



IASLIC NEWSLETTER

Indian Association for Special Libraries and Information Centres



MAY 2023

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Editor

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Quote of the Month

"A book is the most effective weapon against intolerance and ignorance" -

Lyndon B. Johnson.
36th President of the USA from 1963-1969

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: raychoudhurybn@gmail.com

New Life Members of IASLIC

Ms. Phulasmitha Nath, Kamrup, Assam

Dr. Kishor Kalita, Nalbari, Assam

Ms. Anindita Sandilya, Jorhat, Assam

Institutional Members for the year 2023

Institutions renewed their membership/new members as on Date

Sl. No.	Name	Membership No.
42	India International Centre	
43	Kuvempu University	0291-I[Z1]
44	Indian Council of Social Science Research	0127-I[Z6]
45	Basanti Devi College	4052-I[Z6]
46	Ramananda College	4034-I[Z6]
47	Ravishankar Shukla University	0411-I[Z3]
48	Regional Institute of Education, Mysore	0413-I[Z1]
49	Konkan Gyanpeeth Karjat College of Arts, Science and Commerce	3102-I[Z2]
50	Vidyasagar College for Women	4056-I[Z6]
51	Pravabati College	4025-I[Z5]
52	Malaviya National Institute of Technology	3433-I[Z2]
53	Pailan College of Management and Technology	4038-I[Z6]
54	Raja Ramanna Centre for Advanced Technology	0125-I[Z3]
55	Charuchandra College	2902-I[Z6]
56	Nabajyoti College	4030-I[Z5]
57	CVR College of Engineering	0140-I[Z1]
58	Sri Venkateswara University	0448-I[Z1]

IASLIC 29th National Seminar 2022

In continuation to the report of IASLIC 29th National Seminar organized by **Central Library, North-Eastern Hill University**, Shillong, Meghalaya during **March 15 -17, 2023**, please read with the following information in addition to the report published in March-April 2023 issues of IASLIC Newsletter.

Technical Session 8: SIG 01: Social Science Information Theme: Skill development for modern libraries.

Phulasmitha Nath and Nirmal Ranjan Mazumdar presented their paper under title **Library traineeship for skill development in new age librarianship: a case study among the students of DLISc, Gauhati University**. Library traineeship programs are very instrumental not only in promoting the practical skill, but also instilling and elevating the level of confidence among the participants, which is reflected in the higher level of absorption in jobs, the study observed.

338th Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC- A brief Report

The 338th Study circle meeting of IASLIC was held on 06.04.2023 (Thursday) at 6.00 p.m. at IASLIC office, kankurgachhi, Kolkata. The meeting was attended by 25 participants. The speaker of the session was Dr. Avik Roy, Librarian, Derozio Memorial College, Rajarhat, Kolkata. The Chairman of the session was Prof. Udayan Bhat-tacharya, Department of library and information science, Jadavapur University, Kolkata. The topic of discussion was, **'Information seeking in everyday life: a phenomenological approach'**. The chairman of the session was felicitated by Miss Moumita Ash, joint secretary; IASLIC. The speaker of the session was felicitated by Mr Jagamohan Das, joint secretary, IASLIC. Welcome address was given by Mr Abhijit kumar, general Secretary, IASLIC. The chairman of the session and the speaker of the session were introduced by Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay, convenor of the study circle division. The Chairman of the session has illustrated the topic and permitted to start the deliberation. The speaker has elaborately discussed the topic and it was a nice deliberation. At the end of the session, the speaker has interacted with the audience. The chairman of the session has also participated in the interactive discussion. The meeting ended with formal vote of thanks by Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay, the convenor of the study circle division of IASLIC.

The focus of the talk of the evening has been on information seeking practice of people in everyday life, popularly known as "Everyday Life Information Seeking (ELIS)". Dr. Roy has adopted the social phenomenological approach pioneered and promulgated by Alfred Schutz in this regard. ELIS makes its first appearance in the LIS discourse with the publication of the iconoclastic paper of Reijo Savolainen in the journal, Library and Information Science Research in 1995. Dr. Roy has elaborately explained the social phenomenological aspect of ELIS as reflected in the two very seminal concepts such as "way of life" which is actually the concrete expression of the theory of habitus expounded by Pierre Bourdieu, and "mastery of life" and its different typifications. The concepts of Information Horizon (IH) pioneered by Diane Sonnenwald or Information Source Horizon (ISH) by Savolainen have been explored in this context since the empirical data gathered by Dr. Roy for his

PhD dissertation work reveals that people seek information sources depending on ISH which actually is based on the habitus of people in their lifeworld context. The theoretical framework of information seeking of people in everyday life comprising "way of life", "mastery of life", ISH, information pathways etc. has been empirically tested and statistically validated by Dr. Roy in his PhD thesis which is available in Shodhganga.

Three days international seminar on Indian Knowledge system for LIS and Allied disciplines (IKS-LAD:2023) Organised by Dept. of Library and Information Science, Netaji Subhas Open University with the financial assistance by RRRLF during 24-26 March 2023: A brief Report

The three days seminar was inaugurated on 24th March 2023 at the Subhas Chandra Sabhaghar of the Netaji Subhas Open University, DD26, Salt Lake Kolkata 700064. Key note address was given by Swami Suparnanandaji Maharaj, Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark. Speech of Chief Guest was delivered by Prof. Ajoy Pratap Singh, DG, National Library, Kolkata. Speech of the Guest of Honour was delivered by Mr. Jason Frolo, Acting Consul General US Consulate, Kolkata. The inaugural session was presided by Prof. Ranjan Chakraborti, Dept. of History, Jadavpur University and former Vice chancellor of NSOU and Vidyasagar University. There were nine technical sessions at the seminar and several plenary lectures and invited lectures. About 100 participants participated and 85 papers were presented in the technical sessions. The valedictory address was delivered by Prof. B Shadrach, Director, CEMCA.

Day-1: 3 plenary lectures were delivered by Prof. Achin Chokroborty, Dr. Amit Krishna and Dr. Manan Pratim Das. Mainly issues related to Indian Knowledge System were raised. Role of Doordarshan in sustaining Indian Knowledge System was discussed by Manan Pratim Das, while Dr. Amit Krishna spoke about Indigenous Medicinal Knowledge while Prof. Achin discussed the developmental activities that took place in Indian History.

Day-2: There were four online invited lectures by Prof. Krishnamurthy, Prof. Manoj Kumar Sinha, Prof. Manoj Kumar Verma & Prof. Sanjay Singh. Elaborate discussions on

various initiatives taken by Universities and Institutes in promoting Indian Knowledge System were made. Six papers were presented on offline mode while one paper was presented on online mode.

Prof. Sukhendu Samajdar & Prof. Manas Chakraborty delivered their invited lectures. They shared about the contribution of eminent personalities in the field of Statistics & Chemistry. Only one offline presentation was made in this session.

This was the most informative and vibrant session of this three days seminar where nine invited lectures from national and international institutions shared their ideas on Public Library Management & related issues. Only one paper was presented in this session. Technical session was held in Subhas Chandra Sabhaghar. Total 24 papers on different issues and areas related to the theme of the seminar were presented by the participants.

Day-3: The prime theme of the session was LGBTQ---. Eight papers were presented on offline mode while one paper was presented on online mode. Three special lectures were presented in this session where two were presented by Prof. Smita Sengupta & Prof. Santanu Ganguly while Dr. Barnali Roy Choudhury alone presented her lecture. The seminar was concluded by the valedictory session.

Felicitation to Prof. Dr. K. Nageswara Rao, Director, DESIDOC on 03.04.2023

A felicitation program has been arranged in respect of Dr. K. Nageswara Rao, Director DESIDOC, Newdelhi by Sri Venkateswara University Librarian prof. K. Surendra Babu on 03-04-2023 at S.V University library Seminar Hall. Dr. Nageswara Rao has studied M.Sc in Physics and M.L.I.Sc at S. V. University Tirupati. As an Alumni of the University Dr. Nageswara Rao has given 'Invited Talk' to enlighten the students of Library and Information Science. In this program The Registrar, Dean R & D, Head DLIS Dr. M. Prasantha Kumari, Retired prof. V. Pulla Reddy, other faculty members Research Scholars of Library & Information Science, Library professionals were participated.

Observation of World Book Day 23rd April 2023

World Book Day is an annual event celebrated on April 23. The day is observed globally to promote the love for read-

ing, writing, publishing, and copyright. It is also known as World Book and Copyright Day. On this day various activities are organized across the globe to promote the passion for books and reading. It also works toward creating awareness of and importance of education and literacy.

History: The history of World Book and Copyright Day dates back to 1922 when Vicente Clavel, the director of the Cervantes publishing firm, proposed the idea of dedicating a day to Miguel de Cervantes. The first World Book Day was celebrated in Barcelona on October 7, 1926, which marked Cervantes' birthday. However, in 1930, the date was changed to April 23, the day Cervantes passed away. This date was chosen because it also coincides with the birthdays and deaths of several prominent authors, including William Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega. UNESCO officially recognized and adopted April 23 as World Book and Copyright Day in 1995.

Significance: World Book Day holds great significance. It promotes the importance of education and literacy around the world. Books are an important source of knowledge and reading is a fundamental skill that is needed for people from all walks of life. This day is more significant as it focuses on publishing and copyright issues. With the rise of e-books and piracy, the publishing industry is facing a great challenge. World Book Day helps to raise awareness of these issues and protect intellectual property rights.

Theme: The theme for World Book Day 2023 is 'Indigenous Languages.' It focuses on promoting the diversity in native languages of a country. This theme highlights the rich cultural heritage and the importance of indigenous languages in literature and storytelling. It emphasizes the need to preserve and promote indigenous languages, which are often endangered or at risk of being lost, as they hold significant knowledge, wisdom, and unique perspectives.

World Book and Copyright Day 2023: Wishes and Messages

- Let's make a commitment to instilling the habit of reading in our children because it is one method to best determine their future. Greetings on World Book Day.
- One thing that exists in the universe that unites people is knowledge. On World Book Day, everyone should concentrate on expanding their knowledge.

- It's World Book Day today, so it's not just another day. To make it a more fruitful day for those around us, let's get together, swap books, and read them. Best wishes to you on this lovely day!
- Native speakers exhibit the richness and culture of the world everywhere, thus it is excellent to encourage native books to broaden one's understanding.
- A man just needs one friend—the books—to feel content and to develop. I hope your life is filled with many, many books. Happy World Book Day, everyone!
- We should make a commitment to instilling the habit of reading in our kids since it will help to best shape their future. Happy World Book Day, with tonnes of love.
- One thing that exists in the universe that unites people is knowledge. On World Book Day, everyone should concentrate on expanding their knowledge.
- You can climb the ladder of achievement and personal improvement using books as a guide. Congratulations on World Book Day.
- Native speakers exhibit the richness and culture of the world everywhere, thus it is excellent to encourage native books to broaden one's understanding.
- Reading is brain and body therapy. Consider today a chance to develop and shine. Salutations on World Book and Copyright Day.

(Further Reading: <https://www.unesco.org/en/days/world-book-and-copyright>)

World Book & Copy Right Day Celebrations

On the occasion of the world book & copyright day, GIET School of Pharmacy faculty members and students have participated in the quiz and the drawing competitions. The principal of GIET School of Pharmacy Dr. M. D. Dhana raju has been an important guest in this programme by creating awareness among the students regarding the importance of book learning, various aspects of gaining knowledge through books and impact of reading experience from one generation to the future generations. The librarian of GIET School of Pharmacy, Shaik Meera had organized these competitions of drawing and quiz. Drawing competition was conducted

on the theme of INDIAN ARCHITECH, in which 18 students participated. Saikat Debnath secured first prize, G.Lakshmi Prasanna secured second prize in drawing competition. In quiz competition 60 students participated. Among them, A. Jyothi secured first prize, P. Sindu secured second prize in quiz competition. Among 22 participants of faculty members in quiz competition, V. Anil Kumar secured first prize and Dr. B. L. Himaja secured second prize. The principal of GIET School of Pharmacy had awarded the prizes to the winners. In this programme the faculty member Mr. Bala Dinaker has given his technical support.

India's proposal for free access to scientific journals among G20 nations

Open access to the scholarly content is important to take the research to the next level and give it momentum that is lost in the long process of publishing in paywalled journals, and also because underprivileged researchers are not able to access them. Countries across the world are finding various ways to make research accessible instantly after publication and also free of charge. India is not an exception to the open access trend that is pervasive worldwide. India firmly backed the open access movement with the One Nation, One Subscription journal access strategy. India's Ministry of Education said, "The government is going to adopt a "One Nation, One Subscription" (ONOS) policy for scientific research papers and academic journals from April 2023 to ensure access for researchers countrywide, and the government will negotiate with journal publishers for "all people in India" to have access to journal articles under a single, centrally negotiated payment to be made by the government."¹

Another recent initiative towards open access is having a national archive and interlinking it with the national archives of G20 countries. India is discussing laying the foundation for a national archive to share open access research among G20 countries. A few more meetings to be held to discuss the agenda and plan for the national archive of India, which is interoperable among the archives of G20 countries. The Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood (March 2023), chairing the G20 Chief Scientific Advisors' Roundtable (CSAR), a government-to-government level initiative of the G20 Presidency, for careful

consideration on a critical topic: **free and universal access to scientific journals that are behind paywall.**

Points for discussion are:

- Free of cost, immediate access to the scientific journals
- Article processing charges and subscription fees of journals
- Interoperable interlinking of national repositories with international repositories and archives
- Open access mandate to make publicly funded research widely available.

Prof. Sood said at a media briefing held on March 24, 2023, that “there should be a policy of having all the accepted papers in these archives and interlinking them. This will make science available to everyone in the G20 countries.”² He pointed out that a very large percentage (85%) of scientific knowledge in the world is generated by the G20 member countries. It is found that “the increasing number of scholarly journals are making their articles open access, in spite of that many researchers have found that the Article Processing Charges to publish in open access journals can deter authors from using this option.”³ This is also one of the agenda to discuss and allow the maximum use of scientific journals in the growth of research of G20 countries. Wishing that the aforementioned initiatives will get correctly implemented at the local level and transform the nation’s research and development environment.

Keeping with New Education Policy 2020 commitments: the Indian Government proposed a few new developments for libraries and readership

Keeping with New Education Policy 2020 commitments: the Indian Government proposed a few new developments for libraries and readership.

In the context of libraries, the New Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020), by the Indian Government, aims to develop digital libraries and school/ public libraries for promoting the readership habit and maximum use of libraries to ensure the availability and accessibility of books to the students without any barrier of language, technology, or geography. In order to fulfill its commitments under NEP 2020, the government has proposed a few new initiatives for libraries and readers in its Union Budget 2023.

Proposal of the National Digital Library for Children and Adolescents

By taking the National Digital Library of India’s (NDLI) success ahead, the Government has announced plan to develop the **National Digital Library for Children and Adolescents**. The National Digital Library of India (NDLI), headquartered at IIT Kharagpur that was launched in 2018 by the Ministry of Human Resource and Development in India came up in forefront during the Covid-19 pandemic to provide free access to the variety of content from the primary level to the postgraduate level across all disciplines.

To make up for the learning losses that occurred during the pandemic, *the Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman* in Union Budget 2023, proposed the development of **National Digital Library for Children and Adolescent**. The aim of “A National Digital Library for children and adolescents” is to:

- Facilitate the availability of quality of books across geographies, languages and genres.
- It will provide device agnostic accessibility of content that aims to offer a seamless experience across many devices and systems without the need for special adaptations.

Strengthening the National Book Trust and the Children’s Book Trust

An adequate supply of quality books that cater to the needs and interests of communities is required to increase readership across the country. The Finance Minister also emphasized strengthening the **National Book Trust (NBT)** and the **Children’s Book Trust (CBT)** to build a culture of reading and promote widespread reading. Government will encourage NBT to produce and encourage the production of good literature in English, Hindi and other Indian languages and to make them available at moderate prices to the public. Strengthening of Children’s book trust that aims to promote the production of well written, well illustrated and well designed, enjoyable and inspirational books for children will also give the momentum to reach goals of NEP2020.

Setting up physical libraries at the wards or panchayat level

To serve the community and the students, particularly in villages, the government has proposed to set up ICT-equipped physical school/public libraries at the ward or

panchayat level with all necessary infrastructure. That will help the students access the resources of the National Digital Library.

Without a doubt, the establishment of the National Digital Library of India, the adoption of the New Education Policy 2020, and the aforementioned actions being taken to achieve the goal of NEP 2020 will promote a culture of reading and make books more accessible and available in all the regional languages of country to the underprivileged community. We anticipate more initiatives like this to improve education and reading culture across the nation.

10 Interesting facts about Books

1. The world's oldest surviving book is the "Diamond Sutra," a Buddhist scripture that was printed in China in 868 CE.
2. The largest book published is 7.48 m² (80 ft² 74 in²), and was achieved by iWRITE Literacy Organization, The Bryan Museum, and Ordinary People Change the World (all USA) in Houston, Texas, USA, on 5 November 2022.
3. The world's smallest book is a reproduction of 30-page Teeny Ted's story, where the main character wins an annual turnip-growing contest. It was written by Malcolm Douglas Chaplin, while his brother Robert Chaplin did the etching, at the Simon Fraser University, in British Columbia, Canada. The book's exact measurements are 70 micrometers by 100 micrometers. Printed with pure crystalline silicon, the reproduction costs a staggering \$15,000.
4. The world's most expensive book is the "Bay Psalm Book," which was printed in the 1600s and is considered the first book printed in what is now the United States. It sold for \$14.2 million at auction in 2013.
5. The world's most widely read book is the Bible, which has been translated into over 2,000 languages and has sold over 5 billion copies.
6. The longest book ever written is "The Story of the Vivian Girls, in What is Known as the Realms of the Unreal, of the Glandeco-Angelinian War Storm, Caused by the Child Slave Rebellion," which was written by

Henry Darger and is over 15,000 pages long.

7. The book with the most translations is "The Little Prince," which has been translated into over 250 languages and dialects.
8. The world's most stolen book is "The Catcher in the Rye," by J.D. Salinger, which is often taken from libraries and bookstores.
9. The world's oldest library, the Library of Alexandria, is believed to have contained over 500,000 scrolls at its peak. It was destroyed in a series of fires over the course of several centuries, and many of the books it contained were lost forever.
10. The world's oldest surviving book is the "Gutenberg Bible," which was printed in the 1440s.

ReplayWeb for Embedding Social Media Posts (Twitter, Mastodon) in Web Pages

ReplayWeb.page is a browser-based viewer that loads web archive files provided by the user and renders them for replay in the browser.

ArchiveWeb.page is the latest tool from Webrecorder to turn your browser into a full-featured interactive web archiving system! ArchiveWeb.page is available as an extension for any Chrome or Chromium based browsers. (A standalone app version is also in development.)

To create web archives, the extension (or app) will be needed. Once created, the archives can be viewed in any modern browser using ReplayWeb.page -- no extension required!

Tools such as ChatGPT threaten transparent science; here are our ground rules for their use

It has been clear for several years that artificial intelligence (AI) is gaining the ability to generate fluent language, churning out sentences that are increasingly hard to distinguish from text written by people. Last year, Nature reported that some scientists were already using chatbots as research assistants — to help organize their thinking, generate feedback on their work, assist with writing code and summarize research literature (*Nature* 611, 192–193; 2022).

But the release of the AI chatbot ChatGPT in November has brought the capabilities of such tools, known as large language models (LLMs), to a mass audience. Its developers,

OpenAI in San Francisco, California, have made the chatbot free to use and easily accessible for people who don't have technical expertise. Millions are using it, and the result has been an explosion of fun and sometimes frightening writing experiments that have turbocharged the growing excitement and consternation about these tools.

First, no LLM tool will be accepted as a credited author on a research paper. That is because any attribution of authorship carries with it accountability for the work, and AI tools cannot take such responsibility.

Some tools promise to spot LLM-generated output, and Nature's publisher, Springer Nature, is among those developing technologies to do this. But LLMs will improve, and quickly. There are hopes that creators of LLMs will be able to watermark their tools' outputs in some way, although even this might not be technically foolproof.

Nature 613, 612 (2023)

doi: <https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-023-00191-1>

ICOLC Statement on the Metadata Rights of Libraries

Metadata and the metadata services that describe library collections are critical in supporting content discovery, knowledge creation, and libraries' public missions. Metadata describing library collections is not typically copyrightable, and should be considered freely shareable and reusable un-

der most circumstances. However, some industry players restrict libraries' rights to use such metadata through contractual terms and market influence. Such restrictive activity is out of alignment with libraries' needs and public, not-for-profit/educational missions.

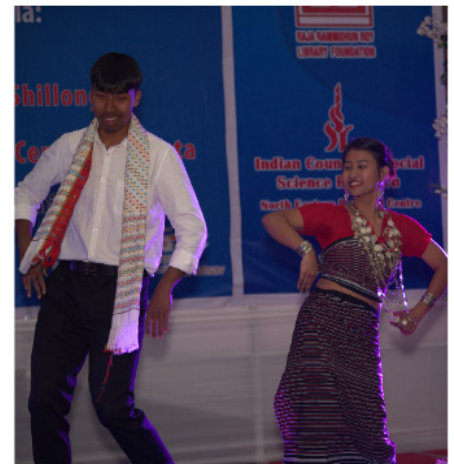
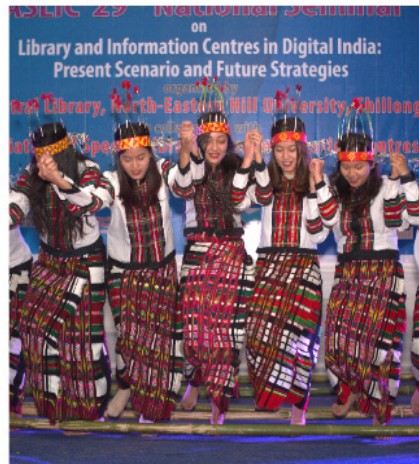
The endorsers of this document urge all organizations, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, to uphold libraries' rights and interests to use, re-use, adapt, aggregate, and share metadata that describes library collections to serve the public interest, without restriction or limitation.

— ICOLC Statement on the Metadata Rights of Libraries

Obituary

Sri Chayan Samaddar (04-01-1958 - 16-04-2023) : Chayan Samaddar, IASLIC Office Assistant breathed his last on 16 April 2023 at 3 PM. Born on 4 January 1958, Shri Samaddar joined IASLIC office in the year 1981 and served till 31 December 2022. He was dedicated and loyal towards IASLIC office work. Besides daily office work, Shri Samaddar took major responsibility during IASLIC Seminars and Conferences. He was also associated with book trade during the 1990s' and his company's name was "Eastern Book Services". But in 2003 he discontinued his book trade due to health problems and fully engaged at IASLIC office work. He was passed away on 16 April 2023 leaving his wife, daughter and other family friends. IASLIC deeply mourns his death.

Glimpses of 29th IASLIC National Seminar



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