E-RESOURCES AWARENESS PROGRAM

The E-Resources Awareness Program was organized by the University of Mysore in collaboration with UGC INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad on 8th June 2012 in Einstein Hall, Department of Physics, University of Mysore. Nearly 110 faculty members and research scholars attended the program apart from 20 professional librarians and 15 administrative staff including Deans of faculties. Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director, UGC INFLIBNET Centre inaugurated the program; Prof. P. Venkataramaiah, Former Vice-Chancellor of Kuvempu University was the Chief Guest; Prof. V.G. Talawar, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mysore presided over the function.

Dr. I.R. N. Goudar, Visiting Professor and Library Advisor welcomed the guests, resource persons and the participants of the program. He mentioned that the successful and the popular initiative of UGC- Infonet facilitates access to more than 7000 e-journals and good number of databases of well known publishers for the benefit of students, research scholars and faculty of Indian universities. The University of Mysore has setup Digital Information Resource Centre with 200 computers in the Library and on an average 500 students and research scholars use this facility every day. The University has taken up the steps to add additional 250 systems in the Library very soon. The e-resources portal set up locally provides access to e-resources subscribed through UGC Infonet as well as those available in open access channels. The University Library has given access to more than 17000 e-books published by Springer, Taylor & Francis, Wiley and CRC Press for the benefit of its patrons. It is gratifying to note that the usage statistics of UGC Infonet e-resources by University of Mysore has shown a whopping increase by 50% to 1700 % during the year 2011 when compared to that of 2010.

Dr. Jagdish Arora gave a brief account of the activities of UGC -INFLIBNET Center and e-resources available for the benefit of students, research scholars and the faculty in universities all over the country. He complimented the patrons of University of Mysore for the remarkable increase in the usage statistics of e-resources. Dr. Arora remarked that by relying on the data available on Internet, the universities can also check possible plagiarism in the area of research. The Shodhganga Digital Library Project of e-theses has so far made available more that 3700 e-theses submitted to various universities in the country. So far 64 universities have signed MOU with INFLIBNET Center to submit their e-theses to Shodhganga. The INFLIBNET Center takes the responsibility of hosting, maintaining and making the digital repository accessible to the entire world through open access channel [http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in]. This repository also facilitates the better feasibility to the Indian research world over. Dr. Arora further mentioned that the UGC is likely to provide video conferencing.
facility to the university libraries and making funds available for digitizing Ph.D. theses while setting up of electronic theses and dissertation (ETD) laboratories.

Prof. P. Venkataramaiah lauded the service of UGC- INFLIBNET Centre and complimented the Mysore University Library for providing quality information services. Prof. V.G. Talawar, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mysore thanked the INFLIBNET Centre for facilitating the improvement of quality of research by making available thousands of full text journals and databases. He further emphasized the need of using plagiarism software to check plagiarism and thereby improve the quality of Indian research. He also highlighted the need for providing access to full text doctoral theses submitted to various Indian universities. Dr. Jagdish Arora was felicitated by University of Mysore on this occasion. Dr. C.P. Ramasesh, University Librarian gave the formal vote of thanks. Dr. P. Saraswati compeered the inaugural session. The more than 12 media persons attended the program and published detailed report of the program in different news papers.

During the post-inaugural sessions, the publisher or their representatives made presentations/demos on their products covering ScienceDirect, Web of Science, Project MUSE, American Chemical Society, SIAM, J-Gate etc.

**Signing of MOU on Shodhganga**

A special program was organized on the evening for signing an MOU on Shodhganga with University of Mysore. During the function in this connection, Dr. Manojkumar, Scientist, INFLIBNET Centre gave a detailed account of Shodhganga Project and the step-by-step procedure to upload the theses by research scholars themselves. Dr. Arora mentioned that it has been recommended to open a data centre in one of the universities in India and that could be University of Mysore. Dr. Arora lauded the leadership of Prof. Talawar in Library and Information Science and being instrumental in launching Shodhganga. Prof. Talawar said that there was change in the research productivity at University of Mysore after making available e-resources. Prof. P.S. Naik, Registrar on behalf of the University of Mysore and Dr. Jagadish Arora, Director, INFLIBNET Centre on behalf of Shodhganga Project signed the MOU. Sri B. Ramu, Registrar (Evaluation), Deans of Faculties, Members of Syndicate, Academic Council and senior faculty members and the library staff were present on the occasion.