



IASLIC NEWSLETTER

Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres

Tribute to Dr. S. R. Ranganathan



Dr. Shiyali Ramamrita Ranganathan (09.08.1892 – 27.09.1972)
(Father of Library Science in India)



IASLIC NEWSLETTER



IASLIC 34th All India Conference, 5-7, Jan 26

Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres

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Quote of the Month

"The library is the temple of learning, and learning has liberated more people than all the wars in history."

— Jawaharlal Nehru (1889 –1964)
(First Prime Minister of India)

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

THE MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The month of August is eventful for LIS professionals. Their associations, libraries and LIS teaching departments celebrate the birthday of Dr. S R Ranganathan on 12th August with vigour;- organizing seminars/lectures/discussions by scholars and eminent librarians highlighting the contribution of Dr. SRR in the field.

When I joined the Department of LIS in the Tutorial Building of the University of Delhi (July 1976), Dr. SRR was not alive but his ardent followers teaching in our department; and the group working in the nearby INSDOC were active, citing the stories/anecdotes related to this great man. A major part of our course curricula was related to Dr. SRR's theory and practice of classification and cataloguing. I do remember on the first day of our classification practice class we were asked to buy a copy of the 6th edition of Colon Classification (CC). More than fifty years have passed after his death. It is high time to assess whether the profession has been able to sustain what Dr. SRR had created. How many young LIS professionals have read (or seen) his rather difficult treatise titled Prolegomena to Library Classification? How many libraries are now using CC to organise their collection? During my formative years, 7th edition of the CC was released by the Documentation Training and Research Centre (DRTC). It looked like a new classification scheme and shifting from the old (i.e., the 6th Edition) to the new version was a difficult task. The popularity of CC was short lived primarily because it was not found user friendly. Moreover there was no regular revision policy. On the other hand, Melvil Dewey's DDC based on decimal fraction notation flourished because it could interpolate or extrapolate new emerging subjects. As many as twenty three print editions of this scheme have been published and its use and popularity is worldwide. The OCLC now issues annual print on demand updates and regular digital updates to keep the classification system current.

No doubt Dr. SRR has made immense contribution in different facets of library science. Sir Maurice Gwyer, the legendary vice chancellor of the University of Delhi (1938-1950) brought him to develop the library. Later, Dr. SRR was the person who appointed a senior faculty member from the St Stephens College to head the University of Delhi's library which was earlier located in one of the small hall of the old Viceregal residence. Librarian's position was given academic recognition. A new imposing building was constructed. Under his guidance, library science as a discipline expanded. Many new departments were established. Public library laws were passed in some of the southern states. Dr. SRR's Five Laws of Library Science is widely known. It enumerates the basic fundamental principles for library management. It is to be seen whether the present generation LIS fraternity can sustain the legacy of this grand old man of LIS profession. To activate the use of library's collection and to provide need based service to readers are the two mantras for librarians to be taken from the five laws. Technology driven modern day smart librarians are perhaps forgetting these two fundamental principles of library management.

We are all happy to know that the IASLIC in collaboration with the BLA and WBPLSA are celebrating the Librarians' Day on 16 August at Asansol. The topic chosen for discussion is "Evolution of Book Publishing: Printed Books to E-books". I have submitted a brief write-up on this topic for publication in the Souvenir to be released on this occasion.

A published work *The Book: A Cover to Cover Explorations of the Most Powerful Object of Our Time* (2016) by Keith Houston (published by W W Norton & Company) has dealt the subject book production in considerable detail. In the introduction, the author says "this is a book about book". The author has observed "After more than a thousand years as the world's most important form of written record, the book as we know it faces an unknown future. Just as paper superseded parchment, movable type put scribes out of job, and the codex, or paged book, overtook the papyrus scroll, so computers and electronic books threaten the very existence of the physical books. E-books are cheap and convenient, weightless things downloaded at the tap of a touchscreen or the click of a mouse and effortlessly toted around in their hundreds on a phone or tablet".

There is a saying "All that glitter is not gold". E-books can be read in colourful computer screens but one can hold a physical book in his/her hand, open it, flip through the pages and "feel the breeze on the face".

Whereas an "e-book imprisoned behind the glass of a tablet or a computer screen is an inert thing by comparison". When we visit a bookshop or a library, we find joy in browsing the pages of umpteen number of books arranged thematically to attract our attention. Writers leaf through many books to strengthen their floating ideas. E-books are not permanently fixed knowledge artefacts. There are instances of changing the contents of e-books by the content providers. For example, Amazon had silently deleted certain editions of George Orwell's 1984 from the owners' Kindles as a result of a copyright related dispute. One can compare e-books industry with a housing market where no one is allowed to own a house. Every buyer of an e-book remains a tenant only.

All important issues related to book history, book production, distribution, royalty to authors by the publishers etc. will be discussed on librarians' day. We encourage LIS professionals to attend this programme in large numbers to make it a successful event.

Date: 01.08.2026

Dr. P R Goswami
President, IASLIC

Announcement

Librarians' Day 2026 — 16th August 2026

We proudly announce that like every year this year also IASLIC, BLA and WBPLEA will organise Librarians Day on 16th August, 2026 at Rabindra Bhawan, Asansole, West Burdwan. The details program is given below. Please save the date and join with us to make the 35th Librarian's Day a grand success.





গ্রন্থাগারিক দিবস, ২০২৬



গ্রন্থাগারিক দিবস, ২০২৬
আলোচ্য বিষয়

বিবর্তনের পথে গ্রন্থ প্রকাশনাঃ মুদ্রিত বই থেকে ই-বই

আয়োজকঃ
ইয়াসলিক | বঙ্গীয় গ্রন্থাগার পরিষদ | পশ্চিমবঙ্গ সাধারণের গ্রন্থাগার কর্মী সমিতি

উদ্যোক্তাঃ
বঙ্গীয় গ্রন্থাগার পরিষদ, পশ্চিম বর্ধমান জেলা শাখা

তারিখঃ ১৬ আগস্ট, ২০২৬ (রবিবার) সময়ঃ সকাল ৯.০০ – বিকেল ৩.০০ টে

স্থানঃ রবীন্দ্র ভবন, আসানসোল, পশ্চিম বর্ধমান

অংশগ্রহন মূল্য - ৩৫০.০০

IASLIC 31st National Seminar 2026



IASLIC 31st NATIONAL SEMINAR 2026

CALL FOR PAPERS

**Adaptive Libraries:
Resilience and Innovation**

December 28-30, 2026

Venue
Central Library, Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA) University,
Bhubaneswar, Odisha

FIRST CIRCULAR



**Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres
(IASLIC)**

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Kolkata - 700 054, India
Phone: +91 6290525028
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The IASLIC 31st National Seminar 2026 will be organised in collaboration with the Central Library, Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA) University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India and is scheduled to be held at the Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA) University, Bhubaneswar during December 28-30, 2026.

Libraries are to be adaptive in nature to respond proactively to any challenging situation caused by natural disasters, human-induced crisis, socio-political conflict or technological transformation. Adaptive libraries address challenges during any crisis period continuously evolving services, developing resources and infrastructure to meet the emergent needs of society. In 2015, the United Nations (UN) adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), which outlined a strategy of Build Back Better (BBB) to make communities more resilient in the wake of crises by reducing their vulnerability to future challenges. International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) has also suggested integrating UN's Sendai Framework into libraries towards playing a pro-active role in managing the risk of, and responding to, disasters as part of broader strategies, as well as acting as a form of emergency service for crisis-hit communities. It has further highlighted the role of libraries in protecting cultural heritage, to build community resistance, to develop emergency information hubs. Library professionals should prepare themselves through necessary training, work together with other government and non-government institutions. A recent meeting of the BRICS Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group with representatives and experts of BRICS nations, held in India has highlighted the following aspects – Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability while emphasizing globally recognized Indian disaster management models. Adaptive Libraries are well suited to incorporate the important factors like Resilience-the ability to bounce back; Innovation- development of new ideas, application of new technologies, introduction of new services satisfying the users' needs and thus to stay relevant and sustainable in the contemporary challenging situation in India overcoming the barriers to achieve Vikshit Bharat 2047 and its crucial objectives expressed for the survival of communities in this age of ever-increasing crises. Keeping in view the importance of these objectives, IASLIC has selected Adaptive Libraries: Resilience and Innovation as the main theme of this year's national Seminar inviting library professionals' deliberations and encouraging discussions to frame a proper guideline so that the libraries in India can be made future ready. While the concept of adaptive libraries has emerged, handling and managing of research data in the present context becomes an important issue for social sciences requiring appropriate labeling, storage, and access for huge datasets, versatile in nature, at all stages of rigorous, innovative, insightful and organized research. Of two Special Interest Groups, SIG 01 (Social Science Information) discussion would be on Research Data Management for Social Sciences facilitating more capacity for storing of social science data and addressing the challenges of making that data

findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable. In the present context, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning appeared as a boon to the library activities and services raising enough challenges of its wrong use. Towards exploring its real-life usability in different areas of library activities, Emergence of Artificial Intelligence in Library Services: Innovations, Opportunities and Challenges is considered the topic of discussion under SIG02 (Computer Applications in Libraries). Research Papers are invited on the following areas of the main theme of the seminar and the themes of SIG Meetings for deliberation during the seminar.

Main Theme

Adaptive Libraries: Resilience and Innovation

1 Adaptive Libraries – Concept and Characteristics

- 11 Need and Importance
- 12 Coping Proactively with disasters
 - Natural
 - Human-Induced, Socio-political
 - Technological
- 13 Resilient Strategies – Reuse and Sustainability
- 14 Innovative Approaches in Adaptive Libraries

2 Adaptive Libraries in Promoting Social Well-Being

- 21 Advocating Social Inclusivity
- 22 Adaptive Activities to Maintain Community Bonds
- 23 Empowerment of the Vulnerable and Marginalised
- 24 Assistive Support for Differently-Abled Individuals

3 Digital Integration

- 31 Adoption of New Technologies in Library Services
- 32 Promoting Ethical Use of AI
- 33 Developing Proactive Resilient Digital Strategies
- 34 Combating Misinformation

4 Utilisation of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)

- 41 Preservation of IKS
- 42 Propagation of IKS
- 43 Leveraging IKS for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
- 44 Integrating IKS with Emerging Technologies

5 Preparing for Future

- 51 Adaptive Leadership

- 52 Collaboration with Other Institutions
- 53 Developing Crisis Support Infrastructure
- 54 Preparing Work-Force for Emergency Management

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) Meetings

SIG 01: Social Science Information

Theme: Research Data Management for Social Sciences

- A. Research Data sources in Social Sciences
- B. Collection and Curation of Research Data
- C. Standards for Research Data Management
- D. Research Data Repositories
- E. Role of Libraries and Information centres in RDM
- F. Research Data Management sensitization plans and strategy in Social Sciences

SIG 02: Computer Applications in Libraries

Theme: Emergence of Artificial Intelligence in Library Services: Innovations, Opportunities and Challenges

- I. AI and the Changing Role of Libraries
- II. Generative AI Fundamentals - Large Language Models (LLMs)
- III. AI in Classification and Cataloguing
- IV. AI-assisted metadata creation and knowledge discovery
- V. Prompt Engineering for Librarians
- VI. AI-powered User Services and Research Support

Director of Thematic Sessions

Dr D B Ramesh

Chief Librarian, Central Library,

Institute of Technical Education & Research, Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA),

Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Rapporteur General

Dr Rosalien Rout

Assistant Professor

School of Library & Information Science,

Gangadhar Meher University, Sambalpur, Odisha.

Important Dates

Dates of Seminar: December 28-30, 2026

Submission of Full Paper: September 15, 2026

Letter of acceptance: October 15, 2026

Organising Secretary: Dr Prangya Das, Sr. Librarian & Head, Central Library, Institute of Technical Education & Research (ITER), Siksha O Anusandhan (SOA), Bhubaneswar, Odisha,

Mobile: +91 7978564132, +91 9437132119,

e-mail : iaslic2026.soa@gmail.com

Convenor, Serials Division: Dr Banasree Roy, Librarian, Charuchandra College, Kolkata, West Bengal

Email : iaslic.sem@gmail.com

Mobile: +91 6290525028

Convenor, SIG Division: Dr Nikita Lama, Assistant Professor, Department of Library & Information Science, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, West Bengal.

General Instructions

1. Contributed papers must have to be of qualitative value for publishing in the **IASLIC Special Publication** (ISSN 0972-3668) Volume 63, a peer-reviewed post-Seminar publication. A generalised presentation, thus, should be avoided.
2. Full research paper within 2000 words (not more than 10 pages of A4 paper-size), along with an informative abstract (between 300 and 400 words), typed in double space on single side, in Times New Roman 12pt font size, with margin of 1.5" on all sides should be submitted in **duplicate (hard copy) by August 15, 2026**.
3. Authors' declaration in prescribed format for the Seminar must be signed by all author(s) sequentially and submitted along with the full paper indicating distinctly the sub-theme and topic of the paper.
4. Declaration by the author(s) should be made separately in a hardcopy that the paper has not been sent elsewhere for publication/ presentation.
5. Softcopy of the full paper composed in word format (.doc/.docx) should be submitted as an attachment through e-mail to iaslic.sem@gmail.com.
6. For bibliographical references and citations, contributors are required to follow strictly the **IASLIC Authorship Manual including Standard and Specification** (https://www.iaslic1955.org.in/fckeditor/userfiles/file/Publication_policy_Authorship_Manual_final.pdf).
7. The paper should be accompanied by a DD/ multicurrency cheque in favour of 'INDIAN ASSO SP LIB AND INFO' payable at **Kolkata** (Bank name: SBI, Branch: Bagmari (Calcutta) A/C No.: **10247890167**, IFSC: **SBIN0003682**) or a screenshot of payment using the QR code and should be addressed to Dr Banasree Roy, General Secretary, IASLIC, P-291, CIT Scheme No. 6M, Kankurgachi, Kolkata -700054. Participants who pay the paper submission fees, need not to pay the delegation fee during the seminar; however, they need to pay registration fee as usual. If the paper is not accepted, the paper submission fee will be refunded.
8. Once a paper is submitted, any kind of changes in authorship is not permissible.
9. Pre-Seminar abstract volume will include only informative abstracts of accepted papers.



10. All accepted papers will be invited for presentation either in the main thematic sessions of the Seminar or in the SIG Meetings. Each presenter will be allowed maximum fifteen minutes for presentation, including introduction and conclusion.

11. There will be provision for Poster presentation. All papers accepted for poster presentation will be allocated time for display of full papers. Abstracts of all papers accepted for poster presentation will be included in the pre-Seminar volume.

12. There will be a provision for the Best Poster Presentation Award which is likely to be included in the post-Seminar volume. Other Poster papers will not be published in the post-Seminar volume.

13. Accepted papers which are presented in the Seminar, will only be considered for publishing in the Post-Seminar **IASLIC Special Publication** (ISSN 0972-3668) Volume 63 subject to its merit of publication. IASLIC Special Publication 2026 is likely to be published within three months after the Seminar.

14. All registered participants will receive Post-Seminar **IASLIC Special Publication** (ISSN 0972-3668) Volume 63 free of cost from IASLIC office.

15. Those who wish to purchase the volume through post, an amount of Rs.150/- will be charged for packaging and postage in addition to its cost price.

16. The decision of the Editorial Committee will be final and no pursuance regarding the acceptance of papers for presentation in the Seminar or otherwise will be entertained.

17. Correspondence regarding papers should be addressed to Dr Banasree Roy, General Secretary, IASLIC, P-291, CIT Scheme No. 6M, Kankurgachi, Kolkata- 700054 or iaslic.sem@gmail.com and for Seminar update please visit: www.iaslic1955.org.in

Dr Banasree Roy
General Secretary IASLIC



Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres

IASLIC 31st NATIONAL SEMINAR 2026

ORGANISED BY SOA UNIVERSITY, BHUBANESWAR

SAVE THE DATE

DATE: December 28 - 30, 2026

VENUE: SIKSHA 'O' ANUSANDHAN (SOA) UNIVERSITY, BHUBANESWAR, ODISHA

Details of Themes, Paper Submission Dates, Guidelines and Registration Fees will be announced shortly.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTRES (IASLIC)
P-291, CIT, Scheme No.6M, Kankurgachi, Kolkata-700054, India
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IASLIC 31st National Seminar 2026

Organised by
Central Library, Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (SOA) University,
Bhubaneswar

Adaptive Libraries : Resilience and Innovation

Author's Declaration Format

(To be submitted in duplicate along with the paper)

1. Name(s) (Sequentially):
2. Address(all authors):
3. Mobile (all authors):
4. Sub-theme of the Paper:
5. Facet No:
6. Title of the paper:
7. Paper submission fee: Rs. 1300.00
(DD/Cheque No. _____ dated _____ drawn on _____ (Bank's name)
Or Bank transaction number:
(A/C name: INDIAN ASSO SP LIB AND INFO; A/C No.: 10247890167; Bank name : SBI; Branch: Bagmari (Calcutta); IFSC: SBIN0003682)
8. Date of submission of two print copies and soft copy: _____
(Pl. send print/hardcopy (two sets) for reviewing and processing of your paper)

I/We do hereby declare that the paper submitted by me/us has not been submitted elsewhere for publication/presentation.

(Signature of all authors)

Author's Full Signature with Date _____

Author's Name (In Block Letters) _____

Author's Affiliation, if any _____

Report of Seminar / Workshop/ Program/ Activities

REPORT: The 370th Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC

The 370th Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC was held on 2nd July, 2026 (Thursday) at 6:00 pm at the meeting room of IASLIC which is situated at P-291, CIT Scheme 6M, Kankurgachhi, Kolkata - 700054. The speaker of the above-mentioned Study Circle Meeting was Dr. Mitali Bhattacharyya, Former Librarian, Lady Brabourne College, Kolkata, West Bengal. The Chairman of the meeting was Prof. (Dr.) K. P. Majumdar, Former Professor (Prof. Prabir Ray Chowdhury Chair), Department of Library and Information Science, Jadavpur University, Kolkata. The Topic of the discussion at the said study circle meeting of IASLIC was "Sustainable Development of LIS System: An Utopian Concept?" At the beginning, Dr. Banasree Roy, General Secretary of IASLIC, welcomed all the dignitaries, guests and audience. She has briefly stated about the history and development of the study circle meetings of IASLIC. Thereafter Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay, Convenor, Study Circle Division, IASLIC, introduced the Speaker and the Chairman of the session. Prof. K. P. Majumdar has briefly stated about the historical development of the library systems

of our country. After that the speaker Dr. Mitali Bhattacharyya started the session and delivered his lecture on the particular topic of discussion. In this lecture Dr. Mitali Bhattacharyya has discussed the nature and extent of the problems faced by the librarians and the services provided by the academic libraries of our country. Dr. Bhattacharyya has stated that the academic libraries can act as the information dissemination centres for the presentday users, and the academic libraries can also act as the information hub for all types of users of our country. In this respect, this discussion focuses on the importance of the academic library especially in a developing nation like India. The lecture was followed by a question - answer session. Prof. Krishna Pada Majumder, Dr. Nitai roychowdhury, Mr. Pradip Sarkar, Miss Moumita Ash, Mr. Abhijit Kumar, Dr. Joydip Chanda and other senior members of IASLIC have taken part in the discussion. After that the Chairman of the session Prof. K. P. Majumdar has briefly described the entire discussion in a pinpointed manner. The students, teachers and research scholars have taken active part in the discussion. The Chairman and other dignitaries have stated that they have gained a lot of knowledge from this valuable and thought provoking lecture by Dr. Mitali Bhattacharyya. It was a fruitful discussion. Overall this lecture was appreciated by all the audience. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Joydip Chanda, the Joint Secretary of IASLIC. After that, Dr Tridib Chattopadhyay, Convenor of the Study Circle Division of IASLIC thanked all the dignitaries, guests and the audience regarding their active participation and involvement. The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Dr Tridib Chattopadhyay
Convenor, Study Circle Division

Let's Plant a Sapling on Every Birthday Support IFLA ENSULIB



By Education Division, IASLIC, India

Report of Seminar / Workshop/ Program/ Activities

Report: Thrissur St Thomas College Library Completes 2026 Research and Publication Ethics Course

The Department of Library and Information Studies, in collaboration with the R&D Cell of St. Thomas College (Autonomous), Thrissur, Kerala, successfully concluded the 2026 edition of its two-credit online Research and Publication Ethics (RPE) Course, with 197 Ph.D. research scholars completing the programme. The course commenced on 10 June 2026, and the examination was held on 27 June 2026. Conducted annually since 2020, the RPE course, containing 30 lectures, is designed to meet the mandatory coursework requirement for Ph.D. scholars while strengthening their understanding of research integrity and publication ethics. Over the past six years, the institution has organised eight batches, benefiting a total of 1,673 research scholars from diverse disciplines. To the best of the organiser's knowledge, St. Thomas College is among the very few, if not the only, college library in India to conduct such a comprehensive RPE course regularly for research scholars. The coordinator of the course is Mr. Sanjo Jose, Librarian of the college, who has been spearheading the initiative since 2020. The present faculty-in-charge for the course is Dr Joyce Jose, who is the Dean of Research of the college. The course comprises six units covering the philosophy of science and ethics, research integrity, publication ethics, identification of research misconduct and predatory publishing, indexing and citation databases, open access publishing, research metrics (including citations, h-index, and impact factor), and reference management tools. The programme aims to equip participants with essential competencies for responsible research and scholarly communication. Although the course was originally envisioned to benefit both research scholars and library professionals, participation from Library and



Information Science graduates has so far been limited. The organisers emphasise that a significant portion of the course content is highly relevant for librarians, who play a vital role in promoting research ethics and scholarly communication among researchers and postgraduate students.

ASLIP Conclave 2026

Association of Senior Library and Information Professionals (ASLIP) in collaboration with Swami Rama Himalayan University, Dehradun is going to organize 4th International ASLIP Conclave 2026 at the University campus in Dehradun from December 10-12, 2026. Prof. Yogendra Singh, University Librarian and CLIM Coordinator, SRHU, Dehradun is the organising secretary of the Conclave. The Conclave will bring together library and information professionals, academicians, researchers, educators and students to deliberate on the theme “NextGen Libraries: Technology, Trust and Transformation”. A call for original research papers has been issued, inviting contributions on a wide range of topics under 6 major sub-themes – “Technology and Infrastructure”; “Reimagining Physical and Digital Library Spaces”; “Shaping Future Libraries with Technology and Human Expertise”; “Trust, Ethics and Information Literacy”; “Information Professionals in today’s Learning Environment”; “The Data Deluge and Research Evaluation”. Original research papers covering theoretical/empirical research, case studies are invited from students, research scholars, faculty members, library and information professionals and from other domains also on the theme and sub-themes of the conclave. The research papers should be sent to Dr. R. P. Kumar, President ASLIP on aslipchd@gmail.com. The papers will be selected on the basis of peer review by the committee of experts and senior library professionals. All the invited and contributed papers will be published in the book (conference proceedings) with ISBN number.

Conclave Timeline - Key Dates at a Glance:

Date of Conclave: December 10-12, 2026

Last Date for Submission of Abstract: September 1, 2026

Notification for Acceptance of Abstract: September 10, 2026

Last Date for Submission of Full Text: October 10, 2026

Apart from various technical sessions, ASLIP Conclave 2026 will witness Foundation Day Lecture, Invited lectures, Award ceremony for honouring the achievements of the library professionals, Product

presentations and other unique activities of ASLIP namely ASLIP Walk, ASLIP Quiz, कल, आज और कल, Fireside Chat and so on.

ASLIP cordially invites all the stakeholders to participate, contribute and be a part of this prestigious international conclave dedicated to shaping the NextGen Libraries.

SoFERENCE 2026 (8th Edition), themed “AI Use Cases in Libraries: Today, Tomorrow, and Beyond, 10 Sept 2026

SoFERENCE 2026 (8th Edition): AI Use Cases in Libraries: Today, Tomorrow, and Beyond organized by Information Resource Centre, Tata Consultancy Services. Date: 10 Sept 2026 and Mode: Virtual (MS Teams) & Time: 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM IST

As libraries continue to evolve in the digital era, Artificial Intelligence is playing a transformative role in redefining services, enhancing user experiences, and enabling smarter information management. SoFERENCE 2026 aims to bring together thought leaders, practitioners, and innovators to share real-world applications, forward-looking ideas, and impactful case studies on AI in the library ecosystem.

We warmly welcome submissions from professionals, researchers, and enthusiasts who have Implemented AI Solutions in Libraries, AI Work in Progress and Emerging AI Use Cases.

Theme: AI Use Cases in Libraries: Current, Emerging, and Future

Call for Presentations on the following areas:

AI Solutions Implemented in Libraries - Case studies, deployment experiences, measurable impact

AI Work in Progress – Pilots, Proof of Concepts (PoCs), implementation learnings

Emerging AI Use Cases – Roadmaps, conceptual models, future-ready ideas

What You Will Gain:

Practical insights into AI implementation in libraries
Learnings from real-world pilots and deployments
Frameworks and roadmaps for AI adoption
Opportunities to network with industry experts and practitioners

Who Should Attend:

LIS professionals, corporate / business librarians, KM leaders, R&D and innovation professionals, researchers, faculty, students, and AI enthusiasts across library ecosystems.

Awards & Recognition:

Best implemented AI Solution
Best Pilot / PoC
Best Emerging AI Concept
People’s Choice Award

Important Dates:

Submission Deadline: 10-Aug-2026
 Registration Deadline: 15-Aug-2026
 Acceptance Notification: 20-Aug-2026
 Presenters Onboarding: 25-Aug-2026

Registration:

Registration is free. Seats are limited. E-certificates will be awarded to all participants. Click to Register OR use <https://forms.gle/f5uBfkAJpPPFMegj9>

Built with libraries, for libraries: How WMS delivers an efficient, innovative library services platform organized by OCLC, Wednesday, August 5, 2026

A 30-minute overview of how WorldShare Management Services (WMS) saves you time and resources with efficient management of your library's resources in one fully integrated solution;

During this session, you will learn how WMS can help your library:

- Simplify library workflows with an efficient, innovative platform
- Provide your users with the resources they need, when they need them

Automate e-resource management

<https://oclcwebinars.webex.com/webink/register/r571c0b8000e9d5c35d67afc2803e8046>

A Two-Day National Level Conference on "Bridging Knowledge, Technology, and Society through Libraries" Organizes by St. Xavier's University, Fr. Arrupe Central Library

The "Bridging Knowledge, Technology, and Society through Libraries (BKTSL-26)" Conference is designed as a collaborative platform for library and information science professionals, researchers, and community stakeholders to explore the evolving role of libraries in the digital age. Its purpose is to advance scholarly exchange, integrate emerging technologies, and strengthen society by promoting equity, inclusion, and lifelong learning.

The conference will empower professionals with new skills, foster institutional collaboration, and generate actionable policy recommendations to ensure equitable access to information. The key objectives include: facilitating dialogue on innovative practices and trends in LIS, exploring the impact of AI, big data, and digital tools on library services, promoting inclusive access to knowledge, strengthening professional development through workshops and training, and shaping policy through collaborative recommendations. Ultimately, the conference reaffirms libraries as vital institutions that bridge knowledge creation, technological innovation, and societal progress in the 21st century.

Call for Papers: Sub-Themes—

Digital Transformation in Libraries: Exploring AI, automation, and smart systems in library services.

Open Access & Scholarly Communication: Policies, platforms, and challenges in democratizing knowledge.

Information Literacy and Data Literacy: Teaching communities to evaluate information and data critically.

Community Engagement and Social Inclusion: Libraries as agents of equity and inclusion.

Digital Preservation and Cultural Heritage: Safeguarding archives and heritage in digital formats.

Knowledge Management Practices: Organising, curating, and disseminating knowledge effectively.

Library Spaces and User Experience: Designing inclusive, accessible, and innovative library environments.

Policy and Governance in LIS: Shaping regulations for equitable access to information.

Emerging Technologies in LIS: Blockchain, big data, and cloud computing applications.

Professional Development and Training: Building skills for future-ready librarianship.

Libraries and Sustainable Development Goals: Aligning library initiatives with global sustainability agendas.

Ethics in Information Science: Addressing privacy, bias, and ethical use of data.

Collaboration and Networking: Strengthening partnerships across institutions and disciplines.

Innovative Outreach Programs: Creative strategies to connect with diverse communities.

Future of Libraries: Reimagining the role of libraries in a rapidly changing world.

Innovative ideas beyond the sub-themes mentioned above are welcome.

Submission Process: Papers should be submitted electronically via the [conference submission Google Form](#).

If you are facing any difficulties while submitting a paper, you can email the paper to lawlibrarian@sxuk.edu.in

Important Dates:

Full Paper Submission: September 05, 2026

Last Date of Registration: September 10, 2026

Conference Dates: September 25–26, 2026

Contact: Dr. Stephen. G

Organizing Secretary / Assistant Librarian, Fr. Arrupe Central Library, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata
 Mail - lawlibrarian@sxuk.edu.in
 Mobile - 9436811297

One Day User Awareness Programme on ONOS and INFLIBNET Services jointly organized by Presidency University, Kolkata and INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Presidency University, Kolkata, in collaboration with the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, successfully organised a one-day National-Level User Awareness Programme on One Nation One Subscription (ONOS)



and INFLIBNET Services on 24 July 2026 at the Derozio Hall of the University. According to the Organising Secretaries, Dr. B. Siva and Ms. Kuheli Dutta, Assistant Librarians, Presidency University, the programme witnessed the participation of over 250 delegates, including faculty members, library and information science professionals, research scholars, and students representing colleges, universities, medical institutions, government organisations, and central government institutions from across West Bengal. The programme also welcomed a participant from the National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun, reflecting its wider national outreach. The technical sessions were conducted by Shri Dinesh Pradhan, Scientist-D (LS) and Shri Raja V., Scientist-D (CS) from the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar. The experts delivered comprehensive presentations on the One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) initiative, covering access to subscribed e-resources, user registration and management, usage monitoring, and effective utilisation of INFLIBNET services, including Shodhganga, ShodhShuddhi, Shodh-Chakra, and IRINS. The interactive sessions enabled participants to gain practical insights into utilising these platforms for research, teaching, and academic excellence. The Registrar, Presidency University, appreciated the initiative and expressed the University's commitment to organising more such capacity-building programmes in the future to strengthen research competencies and

promote skill development among the academic community. The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks, acknowledging the valuable support of the INFLIBNET Centre, the Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar, the Professor-in-Charge, Library Services, the distinguished speakers, the organising committee, all dignitaries, and the participants for contributing to the success of the event. The programme successfully enhanced awareness of ONOS and the wide range of INFLIBNET services while fostering academic collaboration and strengthening the research ecosystem among higher educational and research institutions across West Bengal.

The RUSA PMU 2.0 Sponsored International Seminar on “Academic Libraries in the AI Era: Problems & Prospects”, 17th-18th August 2026

The RUSA PMU 2.0 Sponsored International Seminar on “Academic Libraries in the AI Era: Problems & Prospects”, organized by the Department of Library and Information Science, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, will be held on 17th-18th August 2026.

Important Dates:

- Last Date of Abstract Submission: 08th August 2026
- Notification of Abstract Acceptance: 10th August 2026
- Last Date of Full Paper Submission: 12th August 2026
- Last Date of Registration: 14th August 2026
- Seminar Dates: 17th-18th August 2026

Venue: TEQIP Building (Room No. 208)

Time: 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

Registration Fees:

- Individual: ₹1500
- Research Scholar: ₹1000
- Students: ₹500

Send your Abstract to: icjudlis@gmail.com Registration Email: dlisic2026@gmail.com

Registration Form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScExbBKxbXkX0vo-gCWNDtIQM-jL6Z9CXgk3lFfCcFZNoQdPQ/viewform?usp=publish-editor>

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