

INFLIBNET NEWSLETTER

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From Director's Desk

Dear Readers

I am pleased to present the combined issue of INFLIBNET Newsletter, which highlights a variety of programmes / initiatives / achievements made by the Centre with the support and encouragement of University Grants Commission and all others associated with it. The period has been remarkable and eventful in reaching the North Eastern States and the Nation's Capital as well as reaching the heart of the country - the Madhya Pradesh with enormous orders for SOUL. This has opened a great source of strength and inspiration to the scientific and professional colleagues in the Centre. During the period the milestone happens to be that of dedication of UGC-Infonet / E-journal Consortium to the nation by H. E. the President of India on 28th December, 2003. Needless to say that the Centre is playing a very important role in reaching young minds and academics through these initiatives in facilitating high information needs. The regular training programmes including IRTPLA, E-Resources awareness and SOUL are moving at a faster pace with newer inputs and skills. UGC has entrusted us with another responsibility of the programme in collaboration with Commonwealth of Learning (CoL) - jointly with CEC and NAAC under the guidance of Chairman, UGC.

Multi-skilled young professionals have been inducted into the scientific cadre of the Centre in the capacity of regular and project scientists. We are looking forward to your continued supports and encouragements.

- T A V Murthy



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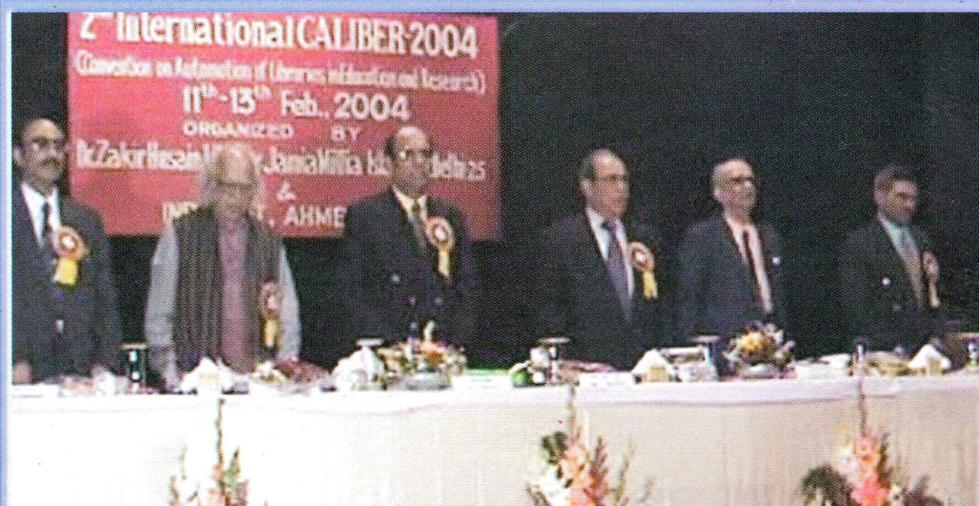
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Shri J K Vijayakumar,
Shri Ashok Ahtani

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*Inaugural Function of International CALIBER at New Delhi
Dr Gayas Makhdumi, Prof Yash Pal, Dr Arun Nigavekar, Shri Syed Shahid Mahidi,
Prof S G Mahajan and Dr T A V Murthy (See page 9)*

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Hon'ble President of India Dr A P J Abdul Kalam inaugurating the concluding ceremony of UGC Golden Jubilee Celebrations. Prof V N Rajasekharan Pillai, Shri S.K.Tripathi, Prof M M Joshi, Shri Ashok Pradhan and Dr. Vallabh Bhai Kathiria are also seen. (See page 3)



Members of national negotiation committee and representatives of various publishers with Prof Arun Nigavekar, Dr V N Rajasekharan Pillai, Dr T A V Murthy and Prof Ajith Kembhavi during the MoU Signing ceremony at INSA, New Delhi. Dr V S Cholin is also seen. (See page 3)



Participants of Third Training Programme on E-Resources Management with Director of INFLIBNET, Faculty Members and Administrative Staff of INFLIBNET (See page 3)

Participants of Fourth Training Programme on E-Resources Management with Director of INFLIBNET, Faculty Members and Administrative Staff of INFLIBNET (See page 3)



Participants of Orientation Programme for Faculty and Research Scholars of Gujarat University with Director of INFLIBNET, Faculty Members and Administrative Staff of INFLIBNET. (See page 4)



A Moment from Inaugural Function of PLANNER-2003 at Shillong. (From L to R) Dr. T A V Murthy, Mr. R G Lyngdoh, Prof Mrinal Miri and Shri Premchand (See page 7)

UGC GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS END

Hon'ble President of India Dr A P J Abdul Kalam inaugurated the concluding function of the Golden Jubilee Year of the University Grants Commission held at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on 28th December, 2003. Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Science & Technology and Ocean Development announced 1000 "Swarn Jyanti Scholarships for Post Graduate students" in colleges and universities in the general education system. He also declared a new scheme of Professor of Eminence, which will be implemented from this year onwards in the university system. The Minister while releasing the new UGC logo said "the new logo reflects the contemporary nature of the challenging task that UGC has undertaken. It is good that they have now a motto line- "Gyan Vigyan Vimuktaye" (Knowledge Liberates). The Minister also announced the establishment of four National Institutes of Sciences at Bhubaneswar, Allahabad, Pune and Chennai. Dr. Vallabh Bhai Ramjibhai Kathiria, Hon'ble Minister of State for Human Resource Development released a volume entitled "50 years of UGC". The President released the special cover of the UGC on the occasion. Shri. Ashok Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of State for Communications & Information Technology, Shri S.K.Tripathi, Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development (Dept. of Secondary & Higher Education) and Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice Chairman, UGC also spoke on the occasion. Prof. Arun Nigavekar, Chairman, UGC welcomed the gathering and announced free access to research journals in e-format from 1st January, 2004. Prof. Ved Prakash, Secretary, UGC proposed vote of thanks. Other Dignitaries present on this occasion included Justice Shri M. Rama Jois, Governor of Bihar; Shri Kailashpati Mishra, Governor of Gujarat; Justice Shri Vishnu Sadashive Kokje, Governor of Himachal Pradesh; Shri T.N. Chaturvedi, Governor of Karnataka; Thiru P.S. Ramamohan Rao, Governor of Tamil Nadu; Shri Vishnu Kant Shastri, Governor of Uttar Pradesh; Shri Gegong Apang, Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh; Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri, Minister of Road Transport and Highways; Mr. Vijay Bhushan, Secretary, Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications & IT; Senior MHRD officials; Commission Members; former Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons and Secretaries of UGC; Vice Chancellors, Senior Academics, and former and present officers and staff of the UGC.

E-SUBSCRIPTION UPDATE

Signing of MoU Ceremony

University Grants Commission signed MoUs with various national and international publishers on 6th October, 2003 at a function held at Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi, for providing electronic access to research journals for the benefit of the entire universities in the country. Prof. Arun Nigavekar, Chairman, UGC, Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice Chairman, UGC, Dr. T.A.V. Murthy, Director,

Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre, Prof. Ajit Kembhavi, Inter University Centre for Astronomy & Astrophysics (IUCAA) and representatives from various national and international publishing houses, besides eminent academics and UGC officers were present on the occasion. The scheme will be wholly funded by the UGC. All universities, which come under UGC's purview, will be beneficiaries of the programme and it will gradually be extended to colleges as well. The first phase of the programme covers more than 50 universities and more universities will join the programme as soon as they get networked in the UGC-Infonet. Access to various E-Journals will begin by January, 2004. It is expected that the entire university system will be covered by June 2004. The program will cover major research disciplines in the faculties of Arts, Humanities, Science and Social Sciences. The literature will include journals covering research articles, reviews and abstracting databases. Access will be provided to current and archival literature. Portals will be provided which will enable users to navigate easily through all the research literature. INFLIBNET will administer and monitor the programme and will have independent electronic access to all the publications to help with the process. One free print copy of each journal, subscribed under the consortium by each publisher for archival purpose will be provided. A website is already created to provide all information to the consortium members about the details of the programme. Training programmes are being conducted to spread awareness and to develop expertise in the university community in the use of E-Resources.

Training Programmes on E-Resource Management using UGC-Infonet

Second training Program on E-Resource management for 14 professionals who are looking after UGC Infonet in member universities from Library side, was held during December 1-5, 2003. Sh. S.M. Salgar, Scientist-G, INFLIBNET Centre, inaugurated the Programme.

The third training programme was held during January 5-9, 2004. The Programme was inaugurated by the Dr. TAV Murty, Director, INFLIBNET Centre and 19 Participants attended the Programme.

The fourth training Programme was held during February 3-7, 2004. Nineteen Participants took the training regarding the management of Electronic Resources. Dr. TAV Murty, Director, INFLIBNET Centre, inaugurated the programme.

All Participants made Power point Presentations in the Concluding session. Dr V S Cholin acted as the Course coordinator for the programmes.

Orientation Programmes Started

Awareness is very important for success of E-Subscription initiative. During the inauguration of International CALIBER-

2004 UGC Chairman urged INFLIBNET to organize User Awareness Programmes across the country to nurture the culture of using E-Information by faculty and research scholars. He told that they need to get exposed to the resources subscribed under this programme. By taking into account these facts, one-day user awareness programmes are planned at individual universities, where INFLIBNET will depute a team to execute this programme and university will have to coordinate it successfully. Once these programmes are conducted individual universities will conduct such programmes regularly to inform the users about the new developments etc.

Gujarat University, Ahmedabad

A one-day orientation programme on E-Resources under UGC Infonet for Faculty and Research Scholars of Gujarat University was arranged at INFLIBNET on 31st December, 2003 and 24 participants attended it. Shri S M Salgar, Scientist-G inaugurated the programme and informed that these kind of programmes will be held across the country. Detailed lectures were held about UGC infonet, E-Subscription initiative by UGC and hands on practical cum demos were also arranged for accessing various databases and gateway portals. Dr. T A V Murthy Director INFLIBNET distributed certificates to the participants, on the concluding session. Dr. V S Cholin, Scientist-B coordinated the programme.

A series of User Orientation Programmes held during March, 2004 across the country as per the following list.

No	University	Resource Persons from INFLIBNET	Date
1	Kurukshetra University, Haryana	Shri H. G. Hosamani Shri Suresh Kumar	22 March, 2004
2	Nagpur University, Maharashtra	Shri Rajesh Chandrakar Dr T Temjen	22 March, 2004
3	University of Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh	Shri K Prakash Shri Ranjan Barik	22 March, 2004
4	Jiwaji University, Madhya Pradesh	Shri S K Sharma Shri Abhay Parmar	22 March, 2004
5	Osmania University, Andhra Pradesh	Shri K Prakash Shri Ranjan Barik	23 March, 2004
6	Punjabi University, Punjab	Shri H. G. Hosamani Shri Suresh Kumar	23 March, 2004
7	Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Punjab	Shri H. G. Hosamani Shri Suresh Kumar	24 March, 2004
8	University of Rajasthan, Rajasthan	Shri S K Sharma Shri Abhay Parmar	24 March, 2004
9	Andhra University, Andhra Pradesh	Shri K Prakash Shri Ranjan Barik	25 March, 2004
10	Jadavpur University, West Bengal	Shri Rajesh Chandrakar Dr T Temjen	24 March, 2004
11	Punjab University, Punjab	Shri H. G. Hosamani Shri Suresh Kumar	25 March, 2004
12	Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Punjab	Shri S K Sharma Shri Abhay Parmar	26 March, 2004
13	University of Calcutta, West Bengal	Shri Rajesh Chandrakar Dr T Temjen	26 March, 2004

No	University	Resource Persons from INFLIBNET	Date
14	University of North Bengal, West Bengal	Shri Rajesh Chandrakar Dr T Temjen	27 March, 2004
15	University of Mumbai, Maharashtra	Dr. V S Cholin Shri Raghavedra Patil	29 March, 2004
16	Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Maharashtra	Dr. V S Cholin Shri. Raghavedra Patil	30 March, 2004
17	Devi Ahalya Bai Viswavidyalaya, Madhya Pradesh	Sh. S.K. Sharma Mrs Vaisali Parikh	31 March, 2004

Following is the schedule of the programmes planned during April, 2004.

18	Sardar Patel University, Gujarat	Dr. V S Cholin	01 April, 2004
19	Mangalore University, Karnataka	Shri K Prakash Shri Raghavendra Patil	05 April,2004
20	University of Pune, Maharashtra	Dr. V S Cholin Shri Sunil Dandwani	05 April,2004
21	Avinashilingam Deemed University, Tamil Nadu	Shri B Ramesh Shri Suresh Kumar	06 April,2004
22	Shivaji University, Maharashtra	Dr. V S Cholin Shri Sunil Dandwani	06 April,2004
23	Karnatak University, Karanataka	Dr. V S Cholin Shri Sunil Dandwani	07 April,2004
24	Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamil Nadu	Shri B Ramesh Shri Suresh Kumar	07 April,2004
25	University of Mysore, Karnataka	Shri K Prakash Shri Raghavendra Patil	07 April,2004
26	Bangalore University, Karnataka	Shri K Prakash Shri Raghavendra Patil	08 April,2004
27	Goa University, Goa	Dr. V S Cholin Shri Sunil Dandwani	08 April,2004
28	Pondicherry University, Pondyicherry	Shri B Ramesh Shri Suresh Kumar	08 April,2004
29	Anna University, Tamil Nadu	Shri B Ramesh Shri Suresh Kumar	5 April,2004
30	University of Kerala, Kerala	Shri Manoj Kumar K Shri J K Vijayakumar	20 April, 2004
31	Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala	Shri Manoj Kumar K Shri J K Vijayakumar	27 April, 2004
32	Cochin University of Science & Technology, Kerala	Shri Manoj Kumar K Shri J K Vijayakumar	22 April, 2004
33	University of Calicut, Kerala	Shri Manoj Kumar K Shri J K Vijayakumar	23 April, 2004

Programme by STN International

A series of special training programme on "Access to Chemical Abstracts through STN under UGC-Infonet E-Journal Consortium" handled by experts from STN is held as per the following schedule.

Venue	Name of Participant Universities	Date
INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad	Gujarat University The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda Sardar Patel University and Saurashtra University	22 nd March, 2004
University of Goa	University of Mumbai Shivaji University Goa University, Karnatak University University of Mysore Mangalore University Bangalore University	27 th March, 2004
Anna University, Chennai	Anna University Madurai Kamraj Univeristy Pondichery University Andhra University	31 st March, 2004

This programme will also be conducted in following Universities as per the following schedule.

Cochin University of Science & Technology, Cochin	Cochin University of Science & Technology Mahatma Gandhi University, University of Calicut, University of Kerala	2 nd April, 2004
University of Delhi	University of Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University Jamia Milia Islamia, Jamia Hamdard University Aligarh Muslim University University of Jammu University of Kashmir	5 th April, 2004
Birla Institute of Technology	University of Rajasthan Jiwaji University, Kurukshetra University Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology Guru Nanak Dev University, Punjabi University	6 th April, 2004

**For updates in E-Subscription initiative,
visit <http://web.inflibnet.ac.in/econsortia/index.htm>**

UNION DATABASE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

New Search Interface for access to Union Catalogue

INFLIBNET has been developing union catalogue of academic libraries in India for last few years and it was started after the university libraries were given financial grants for library automation. Gradually, member libraries started contributing the data to INFLIBNET and it resulted in the enormous growth of union catalogue in the past few years. It contains bibliographic records of different type of materials viz. Books, Serials and Theses. This is the comprehensive and major source of bibliographic descriptions in academic and research arenas,

and for collection development in libraries. For the Books Database, currently we have received 60 lakhs (aprox.) bibliographic records, contributed by 96 university libraries in India. Records are being processed for merging in to union database, which involves standardization, field and sub field mapping and de-duplication. After processing records from 52 universities the database contains 20 lakhs unique records and the remaining records are under process. It provides bibliographic information contributed by the universities about each book with the library name. Books Database covers monographs, reference books, conference proceedings and textbooks. The participating libraries are regularly contributing the records for merging their local holdings in to the union database of INFLIBNET and the number of records is continuously growing.

Recently, INFLIBNET has developed a new interface for searching various databases, which is more efficient, user friendly and reliable. Entire records have been mounted on a new server. After series of the testing, it has been made available to the public for the access at <http://caliber2004.inflibnet.ac.in:7001/union.jsp>. New and enhanced tools for searching the database have many new features. Some of them are listed below:

- Generating the ILL request from the web
- Feedback form for tracking the errors in the records.
- Efficiency in the search term with user-friendly help-messages.
- Provision for Advanced search
- Navigation of records with various display format
- Integrated search for all the serials database
- All the databases are on one server
- It reveals the statistics of the records of each library
- Restriction of search limits

Entire search interface has been developed using JAVA as the basic programming language and MSSQL as the database server. For the development of web-based access to the databases, following software and hardware were used.

Server Side Programming:

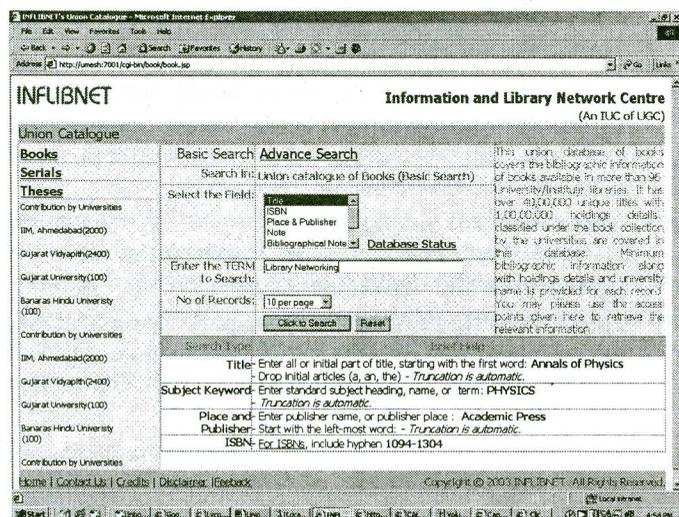
J2EE [Java 1.2, EJB 2.0 (Enterprise JavaBeans), JSP (Java Server Pages), JDBC (Java Database Connectivity), JavaMail, Servlet, HTML, JavaScript

Middleware Application Server

WebLogic Server Platform 7.0, WebLogic Builder for Component Building, EJB Container, HTTP (WebServer) Container, JSP Container, Connection Pooling

Database Server

Microsoft MS-SQL Server 2000



New Search Interface for accessing INFLIBNET Union Databases

UGC-INFONET: UPDATE

UGC-Infonet Training programmes at ERNET

7th Training Programme for the Computer Persons from Universities covered under UGC Infonet was held during 13-18 October, 2003 at ERNET India, New Delhi. 12 participants attended this programme from selected universities. 8th Training Programme for the Computer Persons from Universities covered under UGC Infonet was held during 2-7 February, 2004 at ERNET India, New Delhi. 10 participants attended this programme from selected universities. Shri Meharban Singh, Senior Manager, ERNET India and Shri S K Sharma, Scientist –B, INFLIBNET Centre were the course coordinators.

Status of of UGC Infonet Connectivity in Universities (as on March 31, 2004)

Agreements Signed	131
Funds Released From UGC	150
PO Received by ERNET	112
Site Survey/Link Procurement Started	4
Site Survey/Link Procurement Completed	9
Equipment Shipped	5
Installation in Progress	14
Existing ERNET Links	21
Links Commissioned	80

For updates in UGC Infonet initiative, visit <http://www.ugcinfonet.ernet.in/>

PLANNER 2003: REPORT

First Convention entitled PLANNER – 2003 (Promotion of Library Automation and Networking in North Eastern Region) was organized by INFLIBNET in collaboration with North Eastern Hill University, Shillong during 6-7 November, 2003 at NEHU new campus, Shillong. 330 delegates including 10 delegates from Bangladesh attended it. Majority of the participants were from the academic institutions/ Universities of North East India. This historical event was initiated by INFLIBNET to boost the automation and networking of libraries in North East Region. However there were representative from states outside NE region too.

Mr. R G Lyngdoh, the Hon'ble Minister for Home in Meghalaya, inaugurated the convention and he expressed his happiness on organizing such a convention on most important topic relating to adoption of new technologies in libraries. He appreciated the efforts and initiatives taken by the Director, INFLIBNET Dr. T A V Murthy who rightly and timely thought of bringing first convention of PLANNER-2003 to Meghalaya. He also released Souvenir and Hindi version of SOUL (Library software) on the occasion. Prof Mrinal Miri, the Vice-Chancellor of NEHU presided over the inaugural function. Earlier, Dr T A V Murthy while introducing the theme of the

convention appreciated the co-operation extended by the professionals of North Eastern states who showed their concern and enthusiasm to hold this convention at this beautiful NEHU Campus. Mrs. I Majaw, the Organizing Secretary and Mr. Prem Chand, Scientist-C of INFLIBNET delivered welcome address and vote of thanks respectively. The theme of the convention was 'Automation of Libraries in North Eastern Region: Trends, Issues and Challenges'. There was overwhelming response to call for papers. Authors from different states contributed and presented papers during the convention. The proceeding containing 45 full text papers presented in the form of well organized and edited volume, was brought out as pre-convention publication of 384 pages, which included 24 authors from different parts of North East. Two tutorials on different topics were also arranged to familiarize the delegates with the processes and technical know-how of network and digitization techniques. About 120 delegates registered for tutorials on "Building Digital Libraries" and "How to set up LAN in Libraries". Dr. Veena Saraf, Reader, Department of Library & Information Science, NEHU and Sh. S K Sharma, Scientist- B , INFLIBNET Centre were the resource persons for these tutorials.

Technical sessions were held on 6 – 7 November, 2003. Main theme of the Convention was categorized under two sub themes viz. IT based activities and Emergence of consortia. Commercial vendors were also given slots for presentation. Ch. Radheshyam Singh, Librarian, Manipur University chaired the first technical session, in which most of the papers discussed the automation status of different types of academic libraries mainly of North East India, highlighting the progress made during the last 10-15 years in the field of automation. The papers revealed that there are common problems being faced by all the libraries such as lack of infrastructure, manpower, finances etc. and passive attitude of professionals and administrators towards IT Application. Second area of discussion and presentation was use of library software, which varied from library to library with different standards and formats. There is hardly any uniformity and consistency in using tools and techniques of information processing and management. Such variations are creating bottlenecks in information sharing and exchange. However, some of the papers could suggest some guidelines for network planning including standardization.

Second technical session was chaired by Prof A S Chandel, in which most of the papers were based upon case studies of different libraries covering networking, Online Public Access Catalogue, Webbased Union Catalogue being developed by INFLIBNET, need for information literacy etc. While summing up the two technical sessions, it was quite explicit that proper strategic planning is required to promote and encourage IT Application in libraries to take full advantages of new advances in IT. The papers presented and discussed have given sufficient background for proper planning and implementation of IT Based programmes.

Third technical session was chaired by Prof. Alka Bourghain, which was devoted to consortia initiatives. Various models

were discussed, some of which covered North Eastern Region too. There were presentations on existing consortium like INDEST, HELINET, FORSA, UGC-Infonet and INFLIBNET etc. including E-journals subscription. There were presentations by professional organizations dealing with subscription of E-journals, discussing their services relating to full text access to E-Journals.

Fourth Technical Session was chaired by Dr M Abdussar, Registrar, Royal University of Dhaka. The topics covered in various papers presented in the session were on Search Engines, Digital library and Internet searching. Search features of various search engines were discussed with special emphasis on automatic indexing being done for Internet resources. Need for intelligent indexing was also referred for effective retrieval of information on Internet.

The convention concluded with valedictory function in which the proceedings of the convention were summarized by Prof A S Chandel, Head of DLIS at NEHU, Shillong who acted as Rapporteur General for the convention. The Chief guest of the valedictory function was Mr. G P Wahlang, IAS, Commissioner of Education, Govt. of Meghalaya who in his address appreciated NEHU and INFLIBNET to bring information professionals of North Eastern Region together to discuss their common problems relating to information organization and sharing. Registrar of NEHU, Prof. D T Khathing, Chaired the session. Dr. Veena Saraf and Mrs. I Majaw delivered the welcome address and vote of thanks respectively. During the concluding session, delegates from Bangladesh and North East expressed their opinion about PLANNER and thanked the INFLIBNET for organizing this event at Shillong.

Some of the recommendations emerging out of the deliberations are as follows:

- There is a need to formulate guidelines, norms and standards for automation, networking, and information processing which should be adopted by all the academic libraries of the region.
- INFLIBNET in association with Professional group of North East may workout these standards and suggest the adoption of suitable hardware and software for the purpose.
- Academic Libraries of the region should plan their own Library Network for mutual benefits as per requirements and needs of the region in addition of sharing other networks and consortia.
- Digitization lab should be established by the pooling resources from UGC and other funding agencies in the region to initiate digitization process on sharing basis.
- As per suggestions from the participants of Bangladesh, the possibilities of information sharing may be explored between the two countries by INFLIBNET and UGCs of both countries.
- Establishment of sub- center of INFLIBNET in North Eastern region was also suggested, preferably in NEHU Campus, which has maximum infrastructure facilities for the purpose.

Shri Prem Chand and Shri K Prakash acted as Chief Coordinator and Convener respectively from the Centre for coordinating this activity.

IT@AGRILIBNET-2003

The Second phase of "ICAR-INFLIBNET Training Programme for Agriculture Librarians on Networking and E-Resources Management" IT@AGRILIBNET 2003, supported by the World Bank through the National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP) of Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India was conducted at INFLIBNET during November, 2003. The course contents were selected keeping in view the objectives of this programme and the feedback received from the participants of the first batch i.e. awareness building, exposure to most modern technologies and IT based topics in which specialized and comprehensive lectures were delivered by External and INFLIBNET faculties. From the learning point of view and the implementation of the technology at their end, it was made compulsory for all the participants to complete the project and present during the concluding session using Power Point.

EIGHTH BATCH

The eighth batch of the IT@AGRILIBNET 2003 began on 03 November, 2003. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. T A V Murthy, Director, INFLIBNET Centre in the presence of Shri S M Salgar, Scientist G, INFLIBNET Centre. There were 20 lectures delivered during the training session by different faculties including one external faculty. Before concluding the programme, participants were asked to present their project reports based on assignment given to them and one person representing their respective institute presented the prepared slides. Dr. T A V Murthy, who also delivered the concluding remarks in the presence of Shri S M Salgar, distributed the certificates. 20 Participants attended the training programme drawn from different institutes across the country.

NINTH BATCH

The ninth batch was scheduled from 17th to 29th November, 2003. Prof. J L Sardana, Retired Professor, Department of Library & Information Science, Delhi University, Delhi and Ex-President, ILA was the chief guest for inaugurating the training programme, which was combined with INFLIBNET's 15th Training Programme in Installation and Operations of SOUL. Prof Sardana addressed the gathering and delivered the inaugural address to the participants in the presence of Shri S M Salgar, Scientist G, INFLIBNET Centre and Shri P C Shah, Honorary Director of ADINET. Prof. Sardana expressed his view on e-learning and e-resources management from Agriculture point of view. There were 20 lectures delivered by different faculty members including Prof. Sardana on "Library trends and future direction".

The programme was concluded by Dr. Daksha Surti, Head of the DLIS, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad in the presence of Dr T A V Murthy, Shri S M Salgar, and Shri P C Shah. Dr. Murthy thanked the NATP/ICAR for recognizing INFLIBNET's potential

and strength in terms of latest IT technology in the field of library and information science and giving it an opportunity to conduct the series of training programme. He also expressed his thanks to Dr. S L Mehta, Dr. Bandhopadhyay and Shri N S Pakhale of NATP/ICAR. Fourteen participants from nine different institutes turned out for the programme.

Dr. T A V Murthy, Director of the INFLIBNET Centre acted as Course Director and Shri Rajesh Chandrakar and Shri Shivpal Singh Kushwah, Scientific & Technical Officers of INFLIBNET Centre acted as the course coordinators and for second phase of IT@AGRILIBNET 2003 series.

INTERNATIONAL CALIBER-2004: REPORT

INFLIBNET's annual International CALIBER – 2004 was held at Jamia Millia Islamia, a Central University at New Delhi during 11-13 February, 2004 on the Theme "Road Map to New Generation of Libraries Using Emerging Technologies". Inaugural session started with welcome address by Shri Syed Shahid Mahidi, the Vice Chancellor of Jamia Milia Islamia and introductory remarks by Dr. T.A.V. Murthy, the Director of INFLIBNET Centre. Prof. Yash Pal, National Research Professor and Ex-Chairman of UGC delivered his address and pointed out that the architecture of information is more important than what is available on the web. He suggested that librarians and academicians should work for a global information environment where all can share and exchange their information with each other. Prof. Arun Nigavekar, the Chairman, UGC and the Chief Guest, in his inaugural address revealed UGC's objective of bringing technology to classrooms. He told that the success of UGC Infonet (UGC's new initiative to network Indian Universities) and E-journals initiative would be visible only if the changes are happening at grass root level of education and research. Automatic change in the mindsets of academicians is the need of the hour. He urged INFLIBNET to conduct orientation and awareness programmes on IT and Internet use, across the country and educate academicians and students. He also released the conference proceedings and Prof. S.G. Mahajan felicitated volume. Dr. T.A.V. Murthy felicitated Prof. Mahajan. While speaking on the occasion Prof. Mahajan congratulated UGC-INFLIBNET for taking new initiative for the benefit of research and academic community. He also released SOUL manuals in regional languages viz. Telugu, Malayalam, Punjabi, Oriya. Dr. Gayas Makhdumi, Organising Secretary and University Librarian, Jamia Millia Islamia proposed vote of thanks. The programme was well attended by more than 240 national and international delegates, invitees, guests and press-media.

The proceedings of CALIBER-2004 started with technical session on the sub-theme "Digital/Virtual/E-Libraries". Dr. (Mrs.) M D Baby, Member of INFLIBNET Governing Council and University Librarian, Cochin University of Science & Technology was the chairperson of the session assisted by two rapporteurs. There were 32 papers accepted for presentation and out of that, 18 papers were presented. Dr. S. Venkadesan, Librarian, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, presented the invited theme paper on 'Strategic Planning and Policy for

collection development of E-resources to satisfy user requirements: A Case study of JRD Tata Memorial Library'. He gave a concise as well as comprehensive picture of E-Collection development by extracting the best practices emerging from the Tata Library experience. All the other papers in the first session addressed the significant issues such as digital information, digitization processes, case studies of digital libraries, digital conversion of special collection such as photographs, personalization system, interconnectivity, interoperability, digitization of cultural heritage, communication in digital libraries, standards and protocols and institutional repositories for holding and storing digital information and archival practices. Apart from training of staff of the library to digital world, user orientation to the digital information and ethical and fair use of digital resources were discussed. A very pragmatic issue raised and discussed in the first session was the Print vs. Electronic resources. This discussion has led to another pertinent issue, 'interface between print and electronic'. After the presentation of papers interesting and significant issues were raised by participants that took the session in the right direction. The feedback of the participants has helped to identify the main tasks left before the digital librarians.

On the Day 2, the theme "Strategic planning and catalyst for new generation of libraries" was taken for presentation and discussion. This session was chaired by Dr (Mrs) N J Deshpande from DLIS of Pune University who was assisted by the rapporteurs Mr. Basur Ahmed and Dr Uma Kanjilal. In this session, there were 24 papers, out of which 17 were presented. In the theme paper, "Strategic Planning and Catalysts for new generation of libraries", Dr. Rama Reddy, University Librarian of Hyderabad University specified the relevance of strategic planning and management in the modern libraries and information centres. He also codified the impact of changes in the planning environment and suggested the action plan for effective strategic planning for new generation of libraries. The issues and technologies addressed by others in this session were: challenges in the academic library, strategic planning for new technology in libraries, technological and legal implications of digital libraries, Intellectual Property Rights in the changing scenario, IT applications and implications of IT, digital information users, architecture and retrospective conversion. The content of the papers were based on observations, case studies and experimentation. During the session, a renowned library professional, Dr. Jaginder Singh Ramdev, who is the founder of SATKAL Trust, addressed the delegates. Dr. T.A.V. Murthy, Director of INFIBNET, felicitated him with a memento.

Dr. P. Padhi from Utkal University chaired technical session on "Web Content Management" assisted by Dr Amritpal Kaur and Dr Sreenivaslu. Altogether there were 18 papers to be presented in the afternoon session; only 7 papers were presented including one theme paper. Dr. Hildrun Kretschmer initiated the theme paper on Webometrics with the nice comparison with bibliometrics, scientometrics, and webometrics. There were two papers on data mining, two

papers on knowledge management, one paper each on MyLibrary, XML for information portals and KDD. Lot of interests was generated on the paper MyLibrary and the presenter answered a number of questions put by the participants. Sessions of the second day came to end with a presentation on E-Subscription consortia under UGC Infonet, made by Dr.V.S. Cholin of INFIBNET, which was supplemented by clarifications from Dr. T.A.V. Murthy, Director of INFIBNET. Dr. Murthy also embarked upon new initiatives of INFIBNET and requested the wholehearted support from librarian and academic fraternity.

Dr E Rama Reddy, University Librarian of Hyderabad University chaired the last session on "Emerging Technologies" and Shri Rajesh Chandrakar and Shri S Naqvi assisted him as Rapporteurs. It started with theme paper on "Emerging Technologies" presented by Shri S M Salgar, Scientist-G of INFIBNET Centre. He covered all sub theme areas and presented the latest and emerging technologies, which will change today's functions of libraries. He described the topics like Networking, Wireless LANs, Digital Services, E-Education, Distributed Databases, Mirror sites etc and tried to relate them with Library services. Out of 18 papers accepted for presentation, authors presented 10 papers. 6 papers covered WLAN application in libraries, one each was on application of smart card technology, Info ATM, E-Learning and Digital Repositories. All the papers described the ideas of library professionals in India, to acquire and implement the emerging technologies in their libraries to serve the user community.

Concluding ceremony started with the brief introduction by Shri S M Salgar about the conference and welcome address by Dr T A V Murthy. The Rapporteur General of the convention Dr B Satyanaraya, University Librarian of JN Technical University, Hyderabad delivered the report of technical sessions. Few International delegates spoke on their experiences about CALIBER, like Dr Muhammed Ramzan (Pakistan), Dr Hildrun Kretschmer (Germany), Dr H Suhaimi Abdul Karim (Brunei) along with Dr E Rama Reddy from University of Hyderabad. INFIBNET GC Member Dr (Mrs) M D Baby from Cochin University of Science and Technology and GB Member Dr (Mrs) Nupur Prakash from GGS Indraprastha University, New Delhi also spoke on the occasion. The Chief Guest Prof J L Sardana, a distinguished Librarian and ex-President of ILA applauded INFIBNET and JMI team for the wonderful convention organisation. He also praised the progress made by INFIBNET and urged UGC for appointing more scientific staff for the smooth functioning of the programme. He also demanded for a national level coordination centre to look after the digital library initiatives in the country, and according to him INFIBNET will be the appropriate body to do the job. Prof Sardana released "Librarians' Guide to WWW" a book jointly written by Shri Suresh Panwar and Dr T A V Murthy. Director, INFIBNET distributed mementos to invited guests and Foreign delegates. The concluding session came to an end with vote of thanks proposed by Dr Gayas Makhdumi, the Organising Secretary of International CALIBER-2004.

Shri S M Salgar from INFLIBNET acted as the Coordinator and Dr P Pichappan, LIS Professor from Annamalai University and President of Digital Information Research Foundation acted as the Co-coordinator for the technical sessions, respectively. The proceedings of the convention, containing 78 technical papers was brought out in book form. A daily newsletter "CALIBER-2004 Update" was published in the conference venue everyday covering programmes, news, interviews and photographs. Around 240 professionals from India and few from abroad attended the Convention. Around 25 librarians sponsored by Indian Council for Agriculture Research under World Bank NATP attended the conference. They felt that CALIBER-2004 was an excellent opportunity to interact with experts in the field and it will boost the ongoing initiatives for uplifting LIS system in agriculture libraries. A good number of LIS students including a group of students from Saurashtra University also participated in the convention. Thomson-ISI and Elsevier Publishers arranged two commercial presentations and good number of companies participated in the exhibition held at the convention venue. Organising committee also arranged cultural programs for the delegates and invitees. Through this convention, INFLIBNET proved that it is not just creating a network of libraries but also mobilizing the concept of human resources development to transfer the concepts, knowledge and technology across the wide spectrum of library and information community.

Shri Yatrik Patel and Shri J K Vijayakumar acted as Convener and Co-Convener for the organizing committee and coordinated the CALIBER related activities from the Centre.

SOUL NEWS

SOUL Training Programmes at INFLIBNET

15th Training Programme was held during 17-21 November, 2003 at INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad. 12 Participants attended the programme.

16th Training Programme was held during 24-28 November, 2003 at INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad. 08 Participants attended the programme.

Shri Ashok Achtani acted as the Course Coordinator for the programmes.

SOUL in Madhya Pradesh Colleges

INFLIBNET has made an agreement with Office of the Commissioner, Higher Education, Madhya Pradesh for Library Automation in Government Colleges of the state by using SOUL Software. In the first phase we have received 89 orders for supply & installation of SOUL Software. As per agreement INFLIBNET conducted training programmes on SOUL Installation and Usage in the state of Madhya Pradesh as follows:

17th Training Programme conducted at Govt. Model Science College, Jabalpur during 15-27, December, 2003. 20 Participants attended the programme.

18th Training Programme conducted at Govt. Gitanjali Girls College, Bhopal during 15-27, December, 2003. 22 Participants attended the programme.

19th Training Programme conducted at Holkar Science College, Indore during 15-27, December, 2003. 22 Participants attended the programme.

20th Training Programme conducted during 05-09, January, 2004. 16 Participants attended the programme.

21st Training Programme conducted at Govt. Gitanjali Girls College, Bhopal during 03-14, February, 2004. 21 Participants attended the programme.

SOUL Awareness Training Programme was arranged at INFLIBNET for Gujarat Council of Education, Research & Training from 23-25, March, 2004 GCERT proposes to purchase SOUL for their 25 District Institute Libraries located in different parts of Gujarat. 17 Participants attended the programme.

Forthcoming SOUL Training Programme

22nd Training Programme will be held during 19-23 April, 2004 at INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad

INFLIBNET REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME IN LIBRARY AUTOMATION REPORTS

Chhattisgarh

IRTPLA for the state of Chhattisgarh was organized at Guru Ghasidas University, Bilaspur during 27-31 October, 2003. Prof L M Malvi, Vice Chancellor I/C inaugurated the programme. Prof J L Saini, Dr U N Singh and Shri Rajesh Chandrakar also spoke on the occasion. Mr K Majumdar, Dr R K Saxena, Dr Amit Saxena, Dr B Tiwari, Shri V K Singh, Shri S Pandey and Shri V K Bahety were present on the function. Dr U N Singh and Mr K Majumdar acted as the resource persons along with Shri Rajesh Chandrakar from INFLIBNET. In the concluding session Prof Girijesh Pant, the Vice Chancellor of GGU distributed the certificates. Twenty librarians attended the programme. Dr U N Singh, Librarian of GGU was the coordinator for the programme.

Karnataka

IRTPLA for the state of Karnataka was organized at Mangalore University, Mangalore during 1-5 December, 2003. Dr P V Konnur, the University Librarian & Head of DLIS at Goa University inaugurated the programme in the presidency of Prof B Hanumaiah, the Vice-Chancellor of Mangalore University. Prof A K Baradol (Chairman of DLIS, Mangalore University) and Shri K Prakash (INFLIBNET) were the Chief Guests. Shri K Sundar Naik, Registrar of MU welcomed the gathering. 20 participants from different parts of Karnataka attended the programme. In the concluding session, Dr Usha Munshi of INSA, New Delhi, Dr V R Nanjangaud (Director, Computer Centre, MU) and Prof K Siddappa (Ex Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University) were present. Dr P V

Konnur, Dr Usha Munshi, Dr V R Nanjangaud, Shri Doreawamy, Shri Umesha Naik and Shri K Prakash from INFLIBNET acted as the resource persons. Dr M K Bhandi, University Librarian of MU acted as the Course Coordinator of the programme.

Maharashtra

IRTPLA for the state of Maharashtra was organized at Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad during 16 – 20 December, 2003. Vice Chancellor of BAM University Dr K P Sonawane presided over the inaugural function and the Chief Guest Shri H G Hosamani from INFLIBNET delivered the address. Dr (Mrs) A A Vaishnav, Professor and Head of DLIS at BAM University acted as the Course Coordinator and Shri H G Hosamani acted as the resource person from INFLIBNET side. 22 participants participated in the programme. In the concluding session. Registrar of the University distributed the certificates.

Kerala

IRTPLA for the state of Kerala was conducted at Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam during 27-31 October, 2003. Prof. K A Isaac (Former Head of DLIS and Librarian at University of Kerala) inaugurated the function. Dr C S Menon (Dean and Member of Syndicate), Dr (Mrs) M D Baby (GC Member-INFLIBNET and University Librarian, CUSAT, Kochi), Shri K Ravindran (Former Librarian, MGU), Smt KR Jayammal (Former Dy Librarian-l/c, MGU), Dr. V S Cholin and Shri. J K Vijayakumar (INFLIBNET) also spoke on the occasion. Dr (Mrs) M D Baby from CUSAT, Shri J Suku, Shri K Ravindran, Shri Raju Varghese and Shri G Unnikrishnan (all are from MGU) acted as Resource persons along with Shri J K Vijayakumar from INFLIBNET. In the valedictory function, Shri P K Rajendra Kurup (Dy Librarian l/c and Course Coordinator, IRTPLA) presided over the meeting and the Chief Guest, Dr. Vikraman Nair, Registrar of MGU distributed the certificates to the participants. Twenty-five librarians participated in the programme.

West Bengal

IRTPLA for West Bengal State was organized at Burdwan University, Burdwan during 17-21 December, 2003. Prof L K Samanta, the Dean of Science faculty inaugurated the programme and Prof S P Biswas, Head of DLIS presided over the function. Shri S K De, Dr J Vijayakumar and Mr Bikesh Mulhopahyay acted as the resource persons. 25 participants attended the programme. Dr. S. Dan , Registrar distributed the certificates to the participants on the concluding session. It was coordinated by Shri Bikash Mukhopadhyay, Information Scientist of B.U under the guidance of Shri Samir Kumar De, Librarian of B.U.

STAFF NEWS

Recognitions

Dr T A V Murthy, Director of INFLIBNET is elected to the 20-member Council of Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres (IASLIC) for the term of 2004-05. Prof Ashok Nath Basu, Vice Chancellor of Jadavpur University and

Mr Dipak Kumar Nag are elected as the President and General Secretary of IASLIC respectively.

Dr V S Cholin, Scientist-B, INFLIBNET Centre is awarded with “**SIS Young Information Scientist**” award by Society for Information Science (SIS), New Delhi. The award was given in the inaugural function of 22nd Annual Convention and Conference of SIS held at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras during 21-23 January, 2004.

Shri J K Vijayakumar, Scientific Technical Officer, INFLIBNET Centre is selected from India for **IFLA Travel Grant** for the year 2004 by International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), Netherlands under its Advancement in Librarianship Programme (ALP). This Travel Grant is for attending the World Library Conference and 70th IFLA General Conference during August 22-27, 2004 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

INFLIBNET FAMILY CONGRATULATES THEM ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

New Staff Joined INFLIBNET

Shri Manoj Kumar K joined INFLIBNET Centre as Scientist-D (Computer Science) on 27 January, 2004. He holds Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from University of Calicut and Master of Computer Applications from Government Engineering College, Thiruvananthapuram. Before joining INFLIBNET he was working with Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode as Programmer for five and half years. At IIM-K he was involved in setting up of state-of-the-art IT infrastructure in the campus, as programme faculty in different workshops, training programmes for different kind of professionals including Librarians. Altogether he carries experience of more than 10 years from various institutions including CEDTI (DOEACC), Kozhikode and Coal India Limited, Ranchi etc in different capacities. He is an active member of Computer Society of India and actively involved in non-voluntary organizations like Junior Chamber and conducted several programmes in leadership development, public speaking and personality development.

New Project Scientists

Miss Vaishali Parikh and Miss Thiyam Satyabati Devi (on 10 December, 2003) and Shri Suresh Kumar (on 29 December, 2003) joined INFLIBNET Centre as Project Scientists (Library Science) for a period of one year.

Smt Sonia Dubey (on 10 December, 2003), Miss Ellora Parida (on 16 December, 2003) and Shri Jai Prakash Sharma (on 24 December, 2003) joined INFLIBNET Centre as Project Scientist (Computer Science) for a period of one year.

Dr T Temjen also joined INFLIBNET Centre on 11 February, 2003 as Project Consultant (Library Science) for a period of one year.

INFLIBNET FAMILY WELCOMES ALL NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Staff Left from INFUBNET

Shri Suresh Panwar, who was working with INFUBNET as Scientist-B (Computer Science) joined Punjab National Bank as Manager-IT MMG. He left the Centre on 23 December, 2003

Shri Shivpal Singh Kushwah, who was working with INFUBNET as STO (Library Science) joined G B Pant University of Agriculture and Technology as Assistant Librarian. He left the Centre on 20 January, 2004.

INFUBNET FAMILY WISHES ALL THE BEST FOR THEIR CAREER

Staff Visits

Dr. T A V Murthy attended the 6th International Conference of Asian Digital Libraries (ICADL-2003) held at KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia during 8 - 11 December, 2003.

Dr T A V Murthy inaugurated the "Workshop on Democratizing Information with a Focus on Libraries", on 18 January, 2004 in Mumbai. It was held in conjunction with the World Social Forum (WSF-4) took place on 16-21 January, 2004 in Mumbai. "Bytes for all" and "Sir Dorabji Tata Memorial Library", TISS, Mumbai jointly organized the workshop. Various international experts including Ms. Kay Raseroka, new President of IFLA participated in the programme.

Shri B Ramesh and Shri Rajesh Chandrakar participated in ICDL 2004 held at TERI, New Delhi on 24-27 February, 2004. Mr Chandrakar presented a paper titled "Narrowing Digital Divide: Initiatives of INFUBNET for Indian Academic Libraries" jointly written with Dr T A V Murthy.

REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

INFUBNET family celebrated the 55th Republic Day of India in its campus. Shri S M Salgar, Scientist-G hoisted the national flag of India and addressed the staff members, their family members and invitees. He greeted all the staff members of INFUBNET for their good work and told that academic and research community in the country recognizes INFUBNET's 12 years of existence due to its fastest development in providing services. Shri D P Negi, Admin Officer (P&A) also spoke on the occasion. Staff members of INFUBNET with their family members attended the celebrations.

INTERVIEW: MR R RAMACHANDRAN

Mr R Ramachandran is the Director of the National Library and Deputy CEO of the National Library Board, Singapore. He is appointed as the new Secretary General of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). He will assume the position on 1st April, 2004. INFUBNET congratulates him on his new position.

1. How do you see the future libraries in the context of advancement of IT, especially in developing Countries?

Libraries are wellsprings of innovation. The advancement of IT has enhanced the role of libraries in enabling society. Particularly in developing countries, IT will help them to leapfrog. India is a good example. Effectively deployed, IT is a key enabler for libraries in Third World's to expand the learning capacity of their societies and catch up with the West. Encore Technologies, the marketers of SIMPUTER, which originated in INDIA have created open source software for the developing world to manage their collections on a portable computer. This alone has offered libraries in the Third World to afford a circulation system, which they could not in the past. With the growing popularity and use of IT, prices of hardware and software will decrease to a level where the masses could easily afford. IT could also be used for productivity in addition to providing easy access to content. Developing countries have a long way to go as far as automation is concerned. The real issue is whether automation through IT will generate higher productivity with more employment or reduced employment. The fear is that IT will not help the unemployment rates in developing countries. It seems to me that at least for libraries, IT for productivity has meant that staff could move on to do better, more professional type of work rather than stamping books. The introduction of RFID in Singapore libraries for example posed a real threat to the jobs of para-librarians. Today we have effectively re-deployed 200 staff who were stamping books in the past to other professional work- answering enquiries, etc. It is indeed a mindset transformation. Also libraries in developing countries can be test-beds for IT experiments. I recall the Oracle "wireless" experiment that began in the State Library of Sarawak. Today everyone has latched on to "wireless" libraries in the developed world. Hence libraries will benefit with IT.

More importantly, reference and research materials are being digitized. This has made e-content a permanent feature of libraries. Journals and newspapers have greater access over the net than when it was in print. As more information gets into the net through digitalization, libraries and librarians may face the challenge of not even being the last stop if not the first stop. We can overcome this challenge. Libraries can be gateways for e-content especially if it involves licensing of e-content. Libraries could expand their scope of services to packaging information from e-content for the mass populace in areas of community or individual interest. Librarians could offer information dissemination as one of their core services, highlighting authentic and authoritative information to users. Validation of content is therefore a key area librarians can explore.

Libraries have also become digitization centres of late. Digital document delivery, digital depositories and digital publishing has found its home in libraries. Advancement of IT has benefited libraries in the past and it would create new value for libraries of the future. Librarians need to ensure that they ride on the wave of IT rather than shun it because it has become integral to their profession.

2. How would IFLA like to play the role of catalyst for the development of library and information services?

IFLA has a longstanding role in the development of LIS. One would indeed be impressed by the volunteerism of IFLA's participants and their tremendous commitment for librarianship and goodwill for IFLA. **IFLA embodies the basic librarian's core value – freedom of access and to share information fearlessly.** It is built on social capital and collective action. I hope to harness the tremendous energy and goodwill of librarians worldwide for positive development of libraries. The library world lacks leadership though it has leaders. Leading is influencing, guiding a course of action or opinion both at the local level as well as internationally. Information societies await leadership from librarians as knowledge experts and it needs them most now as librarianship has matured and developed and is ready to make a quantum leap forward in enhancing reading, learning and bringing about a more informed society. IFLA will be a key advocate of library leadership in the social learning infrastructure that societies are architecting. This will be done through its global conferences and regional offices. IFLA will also place special emphasis on library and information science education to ensure that librarians of the future are geared to meet the challenges of a converged library and media world.

IFLA is the most important global voice of librarians and has promoted libraries as important educational and cultural agency, providing useful platform for librarians worldwide to interact and share information. Without IFLA the library profession would not have been a global entity or a voice as it is today. IFLA had stood together and strongly in major international crises to protect access to information and cultural repositories (eg. Afghanistan, Iraq.) Another key contribution is in standards. IFLA conferences annually articulated evolving standards and adoption of those by librarians all over the world. It is the most significant event for an update on any form of library activity. Making librarians aware of the changes taking place in the library and related environment and providing opportunities to deal with these challenges positively in a globalised environment would be an area I would also concentrate. In order for IFLA to be a catalyst it first needs to be a truly global organization that is effective and financially strong. It should transform libraries, librarians and the way stakeholders and clients view libraries.

3. What are the plans of IFLA to upgrade the library and information professionals to meet the challenges?

IFLA has not consolidated and finalised its plans as yet. Personally my vision is to focus on an institute an excellent library leadership training programme, development of regional offices as effective regional outposts with enhanced resources and responsibilities, transforming libraries,

librarians mind sets, library clients and stakeholders view of libraries.

My priority for IFLA in professional development would be as follows:

- To develop and train librarians as leaders of change.
- To develop Library Associations into strong, powerful and effective professional organizations for librarians.
- To focus efforts on an International curriculum for librarians to nurture a generation that will advocate "global librarianship" to become truly universal in our calling.

These are not finalized but are some of the more important areas of focus that will be relevant to the development of LIS.

PROFESSIONAL NEWS

UGC-COL Meeting Held

UGC-COL dialogue on "Enhancing Higher Education Through E-Learning" was held during 17-19 November, 2004 at India International Centre, New Delhi. Prof. G. Dhanarajan, the President and CEO of Commonwealth of Learning, Canada inaugurated the dialogue. Prof. Arun Nigavekar, Chairman, UGC, outlined the initiatives in the utilization of ICT and e-learning and emphasized that this dialogue would be useful for developing guidelines and strategies for policy, content and technologies to be implemented in Indian higher education institutions. Prof. V. N. Rajasékharan Pillai, Vice Chairman, UGC highlighted the strength of higher education in India, its massive size in terms of numbers and challenges and emphasized that with the e-technologies we would expect to double the number of students reached in a cost-effective manner. Prof. Ved Prakash, Secretary, UGC welcomed the delegates and dignitaries. The Commonwealth of Learning, Canada is an inter-governmental organization, created by the Commonwealth Heads of Government to encourage the development and sharing of open learning/distance education knowledge, resources and technologies. COL is helping developing countries to improve access to quality education and training. The present collaboration is the beginning of a partnership to provide such access to quality education, resources, and training to the tertiary education system in India. Mr. Paul West, Dr. Krishna Alluri, and Prof. Asha Kanwar, all Education Specialists; Mr. David Porter, Executive Director, BC Campus, Vancouver, Canada; and Dr. Usha Vyasulu Reddy, Director of the local regional office of COL-Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA), New Delhi; Directors of UGC-Inter-University-Centres; Vice Chancellors; Senior MHRD and UGC officials were among those who took part in the dialogue. The

dialogue covered a wide range of issues pertaining to policy, content and technology issues in e-learning with special reference to higher education. The recommendation and action plans, emerged out of the dialogue are: the UGC should create a learner-centered, cost-effective system to support the use of e-Learning by the institutions; the target group of the system will be the teachers, learners at all levels (formal, non-formal, informal and continuing), multimedia content developers and learner support staff. Strategies to be adopted and an action plan for implementation of the same was outlined. Public-private partnerships, Institution-industry linkages, National and International partnerships are to be encouraged. The role of UGC will be to provide: policy guidelines. and funding support; network development and development of distributed classrooms; tools and techniques development; promotional role through lead universities; training of all categories of staff; maintenance of standards and monitoring and R&D activities. In order to undertake the activities six task groups have been identified for (i) standards and specifications, including instructional design, learning objects metadata, object packaging and digital rights management, (ii) hardware, software systems and their deployment and professional development of staff, (iii) connectivity options such as landline, microwave, cellular, radio and satellite communication with possibilities of continuous upgrading, (iv) user studies to consider mechanisms of continuous analysis of client needs and suggest appropriate designs for making the system client-centred, (v) private-public partnership to consider all forms of partnerships and collaborations and suggest productive ways of maximizing the opportunities to all the stakeholders and (v) content development and related issues. The role of COL will be to assist in sharing of international experience and expertise; development of international partnerships and linkages; development of content platforms, tools and techniques for development, delivery and management of e-learning; development of quality assessment standards and external evaluation of e-learning programmes. Director, INFLIBNET also attended the meeting. *[Extracted from UGC Newsletter January 2004 issue]*

AIU Meet in Tirupati

78th Annual Meeting of Association of Indian Universities was held in Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati during November 20-22, 2003. During the conference, honorable President of India Dr A P J Abdul Kalam asked the Vice Chancellors to provide opportunity to the students and the teachers to undertake advance research which would build knowledge resource and core competence for achieving relevance and excellence. He said necessary steps should also be taken to create a virtual university in India through networking of all the varsities and other educational institutions for imparting universal tele-education. The networking of universities would provide a common platform for teaching schools, colleges and universities and

even vocational courses. This would lead to synergising the strengths of different universities in promoting quality education in a cost effective manner, he added. Dr T A V Murthy, Director of INFLIBNET also attended meet as a special invitee.

SIS-2004 Report

22nd Annual Convention and Conference of Society for Information Science was organized at IIT Madras during 21-23 January, 2004. As a part of the Convention, Pre-Conference Tutorials were also organized on 21st January. Prof. M.S.Ananth, Director of IIT, Madras inaugurated the Annual Convention and also released the Pre-Conference Volume on 22nd January, Professor S. Narayanan, Dean (Academic Research), IIT, Madras welcomed the delegates and also released the Souvenir, Dr. TAV Murthy, Director INFLIBNET and the President, SIS delivered presidential address, Prof. S.V.Raghavan, Dean (Planning), IIT, Madras delivered keynote address, Dr. Ramesh Kundra, Secretary, SIS felicitated the dignitaries on the dais and also announced the SIS annual awards to Mr. Yogendra Singh and Dr. V.S.Cholin. Mr. N. V. Sathyanarayana, Managing Director, Informatics India and Vice President of SIS outlined the tremendous changes in the information profession and the role being played by information industry in bridging the gap in information access and retrieval. Dr. Harish Chandra, Organising Secretary proposed a Vote of Thanks. Over 200 participants from the entire country including two participants from Kenya participated. 99 papers were included in the Pre Conference Volume. Prof. V.G. Talawar from Mysore University acted as the Director of the Conference, Prof. B.Ramesh Babu, from Madras University served as the Repporteur General and Dr. S. Chandrappa from IIM, Bangalore acted as Associate Repporteur General.

On 23rd January, Prof. Raizda Memorial Lecture was delivered by Mr. P.C. Saha on "Towards Self Sufficiency through Information Marketing". Various leading Information and E-Publishing Industries and Institutions including Balani Infotech, Edutech, Informatics India, Infflibnet, Total Library Solutions, Olumpus Infotech made special presentations about their products and services. Prof. P. T. Manoharan, Former Vice Chancellor, Madras University was the Chief Guest of the Valedictory function. Dr. Harish Chandra, Organizing Secretary proposed a vote of thanks.

Libraries of the Asia Pacific Directory (LAP)

National Library of Australia is maintaining an online listing of the Libraries of the Asia Pacific. Over the last few months, this listing has been redeveloped as an online directory, with improved facilities for searching and for the addition and updating of entries. There are over 400 libraries in the current directory at <http://www.nla.gov.au/lap>. Each entry provides contact details and information about the library, and can be updated by the members. If your library is not

listed so far, you may include your library through "Add a Library Option" available in the site from <http://www.nla.gov.au/lap/newentry.html>.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

ICIM-2005 Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres (IASLIC) will be hosting International Conference on Information Management in a Knowledge Society (ICIM-2005) to commemorate its GOLDEN JUBILEE celebrations at Grand Hyatt, Mumbai (Bombay), February 21-25, 2005. **Theme : Information Management in a Knowledge Society.** For more details contact Dr. D Kamalavijayan, Organising Committee Chairman, General Manager & Chief Librarian Reserve Bank of India Central Office Mumbai - 400 001 Tel.: 022 - 2265 5127 Fax : 022 - 2265 4993 E-mail : kamalavijayan@hotmail.com or visit the website <http://www.icim2005.org/>

ASIS&T 2004 Annual Meeting: will be held during 13 - 18 November, 2004 at Providence, Rhode Island, USA. Theme for this year will be "Managing and Enhancing Information: Cultures and Conflicts". For more information, please see <http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM04/>.

ETD 2004 the Seventh International Conference on Electronic Theses and Dissertations will be organized by the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) on the theme "Distributing knowledge worldwide through better scholarly communication" during June 3-5, 2004 at University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY USA. For more details visit, <http://www.uky.edu/ETD/ETD2004/>

SIFL 2004 The 2nd Shanghai International Library Forum (SILF 2004) will be held on October 12-15, 2004 at the Shanghai Library, Shanghai, China. Theme "City Development and Library Services". Please Contact: Ms. REN Xiapei: International Cooperation Division, Shanghai Library 1555 Huai Hai Zhong Lu, Shanghai 200031, China. Email: xpren@libnet.sh.cn or the website of the Forum at <http://www.libnet.sh.cn/silf2004/>

ARTICLES ALERT

1. Alex Byrne. Digital libraries: barriers or gateways to scholarly information? *The Electronic Library*, 2003, 21(5), Pp. 414 - 421
2. Hussein Suleman, Edward A Fox, Rohit Kelapure, Aaron Krowne and Ming Luo. Building digital libraries from simple building blocks, *Online Information Review*, 2003, 27(5), Pp. 301 - 310
3. Mohammad Nasir Uddin. Internet use by university academics: a bipartite study of information and communication needs, *Online Information Review*, 2003, 27(4), Pp. 301 - 310, pp. 225 - 237

4. Peter Murray-Rust; Henry S Rzepa. XML for scientific publishing, *OCLC Systems & Services*, 2003, 19(4), Pp. 162-169
5. Pieter van Brakel. Information portals: a strategy for importing external content, *The Electronic Library*, 2003, 21(6), Pp 591-600.
6. T A V Murthy, K Prakash and J K Vijayakumar. IT@AGRILIBNET-2003: Report, *Library Hi Tech News incorporating Online and CD Notes*, 2003 20 (10), Pp 8-9.
7. Sheau-Hwang Chang. Institutional repositories: the library's new role, *OCLC Systems & Services*, 2003, 19(3), Pp. 77 - 79

NEW FINANCIAL ADVISER FOR UGC

Shri Pawan Agarwal, IAS has joined UGC as Financial Adviser on November 10, 2003. He is an officer of 1985 batch of West Bengal Cadre of the IAS. Earlier he had worked as Director (Technical Education) in the Ministry of HRD, Government of India. He was in-charge of the Central Universities in the Ministry during 1998-99. Shri Agarwal has also worked as Principal Secretary in the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council, Collector & District Magistrate and in the Departments of Urban Development and Education. His areas of interest are use of information and communication technologies in education, regulatory framework for higher education, role of technology in human capital formation, life-long learning, community information systems and education services in the market place. He took active involvement and leadership in the implementation of INDEST Consortia under MHRD in India. His new role in UGC with the experience in Consortia activities will really boost UGC Infonet Consortia activities. INFLIBNET family congratulates him and welcomes to his new position.

NEW PRESIDENT FOR AIU

Prof (Dr) K Mohandas, Director of Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram has taken over as the 79th President of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) for the year 2004. He is the Vice Chair of Association of Commonwealth Universities and was the past Vice President of AIU. Being a Post Graduate in Anesthesiology and Professor and Head of the Department he held many important professional and academic positions at national and international level. Recently he became the first Indian to receive the recognition of "Fellow of Royal College of Anesthetists (FRCA)" from UK. Under his directorship, SCTIMST started several innovative programmes and achieved several milestones including the first laboratories in India to receive ISO certification. New postgraduate courses also started in various advanced fields in Medical Sciences. INFLIBNET family congratulates him and welcomes to his new position.

SECOND PLANNER – 2004

CALL FOR PAPERS

PLANNER stands for "Promotion of Library Automation and Networking in North Eastern Region". In the year 2003, INFLIBNET started organizing this event in collaboration with Universities and other Academic Institutions located in North East of India. The Second PLANNER is being organized for the library professionals in the North Eastern region at Manipur University, Imphal, during November 4-5, 2004.

THEME

The main theme of the **PLANNER – 2004** is **Content Creation, Access and Management in Networked Environment**. The sub-themes and the topics to be covered are given below.

1. Digitization, Archiving and Indexing

Content Architecture & Systems, Digitization, Indexing, Archiving, Archiving Tools, Archiving Techniques, Standards & Protocols, Metadata, Special Collection, Distributed and Heterogeneous digital collections, Digital Preservation, Digitization of multi-lingual documents.

2. Networking, Access and Retrieval

Access and Preservation, Interoperability, Information Retrieval, Search Techniques/Tools, Standards & Protocols, Meta-information Integration, Data Mining, Web Enabling, Web Enabling, Open Architecture Interface, Multi and Cross Lingual Data Searching.

3. Content Management

Digital Content Management, Content Management Platforms, Content Transformation, Solution, Open Archives, Institutional Repositories, Interoperability and Scalability, Mass Storage, Evaluation, User Needs, Intellectual Property Right, Privacy & Security Issues, Manpower Training.

SUBMISSION OF PAPERS:

We solicit papers in any areas of the theme and the sub themes, which explore issues effectively and efficiently. Papers based on research, practical experience and case studies will only be accepted for presentation and inclusion in the pre-convention volume. The paper should neither be published anywhere nor should have been kept under consideration for publication elsewhere and the author should agree to transfer the copyright to the conference organizers. Papers should not exceed 10 single spaced pages (Use A4 Format, Times 12 Pt font, Margins: Left – 3 cm, others – 2 cm). The cover page must contain: a resume about the author(s) in 150 words, 3-5 keywords, names and affiliation of author(s), author's e-mail, phone, fax, postal address along with a passport size photograph. Full papers should be submitted in MS word format by email or on Floppy to the editors. Full papers, on different themes, as per the standard formats should reach the following Editors directly on or **before 30 September, 2004**.

Digitization, Archiving and Indexing	Networking, Access and Retrieval	Content Management
DR. ROEL P HANGSING Lecturer, DLIS NEHU, Mayurbhanj Complex Nongthymmai, Shillong - 783014 Meghalaya Phone : 0364-2231617 9436104108 (M) E-Mail: lbscnehu@sancharnet.in	SH. MANOJ KUMAR K Scientist - D, INFLIBNET Centre, P.B. No. 4116 Navrangpura, Ahmedabad - 380 009 Phone: 079-2630 5971 / 4695 31134222 (M) Fax : 079-2630 0990 / 7816 Email :manoj@inflibnet.ac.in	SH. K PRAKASH Scientific/Technical Officer INFLIBNET Centre, P.B. No. 4116 Navrangpura, Ahmedabad - 380 009 Phone: 079-2630 5971 / 4695 26763724 (R) Fax : 079-2630 0990 / 7816 Email : prakash@inflibnet.ac.in

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More Details are available at INFLIBNET Website



Participants of IT@AGRILIBNET Batch 8 with Director of INFLIBNET Faculty Members and Administrative staff of INFLIBNET (See page 9)



SECOND PLANNER-2004 Announcement (See page 17)

Inauguration of SOUL Training Programme held in Bhopal (See page 11)



A Moment from Concluding Session of International CALIBER-2004 From L to R: Dr B Satyanarayana, Dr T A V Murthy, Dr M D Baby, Prof J L Sardana, Dr Gayas Makhdumi and Dr Nupur Prakash (See page 9)

Vice Chancellors of Indian Universities at AIU 78th Annual meeting in Tirupati. Director, INFLIBNET is also seen. (See page 15)



Participants of SOUL Training Programme held in Jabalpur with Faculty Members (See page 11)



Participants of Bilaspur IRTPLA with Prof U N Singh, Rajesh Chandrakar and other faculty members (See page 11)



Participants of Mangalore IRTPLA with Dr M K Bhandi, Dr Usha Munshi, Shri K Prakash and other faculty members (See page 11)



Shri H G Hosamani delivering the address in the inaugural function of Aurangabad IRTPLA. Dr (Mrs) A A Vaishnav and Dr K P Sonawane are also seen. (See page 12)



Participants of Kottayam IRTPLA with Dr Vikraman Nair, Shri P K Rajendra Kurup, Shi K K Sudhakaran, Shri J Suku, Shri J K Vijayakumar and other faculty members. (See page 12)



Participants of Burdwan IRTPLA with Dr J Vijayakumar and other faculty members (See page 12)

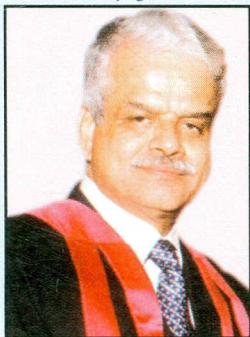
CONGRATULATIONS



Shri R. Ramachandran
(See page 13)



Shri Pawan Agarwal
(See page 16)



Prof Dr K Mohan Das
(See page 16)



Shri Manoj Kumar K
(See page 12)



Director INFLIBNET is being welcomed by Prof Y Simhadri, Vice Chancellor of Andhra University during his visit to the University. Prof P S N Raju, Dr M K Gandhi, Mrs Simhadri, Prof RSR Varalaxmi are also seen.