

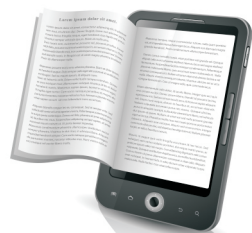
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IASLIC NEWSLETTER

For Members only



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Quote of the Month

“If you have a garden and a library, you have everything”

- Marcus Tullius Cicero,
Politician of Ancient Rome

Appeal to Readers

News from different regions / states are solicited from IASLIC members for inclusion in the newsletter. Send such news to the Editor.

Email: chatterjeeamitabha@yahoo.co.in

IASLIC ACTIVITIES

IASLIC Programme for Young LIS Professionals

A Two-Day Programme on ‘Shaping Young Minds in LIS Profession for Effective Functioning (SYMLISPEF)’ is going to be organised by IASLIC during April 29-30, 2018. The course aims to provide an opportunity to the young working professionals, research scholars and students of LIS to gain stimulating knowledge by interacting with the iconic leaders of the profession and to increase professional expertise, personality development, communication skill, customer satisfaction, etc.

Course Contents: Presentation of oral case studies of the Academic and Research Libraries for interactive and threadbare discussion by the participants; Group Discussion on selected technical and professional issues of contemporary importance; Interview techniques and personality development; Intensive Workshop on leadership, interpersonal communication, understanding customers, their needs, measuring satisfaction and gaps; Designing IPS (Information Service Products) and presentation in Digital era.

The course fee is Rs. 2000/- for individual (non-sponsored) and research scholars; Rs. 1500/- for students and Rs. 2500/- for sponsored candidates. Payment may be made by cheque duly drawn in favour of IASLIC or in cash to IASLIC office between 3 PM and 8 PM.

Intending participants may apply to the IASLIC latest by 26.04.2018. Application should contain (i) Name in full (ii) Qualification (iii) Occupation (iv) Organisation (v) Contact No. of the candidate along with the applicable fee.

For further information please visit : www.iaslic1955.org.in

List of New Life Members

- | | | |
|----|--|------------|
| 1) | Ms. Ruksana Sultana, Kolkata | 3991-L[Z6] |
| 2) | Ms. Ruchi Srivastava, Bhopal | 3988-L[Z3] |
| 3) | Mr. Umesh. Sharma, Bikaner | 3989-L[Z2] |
| 4) | Mr. Biswajit Das, Kolkata | 3990-L[Z6] |
| 5) | Dr. Ralendra Mohan Dev Sarma, Sivasagar | 3992-L[Z5] |
| 6) | Dr. (Ms.) Jyotirekha Bhattacharyya, Guwahati | 3993-L[Z5] |

CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

National

Capacity Building Workshop

National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai, is organizing a Capacity Building Workshop for Young Faculty in Social Sciences during April 2-15, 2018. For details visit: cbwnitie2018@gmail.com

Seminar on Library System and Services

MES Pillai College of Education and Research, New Panvel (W), is organizing a National Seminar on 'Integrating Library System and Services for Quality Education' on April 13, 2018. For details visit: <http://www.pcerpanvel.ac.in>

International

Conference on Geoinformatics

An International Conference on 'Geoinformatics and Data Analysis (ICGDA 2018) - Ei, ISI and Scopus' will be held during April 20 - 22, 2018 at Prague, Czech Republic. For details visit: <http://www.icgda.org/>

Conference on Information Science

An International Conference on 'Information Science and System' (ICISS 2018) will be held at Jeju Island, South Korea, during April 27 - 28, 2018. For details visit: <http://www.iciss.org>

Conference on Business Information

The 2nd International Conference on Business Information Systems (ICBIS 2018) - Ei Compendex, Scopus, will be held at Hangzhou, China, during May 18 - 20, 2018. For details visit: <http://www.icbis.org>

Workshop on Care of Photographs

A Workshop of 'Care and Identification of Photographs' is being hosted by University of California Los Angeles Library during May 21 - 24, 2018. For details visit: <http://gawainweaver.com/workshop/care-id-photos-2018-losangeles/>

Conference on Metadata

The 12th International Conference on Metadata and Semantics Research (MTRSR'18) will be held at Cyprus University of Technology in Limassol, Cyprus, during October 23 - 26, 2018. For details visit: <http://www.mtsr-conf.org/2018>.

Conference on Scholarly Communication

An International Conference on 'Scholarly Communication, Open-access Publishing and Ethics' (SCOPE-2018), is being organized by the Central Library of School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada, during October 25 - 26, 2018. For details visit: <https://www.spav.ac.in/scope.html>

SLA Asian Chapter Conference

Special Libraries Association (SLA), Asian Chapter; in association with Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi; Ambedkar University, Delhi; and Society for Library Professionals; will organize the 6th International Conference of Asian Special Libraries (ICoASL 2019) in New Delhi, during February 14 - 16, 2019. The theme of the conference is 'Libraries and Librarianship in Digital Plus Era'. For details visit: <http://units.sla.org/chapter/cas/>

Conference on Web and Social Media

The 12th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM-18) will be held at Stanford, California, USA, during June 25 - 28, 2018. For details visit: <http://www.icwsm.org/2018/>

Conference on Building Smart Libraries

The 3rd International Conference of Asian Libraries is being jointly organized by Central Library, Central University of Kashmir (CUK), Kashmir and Asian Library Association (ASIALA), New Delhi, at CUK during August 6 - 8, 2018. The theme of the conference is 'Building Smart Libraries: Changes, Challenges, Issues and Strategies'. For details visit: www.asiala.co.in

World Library & Information Congress

Themes have been announced for deliberations at the meetings of some more sections of IFLA to be organized during the 84th World Library and Information Congress scheduled to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, during August 24 - 30, 2018. The themes are: Genealogy and Local History Section (GENLOC) jointly with Asia and Oceania Section and Rare Books and Special Collection Section - *Genealogy and Local History Collection Development - Challenges and Opportunities*; Science and Technology Libraries Section, jointly with the Serials and Other Continuing Resources Section - *Libraries as Drivers for Open Access*. For more details visit: <https://2018.ifla.org/> (For themes of other sections and special interest groups see January, February and March 2018 issues of *IASLIC Newsletter*)

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Microsoft e-Book Predictions

According to a post in bibliofuture.blogspot.in website, following are Microsoft e-book predictions for the years 2018 and 2020:

2018 - In common parlance, eBook titles are simply called "books." The old kinds are increasingly called "paper books."

2020 - Ninety per cent of all titles are now sold in electronic rather than paper form. Webster alters its First Definition of "book" to mean, "a substantial piece of writing commonly displayed on a computer or other personal viewing device."

For original post visit: <http://bibliofuture.blogspot.in/2017/12/2018-microsoft-ebook-predictions.html>

DELNET Paper Competition

DELNET - Developing Library Network has completed 25 years of its services to libraries. As a part of its Silver Jubilee Celebration it is organizing LISCOMP-LP 2017-18: The National Paper Competition among LIS Professionals on the theme 'Transforming Library Service through Networking Library and Information Resources'. The last date for receiving papers is May 30, 2018. For details visit: <http://delnet.nic.in/sljl.pdf>

Mobile Library in Mini Bus

While volunteering in refugee camps in Greece, Laura Samira Naude and Esther ten Zijthoff realised that the people they met needed more than food and shelter: they wanted to study, to work for their future and to find a sense of purpose. Naude and Zijthoff were determined to provide a quiet space, amid the upheaval and uncertainty, where people could use their time rather than just fill it. The pair decided to launch Education Community Hope and Opportunity (Echo) and open a library on wheels, according to a story by Julian Sheather published in *The Guardian (UK)*. Friends in London and Belgium did the fundraising and fitted out an old minibus with shelves and computer points for Internet access, then drove it to Greece. The two then appealed for books in Arabic, Kurdish, Farsi, French, Greek and English, slowly filling the shelves and finally opening in November last. They now have about 1,300 books - including some in storage because they don't fit into the van - and welcome an average of 115 readers a week. So far, they have loaned out 904 books. "We have also lost many books along the way, as they inevitably go missing, and sometimes, especially with language-learning books, we let people keep them and then make copies to keep up with the demand," says Zijthoff. Visitors either sit inside the van or on benches outside, although this depends on the weather, says Zijthoff: "In the freezing winter we had in Thessaloniki, the van was sometimes warmer than the tents, and people would come inside just to get warm." Now, in the summer, the heat is scorching, so readers come for night-time sessions. "The van has often been hijacked as a party bus, but we do try to keep the library sessions peaceful," she says. For more details visit: <https://www.theguardian.com/books/shortcuts/2017/aug/06/children-say-it-feels-like-home-the-mobile-library-for-refugees-in-greece>

Bengali Books in Roman Script

Rabindranath Tagore's *Sahoj Path* is getting introduced to beginners through a language and a script they are familiar with. Just that the language and the script are not the same, according to a report by Sudeshna Banerjee in *The Telegraph (India)*. "We have a defined clientele - those who can speak Bengali but cannot read the language. Printing Bengali texts in Roman script gives them a chance to read Bengali books," says Indrani Roy of Mitra & Ghosh. So far the publishers have brought out six titles. Besides *Sahoj Path*, there is Jogindranath Sarkar's *Hasi Khusi* and Sukumar Roy's *Abol Tabol*. There are also colouring books

on the same. At this year's International Kolkata Book Fair, the Benglish Books (the name of the series) figured in the top three on the publisher's sales chart. Encouraged by the response, they are planning to publish more titles. But they are wary of revealing the names for fear of a repeat of the backlash on social media they have faced. "Some people are failing to understand that the texts are still in Bengali even if they are printed in Roman script. The fact that a generation of Bengalis is growing up unaware of our children's classics does not bother them," laments Roy. If a reader is interested to learn the Bengali script, he can do so from the letters printed in some of their titles, she points out. The idea is not as novel as one might think. Poet Sankha Ghosh, who considers the trend to be an "unfortunate indication of the dipping graph of readership in Bengali", points to a suggestion by linguist Suniti Kumar Chatterji in the 1930s that Bengali be written in Roman script to avoid spelling differentiations and reach a pan-Indian audience. The first instance of a long Bengali text printed in Roman was a collection of Aesop's Fables called *Oriental Fabulist*, published in six Indian languages in 1803. Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay's *Durgeshnandini* was printed in Roman in 1881, says Indologist Nrisingha Prasad Bhaduri, who owns a copy. "We are used to sending Bengali text messages in Roman. Reading these books is a natural extension of that practice," says Sudip Mallik of Phoenix Advertising, who conceived the project. For original report visit: <https://www.telegraphindia.com/calcutta/bengali-books-for-children-in-roman-script-214789>

Library Project Discovers New Words

It's not every day you discover a new word, or at least a new meaning for an old word. But when *The Guardian* asked its readers to contribute their favourite dialect words, it discovered not one, but two, says a report in *The Guardian (UK)*. "Webs" and "trabs" - both of which can mean trainers and were contributed from Liverpool - were just two of the dialectal words and phrases contributed by *The Guardian* readers following an article about the British Library's Evolving English Word Bank. The words were not previously known to the British Library researchers who worked on the project, nor do they appear in the English Dialect Dictionary. A total of 1,200 words and phrases were contributed, 920 of which were unique entries. The British Library found that many of the words and phrases were previously recorded as dialect in sources ranging from the Oxford English Dictionary, the English Dialect Dictionary, the Dictionary of Scots Dialect and many sources in between. The most frequently contributed words in *The Guardian* callout were "gitty" and its variations, "jitty" and "jetty" (an alleyway in the east Midlands), "mardy", meaning sulky and "nesh", the most succinct explanation of which was "susceptible to cold". For original report visit: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2017/nov/24/british-library-project-discovers-two-new-words-thanks-to-guardian-readers>

Wiley Library Awards

Wiley India, a wholly-owned subsidiary of John Wiley and Sons Inc. and a global leader in the publishing industry, recently announced the winners of the second edition of the

Wiley Library Awards 2017, according to a post in indiaeducationdiary.in website. The awards for Digitally Transformed Academic Library, Aspiring Young Academic Library, and Digitally Transformed Research Library went to IIT Kharagpur, IISER Mohali, and the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai respectively. The winners were chosen by an independent jury comprising of highly respected professionals who have made ground-breaking contributions in advancing library science like Dr. H Anil Kumar (Librarian and Head NICMAN, IIM-A), Dr. Medha Joshi (Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai), Dr. Ramesh C Gaur (Librarian, JNU), Dr. Suman K Malik (Central Drug Research Institute) and Dr. Tamal Kumar Guha (Librarian IIT Guwahati). Dr. K P Singh (Director, National Medical Library) and Central Institute of Technology, Kokrajhar (represented by Dr. Sangrang Brahma), were given the coveted Wiley Visionary Award and Wiley Library Award for Emerging Library respectively. The Wiley Library Awards is a one of its kind initiative in India bringing together and honouring the best in the field of library and information science, encouraging innovation and digital transformation efforts, and paying tribute to the community that helps spearhead knowledge dissemination in the society. First instituted in 2016, each award carries a citation and a cash prize of ₹ 25,000. For more details visit: <http://indiaeducationdiary.in/2017-winners-wiley-library-awards-indias-first-library-awards-announced/>

Historic Library in ruins

As the train passes from Aligarh toward Delhi, on the left, across the Railway Road of Aligarh, one witnesses a high, fort-like structure. It is a public library, named after Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (1861-1946). It once instituted a 'News Club' and even subscribed to the *Morning Post* of London to satisfy the inquisitiveness of the readers for news of the Russo-Japanese war (1905). But it now fails to provide even the very basic facilities to its readers, says a post in www.rediff.com website. The *Pustakalaya* (library), which is a two-storey building, currently houses about 70,000 books in different languages, viz., Hindi, Urdu, English and Sanskrit, with the Hindi material outnumbering the others. Despite an illustrious history behind it, the glorious library is now in a filthy and pathetic condition. It has almost fallen into ruins. Due to constraints of space, a good number of students are forced to sit on the lawns and in the dirty corridors where there is no provision of chairs. There are six reading rooms in the library, out of which one is reserved for girls. Some basic amenities like washrooms, drinking water, and fans are just not to be found in the library. Heating arrangements during winters, too, are absent. The government's negligence towards this 'treasure house of knowledge' can be seen from the fact that monkeys roam about freely in the reading rooms, disturbing the calm of the library, as well as putting the lives of the readers in danger. For more details visit: <http://www.rediff.com/news/special/a-historic-library-lies-in-ruins-in-aligarh/20180217.htm>

Donation of Clothes against Library Fines

The blue barrel inside the Bucyrus Public Library in Bucyrus, a city in the U.S. state of Ohio, was still empty when Rebecca Wilden peeked inside. "Today was the first

day," she said, unconcerned. She knows it will soon be full. "Socks, mittens, gloves, hats and scarfs - stuff like that." It's the latest of several donation drives the library has arranged since Wilden became the assistant director last May, says a report by Zach Tuggle in www.bucyrusteleggraphforum.com website. Wilden has been impressed with the community's response each time. "People appreciate it," she said. The latest drive benefits children ages 2 to 5. Jill Tuttle, with the Crawford County United Way, called Wilden a few weeks ago to see if the library would be willing to help children at the Crawford County Head Start. "She asked if we could do a program where we could waive fines in exchange for donations," Wilden said. The library staff decided it would be a good idea. "We like to show that we care about the community." The deal is pretty simple: Library cardholders bring in as many of the needed items as they'd like, then receive a \$1 credit toward their fines for each. If they have no fines, they're still allowed to donate. Wilden has seen some people drop off items without asking for any credit. "Some people just like to help out in the community," she said. It's the same system the library uses for its other drives. The most well-known donation opportunity is the "Food for Fines" program held every year. "One time we did items for the humane society," Wilden said. During that drive, patrons provided food, collars, leashes, grooming materials and other items the humane society requested on its website. For more details visit: <https://www.bucyrusteleggraphforum.com/story/news/2018/01/22/donate-clothes-reduce-bucyrus-library-fines/1055067001/>

U K Libraries facing closure

Almost half of Somerset's 34 libraries could be under threat of closure if volunteers are not found to run them, says Alison Flood in a report published in *The Guardian* (UK). Struggling to meet its budgets, Somerset county council is looking to save up to £ 520,000 from its library budget. It launched a consultation on 29 January to set out plans to use community involvement to keep 15 of its 34 libraries open. If volunteers are not found for the 15 branches, they will close. "We aim to keep as many library buildings as possible open. However, the consultation proposes that, for a number of libraries, we may require community support to do this, through partnerships with local communities," according to a report about the consultation. Somerset is not the only region facing drastic cutbacks to its library service. In Northamptonshire, campaigners are fighting the planned closure of up to 28 of the council's 36 libraries. But Somerset campaigners have fought off threats to their libraries before: in 2011, a high court judge ruled that in planning to withdraw funding from 11 Somerset libraries, the council had failed to take account of its equality duties. For details visit: <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/jan/22/somerset-says-only-volunteers-can-keep-libraries-open>

Tamil Books for Jaffna Library

More than one lakh Tamil books, collected from publishers and book lovers, are ready to be shipped to Sri Lanka to replenish resources at the Jaffna Public Library, which lost its books and manuscripts in a fire nearly four decades ago, says a report by U Tejonmayam published in *The Times of India*. A state-wide drive was launched after chief minister

Edappadi K Palaniswami inaugurated an initiative to collect one lakh Tamil books to be donated to the Jaffna Public Library in October last year. Since then, the Directorate of Public Libraries has approached both publishers and readers across districts and collected books. The books are now packed in cartons and are stacked at the Devaneyya Pavanar District Central Library on Anna Salai, waiting to be sent to Sri Lanka. For more details visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/more-than-1-lakh-books-to-sail-to-jaffna-from-tn/articleshow/63131656.cms>

Information Kiosk for Students

With a view to ensuring students visiting the library, get easy access to books, DAV College, Chandigarh, has installed a digital information kiosk with an informative portal for students to browse the contents of the space on their own, says a report by Arsh Behal published in *The Times of India*. The kiosk, which was installed almost two months ago outside the door of the Lalchand Research Library has been bought by the college for Rs 1 lakh, using the funds received by the library under the Central Government's RUSA (Rashtriya Uchahatar Shiksha Abhiyan) scheme. The kiosk, which is multi-sectional and user friendly, can be accessed by students and members of the faculty with a login name and a password. The kiosk is well equipped with embedded links with multiple links to various educational websites. The kiosk also has a touch-screen panel and multi-functionary buttons, embedded to provide an easy experience to the user while using the Internet. Speaking to TOI, Deepti Madaan, Librarian, DAV College Library, said, "Kiosks link the user to useful websites and databases and also act as an Online Public Access Catalogue." For more details visit: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chandigarh/informative-kiosks-launched-for-students/articleshow/63198739.cms>

Tagore's Book being auctioned in USA

A signed hardcover copy of Rabindranath Tagore's *The King of the Dark Chamber* - the English translation of his Bengali play Raja - is up for auction in the US, says a PTI report published in *The Telegraph* (India). Signed on a prefatory page in fountain pen by Tagore, the book was published by The Macmillan Company in 1916. The play revolves around a mysterious, unseen, omniscient king who is both benevolent and efficient. His reluctance to being seen causes most of the drama in the story, rattling his beautiful wife and the kings of nearby kingdoms. The book is expected to fetch \$500 (Rs 32,463) at the online auction.

Book Hundis in Andhra Schools

To cultivate a love of reading among students, State-run schools will create 'Book Hundis', says a report by P Sujatha Varma in *The Hindu*. Many school libraries have a good collection of books gathering dust. One reason why the library is a deserted zone is because students are denied permission to take the books home for fear of damage or their failure to return them. "To help the students learn to respect books and embrace the healthy culture of borrowing, renewing and returning them in time, we are asking school libraries to create 'Book Hundis'. Children are asked to donate new and old books to the 'hundi' that will be added to the library collection. The idea is to teach them

to value them and understand the concept of sharing them better. Once the students start giving the books, they will also start to return the borrowed books," says P Parvathi, Director, Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries. The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) mandates allotment of at least three 'reading' periods in a week. "It has been incorporated in school time-table but seldom followed. Instead, some subject teacher uses this time to take extra class," admits Ms. Parvathi, indicating that since children don't step inside school libraries, they also don't make use of the public libraries. The Library wing officials held meetings in Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam and Kapada districts, asking schools to announce in the morning assembly sessions about the 'Book Hundi' concept and encouraging the children to donate liberally to them. For more details visit: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/book-hundis-to-promote-love-of-reading-in-government-schools/article19863643.ece>

Washington's Hair in Library Book!

A researcher at the Schaffer Library in New York has discovered what is believed to be a lock of George Washington's hair inside an 18th-century almanac, says a report in *The Guardian* (UK). The strands are thought to have been given to the book's owner by the son of Alexander Hamilton, the first US Secretary of the Treasury, immortalised in the hit musical that bears his name. Archivist Daniel Michelson found the copy of Gaines Universal Register or American and British Kalendar for the year 1793 while digging through the oldest books held in the Schaffer Library, part of Union College in Schenectady, New York. Within the covers of the book, which is believed to have belonged to Philip Schuyler, son of one of Union College's founders, General Philip Schuyler, he discovered a series of Philip Schuyler's handwritten notes on topics including how to "preserve beef for summer's use". But when librarian John Myers examined the almanac further, he discovered what the college described as a "slender yellowed envelope", containing "several strands of grey or whitening hair, neatly tied together by a single thread". Written on the envelope were the lines: "Washington's hair, L.S.S. & (scratched out) GBS from James A. Hamilton given to him by his mother, Aug. 10, 1871." Although the hair has not been DNA tested, the manuscripts dealer John Reznikoff, who has a Guinness world record for the "largest collection of hair from historical figures", told the college: "Without DNA, you're never positive, but I believe it's 100 per cent authentic." He speculated that the strands might be worth "\$ 2,000 to \$ 3,000" (£ 1,400 - £ 2,100). For more details visit: <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/feb/21/george-washington-hair-found-old-book-new-york-library>

Wellcome to Review Open Access Policy

"We're going to do the first full review of our open access policy", said Robert Kiley, Head of Open Research, UK based Wellcome charitable foundation. He also explained the motivation behind the review, and how and when it would happen. In 2005 - so before Twitter had even launched and Myspace was the main social network - Wellcome became the first research funder to introduce a mandatory open access (OA) policy. This specified that research articles, supported in whole or in part by Wellcome's funding, had to be made open access as soon as possible, and in any event within six months of publication. "In the years since, we've

made various modifications, such as extending the policy to cover monographs and book chapters, and stipulating that when our funds are used to cover OA publishing costs, articles must be made available under the Creative Commons attribution licence (CC-BY). But we haven't ever done a formal review of the entire OA policy", Kiley said. "Given significant changes in publishing research article over the past dozen or so years, we think the time is right to look again at our OA policy. We want to ensure that it is fully optimized to help us deliver our mission to improve human health", he added. For more details visit: <https://wellcome.ac.uk/news/wellcome-going-review-its-open-access-policy>

New York Children's Library Fines Waved

Library books are free, until they aren't: Patrons who rack up \$15 in late fees at New York city's public libraries are blocked from taking out more books until the fine is paid, says a report by Sarah Maslin Nir and Jeffery V Mays in *New York Times*. Among those with suspended privileges are 160,000 children, most of them from the city's poorest neighborhoods, who cannot afford to pay. "Learning is a right. Reading brings you to new worlds," said Octavia Loving, a 17-year-old student at Special Music High School, as she stood amid the stacks at Countee Cullen Library in Harlem, one of the neighborhoods with the highest concentration of children with blocked cards, according to library officials. "They shouldn't block us from reading because of money." The city's three library systems the New York Public Library, which serves Manhattan, the Bronx and Staten Island; the Queens Library; and the Brooklyn Public Library will forgive all fines for children 17 and under and unblock their cards. The one-time amnesty is being underwritten by the JPB Foundation, a philanthropy that supports civic causes, which will make up \$2.25 million of the shortfall in revenue from the forgiven fines. The amnesty "is a dramatic way to message to kids and young adults that we want you back, and we want you reading," said Anthony W Marx, the president of the New York Public Library. The forgiveness is not conditional on returning any overdue books or DVDs. "We want you to be responsible, but we don't want to penalize you just because you are too poor to pay the fines." For more details visit: https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/18/nyregion/new-york-city-libraries-amnesty-childrens-fines.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FLibraries%20and%20Librarians&action=click&contentCollection=timestopics®ion=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=8&pgtype=collection

100 Million Books Donated for Children

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, the initiative she set up in honour of her illiterate father, has recently handed out its 100 millionth free book, says a report in *The Guardian* (UK). The book, a copy of Parton's children's picture book 'Coat of Many Colors', was donated to the Library of Congress in Washington DC, with which Parton has set up a partnership to live-stream story readings. Parton began the Imagination Library in 1996 in Sevier County, Tennessee, where she was raised. Children whose families sign up are posted free books, funded via charitable giving. Parton, who grew up

with only the Bible in her house, has said she was inspired by the example of her father, who worked hard but didn't have the chance to learn to read or write. "I thought, well, I'm gonna do this: to get books in the hands of children, because if you can read, you can educate yourself," she told CNBC in 2016. The initiative expanded across the US in 2000, then set up in the UK in 2007 and Australia in 2013. For more details visit: <https://www.theguardian.com/music/2018/feb/28/dolly-parton-gives-100-millionth-free-book-to-children>

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

New Technology for High Speed Internet

A new technology promises to speed up slow Internet at home, say researchers. For a super-fast yet low-cost broadband connection at home in Britain, the new receiver technology can enable dedicated data rates at more than 10,000 Mbps from the current 36 Mbps, noted researchers from the University College London, according to a report published in *Financial Express*. "Although 300 Mbps may be available to some, average UK speeds are currently 36 Mbps. By 2025, average speed over 100 times faster will be required to meet increased demands for bandwidth-hungry applications such as ultra-high definition video, online gaming and the Internet of Things (IoT)," explained lead researcher Sezer Erkilinc. "The future growth in the number of mobile devices, coupled with the promise of 5G to enable new services via smart devices, means we are likely to experience bandwidth restrictions; our new optical receiver technology will help combat this problem," he added in a paper published in the journal *Nature Communications*. The receiver is used in optical access networks - the links connecting Internet subscribers to their service providers. For more details visit: <http://www.financialexpress.com/industry/technology/this-technology-may-speed-up-home-internet/902004/>

New type of Internet in the offing ?

Although blockchain technology was created to support digital currencies like bitcoin, recent developments in blockchain are paving the way for a new type of Internet, according to a report by Ricky Cove circulated by *marketlist.com*. At the same time, the concept of a shared database appears to have many uses in devices of the future. The most popular analogy that has been used to describe blockchain technology is the technology behind Google Docs. Google's Docs service allows multiple users to make changes to the contents of a document at the same time, eliminating the need to send documents back and forth after every edit. Everyone having access to a document will be able to monitor any changes, and a copy is accessible to all of them, allowing them to monitor changes in real time. If the document is saved on everyone's computer rather than on a Google (GOOGL) server, the data is considered to have been saved in a *decentralized* manner. IoT (Internet of Things) technology, of course, has been managing electronic devices on the Internet and through smart contracts. In the same way, the next phase of innovation in

manufacturing (XLI) or any other industry could be driven by tech based on blockchain technology. For more details visit: <https://marketrealist.com/2017/11/is-blockchain-technology-really-the-new-internet>

SPECIAL FEATURE

Books on the Move!

Suppose you are travelling to a distant place by train and you are late to reach station due to traffic jam on the way. You are compelled to rush to catch the train. You have no time even to purchase any reading material to spend time on the way. But as you enter your compartment and reach your reserved berth, you get awe struck. Lo and behold! You find a book which you have been longing to read for long right on your berth just with a note attached which reads: "Feel free to pick it up. Read, love and devour it. Once you have finished, leave it on your berth or any other berth or even any other train so that others can also enjoy it". This may look like a dream, but is now a reality in some countries. Thanks to some young enthusiasts who have made it possible.

It was in November 2012 when Hollie Fraser, an art director by profession, initiated a not-for-profit literacy project called *Books on the Underground* in London with an aim to get more people out of their smart phones haze and into reading again - rediscovering literature and the imaginative worlds beyond the daily grind. She and her project partner and 'book fairy' Codelia Oxley made it their weekly goal to leave behind 150 new books on the underground, on seats, on benches, and around ticket areas accompanied by social media updates for people to know and share. Till November 2016 they spread around 2000 books. These books were placed there for people to pick up, read, and hopefully, share through social media. When they finish reading, they have to leave the books again somewhere in the Tube (British locals' nickname for the London Underground) for others to read in turn. In order to identify that the books are from *Books on the Underground*, these are marked by stickers on the cover. Fraser and Oxley have collaborated with publishers, authors, actors, and film promoters that have contributed diverse selection of new and used books for London travellers to read. One of the 'book fairies' of this project was actress Emma Watson. The UN Goodwill Ambassador left behind 100 copies of Maya Angelou's *Mom & Me & Mom* from November 1 to November 2, 2016. Watson left a note inside the copies she distributed, asking commuters to "take special care" of the book and "when you are finished please leave it on the tube again for someone else to find". Fraser moved to New York City in USA in 2015 to take up a new job there, but her project partner Oxley took the responsibility to continue their dream project. A team of 'Book Fairies' help her in this work.

Meanwhile, in New York a book enthusiast Rosy Kehdi came to know about Fraser's project in 2013 and decided to launch a similar project in New York City. She contacted Fraser and got her blessings to initiate the project. Fraser even helped her design the sticker of her project which was named *Books on the Subway* and put her in touch with a couple of authors and publishers. From there the project picked up. More authors and publishers found out about it, and it kept growing and getting more attention. As Fraser moved to New York, she joined Kehdi and they together continued to take the initiative ahead. In an interview in May 2017, they said: "At the moment, we leave around 20 books a day, unless we are working on a larger campaign, where we do 100 books a day or more at times". Incidentally, Fraser now manages a network of 25 branches of *Book on the Move* in major cities around the globe, such as Delhi, Montreal, Boston and Washington. She also regularly collaborates with authors and publishers to promote their titles through her initiative.

Similar efforts have been reported from some other American cities too. For example, in Chicago, Chicago Ideas Week initiated *Books on the L* project in 2014 for the commuters of Chicago "L" transit system. The borrowing process is simple: if you find a book on a Chicago Transit Authority train, you can read it as long as you ride but you will have to put it back as you reach your destination.

Inspired by the initiatives of Fraser and her friends in London and New York, two self-proclaimed 'bookaholics' of Australia Ali Berg and Michelle Kalus launched *Books on the Rail* project in UNESCO City of Literature Melbourne in April 2016. Ali met Fraser in London in 2015 while working at an advertising agency there and was impressed by the projects initiated by her and approached her long time friend Kalus, who was running a bookish Instagram blog, to help start such a project in their city. *Books on the Rail* books, like their London counterparts, are easily identifiable by the large stickers placed on their covers telling the commuters to "take a book, read it and return it for someone else to enjoy". Initially cost of the books and stickers were paid by them out of their own pockets, but Berg and Kalus were inundated with feedback from members of the public who loved the idea and wanted to get involved. The project is now supported by an army of "book ninjas" who buy stickers off the *Books on the Rail* website, stick them on the covers of their own books, and stealthily leave them on empty seats in train carriages. As a consequence, *Books on the Rail* has gone Australia-wide. Publishers have also come forward, with companies such as Penguin, Pan Macmillan, Harper Collins and Allen & Unwin regularly sending boxes of books for distribution.

As reported by Fraser, her project has spread its wings in

Indian capital too. But nothing is much known about it. Possibly it is moving ahead stealthily without much fanfare, as has been the case in other cities. The aim is no doubt noble. The initiative should spread in other parts of the country too so that the reading habit of traditional books, which is now on the wane, can be revived again.

[Sources: <https://www.madebyhollie.com/books-on-the-underground.html>, <http://pop.inquirer.net/2016/11/emma-watson-books-on-the-underground-london/>, <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2016/nov/03/emma-watson-free-copies-maya-angelou-books-on-tube-harry-potter>, <http://booksontheunderground.co.uk/about-us/>, https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/the-book-fairies-of-books-on-the-subway_us_589741e2e4b0985224db565c, https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/the-book-fairies-of-books-on-the-subway_us_589741e2e4b0985224db565c, <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2016/dec/08/books-on-the-rail-the-guerrilla-library-infiltrating-melbournes-metro>, <https://www.9news.com.au/national/2016/09/04/14/25/melbourne-duos-books-on-the-rail-project-expands-nationwide>, <http://www.upworthy.com/these-book-ninjas-give-commuters-free-books-to-read-while-they-ride>]

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. BISWAS (Subhankar) and RATH (Durga Shankar). *Cataloguing in New Era: Gazing Through The Bodleian Cataloguing to RDA*. 2017. Ess Ess Publication, Delhi. ₹ 1100. ISBN: 9788193359761

(Brings together almost all the descriptive cataloguing codes of modern era to testify and evaluate RDA and suggest alternate ways of implementation of the new

cataloguing standard, if required)

2. SANJEEV. *Basics of Digitization*. 2017. Ess Ess Publications, Delhi. ₹550. ISBN: 9788193431139
(Focuses on all possible relevant theory and practice-based issues of digital preservation in libraries)
3. SUSHEELA and UMA (V). *Data Management for Libraries: Understanding DBMS, RDBMS, IR Technologies and Tools*. 2017. Ess Ess Publications, Delhi. ₹ 1125. ISBN : 9788193359716
(Focusses on creating and understanding the basic concepts of databases, library databases, DBMS and RDBMS)

Foreign

1. COX (Marge). *The Elementary School Library Makerspace: A Start-Up Guide*. 2017. Libraries Unlimited, Santa Barbara. ISBN: 9781440853388
2. CULLINGFORD (Alison). *The Special Collections Handbook*. 2nd ed. 2017. Facet Publishing, London. ISBN: 9781783301263
3. FARMER (Lesley S J). *Managing the Successful School Library: Strategic Planning and Reflective Practice*. 2017. ALA Editions, Chicago. ISBN: 9780838914946

PERSONALIA

Dr. Sada Bihari Sahu has been honoured with Professional Excellence Award for working Library Leaders 2017 by Delhi Library Association (DLA) on the occasion of 80th Foundation Day celebration of DLA on March 10, 2018. Dr. Sahu is serving as Assistant General Manager, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Lucknow.

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