

51st All India Library Conference of the Indian Library Association
on “Libraries, Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning”
December 16-18, 2005

Rapporteur General's Report

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Inauguration

The 51st All India Library Conference of the Indian Library Association (ILA) on "Libraries, Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning" was started with Saraswati Vandana by the students of Dept. of LIS , Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. Dr. R.P. Hooda, Vice Chancellor, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra inaugurated the conference by lighting the ceremonial lamp.

Dr. R P Hooda in his inaugural address lauded the role of the libraries and the librarians to the society. He said that we would not have advanced so much if the concept of libraries had not existed. He also said that unmistakably great ideas are born in the libraries. He emphasized that we have to have libraries with rich collections. He said "richer the libraries, the nation grows". He also said that the computerization made the libraries more efficient. Periodicals and journals being available online is going to change the present library scenario. He called upon the librarians to redefine the roles and re-equip to face the challenges ahead. He was surprised by the overwhelming response to the conference. He wished all the delegates a comfortable stay and fruitful deliberations.

Welcome Address

Dr. Muttayya Koganuramath, President, ILA in his welcome speech gave a brief note of the activities of ILA. He stressed that there is an urgent need to take up the information literacy and lifelong learning movement across the country by organizing various regional seminars and workshops. He said that " it is a matter of pride for ILA that under the leadership of Prof. C R Karisiddappa ,the former President of ILA, has successfully completed the translation project of IFLA:UNESCO Public Library Guidelines for Development into fifteen Indian languages and three are under progress". He emphasized the role of establishing Regional Federation of South Asian Library Associations (REFSALA) for exchange of information under the IFLA guidelines to empower the librarians of the SAARC region. He also said that the ILA has taken up the problem of Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) in the academic institutions with MHRD and UGC authorities and assured that it will be solved soon. He called upon the members of the association and office bearers to start a membership drive on war footing. He added that the theme of the conference is timely and relevant in the present context. He also extended a hearty welcome to the participants of the conference.

Release of Conference Volume

Prof. R P Hooda released the conference proceedings volume edited by Mrs. Chandra and others. Dr. Roshan Raina released the Souvenir volume. Prof. P S G Kumar released IFLA Public Library Guidelines translated into fifteen Indian languages.

Keynote Address

Prof. Roshan Raina, Director, Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, New Delhi, and also the Director of the conference, delivered the keynote address. He said that there are many challenges for this profession. He compared the economies in agricultural, industrial and information revolutions.

ILA Awards

ILA – Dr. P S G Kumar – Life time Achievement Award-2005

ILA – Dr. P S G Kumar – Life time Achievement Award-2005 was conferred on Prof. C R Karisiddappa, Professor, Dept. of Library & Information Science, Karnataka University, Dharwad in recognition to his dedicated service to the profession for the last 35 years. While receiving the award Dr. Karisiddappa expressed his gratitude to ILA. He said that it is time to remember the elders and great teachers in the profession. He showed his respect to his teachers Prof. P N Kaula, Prof. M R Kumbar and Prof. S R Gunjal. He also said that ILA is nowhere less in motivating the professionals.

ILA - Dr. L M Padhya Best University Library Award (2004-2005)

ILA - Dr. L M Padhya Best University Library Award (2004-2005) was given to Jayakar Library, University of Pune, Pune in recognition to the modernization and multifarious activities provided to the academic community. The award was received by Dr. S K Patil, Librarian, University of Pune on behalf the Jayakar Library. While accepting the award he said that it was all possible to implement the modern technologies because of the donations given by the various philanthropists and the dedicated staff working in the library.

ILA- Kaula Best Librarian Award – 2005

ILA- Kaula Best Librarian Award - 2005 was shared between Dr. Kautilya Shukla, University Librarian, M S University, Baroda and Dr. Jagdish Arora, Librarian, IIT, Delhi. This award was given to these stalwarts in recognition for their dedicated service to the profession.

ILA-Best Paper Award

ILA-Best Paper Award was given to Dr. B M Gupta and Dr. Jha for their paper published in ILA Bulletin for the year 2004.

Dr. K S Umaphathy Best Student Awards were given to six MLIS Students. Two students were from Kurukshetra University who received this award.

Dr. Krishan Gopal, Librarian, NIT, Kurukshetra welcomed the guests. Mementos were presented to the dignitaries. Dr. Ashu Shokeen, Organising Secretary, proposed vote of thanks.

Technical sessions

The technical sessions were divided into seven sessions spread over three days 16-18 December, 2005. The break up of technical sessions held is given below in the Table.

Table : Technical Sessions Conducted

Technical Sessions	Theme of the Session	Number of papers presented
Session - I	Impact of ICTs on Libraries and Information Communication	7
Session - II	Impact of ICTs on Libraries and Information Communication	8
Session - III	Impact of ICTs on Libraries and Information Communication	4
Session - IV	Information Literacy	7
Session - V	Information Literacy	5
Session - VI	Lifelong Learning	5
Session - VII	Lifelong Learning	2
Total papers presented		38

Technical Session-I: Impact of ICTs on Libraries and Information Communication

Dr. Roshan Raina was the Director of the conference. Dr. B D Kumbar, Reader, Dept. of Library & Information Science, Karnataka University, Dharwad and Dr. A P Lakhani, Librarian, University of Allahabad chaired the session. Mr. B S Kademani, Scientific Officer, Scientific Information Resource Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai was the Rapporteur General and Mr. Mallikarjun Angadi, Information Scientist, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai was the Rapporteur for the conference.

The following papers were presented in the first session

1. Dr. Kautilya Shukla presented the paper entitled 'Measures of Knowledge prevention from theft and mutilation of library materials in Smt Hansa Mehta Library using CCTV'.

The paper discussed comprehensively the case study of the CCTV in Smt Hansa Mehta Library. The paper said it has made an impact on the part of the users that they are

being watched. The paper also mentioned that though it will not completely eliminate theft and mutilation but certainly act as a psychological deterrent. There was a lively question answer session about this paper regarding the type of cameras and monitoring. Dr Shukla answered the queries and said that various cameras were procured depending upon the size and shape of the surveillance area in the library.

2. Ms. Jyoti Bhatt presented the paper entitled 'Initiation of automating library services at Smt. Hansa Mehta Library: an excavating experience'.

The paper explained the importance and utility of SOUL software. She said that it is very user friendly and very good integrated library software. She mentioned that they employed young MLIS and BLIS students for retrospective conversion. She also mentioned that provision for multiple subject headings increased usage of the library three times more.

3. Dr. Madhusudhan presented the paper entitled 'Model Information technology orientation course for librarians'.

The paper discussed course content for the orientation course based on the UGC norms and discussed various eligibility criteria for selecting the candidates for the courses such as competency in computer handling and age etc. He also suggested various grading systems to make the programme very effective.

4. Mr. Nilesh Joshi presented the paper entitled 'Usage impact of e-resources of the MS University of Baroda with special reference to e-journals : A bird's eye view'.

The paper highlighted users survey of e-resources available in the MS University of Baroda and came out with findings based on the downloads of e-resources and opined that the users belonged to science disciplines are more conversant with the usage of e-resources when compared to social science disciplines. The papers also suggested the need for user education programmes in social science and humanities disciplines.

5. Mr. V. Kasirao presented the paper entitled 'Application of Information Technology on academic and special library and information centers in Chennai: An analytical study'.

The paper covered the areas of IT applications, collection development policy, manpower development policy and the attitudes of staff towards IT applications working in academic and special libraries and information centres. It also analysed the reasons for poor applications of IT and concludes objectively that the application of IT in Library & Information Centres would certainly help the users. The paper also discussed the impact of IT and the types of information networks such LAN, MAN and WAN and value added networks for resource sharing.

6. Ms. Bhavana Khora presented the paper entitled 'Impact of Information Technology

on library and information profession’.

The paper discussed the impact of IT and the types of information networks such LAN, MAN and WAN and value added networks for resource sharing.

7. Mr. Gururaj Hadagali presented the paper entitled ‘Use of public library resources by housewives: A case study’.

The study confined to the public library usage by housewives. Questionnaire method was used to collect the data for the study. The response was 90 percent to the questionnaires. The study came out with a very interesting facts that housewives used the public library resources for not only reading light literature like novels but also for improving their knowledge and to continue their education.

Technical Session-II: Impact of ICTs on Libraries and Information Communication

The Technical Sessions on 17th December, 2005 started as per the schedule. There was a overwhelming response by the delegates who participated actively in the deliberations. The conference hall was full to its capacity.

Dr. H. R. Chopra, Punjab University, Chandigarh and Prof. I .V. Malhan, University of Jammu chaired the session. Dr. Janakaraj was the rapporteur for the session.

The following papers were presented in this session.

1. Ms. Dhaval Bhatt presented the paper entitled ‘Library automation: A case study of Parul Arogya Seva Mandal Central Library, Baroda’.
The paper discussed about the computerisation of library services using SOUL software and problems faced by the software and its possible solutions. The paper also discussed the future plans.
2. Dr. B D Kumbar presented the paper entitled ‘ Development of library networks in India and its impact on library services’.

Dr Kumbar in his paper touched upon some of the issues affecting the implementation of computerised networks among the polytechnic libraries in Karnataka. The main issues highlighted in the paper were training and education programmes for librarians so as to enable the librarians to administer, operate and manage a computerised network effectively and efficiently.

3. Dr. O P Hooda presented the paper entitled ‘ Futuristic view of college libraries’

The paper discussed the rapidly changing technological advancement and convergence of various technologies. The paper provides a vision for college libraries and stated

that traditional libraries services will be replaced by technologies. Future librarians will be the navigators, database managers, information compilers and what not.

4. Mr. Bharat Kumar presented the paper entitled ' Google scholar: A scholarly search service'.

The author explained about the usefulness of the important information search engine 'Google Scholar' which was started on 16th Nov. 2004. He narrated its usefulness to the scientific community which provides citations to the publications published on the web and connects the information needy to various endless information sites. He also said that the search engine is a very good database without any distracting elements like advertisements purely dedicated to scientific information retrieval.

5. Ms. Salma Khan presented the paper entitled ' From paper to digitization: Challenges and methodology'.

The paper discussed about the various problems involved in the digitization of documents. The papers also covered metadata elements and other aspects of digitization. She opined that it is very important to preserve the documents for future generation and physical library provides a good starting point for digitisation process.

6. Mr. Sukhdev Singh presented the paper entitled 'Development of digital library of Indian Biomedical journals at NIC'.

The paper deals with the procedure for digitising Indian biomedical journals 'MedInd' for long term preservation and to provide access to electronic journals for medical fraternity. He also said that an MOU has been signed with the publishers to overcome intellectual property rights obstacles. The paper also explained the selection criteria for inclusion of journals in medIND such as peer reviewed journals published on time at least for three consecutive years and at present 37 journals have signed a formal MOU with NIC.

7. Mr. Anil Kumar Dhiman presented the paper entitled 'Educating library professionals: an essentiality in digital era'.

The paper discussed various library consortia initiatives in India such as CSIR, DAE, INDEST and others. He felt that there is a need to train library staff thoroughly to enable them to handle the day to day functions of the libraries concerning with automation and digitization. He also said that training should be made mandatory.

8. Mr. Anil Chikate presented the paper entitled ' Country portals: information initiatives towards e-governance'.

The paper presented a comparative study of the country portals of four major countries viz. USA, UK, Singapore and India. The paper concluded with the remarks that e-governance is the use of information and communication technology to promote more efficient and effective governance. The country portals of USA, UK and Singapore are more advanced and organised than Indian portals.

Technical Session-III: Impact of ICTs on Libraries and Information Communication

P Y Rajendra Kumar, Director, Dept. of Public Libraries, Bangalore acted as Director for the session. Dr Kautilya Shukla, Librarian, M S University, Baroda and Dr M P Satija chaired the session. Dr. N S Shokeen and Babu Ram Hooda were the rapporteurs.

The following papers were presented in this session.

1. Mr. Rajesh Bharadwaj presented the paper entitled 'Library services to blind users in digital environment: Their fundamental right in the information age'.

The paper discussed the need for digital library for visually impaired students and presented the condition of libraries for blind in India. He also said that we should not ignore the visually impaired users for their right to information. He concluded that equal opportunity should be given to the visually impaired persons and nation wide network of blind literature has to be developed.

2. Ms. Sujata Mandal presented the paper entitled : 'Constraints in evaluating acquisition operations and book suppliers using a library automation package'.

The paper discussed the problems faced while evaluating the acquisition system using Libsys integrated library software at IIT library, Kharagpur. The paper also highlighted the importance of suitable options in the library automation packages for evaluating the performance of different sections of the library.

3. Mr. G K Manjunath presented the paper entitled 'Open index initiative: A cooperative effort to develop an online database for Indian social science literature'.

The paper discussed about the Open Index Initiatives made at IGIDR, Mumbai. It is a cooperative effort to develop an online database of peer reviewed Indian social science journals, conference papers and general articles as most of the Indian journals are not covered by the International Indexing services. The authors of this paper have derived inspiration from two online databases, RePEc and DoIS.

4. Ms. Yogesh Kamboj presented her paper entitled 'LIS resources on the Internet'.

The paper discussed the access of information by LIS professionals in the present IT scenario. The use of technologies for resource sharing among LIS professionals was

discussed and highlighted some of the important websites on library education and other aspects of library & information services.

Technical Session-IV: Information Literacy

Ms. Pradeepa Wijetunge, Director, National Institute of Library & Information Sciences, Colombo, Srilanka and Dr. Jagtar Singh, Punjabi University, Patiala chaired the session. Dr. Ranjana Vohra was the rapporteur.

The following papers were presented in this session

1. Dr. A K Baradol presented the paper entitled 'Role of librarians as presented in the Information Literacy Models'.

The paper discussed various information literacy models based on the six core existing models. Defined Information Literacy is the set of skills needed to find, retrieve, analyse and use information. Discussed the role of librarians in imparting information literacy. The paper concluded that if the next generations are to be competent enough, instill in them the skills to frame a research question, frame search strategies and conduct the research necessary to answer the question .

2. Mr. Santosh Kumar presented the paper entitled 'Promoting Information Literacy in higher education'.

The paper focused on literacy and Information Literacy in relation to higher education and role of teachers and librarians in promoting it in higher education. Promoting Information Literacy skills is very important as it is an essential element and key characteristic of lifelong learning. Information Literacy calls for teachers to play a vital role in developing new ideas. The paper concluded that it is the collective responsibility of the entire college and university to help their students to become information literate.

3. Mr. Manoj Joshi presented the paper entitled 'Need for Information Literacy Education in Kurukshetra University'.

The paper discussed the need for Information Literacy education in Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. The study employed a questionnaire method. The sample included first year PG students from four university departments, Lib. & Information Science, Tour.& Hotel Mgt., Physics and English. The study revealed that physics students made maximum use of the information sources while students from Tourism discipline made extensive use of the internet.

4. Ms. Pradeepa Wijetunge presented the paper entitled 'Information literacy and

lifelong learning: Role and responsibilities of librarians in fostering a learning culture’

The paper discussed the changes posed by the contemporary world in the light of globalisation, shifting economic paradigm and information technology. She said that Information Literacy cannot be inculcated among the children in the absence of their school curriculum. The paper also discussed the essential components of literacy models and the model Empowering – 8 implemented at the National Institute of Library & Information Sciences, Sri Lanka.

5. Dr. Jagtar Singh presented the paper entitled ‘Beyond Information and Information Literacy: Lifelong learning for staying ahead of change and competition’.

The paper stated that Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning are essential conditions for staying ahead of change and competition. He asserted that the biggest challenge for library and information professionals today is to learn to convert information into knowledge and vice versa.

6. Ms. Chitra Rekha Kuffalikar presented the paper entitled ‘Bridging the knowledge gaps understanding the confluence of Information Literacy and lifelong education’.

The paper discussed various models of Information Literacy similar to the paper presented by Dr. Barbados. She quoted the example of Swaminathan Research Foundation that how it is helping the farmers in spreading the Information Literacy. The paper concluded stating that only the live and vibrant literacy programmes can stand the test of time .

7. Dr. Khaizer M Khan presented the paper entitled ‘Ranganathan’s five laws and Information Literacy’.

Dr Khan reminded the Library and Information professionals the contribution of Ranganathan and his public library movement. He said that we have forgotten Ranganathan and his principles as people have forgotten Mahatma Gandhi. The paper also discussed Ranganathan’s five laws of library science in the context of information society and information literacy. The five laws are restated, reinterpreted and redefined in the context of information literacy. Ranganathan and his laws, principles are still relevant and evergreen inspite of various technological developments that have changed the role of libraries and librarians.

Technical Session-V: Information Literacy

Dr. A K Baradol , Head, Dept. of LIS, Mangalore University, Mangalore and Dr. S K Vats chaired the session. Dr. O P Gupta and Dr. Dinesh Gupta were the rapporteurs for this session. The following papers were presented in this session.

1. Ms. Kshipra Sardesai presented the paper entitled ‘Information Literacy: Role of library professionals’.

The paper discussed that information literacy is a survival skill in the information age irrespective of status and sex in the society. The paper also illustrated that the information literacy among people in the society keeping libraries as main media and library associations and professionals as information motivators. The paper also discussed the need for various managerial skills to be taught which are not taught thoroughly in the library schools.

2. Mr. Rajesh Kumar presented the paper entitled 'Need of the managerial skills for library professional'.

The paper discussed the various managerial skills required for library and information professionals in handling the jobs effectively and efficiently. Stressed the need for continuous training for upgrading the managerial skills.

3. Mr. Sajjan Singh presented the paper entitled 'ICT for learning process of visually impaired students: A case study of Hellen Keller unit of JNU Library'

The paper discussed various IT applications available in the Helen Keller Unit of the JNU Library for visually impaired students. The paper demonstrated with audio visual aids that how visually impaired students access internet and online databases. The future programme of this unit is to provide networked services to the visually impaired students across the country.

4. Ms. Meeta Rathod presented the paper entitled 'Librarianship to e-librarianship: A paradigm shift'.

The paper tried to emphasize the role of librarians from archivists to that of information navigator. The paper also discussed the impact of e-age with comparative characteristics of traditional and modern librarianship.

5. Ms. Taruna Joshi presented the paper entitled 'Information Literacy in a global information society'.

The paper presented the concepts and importance of information literacy in the global scenario and the role of libraries and librarians in achieving information literacy among the people.

Two Technical sessions were conducted on 18th December, 2005.

Technical Session-VI: Lifelong Learning

Dr. C R Karisiddappa and Dr. Ajit Singh Siwath chaired the sessions. Mr. Manoj Kumar Joshi and Mr. Akthar Purvez were the rapporteurs.

The following papers were presented in this session.

1. Dr. M Natarajan presented the paper entitled 'Role of Hybrid Libraries in the lifelong learning'.

The paper explained the role of hybrid libraries in the lifelong learning process. It defined hybrid libraries as anything added to the physical libraries. Discussed about various sources such as legacy, transition, new digital and future resources. Five major hybrid library projects such as BUILDER, AGORA, MALIBU, HEADLINE and HyLiFE were highlighted. Also discussed some of the Indian Digital library projects. Suggested that the hybrid library projects should be encouraged to take on board the needs of lifelong learners.

2. A P Yadav presented the paper entitled 'Knowledge management in libraries: Emerging perspectives and challenges'.

The article explored the phenomenon of knowledge management and the tools to capture knowledge and the role of librarians in knowledge management. The paper concluded with a message that 'Knowledge management should be the evolution of good management practices sensibly and purposively applied'.

3. Mr. P K Choudhary presented the paper entitled 'Knowledge management: Critical resource management for organisational success'.

The paper discussed a brief account of knowledge management, its need, definition, driving forces behind the knowledge management and its components. A five phase model of the organization knowledge creation process has been discussed.

4. Mr. Hukam Chand Yadav presented the paper entitled 'Knowledge management in libraries: Concepts and issues'.

The paper presented the concept of Knowledge management and discussed the issues related to knowledge management in the libraries. Stressed that knowledge management techniques will help the libraries to increase the operational efficiency.

5. Dr. M Natarajan presented (on behalf of Ms. Jaya Kalra) the paper entitled 'Role and scope of TQM in library and information sector'.

The paper pointed out the difference between traditional organisation and TQM organization. Also discussed the application, implementation and practice of TQM in libraries for various products and services. Adopting TQM techniques in libraries will lead to continuous quality improvement along with lifelong learning and promoting literacy in the field.

Technical Session-VII: Lifelong Learning

Dr. C R Karisiddappa and Dr. Ajit Singh Siwatch chaired the session. Mr Dr. Tariq Ashraf was the rapporteur.

The following papers were presented in this session.

1. Mr. Rajesh Kumar presented the paper entitled 'Knowledge management in libraries: An overview'.

The paper discussed the concepts of KM in libraries in India. The author opined that the knowledge management is a misused term and is a very nascent term.

2. Ms. Milan Govind Natekar presented her paper entitled 'Leadership and upward management'.

The paper highlighted various concepts of management skills required for librarians. Leader is one who inspires his workers with very good strategic skills. Every leader is a manager but every manager is not a leader is the core message of the paper.

Open House

Immediately after the technical sessions there was an open house chaired by Dr. M M Koganuramath, President, ILA and assisted by Dr. D V Singh, General Secretary, ILA.

The delegates raised many questions and expressed their views related to the status of librarians in public and college libraries. All the questions were aptly answered by both ILA President and General Secretary and assured the delegates that appropriate action will be taken to address various issues raised by the delegates with the authorities concerned.

Valedictory Function

The curtain came down on the third day with the closing ceremony in the late afternoon. The valedictory function was chaired by Dr. Yudhbir Singh, Registrar, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. Dr. Bandyopadhyay, Director, NIT, Kurukshetra, was the Chief Guest. Dr. M M Koganuramath, President, ILA, Dr D.V.Singh, General Secretary, ILA, Dr Roshanlal Raina and Mr B.S.Kademani were on the dias. Dr. M M Koganuramath, President, ILA, welcomed the dignitaries and the delegates. Mr. B. S. Kademani, Scientific Officer, Scientific Information Resource Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai, was the Rapporteur General who presented the report and read the recommendations. Dr. Roshanlal Raina, Director, Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, New Delhi, was the Director for the conference who highlighted the

deliberations of the conference and thanked all the authors for contributing papers, the editorial committee for bringing out the conference volume and the delegates who actively participated in the deliberations. Dr. Bandyopadhyay, Director, NIT, Kurukshetra while delivering the valedictory speech, he called upon the library and information professionals to help the information needy and convert India into the intellectual capital. Dr. Yudhbir Singh, Registrar, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, presided over the function. In his presidential remarks, he said that a smile on the face of the librarians will go a long way in inviting and motivating the students, researchers and information seekers to make the best use of the library and information centres for lifelong learning. He also appreciated the efforts made by the organizers for successfully conducting the conference. Mementos were presented to the dignitaries on the dias by the organizers.

Best Paper Awards

Dr D V Singh, General Secretary, ILA introduced the best paper awards. ILA-C D Sharma Best Paper Award was given to Ms. Pradeepa Wijetunge for her paper entitled “Information Literacy and lifelong learning: role and responsibilities of librarians in fostering a learning culture”. ILA-A G Motiwale Best Paper Award for young librarians was given to Ms. Yogesh Kambhoj for her paper entitled “ LIS resources on the Internet”.

Felicitation Programme:

The organizers of the conference Dr. Ashu Shokeen, Dr. Krishan Gopal, Dr. R D Mehla and Dr N S Shokeen were felicitated by Dr. M M Koganuramath, President, ILA. Dr Kautilya Shukla, Librarian, M S University, Baroda presented a memento to all the organizers of the conference. All the delegates gave a standing ovation to the organizers of the conference with thunderous applause of claps for organising the conference very meticulously.

Dr. D. V. Singh, General Secretary, ILA gave an emotional and touching speech citing many Sanskrit Shlokas and thanking each and every person who helped to make this conference a great success. He did not forget to mention his teachers including Dr. Ashu Shokeen who helped in moulding his career.

Dr. Krishan Gopal proposed the vote of thanks.

The delegates will never forget the holy city of Kurukshetra and the sumptuous and mouth watering dinners and nice hospitality shown by the organizers in the years to come.

Resolutions

The 51st All India Library Conference of the Indian Library Association on “Libraries, Information Literacy & Lifelong Learning”, was organized during December 16-18, 2005 in Kurukshetra University. The conference was jointly organised by the Department of Library & Information Science and Jawaharlal Nehru Library, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra and National Institute of Technology (NIT), Kurukshetra.

As you all are aware, the theme of the conference was “Libraries, Information Literacy & Lifelong Learning”. The pre-conference volume containing hundred and ten papers/abstracts was released in the inaugural function by Dr. R P Hooda, Honourable Vice Chancellor of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. The theme of the conference was discussed under three broad facets namely: Impact of ICTs on Libraries and Information Communication, Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning organised under seven technical sessions. In all 38 papers were presented. Presentations were followed by thorough discussions. Based on discussions and deliberations on the papers presented supplemented by session chairpersons remarks and inputs from the conference Director, the resolutions stand outlined as follows.

1. Realising the rapid growth of ICT in different forms and its visible impact on the totality of the activities in the library and information centers, it is resolved to facilitate all possible facilities to exploit the potentialities of the ICT in revitalizing the services to the total satisfaction of the user community. Further the conference resolved to recommend to the concerned authorities to strengthen the existing facilities so as to make the optimum use of ICT. The conference also appreciate it and welcomed the efforts of some of the Libraries who have made the bold attempts to adopt the ICT and turnout the best possible results inspite of various constraints faced by them.
2. In recent years there is a revolutionary change in the impact of digitization and thereby the growth of digital libraries. Equally there is a strong support from different sectors. Accordingly it is felt necessary to go for large scale digitization. The technological developments particularly the fast developing converging technologies have greatly facilitated the digitisation programme in the country. As a result of this, several libraries in the country have explored the national and international sponsorships and successfully endeavouring the digitization process as well as developing the digital libraries. It is univocally resolved to recommend to the concerned authorities to explore and exploit all available supports to develop the digital libraries so as to preserve the traditional knowledge in all its forms and formats. The conference also realized the bright future for the digital libraries and their efforts in bridging the digital divide.

3. Information Literacy has emerged as a global issue. The conference has been convinced by the presentations on this issue and arrived at the conclusion that the information literacy is a powerful weapon to empower the user community with information. It is a critical issue to be discussed on all forums to implement rigorously at all levels of education as well as in all walks of life. Therefore, it is the firm belief of the conference that the Indian Library Association should emerge as a focal point to propagate the message of information literacy by convincing concerned authorities to form a National Information Literacy Mission and the National Information Literacy Task Force in order to implement this programme throughout the country without further delay. Further the conference resolved to recommend to the concerned bodies like UGC, AICTE, IMC, etc. as well as the Government Authorities to constitute the high power body to design and develop information literacy curriculum at different levels of education so as to integrate it with the routine curriculum of the educational programme emphasising the rapid growth of electronic information resources along with internet and www. The conference resolved to formulate partnership of the teachers, media people and technology experts plus the communication specialists to conduct successfully and effectively the information literacy programme.
4. Information Literacy is an effective mechanism for lifelong learning. Information literacy is that skill which is enabling the user to learn how to learn, un-learn and re-learn considering the fast changing developments in ICT, information resources and the growth of the subjects as a whole. The conference has come to an agreement that the promotion of lifelong learning is an inevitable and onerous responsibility of the country and of the government. In this context it is strongly felt that the formation of national missions and forums along with task force will certainly enable the institutions as well as the governments to formulate the standards and guidelines for information literacy and lifelong learning through libraries, particularly public libraries and well designed information literacy programmes.
5. As mentioned very often that we are in the “Information Society” or “Knowledge Society” there would be a lot of competition in every walk of life. To survive in this knowledge society, we need to possess knowledge and wisdom and should know how to use the right information, in the right place at right time with right tools. To realize this dream and to make it happen, our library and information schools should concentrate and update their curriculum in tune with the developments that are taking place around us.
6. ILA should take up the Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning movement across the country by organizing various seminars, workshops at district, taluka and village levels.
7. The Darwin’s theory of evolution “survival for the fittest” applies very much for our profession. Therefore, we all should try to imbibe and learn the ICT skills.
8. The General Body of Haryana Library Association in meetings held on 17th Dec., 2005 recommended to the ILA the following resolutions:

- ✍ The Haryana Public Libraries Act. 1989 was passed by the Legislature in its vision to further the public library movement in Haryana. The Act in its spirit has not been implemented so far. Association resolve that the Hayana Public Libraries Act, 1989 be implemented in toto.
- ✍ It is also resolved that an optional subject of Library Science be introduced in degree colleges of Haryana.
- ✍ Senior librarians working in Government Colleges and District Librarian be given Gazetted Status commensurate with their pay scales and qualifications.

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