with thanks to the Chair.

National webinar on “Changing Horizons of Libraries:

A brief report

Telangana Library Association (TSLA) and Sarojini Naidu Vanitha Mahavidyalaya jointly organised a National webinar on “Changing Horizons of Libraries” on 10th December 2023.

Prof. BV Sharma, Director, Anthropological Society of India and I/C DG, RRRLF was the Chief Guest of the programme. He addressed the gathering and spoke about the services of RRRLF. He sought suggestions to improve public libraries in the country.

Mr Gangadhar Bokkena, who was the Guest of honour of the programme addressed the gathering on “AI and how AI can be used for various purposes using various prompts”. He was kind enough to accept to support half day workshop on AI to PG students and half day workshop to the teachers of the college.

Dr Shobhana, Principal of the college welcomed the guests and participants. Prof N Laxman Rao, President, TSLA addressed the gathering and explained the theme and purpose of the seminar. Dr Ravikumar Chegoni, Gen Secretary, TSLA talked about the Association activities and also delivered the lecture on new concepts useful for library professionals.

Prof S Sudarshan Rao (retd prof, Osmania University), Sri P Diwakar (retired scientist, CCMB) and Dr J Vivekvardhan (University librarian, Central University of Kerala) delivered the talks. At the end vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. Madhavi, Librarian, SNVMV.

Nearly 100 Library and Information Science Professionals

**FORTH COMING CONFERENCE/SEMINAR/
TRAINING/WORKSHOP/CELEBRATION**

SoFERENCE 2024 Transformation of Libraries:

The Design Thinking Way

In SoFERENCE {biennial National Social Conference on Library & Information Science (LIS)}, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) is conducting an in-person Design Thinking workshop for Library Professionals, focusing on live library

problems.

Registrations are invited for in-person SoFERENCE conducted at TCS Bangalore on Saturday, 20th January 2024. A Pre-SoFERENCE online workshop will be held on Saturday, 6th January 2024.

More details are available at: <https://sites.google.com/view/soference/home>

EBLT-2024

National Conference on Evidence Based Library Transformations: Quality Services for NextGen Users

Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy, Visakhapatnam is organising a two-day conference on “National Conference on Evidence Based Library Transformations: Quality Services for NextGen Users” from 24-25 January 2024 which will be a platform to feed the hunger of library professionals for new ideas to incorporate the latest tools and technologies in libraries and help library professionals to interact with the leading information professionals of the country.

For more details visit: <https://www.iipe.ac.in/eblt2024/>

International Conference of ILA on Building The Future: Transforming Libraries For Sustainability

Indian Library Association (ILA), New Delhi; Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University; Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library, Gauhati University and Assam Library Association (ALA), Guwahati is organizing 69th Annual Conference of Indian Library Association on “Building the Future: Transforming Libraries for Sustainability” from 1-3 February 2024.

More details are available at: <https://ilaindia.co.in/pdf/brochure69Conference.pdf>

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

UNESCO Guidelines for the Governance of Digital Platforms

UNESCO has released its Guidelines for the Governance of Digital Platforms, the result of a year’s work involving a

wide variety of stakeholders, including the Internet4Trust conference in February which attracted over 4000 participants. The final version of UNESCO's guidelines on how digital platforms – and in particular social media – should work offers helpful affirmation of the importance of access to information, skills, and libraries. It also provides a framework for us to engage in wider debates about information regulation. At the heart of the Guidelines there are a set of five principles. These are:

1. Platforms should conduct human rights due diligence – this should take place in general and before any major changes, and incorporate a full variety of perspectives.
2. Platforms should adhere to international human rights standards, including in platform design, content moderation and content curation – this should involve non-discrimination by design, moderation in local languages (as well as support for moderators, who otherwise can have a terrible job), a variety of responses to harmful content, auditing processes, avoiding promoting content that would generally be seen as illegal.
3. Platforms should be transparent – crucial to achieving the above is transparency, both in terms of setting out terms of service, and showing clearly how platforms comply with them. This covers everything from moderation, advertising, complaints and appeals, safeguards for freedom of expression, and ensuring access to data for researchers, civil society and media
4. Platforms should make information and tools available for users – this refers to ensuring that users understand processes and their rights, in particular in their own language.
5. Platforms should be accountable to relevant stakeholders – there should be effective complaints mechanisms that take account of local needs.

To know more please visit: <https://www.ifla.org/news/unesco-guidelines-for-the-governance-of-digital-platforms/>

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

New Journal Announcement An out of the box idea to hook school students to books

At a time when children are hooked to mobile phones, a seed sown 10 years ago has started reaping rich dividends. Thanks to a novel initiative by a literary society in Dindigul, school students are getting introduced to the exciting world of books.

Around 10 years ago, Dindigul Literary Society was formed and the members wanted to do something that will encourage reading habit by giving people exposure to literary works in Tamil and English. M. Vallalar was the Collector then. He gave them State support to organise a book fair.

In 2012, the first book fair was organised with about 100 stalls. Now, in its 10th year, the 10-day fair is being held on the grounds of Dudley Higher Secondary School from October 5. A large number of school students visit the fair. Documentaries are screened on the sidelines of the fair and evenings are devoted for debates and other events. Essay writing competitions, poetry, storytelling competitions, etc., are held for students. The students who buy the maximum number of books are honoured every day.

But unlike other book fairs, in one of the stalls, teachers and members of the society, which has 100 members now, are busy segregating coins into various denominations. Packets of 1 rupee, 2 rupee, 5 rupee and 10 rupee coins are bundled. R. Manoharan, the society's president, says, "We are the only people who organise book fairs for students in an organised manner. At the start of the academic year, we give coin boxes to 30,000 students. In the piggy bank, the students put in coins. Before the start of the fair, the students hand over the boxes to the teachers. For the money collected by each student, we give them tokens. So, even before the fair begins, the proceeds are given to the publishers."

When the book fair began, this initiative of not just saving money but using it to buy books was launched with 10,000 boxes. "This year the collection from the coin boxes is nearly ₹22 lakh," says Mr. Manoharan. Ref: <https://www.thehindu>

du.com/news/cities/Madurai/an-out-of-the-box-idea-to-hook-school-students-to-books/article67411696.ece

Panchayat library marches on with novel project to promote reading habit

The library at Choornikkara, a village near Aluva town, reached a landmark in November 2023 when it covered 500 households as part of its novel project, 'Aksharadeepam', of delivering books at the doorstep in an attempt to inculcate reading habit among women and children.

The panchayat library kicked off the project, arguably first of its kind by a local body library in the State, in June by deploying 50 trained volunteers drawn from among interested Kudumbashree members. "The project has been very successful, and the panchayat will continue the support to the initiative. We are also looking at digitising the library using corporate social responsibility funds," said panchayat president Raji Santhosh.

The project seems to have served the purpose of inculcating reading habit going by the demand for multiple books in a single month from many households. Kudumbashree volunteers collect the books back and replace the book-kits from the library on the first Sunday of every month.

The project has evoked interest beyond the panchayat with the Department of Library Science of Rajagiri School of Social Sciences (RCSS), Kalamassery, taking it as a case study to ascertain its efficiency and benefit in promoting reading habit. RCSS has distributed a questionnaire figuring 16 questions as part of a survey among households towards that end.

Neethu Mohanan, head, Department of Library Science, RCSS said "We want to analyse the project and explore the possibility of developing such projects in libraries in rural areas. The department conducts such surveys and try to improve reading habit among the public. We will focus on the public library system in the future".

Ref:<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/panchayat-library-marches-on-with-novel-project-to-promote-reading-habit/article67546861.ece>

PERSONALIA

Dr. Md Ajimuddin Sk joined as Assistant Professor in the Department of Library and Information Science, Vidyasagar University on 13.10.2023. Dr. Sk has started his career as a Librarian of Seth Soorajmull Jalan Girls' College, Kolkata-73 on 29.10.2014 and subsequently he joined as Librarian of Berhampore Girls' College, Berhampore, Murshidabad on 01.02.2022. He completed his BLIS (2010), MLIS (2011) and Ph.D. (2018) from the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kalyani.

Dr A Vijayakumar, Deputy Librarian, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kerala joined as Librarian of St Xavier's University, New Town, Kolkata on 1 December 2023. IASLIC congratulates Dr Vijayakumar for his new assignment.

AWARDS

Dr V K Thomas, former University Librarian, Viswa Bharati, Santiniketan has been awarded A K Mukherjee -IASLIC Lifetime Achievement Award for Retired Librarians 2019 at the inaugural ceremony of 33rd All India IASLIC Conference at Pondicherry University on 7 December 2023.

Book Post

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

Glimpses of the 33rd All India Conference held at Pondicherry University, on December 7-8, 2023.

