

RRRLF Newsletter



Knowledge for all at their doorsteps

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NML
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News collection :

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Design & Compilation :

Ms. Papri Chakraborty, Mr. R. N. Jha, Mr. Saroj Kr. Kerketta, Mr. Suman Dutta, Mr. Kalyan Kundu, Ms. Ankita Bose, Mr. Surendra Kumar Mahato.

Cover Design:

Ms. Ankita Bose & Mr. Atanu Sarkar

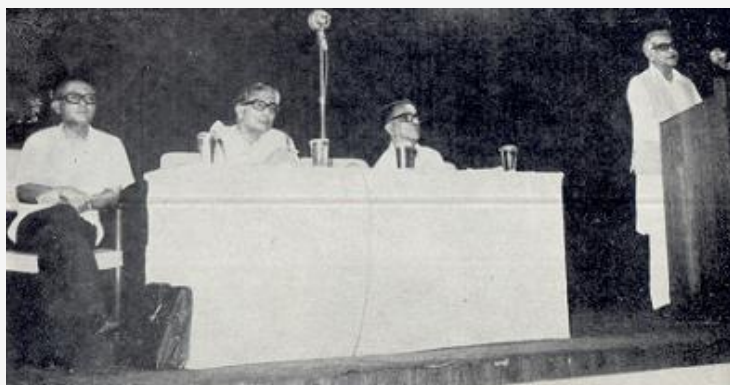
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**Bad libraries build “Collections”,
Good libraries build “Services”,
Great libraries build “Communities”.**

~ R. David Lankes

File picture



Shri Krishna Kripalini delivering the Raja Rammohun Roy Memorial Lecture, 1979. Prof. Niharranjan Ray, Prof. R. K. Das Gupta and Dr. B. P. Barua on the podium.

From the Editor's desk :

Dear Colleagues,

Modern day librarianship has undergone sea change, both in terms of adoption of new technologies and also from the perspective of extending services to the communities. Our library professionals are required to reorient themselves to face the challenges of rapidly changing user-needs. I am glad to inform you that the Ministry of Culture has entrusted RRRLF to organize the Capacity Building Programmes of National Mission on Libraries. RRRLF has successfully organized training programmes for the public library personnel in various parts of the country. Enthusiasm observed and the feedbacks received from the participants are highly encouraging.

RRRLF, during the first six months of 2017-18 has organized various types of programmes, besides its normal on-going activities pertaining to the development of library services in collaboration with the Directorates of Library Services of various States/U.T, Voluntary Organisations, Universities, Library Associations and Philanthropic Organisations with a view to extending library services to every nook and corner of the country. It is extremely important to keep track of the changes taking place in other parts of the globe and remodel our library services accordingly. Some important global library news have also been included in this issue. Information on some of the interesting digital Library initiatives has also been provided. A brief report on the Public Library movement in Goa has been compiled.

I hope, you will find the information presented in this issue useful. Kindly send your comments for improvement of the Newsletter.

Dr. Arun Kumar Chakraborty, Director General, RRRLF and Additional Mission Director, NML

The Hon'ble Minister of Culture pays a visit to RRRLF, Kolkata



The Hon'ble Minister of Culture Dr. Mahesh Sharma, accompanied by the Director General, N.C.S.M. and other senior officials from the Ministry of Culture, visited the RRRLF Office on the 11th July, 2017. He was warmly received and welcomed by the employees of RRRLF.

In a brief lecture addressed to the employees of the RRRLF, he emphasized that, *"a library acts as a link between our literary and cultural heritage and facilitates generation of knowledge for the future. We must think how to further develop our library services keeping in view its present scenario."*

He mentioned that during his visit to the National Library, he interacted with some of the readers. This interaction with the readers reminded him of his days as a student when he used to visit the Delhi Public Library.

He observed that, "the libraries are the custodian of knowledge and the process of spreading knowledge should be continued. RRRLF has its own reputation which is our pride and we should continue to maintain the pride. We should strive to make it such an institution so that it may serve the humanity, specifically the youths of this country. The vision of our Prime Minister is that such institutions should continue to function with pride. It is a matter of pride for the employees that they are associated with an institution of such national importance."

RRRLF News

RRRLF Memorial Lecture 2017

RRRLF Memorial Lecture was delivered by Prof. Subha Shankar Sarkar, Vice-Chancellor, Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata on the 22nd May, 2017 at the Conference Hall of RRRLF. He spoke on the theme **“Utilization of Public Library System in reaching the outreach”**.



International Yoga Day observed on 21st June, 2017 at RRRLF

A yoga camp was organized on the occasion of the International Yoga Day on the 21st June, 2017 at RRRLF in collaboration with the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIS), Salt Lake, Kolkata. Employees from both the organizations participated in the Yoga Programme.

RRRLF celebrates Librarians' Day on 9th August 2017

RRRLF organised the **Librarians' Day** on the 9th August 2017 at the Bhasa Bhavan Auditorium of the National Library, Kolkata to

commemorate the auspicious 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, in collaboration with the National Library and Central Reference Library, Kolkata. Shri V. Srinivas, I.A.S., Chairman, Board of Revenue, Govt. of Rajasthan, Ajmer delivered an oration on the theme **“Cultural Diplomacy – India's Outreach to the World”** on the occasion.



A panel discussion on the theme **“Reimagining Today's Librarianship”** was also organized as a part of the programme.

आर. आर. आर. एल. एफ. में “ हिन्दी दिवस ” समारोह का आयोजन



राजभाषा के रूप में हिन्दी के प्रति अभिरुचि बढ़ाने के साथ-साथ जागरूकता लाने की दृष्टि से आर.आर.आर.एल.एफ. के कार्यालय में 20 सितम्बर,

2017 को “ हिन्दी दिवस ” समारोह का आयोजन किया गया। प्रोफेसर विनय कुमार श्रीवास्तव, निदेशक, भारतीय मानव विज्ञान सर्वेक्षण, कोलकाता प्रधान अतिथि के रूप में समारोह में उपस्थित हुए, जब कि डॉ० अरुण कुमार चक्रवर्ती, महानिदेशक, आर.आर.आर.एल.एफ. ने समारोह की अध्यक्षता की। दिन-प्रतिदिन के कार्यालयीन कार्य में हिन्दी के प्रभावकारी प्रयोग हेतु प्रोत्साहन प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से अहिन्दी एवं हिन्दी भाषी कर्मचारियों के बीच हिन्दी में कई प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया तथा उनके बीच पुरस्कार भी वितरण किया गया।

हिन्दी में प्रवीणता प्राप्त तथा कार्यसाधक ज्ञान रखने वाले कर्मचारियों को दिन-प्रतिदिन के कार्यालयीन कार्यों को राजभाषा हिन्दी में करने के उद्देश्य से आर.आर.आर.एल.एफ. के कार्यालय में 20 सितम्बर, 2017 को एक दिवसीय “ हिन्दी कार्यशाला ” का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यालय के सभी प्रवीणता प्राप्त तथा हिन्दी में कार्यसाधक ज्ञान रखने वाले कर्मचारियों ने इस कार्यशाला में भाग लिया। श्री राम नारायण सरोज, उप-निदेशक, हिन्दी शिक्षण योजना (पूर्व क्षेत्र) कोलकाता ने “ राजभाषा का कार्यान्वयन ” विषय पर व्याख्यान प्रस्तुत किया।

Swachh Bharat Initiative



Swachhta Pakhwada was observed in RRRLF during 16-30 September, 2017. During this Pakhwada, cleaning of Office premises, toilets, staircase, roof etc. and that of the Bidhannagar State General Hospital, Salt Lake was done by the employees.

To create ‘Swachhata’ awareness among school children, ‘a sit and draw’ competition was organized on the 22nd September, 2017 among the local school students in the Conference Room of the RRRLF.

Zonal News

Eastern Zone :

Drop Everything and Read project of Ganjam, Odisha



School children in Ganjam district of Odisha are being lured into the reading and writing habit in an entertaining manner through a unique project named ‘Drop Everything and Read’ (DEAR). DEAR, an innovative interactive library movement project, was initiated in December 2014 in about 1,000 schools of Ganjam district. It has already

earned national recognition. Primary objective of this project is to address the alarming issue of declining reading habit among the school students, which was also affecting their writing skills. Students were found to be concerned with only their textbooks and the District Education Authority wanted to make the children feel that reading is not only linked to studies and examination, but also to a process of entertaining and an activity of pleasure.

In 2015, the project was selected for a national award for innovation in educational administration.

[Comp. by Shri Sourav Chakrabarti, FA, EZO]

Deulpur Public Library



Deulpur Public Library located at Panchla, District Howrah, West Bengal was established in the year 1920. The library has a total collection of 10061 books and subscribes to 20 periodicals. The library has a total of 350 members and about 3000 Children books. The library has been assisted by RRRLF for

establishment of a “RRRLF Children’s Corner” with televisions and computers. The library has a good collection of text books, particularly, for the higher secondary students as well as for the students pursuing higher studies. The library attracts users not only from the village itself but also from other nearby villages. The library provides a lot of career guidance books to the students, who are greatly benefitted from the library services. The library also published a book in regional language recently, which upholds the culture and portrays the socio-economic conditions prevailing in the locality. The locality produces export quality Polo ball, which is also displayed in the library.

[Comp. by Shri Sourav Chakrabarti, FA, EZO]

North East Zone :

Establishment of “Children Section” and “Differently abled Corner” in the Public Libraries of Arunachal Pradesh

RRRLF has provided financial assistance for establishment of Children Section and creation of facilities for the Specially-abled readers in many Public Libraries of Arunachal Pradesh.

Children Section:

Special sections for children have been established in Block Library Chayantajo, Block Library Yachuli, Block Library

Bordumsa, Block Library Namsung and Circle Library Kamubari.

Specially-abled Corner:

Dedicated sections for specially-abled persons have also been set up in District Library Hawaii, District Library Khonsa, District Library Koloriang, District Library Longding, District Library Roing, District Library Tawang, District Library Tezu and District Library Yingkiong.

[Comp. by: Shri R. K. Shaw, FA, NEZO]

Nabarun Sangha Rural Library, Mohisasan, Karimganj, Assam

Mohisasan is a tiny village, located near Mohisasan railway station which is a defunct railway transit facility point on the India-Bangladesh border in Karimganj district of Assam. Nabarun Sangha Rural Library, situated at high land at Mohisasan, is run by an NGO which also runs a private school from class nursery to VIII attached to this library building for educating the local children of this remote village. All pupils of this school are free members of this library. This library organizes health camp, coaching classes, sanitation and culture programmes in collaboration with Ram Krishna Mission, Karimganj for the uplift of the social status of villagers.

[Comp. by: Shri R. K. Shaw, FA, NEZO]

Northern Zone:

Inauguration of Library Services for Specially-abled readers in Govt. Public Divisional Library, Kota, Rajasthan

World Book Day -2017 was celebrated on the 23rd April 2017 in the Govt. Divisional Library, Kota, Rajasthan with the inauguration of Library Services for the Specially-abled readers. Speaking on the occasion, the Officer In-Charge of Govt. Divisional Library, Kota, Dr. Deepak Kumar Shrivastava mentioned that, it is the first “Disabled Friendly Public Library” in Rajasthan. Library Services for Specially-abled readers was inaugurated and opened by Professor Dr. Arvind Saxena in the presence of Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Eye Specialist and many visually and physically challenged readers including Smt. Khushi Khan, Mr. Anoop Jain and Sulekha Jain.



This special service corner in the Govt. Divisional Library has been set up with the Non-Matching Financial assistance of RRRLF, Kolkata. This corner will facilitate library services to a large community of

Specially-abled Readers of the Kota Region. As part of the World Book Day celebration a workshop on providing library services to the Disabled Readers using ICT Services was also organised.

[Comp. by: Shri A. K. Keshari, FO, NZO]

Southern Zone :

Prime Minister inaugurates the Reading Month celebrations of PN Panicker Foundation in Kochi on 17th June, 2017



Puthuvayil Narayana Panicker is known as the 'Father of the Library Movement in Kerala'. The activities of the 'Kerala Grandhasala Sangham' that he initiated triggered a popular cultural movement in Kerala which contributed to producing universal literacy in the state in the 1990s. He travelled to the villages of Kerala proclaiming the value of reading. He succeeded in bringing some 6,000 libraries into this network. Grandhasala Sangham won the prestigious 'Krupsakaya Award' from UNESCO in 1975. Panicker was the General

Secretary of 'Sangham' for 32 years, until 1977, when it was taken over by the State Government.

Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Reading Month celebrations of PN Panicker Foundation in Kochi on 17th June, 2017. In his address to a huge gathering of Intellectuals, Students and Library Professionals, he stressed that, "There can be no joy greater than reading and no strength greater than knowledge. Kerala has been a torch-bearer and inspiration to the whole nation in the field of literacy. Kerala was the first state to attain 100 percent literacy and primary education. Some of the oldest colleges, schools and libraries of the country are also situated in Kerala. This could not have been achieved by the Government alone. Citizens and social organizations have played an active role in this remarkable achievement. Kerala has set an example in people's participation in this regard."

"I learn that PN Panicker Foundation together with a number of Government agencies, private sector entities and civil society organisations is leading an initiative on reading. Their target is to reach 300 million under-privileged people by 2022. The main objective of this mission is to promote reading as a means to grow and prosper. Reading can help broaden one's thinking. A well-read population will help India excel globally."

“I am happy to note that the State Government has announced 19th June as the reading day. Obviously, a lot of effort will converge to make this a popular activity.”

The Government of India has provided a financial support of about 1.20 crore rupees to the foundation in the last two years. The foundation is now focusing on digital literacy, which the Prime Minister observed as the need of the hour.

City Central Library, Belgaum



City Central Library is the most preferred place for the book lovers of Belgaum City in Karnataka. People spend quality time in the library for reading news paper, magazine and books. Established in 1974 the library has a building spreading over 6000 sqft area. The library has 25,850 registered members. It has 76,374 books including 6740 children books in its collection. Competitive Exam Section of this library is frequently used by the College and University students. The library subscribes to 32 newspapers and 54 magazines for its 1200 daily users. Total number of books issued by the library during

the last year was 22,080. The library has been assisted by RRRLF with 15,297 books together with library furniture.

[Comp. by: Shri A. K. Sen, FA, SZO]

Pennington Public Library, Srivilliputtur

The Pennington Public Library, situated in the ancient city of Srivilliputtur about 74 km south of Madurai, was established in the year 1875 by the then Collector of Thirunelveli, Mr. Pennington and other eminent personalities Mr. A Ramachandra Rao, Mr. Saravanamuthu Pillai and others.



This library has a collection of over 41,390 books on various subjects and languages. The library has some rare books in its collection, like Penny Cyclopaedia (1833), The Standard Library Cyclopaedia (1860), Science for All (1888), a collection of Government Gazettes since the year 1953 etc. The library has many prized books in its holding like Life – Our Century in Pictures, The Best of LIFE, The Phaidon Atlas of Contemporary World Architecture, Agni: Vedic Ritual of Five Altar and many more.

This Library subscribes to 17 news papers and 167 Journals for its four hundred plus daily users. The library has established a Children's corner in 2001 with the assistance of RRRLF. This library was awarded as the "Best District Library" of the South Zone by RRRLF in 2005.

[Comp. by: Shri A. K. Sen, FA, SZO]

Books on Wheels :

We are all familiar with mobile library service, which is indeed unique and noble service which many librarians nowadays adopt to reach out to the unreached readers to encourage them to inculcate the habit of reading. But this story is about V Selvamani, librarian at Thottiyam Branch Library who inspired by S.R. Ranganathan, the Father of Library Science in India conceived of a noble idea to utilise his motorcycle to deliver books to the villagers at their doorstep ,especially students. Thottiyam is a panchayat town in Tiruchirappalli district of Tamil Nadu.



Mr. Selvamani commutes with around 100 books loaded on either side of his bike along with membership forms to attract new readers

and dutifully delivers the books to his readers. He dramatically shifted his revolutionary ideas from the common notion that a mobile library service is a story about a van carrying books loaded to its brim which delivers books at the doorstep of the readers using his own two-wheeler to deliver books at every nook and corner of the village, which a four-wheeler cannot access. Selvamani's noble gesture and undying service to its readers received a shot in the arm after he got approval from his district library officer. He now plans to burgeon his idea of mobile library services more strongly with the help of the "Readers Forum" in the village by further reaching out to the interiors of the village and creating awareness among people to read books. Selvamani added another feather in his cap after he became an innovator in International Network of Emerging Library Innovators (INELI) and he has plans to extend the network of readers.

Western Zone :

India has its first Village of Books in Maharashtra's Bhilar



Bhilar, a village in the Satara district of Maharashtra, has embraced the tag of being the first 'Village of Books'. The concept has been inspired by Britain's Hay-On-Wye, a Welsh town known for its book stores and literature festivals. 'Pustakanche Gaon', as it is known in Marathi, was set up as the village of books on May 4, 2017. This government initiative was inaugurated by Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra. This village, spread over two kilometres, is located at a distance of eight kilometres from the hill station Panchgani.



Education Minister Vinod Tawde led the project undertaken by the Department of Marathi Bhasha. Over 75 artists were requested to paint the premises to be used as reader hotspots by the Government of Maharashtra. There a three-day painting camp was held in which different artists participated and painted the walls with graphics as per the genre of book that was going to be placed there. The location has been designed in a unique manner to turn it into a reader's hotspot, covering everything

from history, poetry, and literature to autobiographies, biographies, and festival specials.

This village is expected to have the highest per capita availability of books in comparison to other villages. The ratio of books to villagers will be 1:1 as 10,000 books will be made available for 10,000 people. Presently, the collection only includes Marathi books but it will be gradually expanded to Hindi and English books as well.

The intention behind developing the village of books is to promote tourism as well as Marathi. Regardless of the intention behind this idea, it comes as a breath of fresh air at a time when people are forgetting the beauty of literature.

[Comp. by Shri W. A. Vishnu, FO, WZO]

Public Library Status Report

Public Library System of Goa

Directorate of Art and Culture, Govt. of Goa looks after the Public Library services in the state of Goa as there is no separate Directorate for Public Library Services. Director of Art & Culture functions as the Officer In-Charge of Public Libraries for public library services.

Library Legislation in Goa:

Library Legislation in Goa was passed in the year 1993. The Act is called the Goa Public

Libraries Act, 1993. Library Cess is collected by imposing a surcharge on the Excise Duty payable under Goa Excise Duty Act 1964 at the rate of Rs. 0.75 paise per bulk litre of liquor sold.

Public Libraries in Goa :

State Central Library is the apex of public library system in Goa. It is located in Panjim (Panaji), Goa. There is only one District Library located at Navelim, Salcete. The other government / government-aided libraries are : Town Library (1), Taluka libraries (7), Government Village Libraries (3), Village Panchayat Libraries (42) and Government Aided NGOs Libraries (82).

A Mobile Library Service for entire Goa has been started with the State Central Library as the base library.

History of Public Library Movement in Goa :

Vasco-da-Gama sighted Goa on May 18, 1498. The economic, social and cultural life of the world were to be profoundly changed by the new trade route opened by his voyage. On the 15th November, 1510, Alfonso de Albuquerque captured Goa and made the City of Goa as the seat of Viceroy and hence it became the nerve centre of political activities of the Portuguese in the East. Books from Lisbon, Africa, and Brazil and from other Portuguese colonies used to arrive in Goa, in bundles and boxes as cargos.

The discovery of the sea route to the east had a twin purpose of trade and expansion of Christianity. Jesuits made their debut in Goa in the person of St. Francis Xavier. They founded St. Paul College, which had a meteoric fame; it was in this college that the first printing press in Goa and in India was installed wherein a handbook of Christian doctrine by St. Francis Xavier was published. This was the most important centre of studies in the whole of Goa and the first college in India. This grew up to be known as University of Goa. Portuguese established several educational institutions on religion and philosophy. Coming to the most important catholic educational institutions St. Augustine Church and convent in Old Goa played a vital role in the beginning of the 17th century, that is around 1630. It had the best library in the eastern globe. The well-known English traveller Claudius Buchanan commenting on the library visited by him writes. "I pass an hour sometimes in a spacious library of the Augustinian convent and think myself suddenly transported into one of the libraries of Cambridge".

After the suppression of religious orders in 1834, most of these institutions ceased to function. The college of Rachol was later converted into Seminary of Rachol and college library was merged into the seminary library. A catalogue of this collection was published in 1900. Swami Vivekananda

visited this library to study Christian theology & religion in the early 19th century.

According to available records prior to liberation, about fifty libraries were established through private initiative and by various organizations and associations. The earliest library was Saraswat Vidyapith Pustakalaya, established in 1899. Shri Mahalaxmi Prasadik Hindu Vachan Mandir (1907) established in Mala, Panaji, is the oldest surviving library in Goa. In 1898-99 'Goa Hindu Pustakalay' was started in Panaji. Goa Hindu Club acquired this library and by 1908 it was closed. During the period of 1901 to 1910 libraries sprang up in Goa. But all these libraries had a very short life. Shri Mahalaxmi Prasadik Hindu Vachan Mandir was established in 1907. Margao Saraswat Brahman Samaj started the first library in 1912. The name of the library was changed to Gomat Vidya Niketan. Saraswati Mandir Library was established in 1913. Business community from Mapusa started 'Durga Vachan Mandir in 1908.

Mapusa Municipality council (MMC) was inaugurated as Bibliotheca Municipal Athaide in 1883. Margao Municipal Library was established in 1914.

The State Central Library was opened by Viceroy Dom Manuel de Portugal e Castro under order in 1832. In 1870, it was named as Bibliotheca Publica da Nova Goa. In 1925,

it was renamed as Bibliotheca Nacional Vasco da Gama. After Liberation in 1961, the library was renamed as Central Library and its activities were expanded with the introduction of lending, reference and special services for children. Under the Registration of books Act 1956, Government of India, Central Library is the depository library of Goa. The State Central Library Goa is under the administrative control of the Government of Goa, Directorate of Arts & Culture and Curator is the Head of the State Central Library. It has its own website www.goacentrallibrary.gov.in.

Library Associations in Goa:

Gomantak Granthalay Sangh was formed in Goa in 1963, by the father of library movement in Goa, Shri B.D. Satoskar, eminent librarian, social historian, journalist and scholar of Portuguese history. The Goa Library Association (GOLA) with office at the Goa University Library was registered in 2000. Another association, which is registered in Goa, is Higher Secondary School Libraries Association of Goa (HISSLAG).

Contact details of Library Directorate of Goa:

Director, Directorate of Art & Culture, 5th Floor, Sharam Shakti Bhavan, Patto, Panaji-Goa. 403001, (0832) 2438103 / 2438105 (2438104 - Fax)

E-mail: dir-dac.goa@nic.in

National Mission on Libraries

RRRLF organizes Capacity Building Programmes of Library personnel:

One of the important objectives of the National Mission on Libraries is skill upgradation of the public library personnel through organization of structured Capacity Building Programmes (CBP). RRRLF has been entrusted by the Ministry of Culture to organize these programmes in various parts of the country in collaboration with the Universities and Other Educational Institutions. Entire expenses including travel expenses for the participants are being borne from the grants sanctioned by the Ministry of Culture to the RRRLF under the NML budget head.



Trainings are being imparted in three levels: Basic, Intermediate and Advanced. Various topics like Basic ICT Skill, Library automation using Koha, Metadata Creation, Linux command basics, Open Access and Open Source Tools for Libraries, Modern day librarianship and professional ethics,

Communication Skill, Schemes of RRRLF, Community engagement, Use of Social Media and other Web 2.0 Tools for Libraries, Providing Information Services to the Users with Open Content, Library Services for the Specially abled, Emerging global trends in public library services, concept of Crowdsourcing, Preservation & Conservation strategy etc are being covered during the course of five (5) days of the training. At the end of the programme, a group presentation, consisting of 4-5 participants in each group, has to be made by the participants on their views regarding reorientation of public library services. Participants for the CBP are being selected on the basis of nomination received from the State/U.T Library Authorities and the Central Libraries under the MoC.

CBP organized in Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow

Resource persons for the programmes include, Dr. Deepak B. Phatak, Dept. of Computer Science, IIT Bombay, Shri Pankaj Rag, Joint Secretary, MoC and Mission Director, NML, Dr. Arun Kumar Chakraborty, Director General, RRRLF, and Addl. Mission Director, NML, Ms. Deepika Pokharna, Director (Lib.), MoC, Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Dept. of LIS & Director I/C of ACIL IGNOU, Dr. Partha Sarathi Mukhopadhyay, Associate Professor, Department of LIS, Kalyani University, Prof. Dr. G. Mahesh, Principal Scientist, National Science Library, Dr. Jaideep Sharma, Dept. of LIS, IGNOU,

Dr. B. Shadrack, Advisor, IPLM, Dr. Dinesh Katre, Associate Director & HoD Human-Centred Design & Computing , CDAC Pune, Dr. V.V. Subrahmaniyam, Associate Professor, School of Computer and Information Sciences (SOCIS), IGNOU, New Delhi, Dr. S.K Sonker, Asst. Professor, Deptt of LIS, BBAU Lucknow, Dr. Maneesh Bajpai, Librarian, Dr. RML National Law University, Dr. Sunil Gorla, Librarian, BBAU Lucknow, Shri Anirban Biswas, System Manager RRRLF, Shri Soumen Sarkar, Deputy Director RRRLF.

Venue/ Place	Date	Level	No. of persons trained
IGNOU, New Delhi	1 – 5 May, 2017	Intermediate	40
University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun	5 – 9 June, 2017	Intermediate	44
Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow	11 – 15 Sept, 2017	Basic	54

Forthcoming CBPs: Kalyani , West Bengal in November 2017, Guwahati, Assam in December 2017, Bhubaneswar, Odisha in

December 2017, Nasik, Maharashtra in January 2018 and Panaji, Goa in February 2018.

News from the Ministry of Culture Organizations

Second Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Culture held at Tianjing, China

A four member delegation led by Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State for Culture along with Smt. Sujata Prasad, Additional Secretary, MOC, Dr. A. K. Chakraborty, DG RRRLF and Shri. K. Srinivasan, APS to MoS participated in the 2nd BRICS Culture Ministers Meeting organized in Tianjin, China during 5-6 July, 2017. The primary objective of the meeting was to promote co-operation in the field of arts, cultural heritage, archive, literature, museum, libraries, children's theatres, publishing etc among the BRICS member countries. A Photo Exhibition of the heritage sites of various BRICS countries was also organized to showcase the cultural diversities of these countries.



MoU on cooperation in the Field of Culture (2017-2021) was signed among the BRICS countries. A MoU on Alliance of Libraries among the BRICS countries was also signed. Dr. Arun Kumar Chakraborty, Director General, RRRLF & National Library was the signatory from India.

MoU on BRICS Alliance of Art Museums and Galleries and BRICS Alliance on Children's Theatres were signed by Smt. Sujata Prasad, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Govt. Of India.

Central Secretariat Library introduces "Best Reader Award"

Central Secretariat Library (CSL) has started presenting the "Best Reader Award" to the users of the library on Quarterly basis.



The first best reader award for the quarter April – June, 2017 was presented to Shri Manvendra Goyal (IRS), Assistant Commissioner by Ms. Deepika Pokharna, Director (CSL) in a programme organized at

Central Secretariat Library, Shashtri Bhavan, New Delhi 110001 on 13th September 2017.

Programmes organized by the Central Reference Library, Kolkata

Diamond Jubilee celebration of INB:

The Diamond Jubilee Year of Indian National Bibliography was inaugurated on the 18th September 2017 at Bhasha Bhawan Auditorium of the National Library by Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi, His Excellency, the Governor of West Bengal. Shri Pankaj Rag IAS, Joint Secretary (Library), MoC and Mission Director, NML presided over the function. Shri. R. K. Mittal, Secretary General, Afro-Asian Book Council was the Guest of Honour. Prof. Dr. Uma Kanjilal, DLIS, IGNOU graced the occasion as a special invitee.



Indian National Bibliography online launched:

Indian National Bibliography Database consisting of about three (3) lakhs records is now available online with search & retrieval

facility in the CRL website:
www.crlindia.gov.in

The Hon'ble Governor launched the INB online for the citizens during the occasion. Two books 'Gujarati Balasashitya Granthasuchi' and 'Malayala Balasahitya Suchi' were also released by him. The inaugural function was followed by a cultural programme by Kalamandalam, Kolkata.

World Book Day:

The Central Reference Library observed the "World Book Day" on the 24th April 2017. Dr. Amitabh Chatterjee, Retired Professor & Head, Dept. of Library & Information Science, Jadavpur University has delivered the keynote address. Dr. Chatterjee dwelt on the subject "*Readability and its Measurement*".

Publisher's meet:

CRL organised a 'Publisher's Meet' at Pune on the 20th August 2017 in collaboration with Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Prakashak Sangh, Sri Kiran Dhandore, Director, DoL, Maharashtra delivered the keynote address. Marathi Balsahitya Suchi was released on the occasion.

World Library Review

Library Legislation and Act in various countries:

Mexico and Venezuela have specific public library legislation whereas in Colombia and

Brazil legislation on information services includes references to public libraries.

The Finnish Library Act (1998) stipulates that the public library should be provided by the municipality, either independently or in co-operation with other public libraries, that public libraries should co-operate with other types of library and that the municipality should evaluate the library and information services that it provides.

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996 provides the constitutional framework for the provision of library and information services in South Africa. It lists 'libraries other than national libraries' as an area of exclusive provincial legislative competence. It is, therefore, a provincial responsibility to develop the legislative framework in which library and information services can be provided.

In Armenia, local authorities have responsibility for the financing and maintenance of public libraries. The Law on Local Self-Government THE LEGAL AND FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK 15 (1996) defines their obligations for maintaining and developing public libraries.

In the Russian Federation, there are two laws relating to libraries at federal level, the Library Act and the Legal Deposit Copy Act. They are not concerned solely with public libraries though most of the Library Act is devoted to them.

The Italian Constitution gives Regions the control of public libraries established by municipalities and provinces. Some Regions have issued Library Acts in order to regulate co-operation between libraries and other information, documentation, cultural and educational agencies and to set quality standards.

Guidelines on library legislation and policy in Europe have been issued by the Council of Europe and EBLIDA (European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations).

The Public Libraries Act 1850 was an Act of the United Kingdom Parliament which first gave local boroughs the power to establish free public libraries. The Public Libraries Act 1850 initially applied only to England and Wales, but it was extended to Scotland in 1853. The library service in England and Wales is now governed by the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964.

New York State's Public Library Systems



- ✚ Serve over 19 million people statewide through 755 public libraries with over 1,100 outlets.
- ✚ Operate 310 neighborhood branches, 7 bookmobiles, 60 reading centers and other community outlets extending services to people in correctional facilities, nursing homes, urban and rural areas
- ✚ Facilitate over 16 million interlibrary loan requests annually
- ✚ Provide access to e-books, New York Online Virtual Electronic Library (NOVELNY) and other electronic resources
- ✚ Provide professional development and training opportunities for library staff and trustees
- ✚ Operate multi-county computer networks and automated catalogs of resources
- ✚ Connect with the New York State Library, school library systems, reference and research library resources councils, and school, academic and special libraries for access to specialized resources
- ✚ Serve as a liaison to the New York State Library and the New York State Education Department
- ✚ Free direct access to resources and services of all system member libraries

- ✚ Support for a central library that provides extended public hours and a strong research and reference collection
- ✚ Special outreach and literacy services for persons with challenging conditions and life situations, the institutionalized, underserved and unserved communities, and people who have difficulty reading, writing, and speaking English
- ✚ Cooperative grants administration and grant writing assistance to member libraries
- ✚ Access to free talking books, braille materials, and playback equipment from the State Library and The New York Public Library
- ✚ Programmes that assist local communities without libraries to obtain library services

Digital Library Initiative

National Cultural Audiovisual Archives (NCAA)



Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi is a premier institute set-up by the Government of India for research, documentation, preservation and dissemination of Indian arts and to provide a holistic understanding of Indian culture. A large volume of India's cultural wealth, created in the last six decades, is stored in audiovisual form with various governmental and non-governmental institutions and private collections. The content of these holdings enshrines the creativity of some of India's greatest artistic talents. This is an invaluable national heritage that needs to be preserved for all time and also made accessible to the citizens of the country. In the absence of systematic and modern preservation technologies, lack of awareness and proper upkeep, as well as the fragility of the medium they are stored in, these materials are in imminent danger of being lost forever.

Understanding the seriousness of the issue, the Ministry of Culture in the 12th Five Year Plan proposed a project for the archiving of the cultural audio-visual materials. The Ministry of Culture, accorded sanction for the National Cultural Audiovisual Archives (NCAA) project at the IGNCA in April 2014. The Ministry entrusted IGNCA to implement the National Cultural Audio-visual Archives project. The portal can be viewed through the URL <http://ncaa.gov.in/repository/>.

Library Services for the Specially-abled

Online Library for the Visually Challenged :



Sugamya Pustakalaya: DAISY forum of India is a consortium of not for profit organization from India who are involved in production of books and reading materials in accessible formats for persons who cannot read normal print. The DAISY forum of India envisions a world where people with print disabilities have equal access to information and knowledge without delay or additional expense in their own language. Member organizations of the DAISY Forum of India produce and maintain libraries of Digital Talking Books, Braille or e-Text. Books produced anywhere in the country in any preferred format e.g Daisy Audio, eBooks, Braille and Large Print are within people's reach. One can download the



digital formats from DAISY India Library or request any of DFI member organizations to deliver it to one's doorstep. An initiative of DAISY India for the Blind is Sugamya Pustakalaya which is India's first and largest collection of accessible books. Sugamya Pustakalaya is a collaborative effort of several organizations to end the book famine faced by people with print disabilities. Sugamya Pustakalaya provides a plethora of books on various subjects as well as text books, periodicals of various languages from across the globe. On the website the books as well as those authored by them are arranged in alphabetical order for easy browsing.

BOOKSHARE, the world's largest online library for the print disable, is integrated with DAISY India Library. Bookshare is a global literacy initiative of Benetech, a leading silicon valley based non profit technology company. More than 425000 people in 70 countries have access to Bookshare's collection of 582479 titles. More than 820 US and international publishers contribute to this social mission by donating their digital files, making it possible for Bookshare to serve users around the world and ensuring that content is available to the people with print disabilities at the same time as their peers.

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Block-DD - 34 , Sector - I , Salt Lake City, Kolkata -700 064.

Ph: (033) 2337-3463/ 64 Fax: 2337-3465

E-mail : rrrlf-wb@nic.in

Website : rrrlf.gov.in