UNIVERSAL BRIEFING
NEWSLETTER

About Universal Briefing

Universal Briefing (UB) is a voluntary, non-profit, and non-governmental organization registered as a Trustee, dedicated to advancing Library and Information Services. It focuses on nurturing young professionals by offering opportunities to develop essential skills and knowledge. UB promotes research, innovation and the creation of tools and methods to foster future growth in the field. It also empowers students with effective information-handling skills. Through extensive discussions among its founding members, UB has embraced a broader mission to contribute meaningfully to academic and intellectual development in the Library and Information Science (LIS). UB remains devoted to fostering an inclusive, collaborative environment built on unity, fraternity, and mutual support.

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NANAK
JAYANTI
2025

Two successful years completed of UB Newsletter

2023-25

**GO GREEN
SAVE EARTH**

Editorial Desk

From Editorial Desk

As we turn the page on another month, we take a moment to reflect on the shared purpose that unites us in the pursuit of knowledge, the preservation of our professional values and the celebration of community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who have been part of this journey like our readers, contributors, and supporters. Your engagement strengthens our collective mission to advance the Library and Information Science (LIS) profession and we remain committed to offering a publication that informs, connects, and uplifts our community.

This month marks a special milestone: the completion of our newsletter's **two-year journey**. Over these two years, we have had the privilege of sharing diverse and meaningful content that reflects the many dimensions of our field ranging from research updates, scholarly highlights, library news and recruitment information to events, curated insights, and emerging technological trends. Each issue has represented a step forward in our shared mission to inform, engage and elevate the LIS community.

From its modest beginnings to becoming a trusted source of professional connection and knowledge exchange, our newsletter's growth is a testament to the dedication of our team, our network of passionate professionals and you, our valued readers. This milestone is not only a celebration of what we have achieved but also a reminder of the strength of a community bound by a common purpose.

As we look ahead, we reaffirm our commitment to delivering relevant, high-quality, and inspiring content that continues to empower and unite us. Thank you for being an integral part of this continuing journey.

Universal Briefing
KOLKATA
NEWSLETTER

Latest Vacancies

- Recruitment for the Post of Assistant Librarian at Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Post Box No. 49, Udhna Magdalla Road, Surat, Gujarat -395007 :Last Date - 07/11/2025 -Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Research Assistant & Field Investigator of ICSSR Research Project Staff At Department of Library and Information Science Manipur University, Canchipur, Imphal -795003 :Last Date - 10/11/2025 -Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Deputy Librarian at Madan Mohan Malaviya University of Technology, Goraknpur - 273010 (UP) :Last Date - 10/11/2025 -Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Library Assistant 'A' Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Satish Dhawan Space Centre Shar, Tirupati Dist.(A.P), Sriharikota-524 124 :Last Date - 14/11/2025 - Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Assistant Librarian in Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology Surat (SVNIT), P.O. Ichchhanath, Gujarat, Surat-395 007 :Last Date - 14/11/2025 - Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Assistant Librarian at Bihar Museum Society, Patn,Bailey Road, Patna, Bihar 800001 :Last Date - 15/11/2025 -Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Librarian at Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University (Central University), B-4, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi-110016 :Last Date - 17/11/2025 -Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Deputy Librarian at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Gandhinagar, Palaj, Gandhinagar – 382055 :Last Date - 17/11/2025 -Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Librarian & Assistant Librarian at at Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University (RGNAU), Fursatganj Airfield, Fursatganj, Amethi, Uttar Pradesh – 229302 :Last Date - 20/11/2025 -Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Library Cum Documentation Officer (Regular) At Rajiv Gandhi National Institute Of Youth Development (Rgniyd) Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry Of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government Of India, Sriperumbudur – 602 105, Tamil Nadu: Last Date - 21/11/2025 - Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Librarian, Professional Assistant & Library Attendant at National Sanskrit University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh – 517 507 :Last Date - 30/11/2025 -Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Librarian Grade I (Documentalist) at All India Institute Of Medical Sciences Aiims Bhopal, Saket Nagar, Bhopal (M.P) – 462020 :Last Date - 01/12/2025 -Click Here For More

- Recruitment for the Post of Librarian Grade-2 at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, U.P.: Last Date - 12/12/2025 -Click Here For More

UB Endeavour

Study Circle Reporting……………………..……………………………………………...

The 47th Study Circle The 47th study circle of Universal Briefing took place on 1st November, 2025 at 7.30 pm. The speaker for the session was Dr Pubalika Bhattacharya Maitra, Associate Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Calcutta and the President of the session was Dr Subarna Kumar Das, Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Jadavpur University, West Bengal. The topic of the study circle was "Indigenous Health Information Dissemination: Perspectives and Practices".
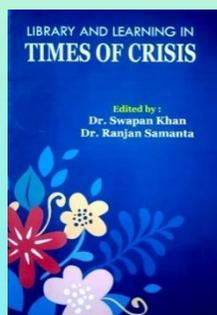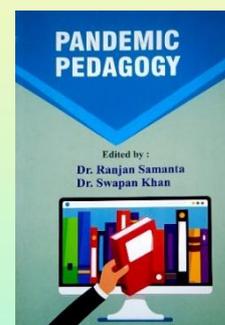
The speaker's deliberation drew attention to a subject of significant importance. She commenced her talk with a narrative from the Vedic age, underscoring the profound wisdom and intellectual heritage of our ancestors. Building on this foundation, she elaborated on the concept of Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS), explaining their defining characteristics, applications, and relevance in contemporary contexts. The speaker also cited UNESCO's views on indigenous knowledge, placing the discussion in a global context. Subsequently, she explored the domain of indigenous health information, highlighting various governmental initiatives undertaken in India to promote IKS, particularly within the healthcare sector. She outlined the processes involved in the dissemination of indigenous health information and examined both national and international best practices in this field, with special focus on AYUSH. Dr. Maitra also emphasized the vital role of LIS professionals in bridging traditional and modern knowledge systems. She concluded her talk by stating that Indigenous Knowledge is not something new to be instilled, but an inherent part of our heritage that we are seeking to rediscover and revive. digital and AI-driven world.

Announcement………………………………………………………………………………

UB-Study Circle (Forthcoming Notification) The 48th study circle of the Universal Briefing will take place on 29th November, 2025 at 7.30 pm and the speaker for the session will be Dr. Bidyarthi Dutta, Associate Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Vidyasagar University.

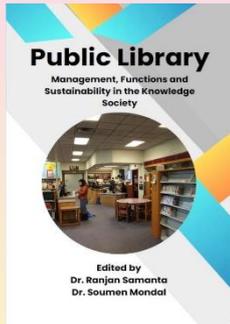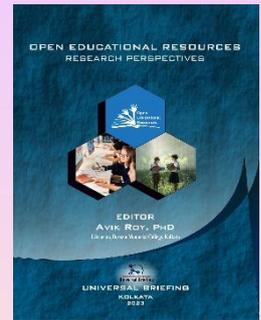## Our Publication…………………………………………………………………………….

The book "Pandemic Pedagogy" was published by Prova Prakashani in collaboration with Universal Briefing in the year 2020. It was jointly edited by Dr. Ranjan Samanta and Dr. Swapan Khan. The book had informative eighteenth chapters. The outstanding contribution of authors presented an exceptional dimension on pandemic pedagogy in relation to academic library and pandemic pedagogy mainly in higher education. Thought content, practical experience and knowledge of authors would help the students, scholars, library professional and others to understand the situation of education during Pandemic and the challenge taken to overcome; teaching learning process of that situation; advancement of new technology; extension of online education and open educational resources; opportunities and threats of online education.

The book "Library and Learning in Times of Crisis" was published by Prova Prakashani in collaboration with Universal Briefing in the year 2021, edited by Dr. Ranjan Samanta and Dr. Swapan Khan. It contained seventeenth valuable research papers highlighted the role of libraries especially academic libraries and online teaching learning during the period of Global Pandemic of Covid-19. Some papers focused on Government initiatives for learners during Covid-19, effectiveness of social media for education; strength, weakness, opportunity, and threat of e-learning; importance of e-resources etc. The papers helped librarian to take various steps in every aspect of library services. Overall, all papers were very informative and insightful for learners, teachers, administrators, policy makers and government.
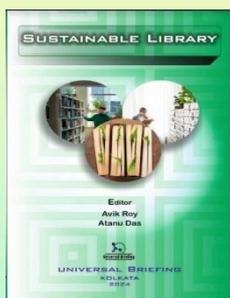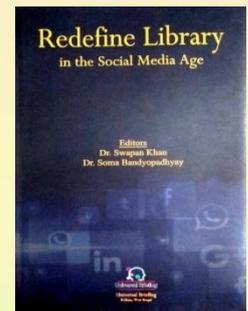
UB Endeavour

A book was published in February 2023 by Universal briefing with the title "Open Educational Resources: Research Perspectives", comprising selected articles from the two-day International Webinar of the same title, which was organised by Universal Briefing on 20th and 21st November, 2021 at Kolkata, India. The book contains 13 selected articles on different aspects of OER including SWOT analysis, NEP, copyright and license, sustainability of OER etc., written by LIS professionals from various fields. This conference proceedings volume is edited by Dr. Avik Roy, Librarian, Derozio Memorial College; and illustrated by Avijit Naskar.
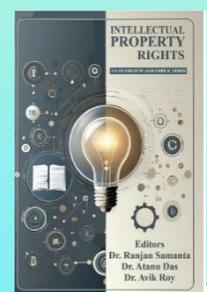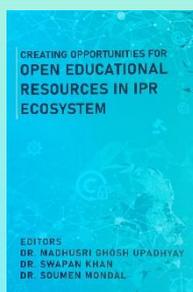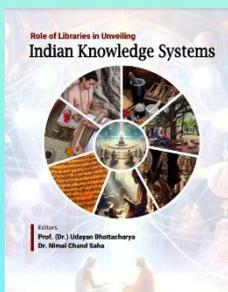
This book celebrates the profound impact of public libraries as vibrant spaces of learning, connection, and empowerment. In an era marked by rapid technological advancements and evolving societal needs, public libraries remain steadfast in their mission to provide equitable access to information and foster inclusive communities. Each chapter of this book is meticulously crafted to explore a different facet of the library experience. From the essential role of libraries in promoting literacy and lifelong learning to their innovative approaches to technology integration and community outreach, we aim to provide a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted nature of libraries in the 21st Century.

Purpose of this book titled "Redefine library in the social media age", is to visualize a dramatic transformation of concept of libraries due to rapid development of technological innovations especially in post pandemic period. The human need for information is changing day by day. They seek information from varieties of sources and formats. For this purpose, the library staff and library professionals need to adopt themselves into this dynamic environment. Social media is becoming increasingly popular among all the stakeholders of the library. There is no doubt that the present library must be defined in the context of social media to satisfy the users in this social media age.

Any kind of scholarly work provides a serendipity of reading so many novel academic contents including books, book chapters, research articles, magazines, popular articles etc. Sustainability is the buzz of the day where almost every activity in the societal periphery culminates to the sustainable future. How can the library lag behind being one of the most important pillars of society? The present volume, "Sustainable Library" is an endeavour to add even an iota to the knowledge base of the global discourses on sustainable libraries. We remain grateful to Prof. Udayan Bhattacharya, Department of Library and Information Science, Jadavpur University, Kolkata to continuously inspire us to work on this compilation of the literature on sustainable libraries and publish them in one volume.

Our Latest Publication...

UB Endeavour

Announcement..

Universal Briefing

presents

Poster Competition

on

My Dream Library: Where every shelf holds a universe

for

LIS Students only

Participants may produce their work in handwriting or in PPT, but both must be in PDF format, and the size must be below 10 MB.

Last date for submission – 01/12/2025

Warning: Posters submitted using artificial intelligence, such as Chatgpt, will be disqualified from the competition

Official website: https://universalbriefing.in/

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Free Entry

Distinguished Insights

> "Sir, great work done by your LIS professionals' team. It is a compendium for budding LIS professionals and it provides various proficiencies. It is a wonderful guide to all professionals."
>
> **Dr. Dhanavandan, Librarian, CUTN**

> "Good formatting and layout for clear reading. Each issue is improving. Thank you for including CUTN national conference and PhD awarding of my scholar in the research spotlight."
>
> **Dr. K. G. Sudhier, Asst. Professor, CUTN**

Research Spotlight

DLIS, Mizoram University, Aizawal (Awarded Works 2025)

1. **Thesis Title:** Websites Of National Institutional Ranking Framework NIRF Ranked Universities In India
   Scholar: Lianhmingthangi Hnamte
   Supervisor: Dr. R.K. Ngurtinkhuma

DLIS, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad (Awarded Works 2025)

2. **Thesis Title:** Mapping of Global Research Literature on Covid-19: A Bibliometric Approach
   Scholar: Suman Barath
   Supervisor: Dr. Atul Bhatt

DLIS, Gauhati University, Guwahati (Awarded Works 2025)

3. **Thesis Title:** Management and Organization of Medical Libraries in North East India: An Analytical Study
   Scholar: Rajani Kanta Barman
   Supervisor: Dr. Nishant Kashyap Ghatowar

DLIS, University of Calcutta, Kolkata (Awarded Works 2025)

4. **Thesis Title:** Promotion of Tourism Through Public Libraries Case Study of Arambagh and Bishnupur Subdivisions
   Scholar: Sarmistha Samaddar
   Supervisor: Dr. Swapna Banerjee

DLIS, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong (Awarded Works 2025)

5. **Thesis Title:** Documentation of Indigenous Knowledge on Handicrafts of Vaipheis of Manipur
   Scholar: Niengneimawi
   Supervisor: Dr. P Hangsing

6. **Thesis Title:** Publications and Citations in Library and Information Science with Reference to Select Journals Listed in Scopus Indexed and UGC Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics (CARE)
   Scholar: Poonam Singh Deo
   Supervisor: Dr. P Hangsing

DLIS, Shri Govind Guru University, Godhra (Awarded Works 2025)

7. **Thesis Title:** Information Needs and Seeking Behavior of Secondary and Higher Secondary School Teachers of Mahisagar District: A Study
   Scholar: Patel Dhavalkumar Arvindbhai
   Supervisor: Dr. Rajeshkumar R. Patel

DLIS, Karnataka State Womens University, Vijayapura (Awarded Works 2025)

8. **Thesis Title:** Assessing the Information Needs and Seeking Behaviour of Women Faculty Members Working in PU Colleges of Kalaburagi District of Karnataka: A Study
   Scholar: Smitha C
   Supervisor: Dr. Shantadevi T

9. **Thesis Title:** Research Productivity of Web Technologies in Library and Information Science Literature (2001-2020): A Scientometric Analysis
   Scholar: Bhuvaneshwari Patil
   Supervisor: Dr. Gavisiddappa Anandhalli

*"Are you a research scholar who just submitted their Ph.D thesis in LIS? Want to be featured in our next edition? **Click here** to add your details and get a chance to feature in our upcoming spotlight section!"*

Monthly Scholarly Highlights

- Abu Afifa, M., Saleh, I., & Vo Van, H. (2025). Accounting information quality in the digital era—a perspective from ERP system adoption? Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5–6), 2022–2046.

- Ahmed, I. (2025). Fun at work and employees' communication behaviour: a serial mediation mechanism. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1866–1881.

- Al Ali, M. I., Khassawneh, O., Haak-Saheem, W., Zeng, J., & Darwish, T. K. (2025). Unveiling Dubai's knowledge economy: a journey toward enhancing knowledge exchange and human capital. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1747–1766.

- Anubha, A., Narang, D., & Jain, M. K. (2025). Online travel reviews and tourist trust: a SOR perspective. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1655–1676.

- Bubber, D., Babber, G., & Jain, R. K. (2025). Toward increased business productivity: interlinks between lean thinking, process quality, inventory management, and productivity. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1511–1531.

- Dantas, R., & Fleck, D. (2025). Challenges in identifying studies to include in a systematic literature review: an analysis of the organizational growth and decline topics. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1789–1804.

- Das, L., Pal, A. K., & Paul, S. (2025). A Comparative Evaluation of Koha's E-Resource Management Module and CORAL ERMS: Open-Source Solutions for Electronic Resource Management in Academic Libraries. Journal of Information and Knowledge, 295–302.

- Dutta, S., Singh, P., & Wagay, J. A. (2025). Job Satisfaction and Organisational Commitment of College Library Professionals: A Case Study. Journal of Information and Knowledge, 341–349.

- Farooq, R., & Durst, S. (2025). Understanding knowledge hiding in organizations: a bibliometric analysis of research trends between 2005 and 2022. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1677–1723.

- Gera, M., Batra, D. K., & Kumar, V. (2025). Mobile advertising research: a comprehensive domain mapping analysis of 22 years (2001–2022). Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1590–1616.

- Ghosh, R. (2025). As investors sow, can they reap? Examining the moderating effect of investment opportunity on the relationship between financial literacy and investment decision. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1954–1972.

- Gulzar, R., Gul, S., Verma, M. K., Darzi, M. A., Gulzar, F., & Shueb, S. (2025). Analyzing the online public sentiments related to Russia-Ukraine war over Twitter. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1638–1654.

- Hazarika, B., Shrivastava, U., Singh, V. K., & Rea, A. (2025). Motivating mobile payment adoption during global pandemic: insights from protection motivation and theory of planned behavior. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1547–1571.

- Iqbal, A., Shahzad, K., Khan, S. A., & Chaudhry, M. S. (2025). The relationship of artificial intelligence (AI) with fake news detection (FND): a systematic literature review. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5–6), 1617–1637.

- Jain, S., Kashyap, V. S., & Jhamaria, C. (2025). Exploring Green Libraries: Sustainable Practices, Challenges, and Prospects in the Global Context. Journal of Information and Knowledge, 329–339.

- Jan, A., Khan, M., Ajmal, M. M., & Patwary, A. K. (2025). From traditional advertising to digital marketing: exploring electronic word of mouth through a theoretical lens in the hospitality and tourism industry. Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication, 74(5/6), 1973–1999.

Forthcoming Events

Conferences, Seminars, Webinars & Summits

- The Central Library, IISER Berhampur, India is going to organize a webinar on "Information Literacy: Still Powered by Humans" on 4th November 2025 (Tuesday) at 3 PM (IST) & 10:30 AM (GMT). For more info: click here

- 4th International Symposium on Knowledge Engineering for Digital Library Design (KEDLD-2025) will be held at IIT Kharagpur from 3rd to 5th November 2025, jointly organized by the National Digital Library of India (NDLI) and the Central Library, IIT Kharagpur. For more info: click here

- International Conference on Reimagining Libraries in the age of Artificial Intelligence. Dates: 6 -7 November, 2025. For more info: click here

- ICSSSM 2025: First International Conference on Smart Systems and Social Management. Dates: November 6, 2025 to November 8, 2025. Venue: The Assam Royal Global University, Guwahati. For more info: click here

- 3rd International Conference on Library and Information Science "Digital evolution: Moving towards Developing Smart Libraries". Dates: 8th - 9th Nov 2025. Place: Oxford, United Kingdom. For more info: click here

- Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) Sponsored National Conference on Libraries from Legacy to Legendary: Digital Rebuilding of the Foundations for Future. Dates: 7th – 8th November, 2025. Organized by Department of Library & Information Science School of Communication Central University of Tamil Nadu Thiruvarur – 610 005, Tamil Nadu, India. For more info: click here

- National Conference on School Libraries on "Empowering school libraries for holistic, inclusive, and equitable learning in the light of NEP 2020". Organized by Library and Documentation Division National Council of Educational Research and Training. Venue: Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi-110016. Dates: 11th -12th November, 2025. Last Date for Submission of Papers: 15th September. For more info: click here

- International Seminar2025 on Human Touch inthe Digital Age: Re-Humanizing Library and Information Services. Organized By Department of Library and Information Science, Jadavpur University. Dates: 21-22, November 2025. Venue: TEQIP Building, Jadavpur University. For Registration: Click here.

- International Conference on Transforming Libraries for Viksit Bharat 2047: Advancing Digital Innovation Services in Higher Education, Public, and Community Libraries (SVSU-ICTL 2025), to be held on 21–22 November 2025, jointly organized by the Raja Kunwar Singh Subharti Department of Library & Information Science, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut, and the Society for Information and Research Studies, New Delhi. Information and Research Studies, New Delhi. For Registration: Click here.

- The Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, is sponsoring an International Conference on Transforming Libraries: Innovation, Management, Smart Technologies, and Creative Knowledge of Society for the Future, to be held on 12th & 13th December 2025, organized by the University Library, Periyar University, Salem–636 011, Tamil Nadu, India. For more info: click here

- I-LIPS 2025: International Conference on "Innovative Technologies in Librarianship: Challenges and Opportunities", to be held on December 12–14, 2025, at JECRC Foundation, Jaipur, India. For more info: click here

- Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) Consortium is organizing a National Conference on Engineering Librarianship, from 11th - 13th December 2025 at Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi. For more info: click here

- ResComm 2025: Research Communication Conclave "Bringing Research into Action". Dates: 17-19 December. For more info: click here

- The Department of Library and Information Science, National College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli, proudly announces the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), Ministry of Culture, Government of India–sponsored International Conference on "New Generation of Libraries for Literacy and

Forthcoming Events

Lifelong Learning (NGLLLL-2026)," to be held on 29th and 30th January 2026 at National College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu. For more info: click here

- I-KOAL 2025: International Conference on Knowledge Organisation in Academic Libraries. Jointly organised by: Library Professionals Association, New Delhi & Central Library, DDU Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh. Theme: Preserving Traditional Agriculture Knowledge via Digital, Rural Libraries: Integrated Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) for Sustainable Growth and Viksit Bharat 2047. Date: January 31st, 2025. Venue: Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh. For more info: click here

- 71st ILA Conference 2026: International Conference on "Transforming Library Services in the AI Era: Library Services, User Engagement and Community Impact," to be held from 5th to 7th February 2026, organized by the Central Library, Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra (Ministry of Education, Government of India) jointly with the Indian Library Association, New Delhi. For more info: click here

Workshops, Programmes, Training & Courses

- One-Week Online National Workshop on Library Automation and RFID Technologies will be held from 10th to 14th November, 2025. For more info: Click here.

- National Level Workshop on Smart Publishing in the Digital Age: Strategies for Journal Publishing and Academic Profile Management. Organized by Internal Quality Assurance Cell & SR.Lily Pushpam Library. Date: 15.11.2025. Venue: Sr. De Meester Conference Hall. For Registration: Click here.

- The Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, in collaboration with the University Library, Central University of Punjab, is organizing a Two-Week Online Refresher Course on "Smart Information Systems: AI in Action" from December 8 to 20, 2025. For more info: Click here.

- Refresher Course on Library & Information Science (Online Mode). Organized by UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (formerly HRDC), Mizoram University. Duration of the Course - 5th – 18th Feb, 2026. For Registration: Click here.

- SWAYAM Library and Information Science (LIS) courses currently open for enrolment are free to enroll in and learn from. For more info: Click here.

- Training Workshops for Public Libraries across Karnataka. Campaign by Science Gallery Bengaluru. For more info: Click here.

Students Corner

Swami Vivekananda Merit-cum-Means Scholarship (SVMCM)

The **Swami Vivekananda Merit-cum-Means Scholarship (SVMCM)** is a scholarship scheme provided by the Government of West Bengal to economically backward students. It is designed to provide financial support to those who aim to pursue higher education but belong to economically weaker sections. Undergraduate, Postgraduate, as well as Doctoral level programs of various streams/subjects are covered under the scholarship. Any regular students enrolled in government or government-aided universities, colleges, and institutions within West Bengal and below the specified economic level are eligible to apply for the scholarship. The Department of Higher Education, Government of West Bengal, administers the SVMCM scheme.

Eligibility Criteria

1. **Academic Qualification**

   o *For Undergraduate Scholarship:* Students studying at undergraduate level in Science/Arts/Commerce/Engineering or Medical courses are eligible to apply. Also, a student pursuing Technical or Professional courses may apply for the same. Any candidate applying for

Students Corner

the scholarship must have passed the Higher Secondary or equivalent examination with the required minimum marks specified by the scheme for that academic year.

o *For Post Graduate Scholarship:* Post Graduate level students pursuing Science/Arts/Commerce & Technical/Management are eligible for the scholarship. Candidates applying must have completed their undergraduate degree and secured the minimum prescribed percentage in graduation specified by the scheme for that academic year.

o *For Ph.D. Degree Scholarship*: Non-NET registered full-time research scholars or NET-Assistant Professor/PhD only candidates of any recognized institutions of West Bengal may apply for the scholarship. The registration of Ph. D must not be before 01.04.2017.

2. **Income Criteria**

   o The annual family income must not exceed the limit notified by the government which as of now is Rs. 2.5 lakh per annum.

3. **Institutional Requirement**

   o Students must be enrolled in regular, full-time courses in government or government-aided universities, colleges, and institutions within West Bengal.

4. **Residency Requirement**

   o The applicant must be a permanent resident of West Bengal.

Students must not be recipients of any other government scholarship at the time of application.
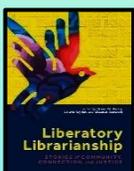
Benefits Provided

Scholarship amount offered under SVMCM Scholarship depends on the stream and level of course the students are enrolled in. The scholarship amount offered ranges from ₹1,000 to ₹8,000 per month. For Ph.D. Scholars the scholarship amount is Rs. 8000 per month as fixed by the Higher Education Department. For further information on eligibility and exact amount of the benefit provided for each course please visit https://svmcm.wb.gov.in/page/about.php

Application Process

Applications are submitted online through the SVMCM portal. For step wise details of the application process visit https://svmcm.wb.gov.in/page/application_procedure.php Renewal applications are required be submitted for each academic year with proof of continued good academic performance.

Students of Library and Information Science domain can avail the benefits of the scheme if they fulfil the basic dual eligibility criteria of academic merit and economic need.
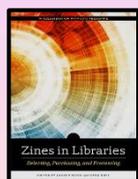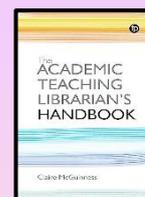
Latest Publication

Liberatory Librarianship: Stories of Community, Connection, and Justice edited by Brian W. Keith, Laurie Taylor and Shamin Renwick. Michigan: ALA Editions, 2024. ISBN (pbk) 978-0838936610; ₹8,374.00

Latest Publication

The Academic Teaching Librarian's Handbook,1ˢᵗ edition by Claire McGuinness. United Kingdom: Facet Publishing, 2021. ISBN (pbk) 978-1783304622; ₹5,013.00

Zines in Libraries: Selecting, Purchasing, and Processing edited by Lauren DeVoe and Sara Duff. Michigan: ALA Editions, 2022. ISBN (pbk) 978-0838938041; $64.99.

The Savvy Academic Librarian's Guide to Technological Innovation by Ippoliti Cinthya. Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield. ISBN (hbk) 9781538103050; £68.40.

Trends on Tech

Chat 'GPT Go' free for all Indian Users:

In a major push to consolidate its presence in the Indian market, OpenAI has announced that it will offer ChatGPT Go free to all users in India starting November 4. For the uninitiated, ChatGPT Go is OpenAI's mid-tier subscription plan for its AI chatbot ChatGPT. The move targets India, which the company identifies as its second-largest and fastest-growing global market. The year-long complimentary access to ChatGPT Go comes as a direct response to similar aggressive user acquisition tactics by rivals Google and Perplexity. Both companies recently waived fees for their premium AI features to appeal to the vast Indian consumer base. OpenAI's decision follows Google's move to make its AI Pro membership, priced at Rs 19,500$, free for students for a year. Similarly, Perplexity partnered with telecom giant Airtel to offer free access to its premium plan, intensifying the battle for AI market share in the country. For more information click HERE.

Grokipedia:

It is an AI-generated online encyclopedia developed by xAI (the artificial-intelligence company founded by Elon Musk). It was officially launched on October 27, 2025 (version 0.1) with around 800,000+ articles at launch. Musk positioned it as a competitor to Wikimedia Foundation's Wikipedia, saying it would be a "massive improvement" over Wikipedia. The name Grokipedia is derived from the company's chatbot "Grok"

How it works (or purportedly works):

According to announcements: the site will use the AI model Grok to analyze existing sources (including Wikipedia), determine what's true, what's partially true, what's false or missing, and generate entries accordingly (NDTV).

Unlike Wikipedia's volunteer-edited wiki model, Grokipedia's editorial process is less transparent. Articles are generated by the AI, with users (as of now) able to suggest edits via a form, but not directly edit content themselves. (WIKIPEDIA).

For more information click HERE

Social Media News

Central Sanskrit University, the nodal agency for implementing union govt's Sanskrit related policies and schemes, has gifted six rare manuscripts to the Rashtrapati Bhawan Library. The collection includes **Valmiki Ramayan**, **Manushyalaya Chandrika** (on domestic architecture and Vastu Shastra), **Visha Vaidya** (Ayurvedic toxicology), **Ksemakutuhalam** (food science and dietetics), **Kavi Rahasyam** (poetic lexicon), and **Atri Smrti** (a Dharma text attributed to sage Atri). The manuscripts were handed over by vice-chancellor Prof. Srinivasa Varkhedi to the President of India's office. Officials said the gifting of the manuscripts aims to make rare Sanskrit works more accessible to scholars and researchers.

Panjab University's Department of Library & Information Science hosts Open Access Week (Oct 20-26). The PU department organised activities around the theme of open access, free knowledge and reducing barriers in digital/academic environments. A poster-making competition titled "Who Controls Our Knowledge?" that drew students and faculty into visualising issues of copyright, control and access to scholarly content. This reflects a growing trend in our domain to engage with open science, digital equity and social media-friendly campaigns in India.

Libraries open in three Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) in Lucknow under "Gyan Kendras" initiative (Oct 13, 2025). In the Sarojininagar constituency, the local MLA inaugurated libraries in three RWAs (Himalaya Enclave, Kailash Enclave, Nilgiri Enclave) as part of a vision to convert 104 RWAs into centres of knowledge. It shows how library services are being extended into community spaces.

The October 2025 issue of the **International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Newsletter** reflects on the theme of "**championing equality**" emphasising how libraries and information services play a vital role in advancing equitable access, inclusive communities, and social justice.

Across central & southern Illinois, a "**Library Crawl**" event during October 2025 invited patrons to visit multiple libraries, collect stamps on a passport, and share their experiences on social media under the hashtag **#IHLSLibraryCrawl2025**.

The **automatic book vending** machine installed at **Chennai Central Railway Station** has received an excellent response. According to Chennai Railway Division officials: To encourage reading habits among passengers, an automatic book vending machine was inaugurated near the passenger waiting area at Central Railway Station on 10th October. A curated collection of books — including novels, motivational titles, and children's literature — is being offered. The initiative has attracted a large number of visitors. Officials added that similar automatic book vending machines will be installed at other major railway stations in the coming months.

GLAM Special Report

A Century of Libraries: IFLA's 2027 World Congress Heads to London

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is excited to announce that London, United Kingdom, has been chosen as the host city for the 2027 World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) set for August 2027. This marks a significant moment as we continue a tradition that began in Edinburgh in 1927, now making its way to the vibrant city of London.

2027 marks a significant milestone for IFLA as we celebrate its 100th anniversary, commemorating the moment when 15 library associations united to form the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. This pivotal event in 1927 sparked a global movement that continues to advocate for libraries, librarianship, and foster a worldwide library community. It's especially meaningful that IFLA WLIC 2027 will take place in the very country where this journey began. Additionally, we are excited to honor another notable occasion; the 150th anniversary of our UK hosts, the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP).

According to Leslie Weir, IFLA President and Sharon Memis, IFLA Secretary General, London serves as an ideal backdrop for the global library community to unite in celebration of #IFLA100. As a dynamic international center for innovation, culture, and learning, the city provides an inspiring environment to reflect on our past while looking ahead to the future of the library and information profession.

IFLA WLIC 2027 will be a special occasion, as it will mark the first time in 25 years that we gather for our Congress in the United Kingdom. The last time we celebrated there was in 2002, in Glasgow, where we honored IFLA's 75th anniversary.

Source: IFLA.org

Preserving the Web's Soul: Internet Archive Hits 1 Trillion Pages

The Internet Archive is excited to announce a new resource guide designed to assist libraries in celebrating a remarkable milestone: the archiving of 1 trillion web pages accessible through the Wayback Machine. This incredible accomplishment is a testament the collective commitment to preserving digital history, with libraries playing an integral role from the very start. The resource guide offers insights into the significance of this milestone for libraries, emphasizes their importance in protecting online knowledge, and provides a variety of materials that libraries can use to engage their communities in this celebration.

Source: Internet Archive

In the latest resource guide, libraries will discover a wealth of social media templates, engaging visuals, innovative event ideas, and inspiring impact stories that highlight how institutions worldwide are working to safeguard local digital heritage. From crafting captivating "Then/Now" displays using Wayback Machine captures to hosting informative talks on web preservation, this guide provides fun and adaptable strategies for libraries to connect with their communities. As the Internet Archive proudly hits the remarkable milestone of 1 trillion captures, it encourages libraries everywhere to join in celebrating their vital role in the web's memory and the global mission of preserving knowledge for future generations.

(Source: Library Journal)

GLAM Special Report

Unlocking the Past: A Hands-on Workshop on Archival Digitisation

The Ministry of Culture, Government of India, has officially launched a week-long Workshop on 'Digitisation and Conservation of Archival Collections', taking place from 13 to 17 October 2025 at Jamia Hamdard in New Delhi. This initiative, organized in collaboration with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and Jamia Hamdard University, aims to enhance skills and promote best practices in preserving India's rich archival heritage through the implementation of modern digitisation and conservation technologies.

The key themes are as follows:

1. Understanding heritage, culture, and the importance of safeguarding archival collections.
2. Fundamentals and advanced techniques of digitization.
3. Digital preservation and ethical considerations.
4. Remedial conservation: cleaning, mending, and restoration of documents.
5. Preventive conservation: environmental control, disaster risk management, and storage solutions. Practical sessions on digitization, metadata, image editing, and conservation methods.

The workshop commenced with an inaugural session attended by Shri Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, and Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary of IGNCA, under the leadership of Professor (Dr.) M. Afshar Alam, Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Hamdard. The dignitaries also took the opportunity to tour the University Archives, where they reviewed current digitisation projects and engaged with experts specializing in archival conservation. This initiative underscored the Ministry's ongoing dedication to protecting the nation's documentary legacy and fostering innovative practices in cultural preservation.

Source: Ministry of Culture

Library in Focus

The Alipore Zoo is set to open its Century old Library to the public for the first time in its history of 150 years

Alipore Zoological Garden is a notable institution located in South Kolkata. It is the oldest zoological garden in the country, established in 1875, and has transformed into one of the most attractive institutions for wildlife conservation and history education in India over the past 150 years.

In a landmark initiative, Kolkata's iconic Alipore Zoological Gardens is set to open its historic library to the public for the first time since its establishment 150 years ago. The library has until now remained accessible only to zoo officials and select personnel.

Library in Focus

A senior zoo official said, "It is home to many indigenous animals; such as tigers, lions, elephants. There are also exotic animals such as giraffes, zebras, chimpanzees, lemurs, etc., as well as various birds and reptiles. Where visitors get the opportunity to learn about and see these magnificent animals. Now they can learn more about them by reading the books in the library. Until now, this library was only used by senior officials of the zoo."

The library at Alipore is named after Sir Jyotindra Mohan Tagore who was one of the patrons of the zoo during its inception. He desired that the zoo should have a library with books related with animal healthcare. So, he donated a good amount of money which contributed to the setting up of the library in 1898. Sir John Edgar, another patron of the zoo had donated bookshelves for keeping books of the library.

The first superintendent of Alipore Zoo was Ram Brahma Sanyal. His extensive activities and writings can also be found in the library. Ram Brahma Sanyal was born in 1851 in Lalgola, Murshidabad district. Later he came in contact with Dr. John Anderson and Dr. George King. Under their influence, Ram Brahma Sanyal was appointed as a general worker in the Alipore Zoo. Through diligence and efficiency, he was promoted to the post of Executive Superintendent in April 1878. Subsequently, in April 1880, he was appointed as the first superintendent of the zoo. He observed and recorded daily the caged conditions of the animals in the zoo, their feeding habits, their behavior during breeding, and their treatment. Later, he was inspired to write a book titled 'A Handbook of the Management of Wild Animals in Captivity in Lower Bengal'. This type of book was the first written in the world and the book was published in 1892. Copies of that rare book can also be found in digital form in the library and on the zoo's website.

As part of a major heritage conservation project, over 1,400 rare books and documents — including handwritten letters by the zoo's first superintendent are being digitised. The digitised collection will be available at the physical library and on the official zoo website later this year.

The library also preserves significant documents from the West Bengal Forest Department and Alipore Zoo's administrative history: a rich archive now set to enter the public domain for the first time in over a century. Zoo official said that "We want them to be properly preserved so that the future generation can access them."

Editorial Board

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