



IASLIC NEWSLETTER



Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres

MARCH 2025

A Monthly Publication of IASLIC

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Quote of the Month

"A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life" - Henry Ward Beecher, an American social reformer (1813-1887).

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

Announcement

The 34th All India IASLIC Conference – Library Vision 2040

34th All India IASLIC Conference will be held at University of Kashmir, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir during September 16 - 18, 2025.

Main theme: Library Vision 2040

- SIG 01: Social Science Information
Topic: Community Empowerment and Libraries
- SIG 02: Computer Application in Libraries
Topic: Innovative Library Services in Digital Age

For more details, please contact:

Dr Fayaz Ahmad Loan, University Librarian, Allama Iqbal Library, University of Kashmir, Hazratbal, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, India

IASLIC ACTIVITIES

Institutional Members of IASLIC for the Year 2025

Sl.	Name	Membership No.
1	Bishop Heber College, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu	0079 - I[Z 1]
2	Central Leather Research Institute, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	0102 - I[Z 1]
3	Heritage Institute of Technology, Kolkata, West Bengal	2877 - I[Z 6]
4	Institute of Development Studies Kolkata, West Bengal	0172 - I[Z 6]
5	Karnataka State Open University, Mysuru, Karnataka	4057 - I[Z 1]
6	Karnataka University Library, Dharwad, Karnataka	0285 - I[Z 1]
7	Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie	0293 - I[Z 3]
8	PSG Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Coimbatore	1911 - I[Z 1]
9	Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, Chhattisgarh	0411 - I[Z 3]
10	Regional Institute of Education, Mysore, Karnataka	0413 - I[Z 1]
11	Reserve Bank of India Library, Mumbai, Maharashtra	3832 - I[Z 2]
12	S R University, Hanumakonda, Telangana	
13	Space Applications Centre, ISRO, Ahmedabad, Gujarat	0443 - I[Z 2]

360th Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC

The 360th Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC will be held on 20th March, 2025 (Thursday) at 6:00 pm in the meeting room of IASLIC which is situated at P 291, CIT Scheme 6M, Kankurgachhi, Kolkata - 700054. Dr. Abhijit Chatterjee, Librarian, Seth Anandaram Jaypuria College, Kolkata, West Bengal, will be the speaker of the above-mentioned study circle meeting. Prof. Biplab Chakrabarti, Former Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, W.B, will be the Chairman of the session. The topic of discussion of the above-mentioned study circle meeting will be as follows:-

"Managing Security in Academic Libraries: The Truth and Realities". All the librarians, information professionals, students, teachers, research scholars, library lovers and other interested persons are hereby earnestly requested to attend the above-mentioned study circle meeting along with their friends, colleagues and other fellow members. All are Welcome.

Dr. Tridib Chattopadhyay.
Convenor, Study Circle Division,
IASLIC.

IASLIC 30th National Seminar – A brief report

IASLIC 30th National Seminar was successfully organized by Department of Library and Information Science, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh during **November 21-23, 2024**. The Theme of the Seminar was **"Library and Information Centres in Digital India: Present Scenario and Future Strategies"**. The three-day event was inaugurated on 21 November, 2024 at 10.30 AM at the University Polytechnic Auditorium, Aligarh Muslim University. The event commenced with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Mr. Waseem Ahmad. The function was graced by the presence of the Chief Guest Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, IGNOU, Prof. Naima Khatoon, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University, Prof N R Satyanarayana, the Seminar Director & Former Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Lucknow, Prof. Narendra Lahkar, President of IASLIC and Professor at Guwahati University, Mr. Abhijit Kumar, General Secretary of IASLIC and Prof. Shafey Kidwai, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, AMU, and Co-Patron of the Seminar. Prof M Masoom Raza, Organizing Secretary and Chairperson of the Department of Library and Information Science, Aligarh Muslim University, extended a warm welcome to

the dignitaries, invited speakers, and esteemed delegates attending the seminar from various parts of the country. He emphasized that information literacy involves evaluating information critically, intellectually, and ethically, and using it in a responsible and decent manner. The abstracts of the papers selected were released as the Seminar Abstract Volume by the distinguished dignitaries on the dais. Prof N R Satyanarayana, the Seminar Director, in his inaugural address emphasized on skill building, and highlighted the importance of teaching skills to library professionals, as skills are essential for survival in every aspect of life. He mentioned that recognizing the importance of skills, the government of Andhra Pradesh had established a dedicated Skill Development University. Prof. Narendra Lahkar, President of IASLIC, emphasized the role of conferences in fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange. He stressed on the need for organizing various conferences and seminars. He specifically mentioned the efforts made to hold conferences even during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Abhijit Kumar, General Secretary of IASLIC gave a historical overview of IASLIC and mentioned the activities of IASLIC. Regarding this seminar, he also shared that a total of 82 papers were accepted, out of which 68 were selected for presentation, and 14 of them were accepted for poster presentation. The inaugural function was further elevated by the presentation of the **"A K Mukherjee – IASLIC Lifetime Achievement Award for Retired Librarians"** conferred to Dr A L Murthy, former Director DESIDOC, DRDO and Former Chief Consultant (IS) BrahMos Aerospace, Hyderabad, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of librarianship by IASLIC. Prof. Shafey Kidwai, Co-Patron of the Seminar, highlighted three crucial concepts: media literacy, information literacy, and digital literacy. He emphasized on the importance of critical thinking in navigating the overwhelming "tsunami of information" and reiterated the significance of libraries in everyday life of individuals. The keynote address was delivered by Prof Uma Kanjilal, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU on **"Information Literacy Trends: Navigating in the Digital Landscape"**. She emphasized on the need for critical thinking, privacy, and the integrity of works, advocating for libraries to function in transformative ways to fully embrace the era of information literacy. The Presidential Address, was delivered by Prof. Naima Khatoon, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University, she remarked that in the present information-driven world, information literacy skills were fundamental for individuals to remain relevant in the modern era. The Vice Chancellor congratulated and welcomed the collaborative effort of the

Department of Library and Information Science with the Indian Association of Special Libraries & Information Centres (IASLIC) in conducting the Seminar. Finally, Dr. Keshwar Jahan, Assistant Professor (Contractual) proposed a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all the dignitaries and participants. The event came to an end with the recitation of University Tarana and the National Anthem. The Exhibition Gallery and the Poster Presentations were inaugurated by Prof Naima Khatoun, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, AMU and Chief Guest Prof Uma Kanjjilal, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, IGNOU.

There were 9 technical sessions where 56 papers were presented. The **first technical session** was conducted in the University Polytechnic Auditorium at 12:50 pm on 21 November, 2024. This session was chaired by **Prof M T M Khan**, Former Professor, DLISc, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi, with **Prof. Jamal Ahmad Siddique**, University Librarian, Ch. Charan Singh University, Meerut, as the Co-Chair. The session was coordinated by **Dr Muzamil Mushtaq**, DLISc, AMU, **Dr. Jamil Ahmed**, from Jamia Millia Islamia, served as the session rapporteur. The session began with the **7th IASLIC--PC Shah Memorial Lecture**, delivered by **Dr A Lakshman Moorthy**, Former Director of DESIDOC, New Delhi. His insightful presentation titled **"Managing Change in Librarianship and Publishing"** provided a comprehensive overview of the historical evolution of library automation and the modernization initiatives undertaken at DESIDOC. There were 8 papers listed in this technical session out of which 6 papers are presented by the respective authors.

The **second technical session** having the theme Raising Library Service Quality through Application of AI, began with an invited talk by **Mr Mohit Sharma**, CEO and Founder of Refread Solutions, New Delhi. This session was chaired by Prof **M P Singh**, Dean, School of Information Science & Technology, and Head, DLISc, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, where Co-Chairpersons were **Dr Akhtar Hussain**, Librarian, Institute of Management Technology(IMT), Ghaziabad and **Dr Navkiran Kaur**, Punjabi University, Patiala. **Dr Muzamil Mushtaq**, DLISc, AMU, served as the session coordinator, while **Mr. Nikhil Anand Srivastava**, from Banaras Hindu University, acted as the session rapporteur. In this session 6 papers were presented out of 7 papers.

The third technical session commenced with an invited talk by Prof Dinesh K Gupta, DLISc, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. His presentation, titled "AI-Powered Tools for Promoting Digital and Information Literacy Skills: Exploring Innovations for Lifelong Learning" emphasized

the need for intelligent use of AI. This session was chaired by Dr N K Bar, Former Director of Library & Information, Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi with Co-Chairs Mr Abhijit Kumar, General Secretary of IASLIC, Kolkata, and Dr Shams Khan, Deputy Librarian, Galgotias University, Greater Noida. The session was coordinated by Dr. Muzamil Mushtaq, and Mr. Mohd. Haris, acted as session rapporteur. 8 papers were presented in this session.

The **fourth technical session** was held on 22 November 2024 at 9.30 am, chaired by **Professor Naushad Ali P M**, DLISc, AMU with session Co chairs **Dr Mohammad Nazim**, DLISc, AMU and **Dr Banashree Roy**, Librarian Charu Chandra College, Kolkata, West Bengal. **Mr Naseem Iqbal** was the session rapporteur and **Dr Keshwar Jahan** was the coordinator of the session. This session was started with an invited talk by **Prof Piyush Kanti Panigrahi**, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Calcutta on the topic "Information Literacy Standards and Models". This session had 8 listed presentations out of which 6 papers were presented.

A panel discussion was held on the theme **"Information Literacy in digital age: Challenges and Opportunities"**. The discussion featured an esteemed panel comprising **Prof Narendra Lahkar**, Former Head of the Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University, Guwahati and President of IASLIC; **Dr Akhtar Parvez**, Librarian, Jamia Hamdard University, New Delhi; **Dr B Mini Devi**, Honorary Director, Centre for Information Literacy Studies, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kerala, Trivandrum and **Dr Fayaz Ahmad Lone**, Librarian, University of Kashmir. The session was moderated by **Prof. Gayas Makhdumi**, Former University Librarian, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

The **fifth technical session** featured an invited talk by **Dr Akhtar Parvez**, Librarian at Jamia Hamdard University, New Delhi. Dr. Parvez delivered an engaging presentation on the topic **"Spotting Lies in the Age of Information: Why Information Literacy Matters in Identifying Questionable Publishing & Fake News"**. There were 10 papers listed in this technical session out of which 9 papers were presented by the respective authors. The session was chaired by **Prof Gayas Makhdumi**, Former University Librarian, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, and co-chaired by **Prof Babita Jaiswal**, DLISc, University of Lucknow and **Dr Rajesh Kumar**, Librarian at MRIIRS, Faridabad.

The **sixth technical session** was chaired by **Prof Narendra Lahkar**, Former Head, DLISc, Gauhati University and President of IASLIC. The session was co-chaired by **Dr Asif Fareed Siddiqui**, Deputy Librarian,

Maulana Azad Library, Aligarh Muslim University, and **Dr Sufian Ahmad**, Deputy Librarian at Dr Zakir Husain Library, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. The session was coordinated by **Dr Mohd Nazim** and **Mr Imteyazul Haque**, research scholar of DLISc, AMU was the session rapporteur. In this session 5 papers were presented out of 6 papers.

The **seventh technical session** featured an invited talk by **Prof Sanjay Kumar Singh**, Head, DLISc, Gauhati University, Guwahati, Assam. Prof Singh delivered a talk on “**Information Literacy for Lifelong Learning**”. There were total 6 papers listed in the technical session, out of which 5 papers were presented. The session was Chaired by **Prof. Nishat Fatima**, Department of Library and Information Science, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, with **Dr. Habibur Rahman Khan**, Deputy Librarian at Maulana Azad Library, AMU, Aligarh, and **Dr Fayaz Ahmad Lone**, Librarian, University of Kashmir, served as the co-chair. The session was coordinated by **Dr. Mohd Nazim**, and the session rapporteur was **Dr Abdul Moid**, DLISc, Aligarh Muslim University.

The **eighth technical session** featured two invited talks. **Dr. Tariq Ashraf**, Former University Librarian at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Dr. Ashraf presented his talk on “The Changing Information Landscape: Need for Repositioning Academic Libraries”. Another invited talk was delivered by **Dr Rumman Gul**, Librarian, Higher Education Department Jammu & Kashmir delivered an invited talk on “**Smart Librarian: Bridging the Gap**”.

The **ninth technical session** featured two invited talks where the first talk was delivered by **Dr Shantanu Ganguly**, Director of Library Services at HDFC Library, Ashoka University. Dr. Ganguly in his engaging talk highlighted “**Research Analytics and Visualization**,” where he focused on three main components: content, context, and technology. The second invited talk was given by **Dr Nabi Hasan**, Librarian, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi on the topic titled “Emerging Trends & Technologies in Library & Information Services”. The session was chaired by **Dr. Prasanta Kumar Deka**, Librarian at Gauhati University, Guwahati, and co-chaired by **Dr Monawwer Eqbal**, Deputy Librarian, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh. The session was coordinated by **Dr Syed Shaz Husain**, Assistant Librarian at Maulana Azad Library, AMU, Aligarh, with **Dr Masood Raza**, Assistant Librarian at HMS Central Library, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi,

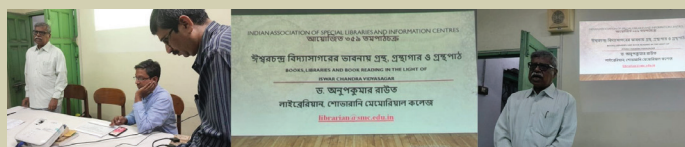


The 359th Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC: A brief report

The 359 th Study Circle Meeting of IASLIC was held on 13 th February, 2025 (Thursday) at 6.00 pm in the meeting room of IASLIC which is situated at P291, CIT Scheme, 6M, Kankurgachhi, and Kolkata- 700054. The speaker of the above-mentioned Study Circle Meeting was Dr Anup Kumar Routh, Librarian, Sovarani Memorial College, Jagatballavpur, Howrah, West Bengal. The Chairman of the meeting was Prof. (Dr.) Krishna Pada Majumdar, Former Professor (Prof. Prabir Roychowdhury Chair), Department of Library and Information Science, Jadavpur University, Kolkata - 700032. He has kindly agreed to be the Chairman of the session as Dr. Sib Sankar Jana was absent due to a medical emergency. The Topic of the discussion of the said meeting was “Books, Libraries and Book Reading in the Light of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar”. At the beginning, Mr. Abhijit Kumar, General Secretary of IASLIC welcomed all the dignitaries, guests and audience. Thereafter Dr Tridib Chattopadhyay, Convenor of the Study Circle Division, IASLIC, has introduced the Speaker and the Chairman of the session. Then the Chairman and the Speaker were felicitated. After that the meeting was started. Dr. Anup Kumar Routh has presented his deliberation with many informative Power Point Slides. He has stated that Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar was a great multi-dimensional personality. He was also a great reader as well as a librarian.

His own library established at Badurbagan, Kolkata, was a worth mentioning asset of Bengal, though only a part of that collection was preserved by his followers like Ramendrasundar Tribedi, Surendranath Banerjee and others at Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Kolkata. Dr. Routh also emphasized on the writings of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar, and Dr. Routh has also mentioned the need for study, research and book reading habits etc. as per the thoughts and works of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar. The biographical information of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar was also thrown light on library and book

reading. Some questions from the audience were also answered by the speaker. After that the Chairman Prof. (Dr.) Krishna Pada Majumdar has discussed the entire lecture briefly in a pinpointed manner. He has also stated that Dr. Routh is a very good researcher as well as a qualified librarian. Prof. K.P. Mazumdar, Mr. Sambo Dutta and others took part in the discussion and question answer session. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr Tridib Chattopadhyay, Convenor of the Study Circle Division of IASLIC. He has also thanked all the dignitaries, guests and the audience regarding their active participation and involvement. The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.



359 STUDY CIRCLE MEETING 13TH FEBRUARY, 2025



RLUIKS - 2025—A brief report

The two-day international seminar on “**Role of Libraries in Unveiling the Indian Knowledge System in the Digital Era**” (RLUIKS-2025), jointly organised by Visva-Bharati Library Network and Universal Briefing, Kolkata was successfully held during **21-22 February, 2025** at **Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan**. **Prof Binay Kumar Saren**, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, Visva-Bharati and **His Excellency Mr. Qin Yong**, Deputy Consul General, People’s Republic of China in Kolkata inaugurated the event on **21 February, 2025** at Lipika Auditorium, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan. **Smt. Kalpana Dasgupta**, Former Librarian, National Library of India, Kolkata and Director, Central Secretariat Library, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi; **Prof. Udayan Bhattacharjee**, President, Universal Briefing, Kolkata; **Prof Prabhakar Rath**, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Mizoram University; and **Dr Nimai Chand Saha**, Librarian, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan were also present in the inaugural ceremony. The seminar’s objectives were to examine the rich history of Indian knowledge systems, their applicability in the digital age, and the difficulties in maintaining and advancing them. Eminent library professionals and library experts from around the world attended and delivered invited talks on a range of IKS topics. Scholars and young researchers gave presentations on a range of IKS topics. More than 60 research papers

were presented in the several technical sessions. An Open Air technical session was also held to tribute Rabindranath Tagore at the open - air reading room, Central Library. The first day ended up following an aesthetic cultural program. There were also interesting panel discussions which were a valuable addition to the seminar, providing a platform for experts to share their knowledge and experiences related to Indian Knowledge System and its preservation. The seminar was a huge success, accomplishing its goals of inspiration, networking, and knowledge exchange. The Rapporteur General of RLUIKS - 2025, **Prof. Saptarshi Gosh**, Professor and Head, Department of Library and Information Science, North Bengal University, Darjeeling West Bengal, summarised the seminar efficiently. **Dr Nimai Chand Saha**, University Librarian, Visva-Bharati congratulated and thanked all invitees, attendees, participants, all sponsors, library employees, team members of Universal Briefing for their contributions to the seminar’s success.

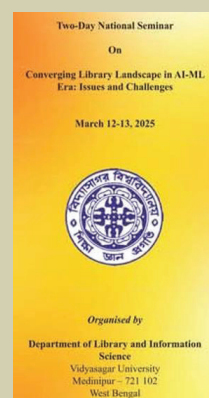
CONFERENCE/SEMINAR/ TRAINING/ WORKSHOP

FORTH COMING CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR/TRAINING/WORKSHOP/ CELEBRATION

Two-Day National Seminar on Converging Library Landscape in AI-ML Era: Issues and Challenges

Department of Library and Information Science, Vidyasagar University is organizing Two-Day National Seminar on Converging Library Landscape in AI-ML Era: Issues and Challenges during 12-13 March, 2025.

Main Theme: **Converging Library Landscape in AI-ML Era: Issues and Challenges**



Sub Themes are:

- Knowledge Engineering
- Document Landscape
- Robotics in Librarianship
- Information Literacy
- Natural Language Processing
- Image and Speech Recognition
- Academic Librarianship

For more details please check: <https://ecircular.vidyasagar.ac.in/Notice-Details-View.aspx?RefId=2025021912861>

ReLAITE 2025

Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) sponsored National Conference on “Redefining Librarianship in the AI Technological Era: Innovations, Challenges and Opportunities” (ReLAITE 2025) will be held at Department of Library and Information Science, School of Communication, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur (Neelakudi Campus), Tamil Nadu during 20 - 21 March, 2025.

For details contact:-

Dr S Ravikumar, Organising Secretary, ReLAITE 2025 & Associate Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu

Phone No. +91 9862305939

E-mail: relaite2025@gmail.com

CALIBER 2025

CALIBER 2025, 22nd in the series and 14th International CALIBER is being organised by the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, Gujrat in collaboration with Sri Venkateswara University (SVU), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, India during November 17-19, 2025.

The theme of the 14th International CALIBER is “**Library 2047: Democratizing Knowledge Towards Viksit Bharat**”.

Important Dates	
30 th May 2025	Last Date for Submission
30 th August 2025	Intimation to Author
15 th September 2025	Last date for Registration

SUB-THEMES

DIGITAL KNOWLEDGE CREATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Strategic Policies to Strengthen Library Systems Across India
- The Role of Open Access, AI, and Analytics in Library Systems
- Strengthening the Open Access Ecosystem for Research and Education
- Open Educational Resources (OER) for Research Learning Opportunities
- The Role of Open Access, Preprint Servers, and AR/VR in Strengthening Access & Finding Strategies for Emerging and Indigenous Library Collections

LIBRARIES AS ENABLERS OF SOCIAL EQUITY AND SDGs

- Strengthening Library Services for Underserved and Marginalized Communities
- Libraries Enabling the Access, Creation, and Distribution of Digital Materials
- Libraries Enabling the Access to Quality and Affordable Knowledge
- Libraries as Enablers for Technological Advancements and Digital Skills
- The Role of Libraries in Addressing Sustainable Development Goals

LIBRARIES AS RESOURCE GATEWAYS AND INNOVATION HUBS

- Promoting Research and Discovery Services to Access Innovations
- Strengthening Library Services for Digital Information Access
- Promoting Open-Access Resources through Knowledge Access and Awareness
- Strengthening Research and Innovation through Special Libraries, Collections and Digital Skills
- Researching and Performance Metrics for Academic Libraries

For more details visit: <https://caliber.inflibnet.ac.in/index.php>

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

ASLIP Welfare Fund: A Unique Initiative of ASLIP

ASLIP which stands for Association of Senior Library and Information Professionals is a registered body of

library professionals which works with the mission of all round development of profession as well as professionals. Registered on February 22, 2023, ASLIP is striving at national and international level by organizing diverse events and activities. The hallmark of ASLIP is creation of “ASLIP Welfare Fund” with the noble mission of rendering monetary support to the needy and retired professionals for their genuine need. The worthy members of ASLIP have contributed generously for this fund. Perhaps, ASLIP is the one and only library association in India which has embarked on this noble initiative. Anyone who wishes to contribute in this fund, for a humane cause, please contact Dr. Raj Kumar, Secretary ASLIP, 9417461789 or Dr. Seema Parmar, Associate Professor, CCSHAU, Hisar, 9896825445

Ms. Pooja Saraf

Media Co-ordinator

9915199461

One Nation One Subscription –ONOS

The Prime Minister of India in his address to the Nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on 15th August, 2022, had pointed out the importance of Research and Development in our country in the Amrit Kaal. He had given the clarion call of “Jai Anusandhan” on the occasion. The National Education Policy, 2020 (NEP 2020) has also identified research as a corequisite for outstanding education and development in our country.

In response to the vision of making India Atmanirbhar and Viksitbharat@2047, the Government of India approved One Nation One Subscription scheme to provide country-wide access to international high impact scholarly research articles and journal publications to students, faculty and researchers of all Higher Education Institutions managed by the central government and state governments and Research & Development Institutions of the central government.

The One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) intends to acquire national licenses for e-journal/database subscriptions from

most of the prominent journal publishers. A total of 30 major international journal publishers have been included in ONOS. All the journals published by these publishers will be accessible to the students, faculty members and researchers of the participating institutions.

The initiative will open a goldmine of knowledge available in top quality scholarly journals to nearly 1.8 crore students, faculty members, researchers and scientists of all disciplines, including those in tier 2 and tier 3 cities, thereby encouraging core as well as interdisciplinary research in the country. The ONOS is starting its operation from 1st January 2025. ONOS Phase-I has been approved for the calendar years 2025, 2026 and 2027. Access to journals are being provided through national subscription coordinated by the Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre, an autonomous inter-university centre of the University Grants Commission (UGC), Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The Department of Higher Education, Government of India will have a unified portal “One Nation One Subscription“ (<https://www.onos.gov.in/>) through which the institutions will be able to access the journals. The ANRF will periodically review the usage of One Nation One Subscription and publications of Indian authors of these institutions. One Nation One Subscription is a timely step towards establishing India in the global research ecosystem by bringing ease of doing research to the doorstep of all students, faculty members and researchers in the government institutions. (Reference: <https://www.onos.gov.in/about>)

IFLA Strategy 2024-2029

IFLA has designed a document to take IFLA through its centenary in 2027 and almost up to the end of the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is strongly rooted in the input provided by the global library field. Through a series of surveys and workshops, it was learnt about how to use their Strategies, which issues mattered most for the people, and what IFLA all wanted to see in 2029.

These led the Governing Board towards a document that:

Makes a clearer connection between what we do and the results we want to see

Is more easily adaptable and adoptable by library and information workers, libraries and library associations globally

Underlines the role of libraries as development actors,

working to enable their communities

The Strategy has a new and clearer **vision**: Sustainable futures for all through knowledge and information. It also focuses on three **impact areas**:

Impact area 1: Libraries are connected and energised through vibrant, global professional communities

Impact area 2: Libraries are recognised, represented and valued as partners

Impact area 3: Libraries are enabled to deliver meaningful change at all levels

This work is underpinned by the **enabler**:

Future-Proofing IFLA: Ensuring IFLA’s governance, projects, and partnerships are effective, transparent, and innovative. The Strategy is available at <https://repository.ifla.org/handle/20.500.14598/3497> one can find a set of indicators that will help us and you track progress.

Non-MARC-ish BIBFRAME

On 20 February 2025 IFLA has published the guidelines on “Non-MARC-ish BIBFRAME” which is written by Andreas Anderson (Metadata Specialist and Systems Librarian at the National Library of Sweden) that talks about how do one create and format bibliographic descriptions as linked data without reproducing not just the good, but also the bad and the ugly from MARC records. Or is dressing up MARC in a new coat a good enough transformation? Regardless if your catalogue is published as linked data or stored as traditional/disconnected data, it is most likely full of ”MARC data”, i.e. bibliographic descriptions created in accordance with MARC formatting. The Swedish National Bibliography as well as the Swedish Union Catalogue has been catalogued and published as linked data built upon BIBFRAME since 2018. It has been developed with the view that the fundamental and radical shift that is the transition to BIBFRAME needs to be more than a conversion from records to graphs, from codes to URIs. Nevertheless, six years after going into production, the problematic aspects of the MARC legacy are still extensive in the catalogue and cataloguing practice. This talk will look at practical steps taken at the National Library of Sweden on how to exploit the opportunities of linked data, beyond MARC. This includes defining entity identities and normalising properties. How can we move away from the bad and the ugly, to truly enable a new structure, while at the same time preserving the good that is decades of legacy data?

To read more visit: <https://repository.ifla.org/bitstreams/bd0f8348-5ecd-4988-8ccd-ab5cdae976c9/download>

OBITUARY

Prof Shahabuddin Ansari, former Professor and University Librarian of Jamia Millia Islamia, passed away on 9 January, 2025. A highly respected scholar and library professional, Prof Ansari was a guiding force in the field of library and information science. His dedication to academia and librarianship spanned several decades, during which he made significant contributions to research, teaching and library administration. Prof Ansari was not only an outstanding librarian and educator but also a man of exceptional honesty, humility and integrity. A silent worker, he remained deeply committed to his profession. A true mentor to many of his students, Prof Ansari's impact extended far beyond the classroom. He not only guided students in their academic pursuits but also inspired them to uphold ethics, diligence and professionalism in their careers. Prof Ansari's passing is a tremendous loss to the library and academic community which creates an immense void in the library fraternity. IASLIC deeply mourns his death and extends heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, colleagues and students during this difficult time.

Dr P S G Kumar, former Librarian of a Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur passed away on 3 January 2025. A B Sc in Agriculture, M Lib Sc and Ph D in Library and Information Science, Dr Kumar also taught in the Department of Library and Information Science of RTM Nagpur University. He was a prolific writer and academician whose scholarly output includes 70 books and 142 research papers. His works include monumental contributions such as Indian Library Chronology, Indian Encyclopaedia of Library and Information Science (23 volumes), Kumar's Curriculum Series (16 volumes) and Library in India Series (10 volumes). His academic brilliance was matched by his leadership in professional organizations. He played pivotal roles in numerous national and international bodies including ILA, IASLIC, IATLIS, JOCLAI, Library Association of SAARC Countries (LASAARC) and Vidarbha Academic Library Association (VALA). Dr Kumar served as a Council Member of IASLIC for two terms. His demise marks an irreplaceable loss to the profession and to countless students, colleagues and admirers. IASLIC deeply mourns his death and extends deep condolences to his family, colleagues and admirers.

AWARD

Mr. Dhiman Mondal, Librarian, Ananda Mohan College, Kolkata, West Bengal has been awarded Ph.D. degree by University of Calcutta for his thesis entitled "Mapping Publication Productivity of the Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs): A Scientometric Assessment with Special Reference to Chemical and Physical Sciences Domain". He pursued his research work under the supervision of Dr. Biplab Chakrabarti, Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, West Bengal. IASLIC congratulates Dr. Dhiman Mondal.

Mr Kalipada Jana, Librarian, Basanti Devi College, Kolkata has been awarded Ph D degree in Library and Information Science by Vidyasagar University, West Bengal for his thesis "An Analytical Model for Research-Trend Analysis of Specific Subject Domains through Keyword Clusters: A Case Study from Physics". Dr Jana pursued his research under the supervision of Dr Bidyarthi Dutta, Associate Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Vidyasagar University, Pashchim Medinipur, West Bengal. IASLIC congratulates Dr Jana.

Mr Biswajit Saha, University Librarian, Kazi Nazrul University, West Bengal has been awarded Ph D degree in Library and Information Science by University of Burdwan, Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal for his thesis "Linked Open Data for Literature Resources : Designing a Service Framework for Management Science" under the supervision of Dr Rajesh Das, Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Burdwan, West Bengal. IASLIC congratulates Dr Saha.

Ms Phool Rani Das has been awarded Ph D degree in Library and Information Science by Gauhati University, Guwahati for her thesis "Modernization of Library and Information Centres with Special Reference to Central University Libraries in North East India: A Study". Dr Phool Rani Das pursued her research under the supervision and guidance of Prof Narendra Lahkar, Former Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University, Guwahati. IASLIC congratulates Dr Das.

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