



IASLIC NEWSLETTER

Indian Association for Special Libraries and Information Centres

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Quote of the Month

“Librarians are the secret masters of the world. They control information”

— Spider Robinson,

American-born Canadian science fiction writer and musician

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

General Secretary
IASLIC

An Appeal to Publishers of LIS Literature

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. The editorial team has now undertaken the task of compiling the next cumulative volume covering the period 2011 - 2015 and intends to publish the volume in early 2022. It will cover, besides periodical literature, papers published in conference/seminar volumes, festschrift volumes and other composite works. Due to pandemic situation the editorial team is facing problems in obtaining hard copies/soft copies of published materials in LIS. The team solicits cooperation from publishers, state library associations, organizers of the conferences/seminars/workshops, authors and individual library professionals and requests them to furnish hard copies/soft copies of LIS literature in English and regional languages published by them during the said period at the earliest, to enable it to complete the compilation work and publish the volume in time. The team hopes that with the effective support of the concerned people ILSA will become an authentic and comprehensive surrogate of Indian intellectual output in Library and Information Science.

CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

National

Conference on Knowledge Management

MANAGE is organizing an online National Conference on 'Knowledge Management for Agricultural Librarians and Information Professionals' during February 16 - 17, 2022. For details visit: <https://www.manage.gov.in/Default.asp#>

Seminar on Libraries in Pandemic

A National Seminar on 'Opportunities and Growth of Libraries during Covid-19 Pandemic' is being organized by Indian Institute of Management, Kashipur (Uttarakhand), in online mode during March 24 - 25, 2022. For details visit: <http://chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgleclefindmkaj/viewer.html?pdfurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.iimkashipur.ac.in%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2FLibrary-seminar-brochure.pdf&amp;clen=1742864&amp;chunk=true>

International

Conference on PL Services

An International Conference on 'Design and Development of Public Library Services: Patterns, Experiences and Ideas' will be held during May 17 - 18, 2022 at Shiraz, Iran. For details visit: <https://hamayesh.ipla.ir/en>

Conference on KM Systems

The 5th International Conference on 'Knowledge Management Systems (ICKMS 2022)' will be held at Santa Clara County, USA, during May 27 - 29, 2022. For details visit: <http://www.ickms.org/>

Workshop on Information Management

The 2nd International Workshop on 'Information Management' (WSIM 2022) will be held in London, UK, during March 25 - 27, 2022. For details visit: <http://wsim.org/>

IFLA World Congress

The 87th IFLA World Library and Information Congress will be held in person, in Dublin, Ireland, during July 26 - 29, 2022. The theme of the congress is 'Inspire, Engage, Enable, Connect.' More details will be available on IFLA Congress website <https://2022.ifla.org>.

Conference on LIS

An International Conference on 'Library and Information Science' will be held during October 21 - 22, 2022 at Oxford, UK. The theme of the conference is 'Digital Revolution: Moving towards Developing Smart Libraries'. For details visit: <https://www.libraryinformationscienceconference.globalacademicresearchinstitute.com/main/iclis>

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

NGO Starts Library in HP

A rural library movement is sweeping across the country, especially during the time of COVID-19 when most of the schools and colleges have been shut down, according to an ANI story available on aninews.in website. A former MLA's son is also trying hard to provide educational facilities to underprivileged students in remote areas during the ongoing health crisis. Under a noble initiative started by Akil Bakhshi, the founder and director of an NGO, Ranjeet Bakhshi Jankalyan Sabha, 21 libraries have been set up so far in the Nurpur area of Himachal Pradesh's Kangra district. Speaking about the same, Akil told ANI, "I started this initiative somewhere around July 16, 2021, and we are working in a very limited area and this area is called Nurpur and it is located in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. What we are doing is that we are getting a central library in a common point and at the same time, we are providing books to all the Panchayats. The students do not have to travel all the way to the central library and they can get the books there itself, that is the way we function right now. We have already opened 21 libraries and there are 30 more to go." With this free library setup, the NGO, which was started as a small venture in April 2021, aims to help students by providing them with books for competitive examinations. "What we are doing is we have divided the books into three sections - the first section of books is for competitive examinations. These are the people who want to take up different exams after class 12th; somebody wants to go for Civil Services, and somebody wants to go for NDA; we are providing competitive examination books for this purpose," Akil said. The organization is trying to provide books to "any student, who is financially incapable of buying these books, can get them from the library." Students will also be able to avail career counselling sessions. For original story visit: <https://www.aninews.in/news/lifestyle/culture/ngo-starts-library-setup-in-himachal-pradesh-aims-to-make-education-more-accessible20210917124004/>

Book Returned over a Century Late

In 1911, someone checked out a copy of the book "New Chronicles of Rebecca" from a library in Boise, Idaho. For the next 110 years, the city's libraries would survive pandemics, recessions and world wars all without that copy of the 278-page series of stories by Kate Douglas Wiggin about an imaginative girl named Rebecca. Then, the volume turned up recently at Boise's main library. The circumstances of its recovery, however, remained a mystery, said Lindsey Driebergen, the interim communications manager for the Boise Public Library system, according to a story by Alyssa Lukpat published in *The New York Times*. "We don't have any info about where it was from," Driebergen said. All that's known, she said, was that the book was returned either in late

October or early November to a library in nearby Garden City. The librarians there sent the book to the main library in Boise because it still had inserts from an old library in the city that had since closed. It was not clear who had checked out the copy, who had returned it or where it was all this time. One theory is that the book, a sequel to a tale about a village girl in Maine, could have spent the last century in an attic, “because it was really well taken care of,” Ms. Driebergen said. Whoever had the book kept it in “immaculate” condition, she said. “The cover was in great shape, all of the pages were crisp, nothing was missing, all the images were there,” she said. There have been other cases of books being returned decades overdue, but 110 years is an unusually long time. In 2021, a Wisconsin woman mailed a book that was 63 years overdue to the Queens Public Library in New York. In 2016, a 72-year-old Manhattan woman returned a book that was 57 years overdue. Ms. Driebergen said copies of “New Chronicles of Rebecca” sold for about \$1.50 when it was published in 1907. The person who checked out “New Chronicles of Rebecca” in 1911 can rest peacefully, as the Boise Public Library scrapped late fees for overdue books in 2019. Otherwise, the person would have owed around \$800, because the library charged a fine of two cents per day, the library said on Facebook. For full story visit: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/30/us/overdue-book-idaho-library.htm>

Bihar to have Libraries in Elementary Schools

On the lines of secondary and higher secondary schools, now library facility will be available in elementary schools also in Bihar, says a *Dainik Jagran* report. In this regard, the Bihar Education Council has entrusted the responsibility of providing books to three major publishers of the state in all the elementary schools of the district. The publishers will provide the books directly to different blocks of the state, from where the books will be provided to the schools. A school will be provided with 168 types of books which will remain in the library so that children can take advantage of the same. The government has directed to establish libraries in all elementary schools for the purpose of inculcating the interest of reading in the children. According to the Directorate of Education, there will be two types of libraries in elementary schools. In the first type of library books will be available for the children of class one to five and for class six to eight in the second. 48 types of books will be provided for class 1 to 5 and 120 types of books for class 6 to 8. An amount of Rs 10,000 per year has been fixed for the library of elementary schools. However, how much benefit the school children will get from this scheme will be known in the future. But given the shortage of rooms and teachers in the schools, the success of this scheme will be a big challenge. For original report visit: https://www-jagran-com.translate.goog/bihar/supaul-sup-library-in-schools-22356532.html?_x_tr_sl=hi&_x_tr_tl=en&_x_tr_hl=en&_x_tr_pto=sc

Sisters set up Library in Prayagraj

Whether the storms pick up, or the lightning drops, if the lamp has been lit up, the darkness will disappear.... By assimilating these lines of renowned Hindi poet Gopaldas Neeraj, the sister duo of Sangamnagari Prayagraj Mannat and Roshni are moving ahead. These sisters walking on the path of self-reliance are an example for the younger generation. Along with connecting people to studies, they are helping the youth in preparing themselves for competitive examinations, and suggesting employment avenues to them. In simple words, it can be said that Roshni is showing the path of career in Mannat's library, says a story by Amlendu Tripathi in *Dainik Jagran*. Chakia Mohalla's Mannat and Roshni's father Abdul Shaheed is a soldier in the Air Force. He is presently posted in Agra. After doing BBA, Mannat, who is studying law and has done her masters in pedagogy, is providing better environment for the students to study and also providing books by setting up a library. She even gives suggestions to students in subject selection to prepare for competitive examinations. With the inspiration of her father, she has taken a hall on rent near the Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission. It has been given the shape of a library by neatly decorating it with books. Established about six months ago, this library is quite different from other libraries in the city. Both the sisters not only run the library here but also do career counselling. They are also showing the doors of employment to the people. Open throughout the week from 6 am to 10:30 pm, this library has free WiFi. Many people also come here to take online classes. Apart from this, many students are also told how to take books from the digital platform. For full story visit: https://www-jagran-com.translate.goog/uttar-pradesh/allahabad-city-roshni-showing-career-path-in-library-of-sister-mannat-in-prayagraj-22346626.html?_x_tr_sl=hi&_x_tr_tl=en&_x_tr_hl=en&_x_tr_pto=sc

Elderly man's Library on Cycle

Amid concerns being expressed over the decline in the book-reading habit in the present generation, 67-year-old Jeevan Ingale, a resident of Khatav tehsil of Maharashtra's Satara district, has been on a mission to inculcate this habit among the young and old alike in the surrounding areas as he pedals his library on bicycle to lend books to them, says a PTI story published in *The Indian Express*. Ingale, a bibliophile from a small village called Budh in Khatav tehsil and an ardent follower of Mahatma Gandhi's thoughts, started the initiative 12 years ago and now his mobile library project has become popular among children and adults in the area. “I have studied only up to Class 11, but I always had a penchant for reading. I used to read Gandhiji and was also inspired by Sane Guruji (Marathi author and freedom fighter) and his book 'Shyam Chi Aai'. After spending a few years with Shetkari Sanghatana, I quit the movement and decided to do something related to books,” Ingale told PTI.

He said that he had around 70 books in 2007 and launched a non-profit organization called 'Sarvodaya Social Organization'. Currently, he has over 2,600 books, which he lends to around 500 members of his mobile library. "Initially, I used to carry books with me. Wherever I went, I used to offer books to people and encourage them to read. I received a good response as people started taking the books and reading them," said Ingale, whose father had joined India's freedom struggle at the age of 16 after Mahatma Gandhi gave the 'Chale Jao' call against the British. Reading helped Ingale to form his own opinions on various issues. He then started recommending books to people, which could help them in their intellectual growth. Ingale said that as he also worked for the environment conservation, he decided to use a bicycle to reach out to people. "I started using a bicycle on which I fixed a small box to carry books and started pedaling it to the nearby villages in the tehsil. I started encouraging children, students, their parents and family members to read books," he said. He charges only one rupee as library membership fee from people and lends books to them. "The idea to start a mobile library struck my mind after I realized that the government-run libraries were non-functional in rural areas. I came up with the plan to take a library at people's doorstep and inculcate reading habit among them by lending books on various subjects like spirituality, history, biographies of some great personalities, and also on science, which help in the growth of scientific temperament," he said. "When I return to households to exchange books, I ask people to give their feedback on the books and also urge them to write it. I discuss about books with the members during such visits," he said. Kajal Barge, an engineering student, one of the members of Ingale's library, said that she and her entire family have been reading the books since the last several years. "Once while I was returning from college when I was in Class 11, Ingale sir approached me and offered 'Ek Hota Carver' (a Marathi) book and encouraged me to read it. I read the book and developed a liking for reading. So far, I have read several books, which have enriched my life," she said. For original story visit: <https://indianexpress.com/article/books-and-literature/elderly-man-on-mission-to-inculcate-reading-habit-among-people-through-his-library-on-bicycle-7734661/>

Comedian's Book Club

Comedian Lilly Singh is all geared up to introduce fans and followers to her very own book club, Lilly's Library, that 'breaks the rules' and promises 'some literary drama', says a story in *The Indian Express*. The Indo-Canadian noted on Instagram posts that there was a dearth of South Asian literature despite "one in four people on the planet being South Asian". "It is through stories that we understand ourselves and the world around us. And I know from experience that seeing yourself in a story can have such an incredible impact. One in four people on the planet are South

Asian, yet our stories are seldom given a platform on a global level. This is my effort to change that and give more people that magical feeling. Readers and authors alike," said Singh, 33. The former talk show host and YouTuber also shared that the aim is to "select books that not only resonate with my Brown people, but that everyone can enjoy". "You will either see yourself in a story, or read a perspective you've possibly never encountered. In my opinion, both are a win," she expressed. In her trademark amusing way, Singh, who was dressed in an Indian ethnic lehenga choli with a book in hand, said, "So let's do it team! Unlike during my teenage years, I'm no longer lying about going to the library. I am not meeting up with my secret boyfriend. I'm actually going to read books! And I hope you'll take this journey with me." In another post detailing the need for such an initiative and the peculiar name, Singh, described, "When I was younger, 'ma, I'm going to the library' was a synonym for 'I'm 100 per cent lying and up to no good'. The library was this unspoken agreement between all parties. This was my way of breaking the rules. That's why the title for this book club had to be "Lilly's Library." Because there still seems to be these unspoken rules about the types of stories we see in mainstream media. For the most part, there's a lack of South Asian stories and nuanced South Asian characters. Well, it's time to break the rules again. And this time, in our very own library." For full story visit: <https://indianexpress.com/article/books-and-literature/lilly-singh-library-books-south-asian-stories-literature-queer-7667127/>

Library 'Missionaries' to adopt Villages

In a novel experiment, 12 Arunachal Pradesh youths are going to adopt villages across Changlang district, says a story by Prasanta Mazumdar in *The New Indian Express*. They will act as virtual missionaries to inculcate the habit of reading among children in the remote and insurgency-ravaged district. The 12 youths were shortlisted out of 450 volunteers who had taught primary schools children for a month in August. All Class 12-pass; some are undergoing graduation while others are looking for a job. All 12 wanted to serve their community. The idea took shape in the small office of District Magistrate Devansh Yadav, a former doctor at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi. It was through his intervention that five libraries that had been lying defunct for the past four/five years were revived in the district with funds locally generated. Yadav says, the whole idea is to promote reading and library based education among children across villages in the district. "We will start the village library movement with these 12 boys. Each of them will be given around 100 books. They will adopt villages, visit them regularly to create awareness among children on reading, and connect them to the nearest library and ensure reading becomes a habit for them," Yadav says, explaining the movement. The 12 will collaborate with Padma Shri awardee, "Uncle" Moosa, who hails from Kerala and has been promoting library based education in

Arunachal for the past 30 years. To take the movement forward, they had an interactive session with him in the first week of November. Nestled on the picturesque hills of eastern Arunachal, Changlang, with a population of 1.7 lakh, shares its border with Myanmar. After Yadav had hit upon the idea of reviving the libraries, help started pouring in. Local MLAs, cooperative societies, the district mineral foundation, etc., offered help in cash or kind for renovating the libraries. A 2016 batch Arunachal Pradesh Civil Services (APCS) officer Todak Riba had also generated funds from fellow officers. The aid enabled Yadav to revive the libraries at Changlang district headquarters, Jairampur, Kharsang, Miao and Khimiyong. One belongs to a cooperative society, and the rest to the state government. The libraries had a stock of old books, but these didn't have much connection to children. So, Yadav contacted Delhi based Angelique Foundation that he had worked with before for the promotion of anganwadi education in Changlang. Authorities from the foundation visited the district and after seeing the conditions of the libraries, decided to extend its support. It donated some 4,000 children's books, novels and activity-based books. The foundation had received these as donations from the citizens of Mumbai. The books have helped the libraries blossom. To make them reader-friendly, computers were installed with Internet facility. Local artisans were roped in and they made these buildings look attractive. The idea was to make sure people visited the libraries and used them actively. Yadav says, the people of Changlang do not have the habit of visiting libraries and he is trying to promote reading among children and youth up to age of 20 years. "The relevance of libraries has been reduced tremendously in this age of information technology. We are trying to make libraries active spaces where we can organize competitions. Last time, we had a book review and an essay writing competition," Yadav says. At the library at Changlang district headquarters, space was given to a self-help group (SHG) to run a canteen. So, it has become a restaurant-cum-library where people come to have a cup of coffee and read books as well, Yadav says. The libraries also have books for competitive exams; many of these sent by the Allen Career Institute, Kota, after a tie-up with the organization. "Recently, we took an initiative where APCS officers gave counselling to the civil services aspirants. The sessions were held at Jairampur and Miao. Since I have a medical background, I took some biology classes. We have some areas with unmet needs of a library. We will look into those gradually, and alongside try to revive other old libraries," Yadav says. Daming Angi, a member of the SHG restaurant-cum-library, says that the readership here has increased. "Many students have started visiting the library after we opened the café. They mostly come in the evening, and some come with friends. They eat their food and read the books. We are doing brisk business," informs Angi. Selena

Tangha, the second prize winner of the book review competition, says that she was exposed to books on diverse subjects, thanks to the library. "Not just students, even the elders visit the library. We all are getting its benefits," says the Class 10 student. In "green" Arunachal, Yadav had earlier charged up villagers to make a living from waste by devising a unit to shred the non-recyclable plastic waste that is used in road construction. The unit with three shredding machines was set up with funds received from oil exploration major Oil India Limited, and is serving multiple purposes. For full story visit: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/thesundaystandard/2021/oct/10/library-missionaries-adopt-villages-in-arunachal-pradesh-changlang-district-2369773.htm>

E-waste Service at Public Library

An e-waste collection service was launched at the public library, Dwaraka Nagar, in Vizag city by Green Initiatives and BBA students' batch of 2020-23 of Gayatri Degree College, says a *The Times of India* report. The service will create awareness about the ill-effects of e-waste pollution and provide collection service. The service will also demonstrate where and how used e-goods can be disposed. "We would like to create awareness about the damage created by printed circuit boards and be happy to collect condemned or outdated and unused e-waste," the team has said. For original report visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/e-waste-service-at-public-library/articleshowprint/88602178.cms>

Street Libraries in Gurugram

It was an image of a petrol pump running a small closet library, books to read and return that inspired Gurugram resident and designer, Maneesha Sharma to start a little neighbourhood library on the streetside in her colony, says a story in *The Times of India*. Taking a cue from the image her husband showed her in 2019, Maneesha pulled out a couple of old drawers and hung them from a tree near her house in Malibu Towne where she lives. A family of book lovers, she and her family were keen on sharing their books, particularly children's books. Her young son and she quickly arranged some books from their own collection. Shared the word on the neighborhood's WhatsApp group and soon enough, a small bunch of hesitant residents were reaching the spot to check out the books. "Children can always be the ones to accept, accommodate and propel change in the most comfortable manner. Soon, the library became a popular hub with both kids and adults coming by," said Maneesha. "A little later, a newer shelving unit was installed for the mini library, and a happy corner emerged at what was once a rubble dumping spot," she added. Neighbours brought books, took what they wanted to read, and soon enough started sharing the ones they had. Authors living in the locality, on hearing about the library, started gifting their books as well. The next step was adopting a patch around the

library and planting trees, everyday use plants like basil, lettuce, spinach and seasonal flowers for the neighbourhood to enjoy and use. "In the spirit of saying no to plastic, we kept a small collection of fabric bags for people to use. Often, a domestic helper or driver too can be seen picking a 'thaila' (bag) for use," said Maneesha. Soon a trampoline joined the happy spot where kids joyfully jumped on before hopping into their school bus, or on their way back from school and in the evenings. "Community living with collective resources can definitely go beyond sharing the infrastructure the colony has," she adds. Since it first started almost two years back, some residents have taken initiative forward, setting up five more additional libraries in the township. Residents are happy to contribute closets, book units and books. The children are delighted too. "I love reading. It has been a pleasure to get books so near and lots of herbs for my dishes from the library patch," said Dr. Suman Gupta, a retired school principal. For Maneesha, it's heartening to see the idea of sharing replicated. Its most recent installation being at Gurugram's Museo Camera premises. 10-years-old Rehmat Kaur says, "Going out and seeing a library in front of my house is so much fun. When I read there, I go in a magical world filled with candies and animals. Reading in nature, where there are peacocks and birds chirping around me took me back to the trampoline library. I wish there are more libraries so that everybody could read." "I love the libraries on the roadside and parks. So many books to read. I took and returned a book from our library as per my choice. The trampoline and the flowers around it make it special. Many of my friends too played on the trampoline and took books too. Now more reading nooks have been set up in Malibu. I do not have to buy books and can find something interesting from the library. While cycling around I see the library and feel happy! It is for all children and residents to share," said 11-year-old Jay Sharma. For full story visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/gurgaon/how-a-gurugram-colony-set-up-open-street-side-libraries-to-bring-community-closer/articleshowprint/88609519.cms>

School sets up Library for Parents

Panchayat Union Primary School (PUPS) in Karur district of Kerala has set up an exclusive library to cultivate reading habit among parents while they visit the school for dropping and picking their wards, says a *The Times of India* story. The school management committee comprising teachers, parents and local body representatives will manage the facility that has a collection of 150 books and newspapers. Since the pandemic threatens the regular functioning of the school, the management plans to allow parents to take books home. According to Right to Education Act 2009, a school management committee (SMC) is mandatory for government schools to monitor the functioning of schools, teachers and fund utilization. The K Paramathi School in Karur district is one of the few schools to have SMC and has 15 parents in the committee. About 200 squarefeet of space

was allocated for the committee. Recently, the headmaster installed a library for the parents who frequently visit the committee office with racks of Tamil books under 'self-motivation' and biography genres. As parents arrive early to pick their wards in the evening, the headmaster said, the library would persuade them to read while waiting. "The children leave by 4.10 pm, but parents from adjoining villages arrive as early as 3.30 pm. Giving them an opportunity to read books will indirectly persuade the children to read beyond their academics," R Selvakannan, the headmaster, told *TOI*. As most of the parents are either glued to television or smartphone, the headmaster said that children were deprived of opportunity to read books. The library in K Paramathi school has 20 chairs and a shed that enable the parents to maintain social distancing while reading. "As schools are prone to closure for preventing Covid-19 spread, we will introduce book sharing and takeaway option to promote reading even when we are closed. We need more books," the headmaster added. For original story visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/trichy/karur-govt-school-sets-up-library-for-parents-to-promote-reading/articleshowprint/88653688.cms>

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

WhatsApp bans 17 lakh Indian Accounts

WhatsApp banned 17,59,000 accounts registered with an Indian mobile number in the month of November, says a story by Shubham Verma available on www.indiatoday.in website. In its latest compliance report published in January, the Meta-owned chat app said it made the decision to ban accounts using the abuse detection approach, which includes feedback from other users and their appeals via the Report feature in the app. The compliance reports, released at the beginning of each month, are mandated by the Rule 4(1)(d) of India's Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules implemented in 2021. WhatsApp, in these reports, highlights two things: grievances received from Indian users through different modes of sending grievances, such as email and snail mail, and the accounts that were "actioned" through WhatsApp's "prevention and detection methods for violating the laws of India or WhatsApp's Terms of Service." In November, WhatsApp received as many as 602 reports from users who had registered with an Indian mobile number. The maximum appeals made by users were to demand a ban on accounts, and the number of which stands at 357. WhatsApp took action on only 36 out of 357 accounts and banned them. The total number of banned accounts, which is 17,59,000, includes these 36 accounts. Other categories for which the reports were received are "Account support", "Product support", and "Safety", among others. No action was taken for the appeals in these categories, WhatsApp said in its report. The company said that users with reports related to

“Safety” are told to use the in-app reporting facility, and the reports received through this method are not “recorded as an action taken.” Besides, WhatsApp's abuse detection tools are focused on prevention of harmful behaviour on the platform. To curb that kind of behaviour, abuse detection works at three stages of an account's lifestyle: at registration, during messaging, and in response to negative feedback. The last one includes the user reports and blocks. To put it simply, when you block someone and report them, WhatsApp takes cognizance of the activity and puts the user in question under the scanner of its abuse detection. “A team of analysts augments these systems to evaluate edge cases and help improve our effectiveness over time. We will continue to bring more transparency to our work and include more information about our efforts in future reports,” said WhatsApp. For original story visit: <https://www.indiatoday.in/technology/news/story/whatsapp-banned-over-17-lakh-indian-accounts-in-november-says-new-data-1895304-2022-01-03>

New Drawing Tools of WhatsApp

WhatsApp is working on a host of new features. The messaging app was recently spotted testing new drawing tools for the Android version of the app, says a story by Ankita Chakravarti available on [indiatoday.in](https://www.indiatoday.in) website. It has been reported that the messaging app will get a drawing and pencil tool soon. Apart from the Android app, WhatsApp is also working on introducing new color schemes for the desktop app. The report reveals that WhatsApp for Desktop will get new chat bubbles and dark themes. As per Wabetainfo, WhatsApp is working on new drawing tools for its Android app. It has been reported that WhatsApp will add new pencils and tools to draw on images and videos. This means that you can now scribble on pictures and videos before sending them. WhatsApp currently has only one pencil, but it will get new pencil options. The pencil would come in different sizes a thicker one and a slimmer one. The report also revealed that users would get an option of blurring some parts of the images. The tool is also under development. The features are expected to be rolled out for WhatsApp for Android beta. The report says that new drawing tools are under development, and there is no date for the release for beta testers as of now. WhatsApp is also working on a dozen other features. Recently, the settings to manage message reactions was spotted on the iOS beta of the app. WhatsApp has long been rumored to be working on the iMessage-like message reactions feature. To keep the long story short, the messaging app will let users react to messages with emojis. This feature is not new to the messaging universe, as iMessage and other Facebook-owned apps including Instagram and Facebook Messenger let users react to messages with emojis. WhatsApp is currently the only meta-owned app that hasn't received the feature yet. Wabetainfo has revealed that version 22.2.72 of WhatsApp beta for iOS has got new settings to manage

reactions. In the screenshot shared by Wabetainfo, a toggle button to turn and off the message reactions can be seen. It will let users manage when they should receive notifications for reactions, for individual chats and groups, and which tone to play when you receive those notifications. The screenshot does not reveal anything about how the message reactions feature will look once it is rolled out. However, the fact that users are now getting the option to manage reactions is indicative of the fact that the message reactions feature will be available to users soon. For original story visit: <https://www.indiatoday.in/technology/news/story/whatsapp-for-android-users-will-soon-get-new-drawing-tools-1901376-2022-01-18>

Microsoft Releases Fix for Y2K22 Bug

Microsoft has released an emergency fix for a bug that prevented people from accessing work email on the first day of New Year 2022, says a story available on www.india.com website. For the unversed, millions of people did not receive emails as the bug prevented on-premise Microsoft Exchange servers from sending emails. According to Microsoft, the problem was related to a date check failure with the change of New Year. Exchange admins found that their servers were no longer delivering email rather getting stuck in transport queues of on-premises Exchange Server 2016 and Exchange Server 2019 as the year 2022 kicked in. Later it was found that the Windows event log showed one of the following errors. Microsoft has now addressed the issue and said, “It is not a failure of the AV engine itself. This is not an issue with malware scanning or the malware engine, and it is not a security-related issue.” “The version checking performed against the signature file is causing the malware engine to crash, resulting in messages being stuck in transport queues,” the company explained. “We have now created a solution to address the problem of messages stuck in transport queues on Exchange Server 2016 and Exchange Server 2019 because of a latent date issue in a signature file used by the malware scanning engine within Exchange Server,” said the company. For original story visit: <https://www.india.com/technology/microsoft-releases-emergency-fix-for-y2k22-bug-that-shutdown-work-mails-on-new-year-2022-5167809/>

NEW LIS LITERATURE

[Note: Publishers of books enlisted here and/or any new books 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. S S Publications, New Delhi. ₹ 1000. ISBN : 9788194739807

(This book is designed to provide an integrated overview of the field and the concept of user studies and informetrics)

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

(The book mainly takes into account the importance of Knowledge Management (KM) in libraries. In addition, the topics like Information Literacy and Green Libraries are discussed in detail. Digital Libraries and Web 2.0 also form the part of the book)

3. NASIRUDHEEN (T) and SREELATHA (K). Research Ethics and Plagiarism. 2021. S S Publications, New Delhi. ₹ 500. ISBN: 9788194739876

(The book provides awareness regarding plagiarism. In addition to plagiarism some other very important areas such as open access information resources, citation styles, research metrics and open publishing have also been included)

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

(Discusses how information and communication technology 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. JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RDA. RDA Glossary. 2021. Facet

Publications, London. £50. ISBN: 9781783305742

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

2. LLOYD (Annemaree). The Qualitative Landscape of Information Literacy Research: Perspectives, Methods and Techniques. 2021. Facet Publications, London. £ 50. ISBN: 9781783304059

(This publication will develop and support readers' understanding of how information literacy research and teaching is framed, developed and produced)

3. PAUL (Dimple Valavil). Developing a Keyword Extractor and Document Classifier: Emerging Research and Opportunities. 2021. IGI Global Publications, Hershey, Pennsylvania. \$ 195. ISBN: 9781799837725

(Presents an information extraction mechanism that can process many kinds of inputs, realize the type of text, and understand the percentage of the keywords that has to be stored)

4. SCHLAK (Tim), et al. The Social Future of Academic Libraries: New perspectives on Communities, Networks, and Engagement. 2021. Facet Publications, London. £ 59.95. ISBN: 9781783304714

(The book uses case studies from real-world experience to show how intellectual and social capital perspectives and social network theory can strengthen strategic development, collaborative relationships and professional leadership across all areas of library activity)

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BOOK POST

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