INFLIBNET a Glance

A Gateway of India’s Academic and Research Community

http://www.inflibnet.ac.in
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1. Introduction

The Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre was established as a project of IUCAA in 1991 and was recognized and as an independent, autonomous Inter-University Centre (IUC) of the University Grants Commission (UGC) in May 1996. Major activities and services of the Centre include automation of academic libraries and information centres, creation of union databases of resources (IndCat) available in academic libraries, promote resource sharing among academic libraries, promote information access and transfer, support scholarship, learning and academic pursuits. The Centre acts as a nodal agency for networking of libraries and information centres in universities, institutions of higher learning and R & D institutions in India with an aim to promote scholarly communication.

The technology being a driving force in the contemporary education system, the UGC has taken-up a major initiative for the benefit of academic community in universities under its purview. The initiative called “UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium” provides access to selected scholarly electronic journals and databases in different disciplines. The Centre is responsible for execution and monitoring of this initiative. The Centre also extends access to e-resources to all Govt. / Govt.-aided colleges under a project entitled “National Library and Information Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)” funded by the MHRD under its National Mission on Education through ICT.

The Centre, on behalf of the UGC, has taken-up a number of new initiatives for the benefit of the academic community. These initiatives include i) Shodhganga: a reservoir of Indian Theses and Dissertations; ii) Shodhgangotri: a repository of synopsis submitted to the universities for registration under Ph.D. programme; iii) OJAS@INFLIBNET: An open access journal publishing platform; iv) Shibboleth-based access management system; v) Open source software R & D; vi) InfoPortal: A comprehensive gateway to all Indian electronic scholarly content; vii) e-PG Pathshala: e-Content for PG Courses and viii) Measuring Research Output of Indian Universities.

2. Mission and Vision

➔ Leveraging on the latest technology, create a virtual network of people and resources in academic institutions with an aim to provide effective and efficient access to knowledge through perseverance, innovation and collaboration.
Provide seamless, reliable and ubiquitous access to scholarly, peer-reviewed electronic resources to the academic community in all educational institutions with a focus on services and tools, processes and practices that support its effective use and increase value of this information.

- Build and strengthen ICT infrastructure in educational institutions with value-added services.

- Develop tools, techniques and procedures for secure and convenient access management enabling users to access information in electronic format from anywhere, anytime.

- Develop resource selection guides and online tutorials for effective delivery and usage of e-resources.

- Facilitate creation of open access digital repositories in every educational institution for hosting educational and research content created by these institutions.

3. Aims and Objectives

The objectives of the Centre, as per the Memorandum of Association (MoA), are as follows:

- To promote and establish communication facilities to improve capability in information transfer and access that provide support to scholarship, learning, research and academic pursuits through cooperation and involvement of concerned agencies;

- To establish information and library network - a computer communication network for linking libraries and information centres in universities, deemed to be universities, colleges, UGC information centres, institutions of national importance and R&D institutions, etc. avoiding duplication of efforts;

- To facilitate academic communication amongst scientists, engineers, social scientists, academicians, faculty, researchers and students through electronic mail, file transfer, computer/audio/video conferencing, etc;

- To undertake system design and studies in the field of communications, computer networking, information handling and data management;

- To establish appropriate control and monitoring system for the communication network and organize maintenance;

- To collaborate with institutions, libraries, information centres and other organizations in India and abroad in the field relevant to the objectives of the Centre;

- To promote R&D and develop necessary facilities to create technical positions for realizing the objectives of the Centre;

- To generate revenue by providing consultancies and information services; and
To do all other such things as may be necessary, incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the above mentioned objectives.

4. Physical Infrastructure

The INFLIBNET Centre has moved in January 2013 from its premises in Gujarat University Campus to its new Institute Building constructed at Infocity, Gandhinagar on the land measuring 10,000 Sq.Mtrs. allotted to the Centre by the Government of Gujarat, free-of-cost. The new building is located in the Infocity, Gandhinagar amidst reputed institutions such as NID, DAIICT and NIFT.

The building of the Centre is designed by internationally acclaimed architect and renowned academician Dr Balkrishna V Doshi of Vastu-Shilpa in consultation with other experts in the field of sustainable, eco-friendly and energy-efficient building. Services of M/s. Katira Construction and M/s Malani Contractors, civil contractors, were hired for constructing the Administrative & Academic Blocks and Residential Blocks of the Building respectively and M/s. Ananjiwala Consultants, Project Management Consultants for quality control and for supervising the construction activity. The work for air-conditioning of the building is done by M/s Voltas and M/s. Siemens is system integrator for IT and low voltage infrastructure.

The construction of the Institutional building was started soon after the Bhoomi Pooja on 27th October 2009. The Foundation Stone for the Building was laid by the then Hon'ble Chairman, UGC and President, INFLIBNET Council Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat on 27th January, 2010. In the first phase, total built-up area of 1,20,000 sq. ft. has been completed that include Academic and Research Blocks, Administration, Library, Auditorium and Lecture Halls. In the second phase, 65,000 sq. ft. built-up area was completed including Hostels, Guest House, Staff Quarters, Director's residence, etc.

5. Scientific and Technical Activities

The Centre undertakes a number of scientific and technical activities based on its functional requirements. Major R&D and human resource development activities are undertaken according to the requirements of the library and academic community including student, faculty and research scholars. Major scientific and technical activities undertaken by the Centre are given below.
5.1. Automation of University Libraries

The University Grants Commission, on recommendation of the INFLIBNET Centre, had supported 142 universities during IX Plan period and 24 universities during XI/XII Plan periods for automation of their libraries with software and training support from the INFLIBNET Centre. The total funds being allocated to 24 universities for automation of their libraries during XI/XII Plan Period is Rs. 195.60 lakhs including Rs. 6.50 lakhs for purchase of equipment (PCs, Servers, Accessories, Scanner, etc.) and Rs 1.65 lakhs recurring grant for five years. The Centre proactively helped universities that were funded for library automation during IX Plan Period to automate their libraries. Specialized training programmes were organized on topics related to library automation, standard bibliographic formats, tools and techniques and retro-conversion. An induction training programme on library automation was organized 24 university libraries that were given funds for library automation during XI / XII Plan Period.

5.2. IndCat: Union Catalogues of Indian Universities

The development of union databases of various library resources i.e. books, journals and theses has been one of the most important activities of the Centre since its inception. The union database named “IndCat: Online Union Catalogue of Indian Universities” created by the Centre is an outcome of the financial and logistic support offered to 166 universities by the UGC under its library automation scheme mentioned above. The number of records available in the IndCat database is as follows:

- **Books:** 128+ Lakhs bibliographic records from 157 university libraries with around 73.76 lakhs unique records
- **Theses:** 2.5+ Lakhs doctoral theses submitted by 287 Indian universities / institutions
- **Current Serials:** 33,184 journal titles currently subscribed by 213 participating university libraries including journals from the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium
- **Holding:** 50,164 holding information of the serials from the 89 participating university libraries
- **CEC’s Video Database:** 14,909 bibliographical records of educational video programmes produced by the

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![IndCat: Indian Catalogue]

Union Catalogue of Indian Universities (http://indcat.inflibnet.ac.in/)
CEC and its 17 EMMRCs. CEC’s Video Database is a result of collaborative programmes between INFLIBNET and CEC described at 5.2.3

The graphical user interfaces for IndCat was developed in-house by the Database R&D Group. These interfaces facilitate users to browse bibliographic information stored in union databases by subject category or by name of the university or chronologically by years and explore it by keywords, word in title, name of author or editor, etc. The interface also allows users to conduct search for a document in a single university, or universities in a geographical region or state. As such, in addition to being a Union Catalogue of resources available in university libraries, IndCat serves as a virtual catalogue for each participating university libraries. Most search interfaces for the union database support searching with varying degree of capabilities ranging from “simple search” to “advanced search” with Boolean operators.

The Union database of books provides for downloading of selected bibliographic records in MARC21 format and porting them to MARC21-compliant integrated library software. It also facilitates the download features for CCF and ISO format.

All the union databases mentioned above are developed in an offline, i.e. universities send their bibliographic data to the Centre periodically in a batch mode. The Centre merges such records into its union catalogue after checking their correctness, their availability in other universities, etc. Efforts are being made to perform these activities in online mode. The Centre has already implemented the online mode for serial database.

The Centre has recently developed a new interface for Union Catalogue using open source enterprise search platform called ‘Solr-based search interface’. The interface facilitates full-text search, hit highlighting, faceted search, dynamic clustering and database integration. It also facilitates users to conduct a single search across databases of books, theses and journals available in major university libraries in India. The beta version incorporates all the databases namely Books, Theses, Serials and CEC’s Videos, hosted into IndCat server.

### 5.2.1. Subsets of Books Database

The union catalogue of books has two subsets namely GujCat and NERCat that are separately designed on demand of the concerned regions:

1) **GujCat**

   The GujCat, a subset of IndCat, is unified online library catalogue of books available in major college/institute/university libraries within Gujarat state. GujCat contains bibliographic description, location and holdings information of books available in 33 libraries in Gujarat. A separate dedicated web-based interface is designed to provide easy-access to the merged catalogues of libraries in Gujarat. GujCat is a major source of bibliographic information that can be used for inter-library loan, collection development as well as for copy cataloguing and retro-conversion of bibliographic records within Gujarat.
ii) NERCat

The NERCat, an online catalogue of books of eight universities in North-Eastern Region, is another subset of IndCat. The interface restricts the search within bibliographical records of the libraries resources available in the universities of the north-eastern states. NERCat is useful for the inter-library loan in the region.

5.2.2. Online Copy Cataloguing (OCS)

“Online Copy Catalogue System (OCS)” is a Window-based application, developed by the Centre, that facilitates libraries to interact with the Union Catalogue of Books (IndCat) and catalogue their new acquisitions online with an aim to promote co-operative cataloguing and avoid duplication of efforts. The OCS, on one hand, facilitates libraries to search and browse bibliographic records of documents available in IndCat and download selected records directly into SOUL 2.0 or any MARC21-compliant software. The holding information for the bibliographic record being downloaded from the IndCat gets updated automatically in the process. On the other hand, the interface facilitates creation of a new record for a document that is not available in the IndCat. This new record gets saved into local integrated LMS as well as into the IndCat. Besides, online cataloguing and copy cataloguing, the interface also facilitates bulk uploading and downloading of bibliographic records of books from IndCat.

5.2.3. CEC's Video Database: An INFLIBNET-CEC Collaborative Endeavour

The INFLIBNET Centre and Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC), in its endeavour to reach out to the unreached, are collaborating for dissemination of textual and visual resources through use and application of ICT. The INFLIBNET Centre and CEC, two Inter-university Centre of the UGC, provide information support for education and research to colleges and universities through their services and facilities. The INFLIBNET specialises in textual-based information retrieval services through its union databases and by facilitating access to full-text and bibliographic e-resources through consortium arrangements. The CEC concentrates on creation and dissemination of multimedia-based learning e-resources. Both the organizations make intensive use of Internet, Web and other communication technology to develop and disseminate their services. While both the institutions work primarily for the same goal, albeit separately, two institutions, in their endeavour to cooperate, coordinate and collaborate in the process of creation, development and dissemination of their resources and services, has recently launched Web-based interface to the CEC's Video Database consisting of 14,909 bibliographical records of educational video programmes produced by the CEC and its 17 EMMRCs. The interface was formally launched by Prof. S.K. Thorat, the then Chairman, UGC on 4th Dec., 2010.

5.3. Software for University Libraries (SOUL) (http://www.inflibnet.ac.in/soul/)

The SOUL 2.0 (Software for University Libraries) is state-of-the-art integrated library management software designed and developed by the INFLIBNET Centre with experience gained by the Centre over the years based on requirements of colleges, universities and other academic libraries. While the first version of the SOUL Software was released in Chennai at the CALIBER 2000, the 2nd version of SOUL Software named “SOUL 2.0” was
released by Prof. S. K. Thorat, the then Chairman, UGC in January 2009. SOUL 2.0 is user-friendly Window-based software developed to work under client-server environment. The software is suitable not only for the academic libraries but for all kinds of libraries. The Unicode-based and MARC21-compliant SOUL 2.0 has six integrated modules, i.e. Acquisition, Cataloguing, Circulation, Serials Control, OPAC and Administration. The software is compliant to international standards such as MARC 21 to facilitate data transfer and exchange; Unicode to facilitate handling of multilingual content, SIP and NCIP for RFID compliance, FRBR to support functional requirement for bibliographic records, etc. The new version was received well by the libraries in India. The software has more than 2700 installations across the country. The Centre has developed SOUL Query Management Software for effective and efficient handling of queries from its users.

5.3.1. SOUL Query Management System (SQMS)

SOUL Query Management System (SQMS) is designed to handle and manage user's query about SOUL Software. The system is used for extending online support to the users of SOUL software and for handling queries from SOUL users. SQMS consists of two modules i.e. System User and SOUL Users. System User Module is designed for use of administrator to monitor and manage the queries fed to SQMS. System User Module provides system user's list, queries received list, query details, query status, query track, etc. SOUL User Module is designed for use by the end users for registering their queries. All SOUL users are end user of this system. Users can perform operations like feed queries, check status of their queries, add contact person details from the institute including their institute details, etc.

5.3.2. SOUL Support Services

The Centre has appointed seven SOUL Coordinators in different geographical regions of the country. Besides, the INFLIBNET Centre coordinates activity of maintenance and promotion of SOUL Software in the state of Gujarat and Rajasthan.

The Centre uses multiple methods to reach out to the SOUL users and resolve their query in real time including a dedicated helpline (079-2623-8300), Google-chat and Team Viewer for remote access to SOUL servers of users.
5.4. UGC-Infonet Internet Connectivity Programme

Connectivity is one of the crucial infrastructural requirements for providing access to e-resources to universities. The UGC-Infonet Internet Connectivity Programme was launched in 2002 for bringing qualitative changes in academic infrastructure of higher education.

The programme was renamed as UGC Infonet 2.0 with switching over of ISP from ERNET India to BSNL w.e.f 1st April 2010 with an aim to provide higher and scalable Internet bandwidth to universities. In the new scheme 10 Mbps (1:1) Internet bandwidth was being given to more than 180 universities on fiber-optic leased line. The INFLIBNET played an important role of monitoring and liaisoning between the BSNL and the universities. Since UGC Infonet 2.0 was using Fiber backbone, it paved the way for successful establishing National Knowledge Network (NKN) infrastructure in these 180 universities that provides 1 Gbps connectivity to all universities. As on 31st March, 2012, all universities have migrated to NKN / NME-ICT and are availing 1 Gbps / 120 Mbps Internet bandwidth. The UGC Infonet 2.0 stands subsumed into National Knowledge Network. A new format for UGC INFONET is proposed to the UGC for better utilization of NKN by beneficiary universities.

5.5. Consortia-based Subscription to E-resources

The INFLIBNET Centre has set-up two separate consortia, namely UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium and N-LIST to extend access to e-resources to universities and colleges respectively. Two separate consortia were established not only to cater to the diverse needs of two sets of institutions, namely universities and colleges, but also to satisfy the requirements of different funding sources and economic models. A brief description of the two consortia is given below.

5.5.1. UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium and its Associate Membership Programme

The UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium was launched by Dr. A.P. J. Abdul Kalam, the then President of India in December 2003. The Consortium provides current as well as archival access to more than 8,000 core and peer-reviewed electronic journals and 11 bibliographic databases from 28 publishers including university presses, scholarly societies, commercial publishers and aggregators in different disciplines. The programme has been implemented in a phased manner. In the first phase that began in 2004, access to e-resources was provided to 50 universities who had Internet connectivity under the UGC-Infonet Connectivity programme. In the second phase, 50 more universities were added to the programme in the year 2005.
as additional universities got Internet connectivity through UGC-INFONET programme. So far 206 universities that come under the purview of UGC have been provided differential access to subscribed e-resources. These e-resources cover almost all subject disciplines including arts, humanities, social sciences, physical sciences, chemical sciences, life sciences, computer sciences, management, mathematics and statistics, etc. The Centre has also initiated Inter-Library Loan (ILL) through JCCC (Journal Custom Content for Consortium). The JCCC provides article-level access to all the articles published in journals subscribed by the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium as well as in journals subscribed by 26 university libraries designated as ILL Centres of the INFLIBNET Centre. Two new resources, namely Elsevier's Science Direct and Wiley InterScience journals were added based on the demand of user's community from 2011 onwards.

5.5.1.1. Associate Membership Programme of the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium

Success of UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium in the universities led to the demand for extension of the Consortium resources to the universities that are not under the purview of UGC. The Centre has initiated its Associate Membership Programme in 2009 with an aim to extend access to e-resources subscribed by the Consortium to private universities and other research institutions. Under the scheme, private universities and other research institutions can enroll themselves as "Associate Member" of the Consortium and subscribe to resources of their choice available through the Consortium. The rates of subscription to e-resources are same as applicable to the Consortium for its core members. Associate members are charged a token amount as annual membership fee. More than 177 members have enrolled themselves as associate members of the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium and are subscribing to various resources of their choice through the Consortium.

5.5.1.2. Access to E-Resources for Walk-in Users

The Centre has more than 20 Internet-enabled PCs dedicated for the walk-in users including students and researchers for accessing electronic resources subscribed under the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium. The license agreements signed with the publishers of e-resources provides access to e-resources for "walk-in" users. The INFLIBNET Centre, as the coordinating agency for the consortium, gets complementary access to all e-resources subscribed under the Consortium. Students from Gujarat University and Central University of Gujarat and its affiliated colleges and students from the nearby universities and colleges are welcome to access e-resources subscribed under the Consortium. Around 1000 users per annum visit the Centre for accessing e-resources.
5.5.1.3. **RSS Feeds Aggregation Services** (http://www.inflibnet.ac.in/feed/)

The Centre has developed and installed RSS Feed Aggregation Service on its website. The service is targeted to users of the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium. The RSS Aggregation Service facilitates RSS links to open on the website of the Centre for all electronic journals that are covered in the Consortium and have option for RSS feeds. Resultantly, the users, instead of copying RSS feeds into their RSS Feed Readers, can visit the INFLIBNET website and read the current contents of all the journals subscribed under the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium. These RSS Feeds are arranged according to subject categories as well as alphabetically. Moreover, journals covered under the RSS Feed Aggregation Services can also be searched according to the subject category and by words in journal titles. The RSS Feed Aggregation Service at the Centre offers the following options:

- INFLIBNET's News RSS;
- Search for RSS Feeds;
- Subject-wise / Publisher-wise RSS Feeds;
- My RSS: Select your own set of journals and get their RSS feeds; and
- My Feed Reader.

5.5.2. **N-LIST (National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content)** (http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in)

The Project entitled "National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)", being jointly executed by the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, INFLIBNET Centre and the INDEST-AICTE Consortium, IIT Delhi, provides for access to scholarly content to colleges, universities as well as centrally-funded technical institutions through its four distinct components, i.e. i) UGC-INFONET e-resources to technical institutions (IITs, IISc, IISERs, NITs, etc.); ii) INDEST e-resources to universities; iii) E-resources to Govt./ Govt.-aided as well as non-aided colleges; and iv) National Monitoring Agency at the INFLIBNET Centre to manage access, monitor, promote and impart training to promote optimal usage of e-resources and for monitoring all activities involved in the process of providing effective and efficient access to e-resources to colleges.

The INDEST-AICTE Consortium and the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium are jointly responsible for activity listed at i) and ii) above. The UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad is responsible for activities listed at iii) and iv) above. The INFLIBNET Centre is also responsible for developing and deploying appropriate software tools and techniques for authenticating authorized users so as to enable them to access e-resources.

The N-LIST programmes subscribes to Web of Science for universities, Annual Reviews (33 journal titles), JSTOR (2500 titles), Nature (27 journal titles), Project Muse (400+ journal titles) and Taylor and Francis (1079 titles) for
35 technical institutions including IITs, IISt, IISc, IISERs and selected NITs. Besides, more than 5,000 e-journals and 95,000 e-books are subscribed for colleges. The N-LIST programme covers almost all subject disciplines except agriculture, medicine, pharmacology, engineering and technology. It covers all relevant areas taught in colleges such as arts & humanities, social sciences, physical and chemical sciences, life sciences, computer sciences, political sciences, library and information science, law, business, mathematics, statistics, etc.

E-resources identified for cross subscription for universities and technical institutions are being made accessible to the beneficiary institutions on their respective IPs. Given the fact that majority of colleges registered under the N-LIST Programme do not have static IP addresses, access to e-resources to the registered colleges is provided through EZ-Proxy set-up at the INFLIBNET Centre. The authorized users from colleges can access e-resources and download articles required by them directly from the publisher’s website once they are duly authenticated as authorized users through EZ-Proxy deployed at the INFLIBNET Centre. Meanwhile, the Centre is working towards implementation of Shibboleth-based access management system which is time-consuming process requiring intensive software configuration, cooperation and collaboration amongst participating institutions, publishers and recognition of INFLIBNET Centre as an Identity Provider (IDP) by the publishers as Service Provider (SP).

The N-LIST programme, formally launched by the then Honourable Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Kapil Sibal on 4th May, 2010 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi, has registered a total number of 3,328 colleges as on June 1, 2013, including 3,031 eligible colleges that are already getting access to resources subscribed under the N-LIST programme. Log-in IDs and passwords have been issued to more than 4,81,116 faculty members, students and researchers after obtaining list of authorized users from these 3,031 registered colleges. Group login ID and passwords have also been issued to colleges awaiting list of actual users. Efforts are being made to enrol more colleges through advertisement in newspaper as well as by organizing training and orientation programmes through affiliating universities and regional offices of the UGC.

5.6. Open Access Initiatives

Open access initiatives taken-up by the Centre includes OJAS, a platform offered to faculty and researchers in universities to host their open-access journals, and three institutional repositories, namely ShodhGanga, ShodhGangotri and IR@INFLIBNET. These initiatives are described below.
5.6.1. Shodhganga: A Reservoir of Indian Theses (http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in)

Shodhganga is a digital repository set-up for submission of electronic version of theses and dissertations by research scholars in universities in India and make them available in open access to the world-wide academic community in response to the UGC Notification (Minimum Standards & Procedure for Award of M.Phil. / Ph.D Degree, Regulation, 2009) where-in the responsibility of maintaining the digital repository of Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs) is assigned to the INFLIBNET Centre. ShodhGanga is set-up using Dspace that uses internationally recognized protocols and interoperability standards. The repository provides a platform to research students in universities to deposit, reuse and share their theses and dissertations.

Organization of ShodhGanga reflects academic structure of participating universities to facilitate submission of theses in the respective Department / Centre of a university.

Ingestion interface of Dspace has been customized to meet the specific requirements and make the process of submission easy and simple. The customized ingestion interface is simple to use and involves lesser number of steps in comparison to default submission interface of Dspace. The interface facilitates submission of theses either by university administrators, university representatives or researchers themselves once they get themselves registered. The interface also facilitates self-registration of scholars wherein user gets e-mail alerts and notifications at different stages of workflow. The ShodhGanga Website provides all information relevant to the students, research supervisors and university authorities with regard to ETDs including their responsibilities, access policies, submission process, metadata structure, etc.

Considering the fact that process of adaptation of the UGC Notification, 2009 may take time for universities, research students are encouraged to submit electronic version of their Ph.D theses into the ShodhGanga on voluntary basis. Once the submission of theses is mandated by a university, process of submission of theses can be monitored by respective universities so as to ensure that correct and final version of all the theses from a given university are submitted into the Repository.

As on 1st June, 2013, researchers from 133 universities have started submitted their theses into the repository and 118 universities have signed MoU with the INFLIBNET Centre on Shodhganga and total number of theses submitted into the repository has grown to 7,606.
5.6.2. ShodhGangotri: A Repository of Synopsis submitted to Indian Universities for Registration in Ph.D. Programme (http://shodhgangotri.inflibnet.ac.in/)

“ShodhGangotri” is a new initiative that compliments “ShodhGanga”. While ShodhGanga is a repository of full-text theses submitted to universities in India, “ShodhGangotri” hosts approved synopsis of research topic submitted to the universities in India by research scholars for registering themselves under the Ph.D programme.

Under the new initiative called “ShodhGangotri”, research scholars / research supervisors in universities are requested to deposit electronic version of approved synopsis submitted by research scholars to the universities for registering themselves under the Ph.D programme. The repository, on one hand, would reveal the trends and directions of research being conducted in Indian universities, on the other hand, it would avoid duplication of research. Synopsis in “ShodhGangotri” would later be mapped to full-text theses in “ShodhGanga”. As such, once the full-text thesis is submitted for a synopsis, a link to the full-text theses would be provided from ShodhGangotri to Shodhganga.

5.6.3. IR @ INFLIBNET (http://ir.inflibnet.ac.in/)

The Centre has established an institutional repository called IR@INFLIBNET using DSpace, open source software accessible at http://ir.inflibnet.ac.in/. The papers published in the proceedings of the CALIBER and PLANNER, are uploaded in to the repository in PDF format. The Repository also includes course materials, newspaper clippings, etc. The repository has 1,274 full-text articles.

5.6.4. Open Journal Access System @ INFLIBNET (http://www.inflibnet.ac.in/ojs/)

The Open Journal Access System (OJAS) at INFLIBNET Centre uses Open Journal System (OJS), an open source solution developed by the Public Knowledge Project through its federally funded efforts to expand and improve access to research. The OJS is designed for managing and publishing scholarly journals online. It is a highly flexible editor-operated journal management and publishing system that has been designed to reduce the time and energy devoted to the clerical and managerial tasks associated with editing a journal, while improving the record-keeping and efficiency of editorial processes. OJS also supports content in multiple formats including text (structured and unstructured), audio, video, graphics and animation, etc. and reading tools for content. It seeks to improve the scholarly and public quality of journal publishing through a number of innovations, from making journal policies more transparent to improved indexing. OJS is compliant to Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH).

The INFLIBNET Centre has installed and configured Open Journal System on servers at INFLIBNET to facilitate hosting of electronic versions of journals into open access mode with all processes of submission, peer-reviewing, editing, layout designing and publishing built into it. The initiative encourages universities and institutions that are publishing journals in print format to use OJAS @INFLIBNET for hosting electronic version of their journals free-of-cost on servers at the INFLIBNET Centre. The initiative also encourages faculty in universities to start their own open access journals using the platform offered by the INFLIBNET Centre. Journals hosted on OJAS @
INFLIBNET are accessible to all users world-wide without any restrictions. Currently, Open Journal Access System @ INFLIBNET hosts fourteen journals from different universities and other institutions.

5.7. Shibboleth-based Access Management System (http://parichay.inflibnet.ac.in)

The INFLIBNET Centre, as one of its core mandate, provides access to scholarly e-resources to universities and colleges in India under the UGC–INFONET Digital Library Consortium and N-LIST Programme. At present, access to e-resources in universities is IP-authenticated and, as such, access is restricted within the confine of a given university campus due to lack of proper authentication mechanism. The Centre is working towards deploying appropriate access management tools, enabling users to access e-resources from his / her campus, home or even while travelling. The Shibboleth is standard-based open source middleware software that provides Web-based single sign-on (SSO) access across all subscribed e-resources or within organizational boundaries so as to enable users to access e-resources from anywhere irrespective of his / her physical location. It allows web sites to make informed authorization decisions for individual access to protected online resources in a privacy-preserving manner. Implementation of such a solution requires setting-up of proper user authentication and access control mechanism ensuring trust relationship between publisher, identity providing agency and the user institution.

The Shibboleth working architecture requires each participating institution to set-up their own identity provider services (IDP). Looking at the present scenario, universities and colleges do not have requisite technical know-how and ICT infrastructure, as such, the INFLIBNET Centre took-up the task of acting as an IDP for all its core and associate members, including universities and colleges under its umbrella. The implementation of Shibboleth technology at INFLIBNET Centre would function in the following manner:
i) The service providers (publisher) will recognize INFLIBNET Centre as a trusted organization for authenticating the user and give an option on their Web sites to select INFLIBNET as an IDP;

ii) When a user chooses INFLIBNET as its IDP, he / she would be re-directed to IDP link at INFLIBNET Server;

iii) After verifying user's credentials, IDP at INFLIBNET will pass “user attributes” to the publisher which would include user's institute, department and role as faculty / student / researcher; and

iv) Once authenticated, user gets access to his / her authorised e-resources. Unauthenticated users are denied access.

Shibboleth implementation at the INFLIBNET Centre was tested with Shibboleth test site and IDP service was tested with three publishers, namely Royal Society of Chemistry, Cambridge University Press and Institute of Physics. Proposal for setting up INFLIBNET Access Management Federation (INFED) was approved by the Governing Board of the INFLIBNET Centre. INFED and its website (parichay.inflibnet.ac.in) has been set-up with all requisite documentation.

5.8. Open Source Software R&D

Open source software are computer programs where source code is made available to the general public for use and / or modification from its original design free-of-charge. Open source programs are typically created as a collaborative effort in which programmers improve upon the code and share the changes within the community. There are a number of open source software in the field of library and information science that are available free-of-cost. The Centre has created R & D facilities and working groups to study and contribute actively to the open source movement. Moreover, the Centre has taken a cautious decision to move all its crucial operations to open source software. To begin with, Open Office was implemented in place of MS Office in the Centre. Open Source Laboratory was set-up at the Centre with PCs loaded with different versions of LINUX operating systems including Redhat, Fedora, Ubuntu, etc. and Library Management Software like NewGenLib and Koha were installed on these machines. DSpace, EPrint Archives and Greenstone Digital Library Software are also installed for testing and developing digital library for various applications in the Centre. All the union databases of the INFLIBNET Centre that were earlier hosted on MS-SQL have been moved to MySQL, open source relational database management software. All the websites of the INFLIBNET Centre including UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, SOUL, IndCat, N-LIST, OJAS, etc. are designed using open source software such as Apache, MySQL, Tomcat, PHP, Java Script, PERL, etc. The ingestion interface for “ShodhGanga”, setup using DSpace, was custom-developed using open source tools to facilitate online submission of electronic theses into the repository.

The Centre's Website offers RSS Feed Aggregation services implemented using PHP and MySQL. Various open source Web 2.0 tools have also been implemented such as INFLIBNET Blog using WordPress, INFLIBNET Wiki using MediaWiki, INFLIBNET Chat using PHPChat, etc. to facilitate better interaction and collaboration between users and staff of the INFLIBNET Centre. Open source PHPBB is setup for INFLIBNET Bulletin Board. Apart from implementing various open source software, the Centre has also contributed following utilities to the open source community:
5.8.1. Conversin Utilities: CCF to MARC21 and Excel to MARCXML

CCF to MARC21 and Excel to MARCXML conversion utilities were developed and contributed as open source software for the benefit of libraries having MARC 21 compliant Library Management Software. Using CCF to MARC21 conversion, libraries can migrate CCF based records into MARC21 format which can be transported to any MARC21-compliant Library Management Software. Excel to MARCXML can be used to convert bibliographic records into MARCXML. Once the data is converted in MARCXML, the bibliographic records can be easily imported into SOUL2.0 or any other MARC21-compliant LMS without any data loss. The software is available for download from http://ccftomarcconver.sourceforge.net/.

5.9. VIDWAN: Subject Expert Database (http://vidwan.inflibnet.ac.in)

VIDWAN is a premier database of profiles of scientists / researchers and other faculty members working at leading academic institutions and other R & D organisations involved in teaching and research in India. It provides information about expert's background, contact address, skills and accomplishments. The University Expert Database was launched in the year 1999 that contained profiles of the subject expert serving in the universities and other academic institutions in India. In the year 2001, the Centre developed another database called Expert Database in Science and Technology with financial support from the National Information System for Science and Technology (NISSAT), DSIR that contained profiles of experts working in the R & D organisations, particularly in science and technology areas. These two databases were merged in the year 2012 and rechristened as VIDWAN: Expert Database. The database contains around 9,000+ profiles of the subject experts from various domains from 650 institutions.

5.10. Info-Port: A Subject Gateway to Indian Scholarly Internet Resources (http://infoport.inflibnet.ac.in/)

InfoPortal: A Subject Gateway to Indian Electronic Resources is designed and developed by the INFLIBNET Centre to serve as a comprehensive gateway to all Indian scholarly content. The gateway open-up the Indian
scholarly content scattered over the Internet through an integrated interface that support search, browse and multiple listing of more than 1,700 e-resources. The InfoPortal uses “Subject Gateway Management System (SGMS)” as hosting platform. The SGMS, designed and developed at the INFLIBNET Centre, facilitates entry of Internet resources and extending its access to users. SGMS supports browsing of Internet resources by Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) Scheme. The main functional components of SGMS are:

i) Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) Search: Internet resources fed into SGMS are organized accordingly to DDC classification (from 000 to 900). On clicking at main classes, sub-classes are displayed as per the DDC classification scheme. Users can see the list of electronic resources available under the sub-classes with brief description of each resource.

ii) Search Cloud: Keywords that appear in DDC are shown as link in search cloud. Most frequently used keywords appear on homepage of SGMS with number of hits for that keyword. Users can access resources by clicking on the keyword that appears on the search cloud. Keywords that are searched more frequently are displayed in larger and bolder size as compared to other keywords.

iii) Free-Text Search: Searches can be performed on words that appear in title of resources, keywords that are assigned to Internet resources and words that appear in the description of e-resources, etc.

iv) Alphabetical Listing: Users can browse list of subjects arranged alphabetically.

v) Resource Type Search: User can also browse Internet resources by type i.e. corporate website, e-book, e-journals, personal websites, portals, etc.

Infoport (http://infoport.inflibnet.ac.in/)
5.11. Bibliometric and Scientometric Studies

The Bibliometric Group was set up to study the impact of access to e-resources on research productivity in universities in India. Research profiles are being developed for every member university. These profiles include research output of a university including annual and cumulative growth of research publications over a period of four decades, impact of research in terms of citations received, H Index, focused areas of research of a university including its strength and weaknesses, international and national collaborations in different disciplines, correlation between number of articles downloaded from e-resources and number of research articles produced by researchers in a given university. Web of Science is being used for source as well as for citation data. Research profiles for 50 universities have already been completed.

5.12. e-PG Pathshala: A Gateway to All Post Graduate Courses

(http://epgp.inflibnet.ac.in)

The INFLIBNET Centre has been assigned the task of coordinating all activities involved in production of e-contents at postgraduate level in 77 subject areas under the initiative called e-PG Pathshala funded by the MHRD under its National Mission on Education through ICT. The Centre is responsible for the technical as well as administrative coordination of this project. An open source Learning Management System called “ATutor” has been configured to host e-contents created in this project and developed e-Pathshala Management System to
manage the administrative workflow as well as a platform that facilitate interaction among the team members of each subject and track the progress made by contributors, i.e. paper coordinators, content writers and reviewers. Development of e-contents in 35 subjects has already been started. Moreover, the Centre has taken the responsibility for content creation for two subjects i.e. Library Science and Information Technology (in coordination with Gujarat University).

The guidelines for execution of projects under e-PG Pathshala and as well as guidelines for content writers along with templates for content creation was developed and approved by the UGC. A national workshop involving subject coordinators, content writers and members of the standing committee was organized. Besides, seventeen subject-based workshops were organized for subject coordinators, paper coordinators and content writers. As on 1st June, 2013, twelve e-modules have been developed and are hosted on the LMS.

5.13. Projects @ INFLIBNET Centre

5.13.1. N-LIST (http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in)

The N-LIST project, described in detail at 5.5.2 above is funded by the MHRD under the National Mission of Education through ICT. The project provides access to 5,000+ e-journals and 95,000 e-books to Govt.-aided and non-aided colleges. As on 1st June 2013, 3,031 colleges are getting access to resources subscribed under the N-LIST programme.

5.13.2. Revamping of the UGC Websites, Development of Grant Management System and e-Scholarship-Fellowship Award Registration Tracking System (E-SART)

The UGC has given the responsibility for development and maintenance of website of the UGC as well as for automation of its various schemes, Grant Management System and e-Scholarship-Fellowship Award Registration
Tracking System (E-SART) since May 2011. The Centre has set-up a dedicated server for the UGC web site and schemes which is co-located at the Data Centre of the BSNL, Ahmedabad. So far, interfaces have been developed for more than 10 major schemes of the UGC.

5.13.3. Internet Connectivity to UGC

The INFLIBNET Centre also provides and monitors Internet connectivity to the UGC Main Office as well as to its Northern Regional College Bureau (NRCB) and NET Bureau in Delhi through BSNL at highly discounted rates applicable to universities.

5.13.4. e-PG Pathshala: A Gateway to All Post Graduate Courses (http://epgp.inflibnet.ac.in)

The INFLIBNET Centre has been assigned the task of technical as well as administrative coordination all activities involved in production of e-contents at postgraduate level in 77 subject areas under the initiative called e-PG Pathshala (described at 5.12 above) funded by the MHRD under its National Mission on Education through ICT.


Imparting training to manpower working in the university and college libraries in the use of IT is an important objective of the Centre and has been given due priority. 535 training programmes, workshops and seminars focusing on the library automation and networking have so far been conducted till 1st June, 2013 benefitting 42,942 participants. INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme for Library Automation (IRTPLA) and User Awareness Training Programmes on e-resources subscribed under the UGC-INFONET and NLIST project were conducted across the country in collaboration with the universities. National and international conventions called PLANNER in North-eastern regions and CALIBER in various states in India are being organized biannually as part of the human resource development activities. The Centre has also conducted 105 Training Programmes on SOUL Installation and Operations for Libraries. Various categories of training programmes conducted since the inception of the INFLIBNET Centre and number of participants who benefitted from these training programme are given below:

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<tr>
<th>Sr.</th>
<th>Name of the Programme</th>
<th>States Covered</th>
<th>Universities</th>
<th>Programmes</th>
<th>Total Participants</th>
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<td>55</td>
<td>81</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Onsite / In-house Training</td>
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<td>N-LIST Awareness Programme</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>2515</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Special Training Programme at INFLIBNET Centre</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>59</td>
<td>1183</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
6. Library

The INFLIBNET Centre has a specialized library having unique collection on library and information science, computer, communication and information technology. The library is fully computerized using SOUL 2.0 integrated library management software. The library has around 1466 books and 100 print and online journals and magazines. Besides, the Centre, as the coordinating agency for the Consortium, gets complementary access to more than 8,000+ electronic journals and 11 bibliographic databases subscribed under the UGC-Infonet digital Consortium. The collection of the library is available online though the web OPAC at http://library.inflibnet.ac.in.

The INFLIBNET Library plays a vital role in the collection development and dissemination of scientific and technical information to meet the present and future needs of the Centre. The Library maintains databases of i) participants who have attended various training programmes at INFLIBNET Centre; ii) Institutions having SOUL installations; and iii) Universities and its contact details including e-mail and website addresses. These databases are accessible through the INFLIBNET Website.
7. ICT Infrastructure @ INFLIBNET Centre

The Centre is well equipped with campus-wide fibre-optic local area network. The network of the Institute Building includes layer 3 core switches with virtualization and 40G/100G ready network with POE+edge switches along with 10G uplink, IP telephony with high and mid range of IP phones, surveillance system, board room solutions, public address system and AV solution, high resolution video conferencing solution, dedicated and sophisticated tier-3 Data Centre with precision A/C, CAT 7A cabling with OM4 Grade Fibre, Building Management System (BMS) with automated fire detection, fire suppression,

The Centre has a dedicated Internet leased line for its Internet services from NKN on 1Gbps back-bone with Internet bandwidth of 150 Mbps. The Centre also has a stand-by 2Mbps additional line from BSNL.

7.1. PCs and Servers

The Centre keeps upgrading its computing infrastructure with latest technology gadgets. This has helped the Centre to cater to the requirements of universities, colleges and institutions of higher education in providing them proactive support in technological up-gradations. The Centre has more than 120 web-enabled PCs and laptops plugged into its Local Area Network. Scientists and technical staff of the Centre are equipped with high-end workstations and laptops to attend to their scientific and technical assignments. All web-based services offered by the Centre to the academic community including union databases and websites of the Centre are hosted on HP Blade server and collocated on the BSNL Web Hosting services.
8. Publications
The INFLIBNET Centre has two major publications i.e. Quarterly Newsletter and Annual Report. Both publications were brought out and distributed to the academic community across the country. The copies of the newsletters and annual reports downloadable in PDF format are available at on the INFLIBNET website at http://www.inflibnet.ac.in/publication/. The copies of Annual Reports, PLANNER and CALIBER proceedings are also available through the Institutional Repository (IR) in PDF format. The course materials of various training programmes and workshops, lecture notes, presentations, and newspaper clippings are also available in the IR of the Centre at http://ir.inflibnet.ac.in.

9. Human Resources
The Centre employs administrative, scientific and technical personnel for achieving its defined objectives. The technical personnel are mostly qualified in library, information and computer sciences. As on 1st June, 2013, the Centre has 18 scientific and technical staff, 10 administrative staff and 16 project staff on its rolls.

9.1 Staff @ INFLIBNETCentre

Chairman,
Governing Board:
Prof. N. Mukunda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Working Group</th>
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<tr>
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Shri Haridas A
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