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Inside

CALIBER- 2000

UGC - INFLIBNET REVIEW MEETING

SOUL INSTALLATION

WORKSHOP

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP SCHEME

NEW INITIATIVES

VISITORS TO THE CENTRE

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY PROFILE

ARTICLES ALERT

IMPORTANT WEB SITES

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

INFLIBNET PUBLICATIONS

FEEDBACKS

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From Director's Desk

Dear Friends,

The year 2000 has started with a good note for the INFLIBNET with quite a good number of new activities. The annual event CALIBER-2000 held in collaboration with University of Madras surpassed all its previous records-both in terms of papers and participants. A new feature i.e. pre-conference tutorial held one day before the convention attracted large number of enthusiast participants. Much awaited library management software SOUL was launched during the CALIBER by the Education Minister of Tamil Nadu Government. Well organised demonstrations of SOUL in a networked environment created confidence among participant libraries.

The review meeting held coinciding CALIBER -2000 on 16th February, 2000 was a useful exercise to assess the progress made by universities and attend to the problems. This exercise revealed that large number of universities have taken automation of libraries as a thrust area and necessary steps to accomplish the same have been initiated.

Funding for the Retrospective Conversion and Document Delivery Service projects has started with release of first installment of grant by UGC to the identified universities. These two projects have been initiated with a view to bring down the cost involved in retrospective conversion of the catalogue of all participating libraries and promote resource sharing through document delivery service

**Pramod Kumar
Director**

INTERNET edition : <http://www.inflibnet.ac.in/newsletter.html>

CALIBER 2000

CALIBER – The Convention for Automation of Libraries in Education and Research Institutes is an annual event of INFLIBNET held in different parts of the country in collaboration with a university. The main aim of CALIBER is to provide a forum to the library professionals, information providers and users involved in automation and networking of libraries to come together and interact on the subjects of mutual interest. This

of Madras was chosen by INFLIBNET as the venue. It is in this university, that the father of Indian Librarianship, Dr. S.R. Ranganathan worked as Librarian, Library Science teacher and carried out most of the research work relating to Indian Library Science. It was, therefore considered most appropriate venue to hold CALIBER 2000, the seventh convention in the series, in collaboration with University of Madras Library, at Chennai during 16-18th February, 2000. The main theme of the convention was **“Information Services in a Networked Environment in India.”**



Honorable Education Minister of Tamil Nadu, releasing CALIBER-2000 Proceeding, From left to right : Dr. R. Vengan University Librarian, Dr. Tilak Kem Joint Secretary UGC; Shri Pramod Kumar, Director INFLIBNET; Prof. Pon Kothandaraman V. C.; Prof. Anbazhagan; Minister of Higher Education, Prof. M Anadakrishnan Vice-Chairman of Tamil Nadu State Council of Higher Education and Shri Kollappan (IAS) Register.

occasion is also utilised to review the progress of the universities funded under the programme and decide about our future course of action.

Having held the earlier conventions at Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Vadodara, Patiala, Bhubaneshwar and Nagpur, it was decided to hold the CALIBER-2000 in the southern part of the country. One of the oldest and prestigious universities i.e. University

The inaugural session of the CALIBER-2000 was held on 16th February, 2000 at 4.00 p.m. in the Senate Hall located in the main building of the University. Prof. Pon. Kothandaraman, Vice Chancellor, University of Madras presided over the inaugural session. Prof. P.S. Rajagopalan, Chairman, Library Committee, University of Madras extended warm welcome to the dignitaries

on the dais, delegates and invitees. Shri Pramod Kumar, Director, INFLIBNET gave an overview of the work done by the INFLIBNET and the support provided by UGC for library automation and networking under the INFLIBNET Programme. He also gave an idea about future programmes of INFLIBNET, such as setting up a VSAT based network, providing information services, expansion of membership base, besides giving details about the library management software SOUL developed by INFLIBNET. Shri S.M. Salgar, Scientist-G at INFLIBNET Centre and Chairman of the Programme Committee of the CALIBER-2000 introduced the theme and sub-themes of the convention and gave an outline of the planned technical sessions. The convention was inaugurated by Prof. Anbazhagan, Hon. Minister for Higher Education, Govt. of Tamil Nadu. In his inaugural address, he lauded the efforts made by INFLIBNET/UGC for promoting the IT in the higher education sector and urged upon the library community to make best use of the same for the purpose of delivering the information services. He also assured that the State Government would extend all the support to university libraries in implementing this programme. He took this opportunity to highlight the efforts made by the Tamil Nadu Government for promoting IT in the academic and research sectors and **also released SOUL Software** developed by INFLIBNET. Prof. M. Anandkrishnan, former VC of Anna University and currently Vice-Chairman of Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education, delivered the keynote address. His address mainly focussed on deployment of IT for delivering the Information Services. He was particularly appreciative of the efforts by the INFLIBNET in developing state-of-the-art library management software SOUL. On this occasion, Dr. Tilak Kem, Joint Secretary, UGC spoke about the role of UGC in promoting INFLIBNET Programme and the library services. Shri Kolappan, IAS, Registrar, University of Madras,

highlighted the efforts of the university in this direction. The inaugural function ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. R. Vengan, the Organising Secretary, CALIBER-2000.

This convention attracted unprecedented number of participants. More than 325 participants representing universities, R&D institutions, library science schools, computer science departments, information industry and government departments took part in the convention. It was interesting to note that many senior personalities in the field including professors and librarians from universities, IIMs and IITs attended the convention and interacted intensively during the technical sessions.

In all 122 papers were contributed for presentation during the technical sessions which was almost double the number of papers presented in earlier conventions. These papers covered entire gamut of information technology and services in the context of networked environment. Good number of papers were based on the case studies and emerging trends in the area of IT.

The papers were grouped under the following four sub-themes.

- Networked Based Information Services
- Infrastructure Requirements
- Organisation of Information Resources in the Networked Environment.
- Network Policy and Governance.

There were four invited theme papers which dealt at length with various aspects of information services under each sub-theme.

- **Information Services in a Networked Environment** by Dr. T.B. Rajasekhar, Associate Chairman, NCSI(IISc) Bangalore.

- **Infrastructure Requirements for Networked Environment in India** by Prof. Ashok Jhunjhunwala, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Madras, Chennai.

- **Organisation of Information Resources in the Networked Environment** by Prof. E. Rama Reddy, University Librarian, University of Hyderabad.

- **National Information Network Policy and Governance** by Prof. A. Neelamegha, Hon. Professor at DRTC (Indian Statistical Institute), Bangalore.

Each session began with an invited theme paper. Because of large number of papers under each theme, parallel sessions were held. These sessions were chaired by distinguished professionals and were assisted by competent Rapporteurs.

Dr.(Ms.) A. Amudhavalli, Reader, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Madras acted as Rapporteur General and the report was presented in the concluding session of the convention. At the end of technical sessions on 18th February, a panel discussion was held where Prof. K.S. Raghavan presented the Resolutions and Recommendations emerging out of the technical deliberations, which were approved unanimously.

Highlights of the Convention

1. An important feature introduced for the first time in the seventh convention was 'Pre-convention Tutorials' held on 15th February 2000. Following two tutorials were taken by the most competent and distinguished authorities on the subject, which were attended by more than 120 participants.

- How to set up a LAN
Prof. S.V. Raghavan, IIT Madras acted as the resource person.

- Web-page Design

Dr. H.R. Mohan, Systems Manager, 'The-Hindu', Chennai acted as the resource person.

These tutorials added a new dimension to the CALIBER and participants found the tutorials very useful.

2. Another major attraction of the convention was demonstration of **SOUL -Software for University Libraries** designed and developed by INFLIBNET for library automation and on-line access to the union databases created at INFLIBNET. SOUL was formally launched during the inaugural session and was kept on demonstration on six terminals throughout the convention. The continuous demonstration of this software generated great interest and excitement among the librarians who are eagerly looking forward to using SOUL for their libraries.

The valedictory function of the convention was chaired by Prof. Pon. Kothandaraman, Vice-Chancellor, University of Madras. Prof. (Mrs.) Nagabhooshan, Vice Chancellor, Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai was the Chief Guest. Prof. Guruswamy Naidu, Shri Venkateshwar University, Prof. C.R. Karisiddappa, Karnatak University and Dr. T.A.V Murthy, Librarian, CIEFL, lauded the effort of INFLIBNET & University of Madras for successfully holding of CALIBER and urged upon the librarians to make best use of this forum, to enhance the understanding of IT applications in libraries. The convention formally ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. R. Vengan, University Librarian, University of Madras and Organising Secretary of the CALIBER 2000.

To sum up, the proceedings of CALIBER-2000, it was felt that CALIBER has attained a prominent place among the conferences held for information professionals in the country. The participants, particularly younger generation, found the convention very useful. From the technical sessions and subsequent deliberations on the information services, it emerged that sharing of information among libraries was most urgently needed. Very good effort has been put by INFLIBNET in creating databases for the purpose. An independent network to handle free flow of information to give practical shape to the objective of resource sharing among the universities was needed most urgently. The entire house appreciated the efforts put up by INFLIBNET in supporting university library automation and networking.

Resolutions and Recommendations of CALIBER-2000

1. Recognising the need for developing adequate infrastructure for networking, the Convention recommends that UGC through INFLIBNET should initiate immediate action for networking of universities through a VSAT Network with Internet connectivity. It further recommends that as a complementary effort, universities should establish campus-wide INTRANETs to extend networking facilities to all concerned.

2. Realising the importance of e-content creation for the efficient and effective utilisation of the network and in view of the availability of the required infrastructure already provided by the INFLIBNET, the Convention strongly urges university libraries to develop databases of their own resources in the prescribed formats and of acceptable quality.

3. Recognising the absolute need for and importance of sharing resources with other

libraries/institutions, CALIBER-2000 strongly recommends that it should be a mandatory obligation on the part of all participating libraries to make available their resources and services to all network users.

4. Realising the importance of resource sharing through networks, the Convention recommends that INFLIBNET should take immediate action to form a consortium of academic libraries to avoid costly duplication of resources in the country. It is further recommended that UGC/INFLIBNET should constitute a mechanism for:

- identification and acquisition of resources to be made available over the network
- examining the financial, legal and technological implications and identify appropriate solutions for sharing of resources over a network.

5. Recognising the need for providing an effective software at an affordable price, this Convention urges the INFLIBNET to explore the possibility of introducing/implementing a one-time licensing policy with reference to SOUL with a provision for use in universities and government aided institutions/library networks and systems. The Convention further recommends that INFLIBNET/UGC should provide financial support to university libraries funded under the INFLIBNET programme till 1996-97 to upgrade/acquire hardware and software to enable them to use SOUL.

6. Realising the dire need for developing Quality Information Manpower with knowledge and skills to effectively function in a Networked Environment, the Convention recommends that INFLIBNET/UGC should identify certain university departments of library and information science in each region and develop them as Centres for Excellence with a mandatory provision that they should design and conduct training programmes for trainees.

UGC - INFLIBNET REVIEW MEETING

1.0 Introduction

The university libraries covered under INFLIBNET Programme are provided with non-recurring and recurring grants. These grants are provided for the purpose of setting up infrastructural facilities required for automation and networking. The progress made by each university in the above areas is reviewed annually by both UGC and INFLIBNET together.

Like in the past, this year's Review Committee meeting was also held co-inciding with CALIBER, at Chennai on 16th February 2000. Data from 105 universities funded till the financial year 1998-99 was collected for the review purpose. 18 universities funded recently in the FY 1999-2000 were not included. A specially designed questionnaire was sent to all the 105 universities to find out the current status. Out of 105 universities, 98 universities have only responded with duly filled in details and the remaining 7 universities did not respond, inspite of repeated reminders.

Out of 105 universities, funded under INFLIBNET programme librarians from only 36 universities funded during the FY 1997-98, and FY 1998-99 were called for the review meeting to present the report and discuss the problems. These universities being funded recently are in the process of acquiring and installing the system. They needed guidance and support. The status of the progress made by these universities based on the information provided in the questionnaire is analysed and summary of the analysis is presented below.

2.0 Financial Support Provided

2.1 Non-Recurring Grant

As mentioned above, the universities are provided with one time grant of Rs.6.5 lakh each to acquire the computer systems, site preparation and network connectivity as the basic infrastructure required for automation and networking. This grant is given in following phases.

Non recurring grant

Financial Year	No. of Universities
1993-94	11
1994-95	43
1996-97	15
1997-98	18
1998-99	18
1999-2000	18

During the year 1995-96 Rs.1.00 lakh was given to all the universities to establish core facility to get connected to nearest node.

2.2 Recurring Grant

These universities are also provided with recurring grant to take care of expenditure involved in automation and networking activity. This grant is divided into five categories viz. salary of Information Scientist, database creation, telephone charges (network usage), consumable and computer maintenance.

The status of this support given to universities is given below:

Status of Recurring Grants	No. of Universities
Received by	66
Not Received	32
Not responded	7

Based on the details provided only, 66 universities out of 105 universities have received the recurring grant. Most of these universities have started receiving this grant, only from 1998-99 and the amount received varies from university to university depending upon the progress made. Many of them are yet to recruit 'Information Scientist'. Out of 105 universities, another 32 universities are yet to receive recurring grant. Of these, many are in the process of installation or have just installed the systems recently and they are yet to put up demand for this grant to make further progress.

3.0 Status of Computerisation

A separate question was asked to universities to provide the status of systems procurement and installation along with the date of installation. The response received is presented below in a tabular form.

Status of Computer system	No. of Universities
Systems Installed	89
Under Procurement	9
Not responded	7

This table reveals that, out of 105 universities, 89 have already acquired and installed the systems and 9 are yet to acquire and are in the process of acquiring and installing. Remaining 7 libraries have not responded at all. It is noticed that 9 libraries who are yet to acquire the systems are the ones who are funded after 1997-98 and would take some more time.

4.0 Status of Database Activity

Creation of databases of books, serials, and theses is a prerequisite for initiating the on-line library

operations for this purpose; libraries were requested to provide the details of the initiatives taken. It can be seen from the table given below that, 81 libraries have already started creating database of books, 71 have started the serials and 69 have started theses. However, 17 libraries are yet to create the database of books, 27 serials and 29 theses and remaining 7 did not respond.

Action	Books	Serials	Theses
Started	81	71	69
Yet to Start	17	27	29
Not Responded	7	7	7

4.1 Status of Books Database

The table given below presents the current status of number of book records created by the libraries. They have been broadly grouped under seven categories.

Status of Database Development (No. of Records)	No. of Universities
Less than 50000	51
Between 50000-100000	16
Between 100000-200000	11
Between 200000-300000	2
Between 300000-400000	1
Yet to Start	17
Not responded	7

It can be seen from this table that, 51 libraries have created less than 50,000 records, 16 have created between 50,000 – 1,00,000 lakh, 13 universities have created more than 1 lakh, and only Gujarat Vidyapith library has created as many as 4 lakh records.

Following table gives the ranking of libraries who have created more than one lakh records. These are the ones from among 80, who have made good progress in the book database.

Sl. No.	Name of University	No. of Records Created
1.	Gujarat Vidyapith	408000
2.	Panjab University	256000
3.	Annamalai University	246335
4.	University of Hyderabad	187500
5.	Kurukshetra University	184703
6.	Sardar Patel University	176000
7.	Nagpur University	172571
8.	Jadvapur University	168241
9.	Madurai Kamraj University	160000
10.	Karnatak University	142382
11.	Andhra University	130000
12.	Jawaharlal Nehru University	120500
13.	Goa University	104464

5.0 Networking Facilities

The initial grant given to universities has a provision to establish network connectivity from one of the nearest Internet Service Providers. This includes, getting direct telephone connection, purchase of modem and subscribing to the network service. Following table presents the status of network facility available with libraries.

Status of Network Connection	No. of Universities
Connected	72
Yet to be connected	26
No Response	7

It can be seen here that, only 72 libraries have been able to establish connectivity and 26 are yet

to get connected or in the process of establishing and remaining 7 have not responded. Most of these universities are unable to use it for services and using it only for email. They want dedicated network access of wider bandwidth to enable sharing of resources and providing proper service to user.

6.0 Human Resource Development

This is a crucial activity of the INFLIBNET to train the participating librarians which has been done on a priority basis. The table given below presents the status of staff members trained from each library. All these persons have been trained at INFLIBNET for four weeks period on different aspects of library automation and networking. Heads of these libraries have also attended one week workshops held at INFLIBNET under the above activity, where they discussed about the management of computerised libraries, introduction of IT in library environment, staff motivation and other management of issues.

No. of Persons trained	No. of Univ.	Total
5 Persons	1	5
4 Persons	12	48
3 Persons	21	63
2 Persons	42	84
1 Person	17	17
None Trained	5	
Not Responded	7	Cummulative - 217

7.0 Softwares Used

For creation of databases of library holdings and automation of in-house operations, integrated library management software is required. Keeping in view the initiatives taken by INFLIBNET to

develop the software, libraries were advised in the beginning to use CDS/ISIS software for creation of databases. The status of software used in different libraries is given in the table below.

Status of Softwares used	No.of Universities
CDS/ISIS	46
Commercial	33
In-house	8
SOUL	2
Nil	9
Not responded	7

This table shows that, 46 libraries continue to use CDS/ISIS software for database creation, 33 have gone in for commercially developed software for automation of in-house operations and 8 are using their in-house developed softwares. Two libraries viz. Osmania University and Kakatiya University where prototype version of SOUL software was extensively tested, have found it useful and continued their automation work using the prototype version of SOUL. Of the remaining 18, eight universities are neither using CDS/ISIS nor gone in for any other softwares and remaining 7 libraries have not responded to our questionnaire.

8.0 Recruitment of Information Scientist

The 'Information Scientist' position is created exclusively in each library to take care of implementation of INFLIBNET Programme at the university. The salary of this post for the first five years is provided under the recurring grant by UGC. The guidelines for recruitment with qualifications, scale of pay, nature of work, have been provided to each university. Universities have to fill this position as per these guidelines and the procedures followed as in the case of recruiting other teaching positions. The status in this regard is presented below:

Status of Recruitment	No.of Universities
Recruited	27
Under process	33
No action taken	35
Recruited and later resigned	3
Not responded	7

The above table reveals that only 27 universities out of 105 have been able to fill up this position and another 35 have initiated the recruitment process. From the remaining, 34 universities have not initiated any action, and 3 have recruited but later the incumbent has resigned. Since, procedure involves the concurrence of state government to take over the position after UGC funding ceases; there is an inordinate delay in getting state Governments concurrence in this whole recruitment process.

9.0 Use of INFLIBNET Standards

INFLIBNET has evolved guidelines for data capturing based on Common Communication Format, which has been provided to all participating universities. They have also been suggested to follow AACR II and LCSH rule for database creation. This is an essential step to be followed by all universities to maintain uniformity and quality in the databases. To find out the present status of usage of format, a separate question was asked to every university. The response received to this effect has been tabulated below:

Action	No. of Universities
Followed	65
Not Followed	33
No Response	7

From the above table it is found that, only 65 universities have used the standards recommended by INFLIBNET, and 33 have not used the same for creation of the databases. They have been asked to follow INFLIBNET standards to enable exchange, sharing and pooling of records.

10.0 List of Universities who have not responded to the review questionnaire

1. Allahbad University
2. Patna University
3. Ranchi University
4. Rajasthan University
5. Tilakamanjhi Bhagalpur University
6. Vikram University
7. Visva-Bharti

11.0 Difficulties faced by the universities and suggestions offered.

The difficulties faced by universities and corresponding suggestions, given by UGC/ INFLIBNET are listed below:

1. Most of the universities expressed difficulty in library automation, because of the lack of suitable library management software in the country. SOUL software developed by INFLIBNET has been priced at Rs. 50000/-, which many libraries can not afford to buy. After detailed discussion, UGC representative suggested that provision could be made to meet this expenditure from the 9th Five Year Plan Development Grant under 'Books & Journals' allocation.

2. Many libraries are finding it difficult in getting the concurrence from the State Government to fill up the post of Information Scientist. UGC representative suggested that libraries may fill-up

this post on contract basis and the same may be renewed as per the contract rules till the concurrence is received.

3. UGC representative has clarified that the ban on recruitment for filling up the posts is only applicable for administrative positions. Since the 'Information Scientist' position is technical and academic, therefore the current ban is not applicable for this position. Intimation in this regard will have to be sent to universities.

4. The five years support towards the salary of 'Information Scientist' will be available for 5 years within an overall period of 7 years from the date of installation of systems to allow for possible delay in filling up the post.

5. The issue relating to upgradation of old systems provided to the universities funded till 1996-1997 also came up for the discussion as a part of overall progress of all the 105 universities. Initially these universities were suggested to purchase one 486 server along with three intelligent nodes and three dumb terminals with SCO UNIX operating system. All these systems are now old and obsolete and are not compatible to run SOUL, which works in Windows NT environment. Many universities have expressed their difficulty and requested for financial support for upgradation of their systems, and also for acquiring MS SQL and Windows NT. UGC representative suggested that there is already a provision in Books & Journals in the 9th Five Year Plan Grant for spending part of the money for INFLIBNET purpose, which could be utilised for upgradation of the system to enable the libraries to implement SOUL.

6. Most of the universities are unable to use existing network connection to provide services. Presently most of them are providing email based services. In order to provide network access to

literature, they require network access with wider bandwidth to enable sharing of resources and offer proper services to users. Libraries urged INFLIBNET /UGC to set up VSAT network at the earliest.

7. Recurring grant is not released in time, which causes the delay in the data entry work. Librarians requested UGC to release the grant well in time to support the automation process ■

SOUL INSTALLATION

The Software for University Libraries (SOUL), the library management software designed and developed by INFLIBNET was successfully installed at North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon during March 2000. This is the first and one of the youngest universities in the country to opt for this versatile and user friendly software. INFLIBNET team visited this university library and successfully installed the SOUL and, provided one week training to the selected staff members from different sections. On its installation Mr. T.R. Borse, Deputy Librarian has already started full-scale automation of his library activities using SOUL. He and all his colleagues expressed full satisfaction over the solutions offered by SOUL. With this first installation, INFLIBNET would like to move swiftly to implement this software in next two months. The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, University of Mumbai, North Gujarat University in Patan, Amaravati University, Maharishi Dayanand University in Ajmer have already taken a decision to purchase this software for their library automation and conveyed requests for purchase. ■

WORKSHOP

INFLIBNET Centre has successfully conducted 6th Workshop on Automation and Networking of University Libraries. One-week workshop was

attended by heads of newly funded 18 university libraries.

Professor Yash Pal, National Research Professor and Chairman, Governing Board, INFLIBNET Centre inaugurated Workshop on 17th January 2000. In his inaugural address he said, "People look upon the net as a source of all wisdom without realising that most information in cyber space pertained to developed nations. Ours is an ancient country with a rich heritage whose knowledge and wisdom, if put on the net can benefit mankind. Librarians should try to collect, organise and disseminate the hereditary knowledge of India." Speaking on networking of university libraries he said, "librarians have to learn subjects other than librarianship to provide a variety of information desired by library users. The possibility of providing such services is easier with the development of information technology." Shri Pramod Kumar, Director INFLIBNET Centre, emphasised the need for modernisation of libraries and urged the librarians to adopt the new technology to handle the diverse information

This workshop was held as a part of series of human resource development programme of INFLIBNET. There were more than 14 lectures by different experts, besides number of hands-on sessions and demonstrations. ■

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP SCHEME

In pursuance of its set objectives to cover all academic and research institutions under its umbrella, INFLIBNET has announced the Associate Membership scheme to expand its membership base. This facilitates other universities, academic institutions, and government funded R & D organisation and government department who do not fall under the purview of UGC to enroll as an Associate Member. Primarily all universities

falling under the purview of UGC and also who are eligible to receive the grants from UGC are automatically enrolled as full Members on receipt of grants under INFLIBNET programme and signing a MoU. But, till recently, there was no scheme for enrolling other institutions, who did not fall under UGC. This new scheme of Associate Membership is introduced to bridge that gap. The Institutions, desirous to enroll as Associate Member will have to pay one time registration fee of Rs. 5000/- and the annual membership fee of Rs. 5000/-. For more information write to Director, INFLIBNET. ■

NEW INITIATIVES

INFLIBNET has initiated following two new major projects from current year.

1. Retrospective Conversion of collection of five major libraries.
2. Document Delivery Service

These two project proposals were actually approved in 1998. Due to non-availability of sufficient grants, implementation got delayed by one year. These have been initiated to make an optimum use of existing resources and promote resource sharing among member libraries.

Retrospective Conversion of collection of five major libraries (Recon)

Under the Recon project following five libraries will create good quality records of their entire holdings as per the standards recommended by INFLIBNET and contribute such records to union databases created at INFLIBNET in two years time

1. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
2. Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

3. Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
4. University of Madras, Chennai
5. University of Mumbai, Mumbai

The main objective of this project is to use these high quality records created by the above libraries for Retroconversion and shared cataloguing of other member libraries, thereby minimising the laborious efforts and cost involved in retroconversion. All the five libraries are provided with extra grants for carrying out this mammoth task.

Document Delivery Service

Under the Document Delivery Service Project, following six universities who have fairly large collection of serials have been selected to serve as Document Delivery Centres

1. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
2. Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore
3. Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
4. Panjab University, Chandigarh
5. Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai
6. University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

These libraries will deliver the copies of research papers from their collection, using electronic media as primary mode. Document Delivery service is a pilot project, which will initially run for three years and will be continued, based on the performance. The required support for initiating the service is provided by UGC through INFLIBNET. The emphasis will be on cheaper and faster mode of delivery of documents using electronic media.

The initial grant for implementing both the projects has already been released in February, 2000. The librarians of all the universities covered under both

the projects are expected to finalise their action plan in consultation with INFLIBNET during proposed three days meeting to be held from 10-12th April, 2000 at Ahmedabad.

It is hoped that these new initiatives will give the required momentum to the primary objective of resource sharing under the INFLIBNET programme.

VISITORS

1. Mr. Champak Chatterjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Govt. of India visited INFLIBNET Centre on 8th February, 2000. He had a detailed discussion with Director, INFLIBNET on various activities initiated by INFLIBNET. He was given a full demonstration of online access to Union Databases, University Information System, Search Engines etc., besides the SOUL. He was very appreciative of the progress made by INFLIBNET, inspite of number of constraints.

2. The Library and Information Science students from Department of Library Science, S.P. University, Vallabh Vidya Nagar, visited the Centre on 8th February 2000. They were accompanied by Professor Rawal. These students were enthused to see the online access to number of union databases and Software for University Libraries (SOUL) developed by INFLIBNET.

3. The Library and Information Science students from Department of Library Science, Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad visited INFLIBNET Centre on 7th February 2000. Mrs. P. Desai faculty member accompanied the students. These students took keen interest in the demonstration of SOUL and online access to union databases created at

INFLIBNET. They utilised this opportunity to interact with INFLIBNET staff members.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY PROFILE

Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies Shantarakshita Library: A Profile

The Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Varanasi was established as one of the Departments of Varanaseya Sanskrit Visvavidyalaya, now known as Samapurnanand Sanskrit University. It was an outcome of dialogue between His Holiness Dalai Lama and Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the year 1967. Institute was later granted autonomy in the year 1978 under the Department of Culture, MHRD, Government of India and in the year 1998, it crossed another milestone by obtaining the status of Deemed to be University under UGC.

The Library

The Library was established to provide impetus to achieve the objectives of the Institute, and it was named after the great Saint Shantarakshita, who explored Buddhism in Tibet. Since its inception, library is catering to the needs of faculty and students. Library has wide range of collection of books on Buddhology, Tibetology, Himalayan studies, Comparative religion, Sanskrit, Philosophy, Literature, History and Culture of Tibet. The collection of library is not only confined to printed books, but also it has very rich collection of non-book materials. Audio video section is well equipped with advanced facilities like microfilming camera, microfilm reader, printer and photocopying machine etc. Library is using Colon Classification scheme for classification of documents, and AACR2 for cataloguing. It has total collection of 55, 000 monographs, and 12000 bound volumes of journals.

Library Automation

Library automation began with Macintosh based computer systems in 80's and used commercially developed software for the creation of bibliographic records. Keeping in view the new developments in the field of information technology, and non-availability of Macintosh based hardware and software support, library has purchased IBM computers in December 1996.

Present Scenario

Immediately after switching over to IBM based machines, library has gone in for another library management software which has provision to take care of Tibetan and Indian language scripts. Actual bibliographical data entry in the new system has started with the help of three library professionals on contract basis in October 1997. Earlier data entered in previous software has been transferred to the new software, which supports ISO-2709. At present, library has a comprehensive database of all Devanagari, Tibetan & Roman documents including books, journal articles, audio/video cassettes, Micro-films etc. Data entry of complicated Tibetan "pothis" and other documents is still in progress. Library has sent the complete database of its periodical collection and approximately 5,000 bibliographic records of documents to the union catalogue of university libraries created by INFLIBNET

Services

At present, the library database comprises about 55,000 books, 12,000 journal articles and about 20,000 other reading materials and are accessible from every computer node of the library.

User can search the database from his terminals. Library has independent V-SAT based Internet connectivity and provides email based service. Library is actively participating in the INFLIBNET

programme. Library is providing an online access to union databases and other resources of INFLIBNET through its Internet connection.

INFLIBNET Support

INFLIBNET had provided the grant of Rs. One lakh or establishing core facilities to access network in the financial year 1996. This grant was used to procure a computer, printer and I-NET connectivity. Further grant of Rs. 6.5 lakhs for computerisation and networking of library in the financial year 1997-98 was received under INFLIBNET programme. This grant has been utilized to strengthen the existing system in which Bar-coding system, computers and printers have been procured. In addition to above said financial support, INFLIBNET also provided technical expertise and trained four library professionals. Library is actively participating and has set up cordial relation with INFLIBNET to meet the set objective to share the resources. INFLIBNET staff has also visited the library in 1998.

Future Plan

The library plans to complete conversion of data in to machine-readable form of all the library holdings soon. The library has also initiated to implement the Bar-coding of documents to facilitate speedy circulation. The library is a core information resource centre for the scholars of Buddhology, Tibetology, Himalayan studies. It plans to host OPAC on Internet to promote its global accessibility. It is also planning to initiate COPSAT like service in the field of Philosophy and Religion and intends to share its resources with other similar libraries. ■

NEW STAFF

1. Shri Prem Chand has joined as Scientist-C (LS) in January, 2000. Prior to joining in this new post, he was serving as Scientist-B. in the INFLIBNET.

2. Shri Suresh Panwar joined as Scientist- B (CS) in January, 2000. Prior to joining INFLIBNET Centre, he was working as lecturer in Computer Engineering at Govt. Polytechnic for Women, Sirsa.

3. Shri S. A. Asif joined as Scientist –B in February, 2000. He carries with him working experience in TKM Arts and Science College, Kollam and Techno Park, Trivandrum.

4. Shri N. Muralidhara joined as Scientific and Technical Officer –I (LS) in February,2000.Prior to joining INFLIBNET Centre, he was working with NCSI, Bangalore.

5. Shri Umesh Gohel joined as Scientific and Technical Assistant –II (CS) in January, 2000. Prior to joining in this new post, he was serving as Scientific and Technical Assistant–I at INFLIBNET itself.

6. Shri Umesha joined as Scientific and Technical Assistant –II (LS) in January 2000. Prior to joining in this new post, he was serving as Scientific and Technical Assistant –I at INFLIBNET itself. ■

ARTICLES ALERT

1. Aaron Trehub. Creating fee-based online services: a new role for academic librarians. *Library Hi Tech*. Vol. 17, No. 4, 1999, pp.372-389

2. Brian Quinn. Missing links: a survey of library systems department webpages. *Library Hi Tech*. Vol. 17, No. 3, 1999, pp.304-315

3. Carl Gustav Johannsen. Total Quality Management in a knowledge management perspective. *Journal of Documentation*. Vol.56, No.1, 2000, pp.42-54

4. Janet Webster and Cheryl Middleton. Paying for Technology: Student Fees and Libraries. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*. Vol. 25, No. 6, 1999, pp.462-472

5. Jim Cole. Cataloging of Digitized Texts. *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly*. Vol. 28, No. 3, 1999, pp.45-54

6. Karen M. Drabenstott...[et al]. Changes of Meaning in Subdivided Subject Headings. *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly*. Vol. 28, No. 3, 1999, pp.19-43

7. Lyn Robinson. Strategic approach to research using Internet tools and resources. *Aslib Proceedings*. Vol.52, No.1, 2000, pp.11-19

8. Maurice B. Line. Loneliness of the long-distance information ranger. *Managing Information*. Vol. 7, No. 2, 2000, pp.58-59

9. Melissa Lamont. Critical human factors in emerging library technology centers. *Library Hi Tech*. Vol. 17, No. 4, 1999, pp.390-395

10. Phil Bradley. Virtual libraries and Internet searching. *Online & CD-ROM Review*. Vol. 23, No. 6, 1999, pp.353-355

11. Ronald C. Jantz. Approach to Managing Vocabulary for Database on the Web. *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly*. Vol. 28, No. 3, 1999, pp.55-66

12. Rush G. Miller and Peter X. Zhou. Global Resource Sharing: Gateway model. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*. Vol. 25, No. 4, 1999, pp.281-287 ■

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

Document Delivery Services Suppliers

1. Ask IEEE

<http://www.iee.org.uk/publish/isnpec/askieee.html>

2. BIOSIS

<http://www.biosis.org/html/common/bde.html>

3. British Library Document Supply Centre

<http://www.blds.ac.uk>

4. Chemical Abstract Service-Document Supply Service

<http://www.cas.org/Support/dds.html>

5. CISTI

<http://www.nrc.ca/cisti/docdel>

6. Engineering Information
<http://www.ei.org>
7. INIST(Institut de l'Information Scientifique et Technique)
<http://www.inist.fr/anglais/welcong.htm>
8. Inside
<http://portico.bl.uk/inside/overview.html>
9. KR Source One/Uncover
<http://krsourceone.krinfo.com/>
10. OCLC- FirstSearch
<http://www.ref.oclc.org:2000/>
11. RSC Information Service
<http://www.rsc.org/>
12. TGA- The Genuine Article Collection of the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI)
<http://www.isinet.com/prodserv/tga/tgadoc.html>
13. UNI InfoStore
<http://wwwlib.umi.com/infostore>
14. UnCover
<http://uncweb.carl.org/>

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1. Nineteenth Training Programme on **“Computer Application in Library and Information Services”** will be held at INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad from June 19 to July 15, 2000. This course is meant for the staff from the libraries funded during 1999-2000.
2. CHMK Library and Department of Library and Information Science are conducting “National Seminar on Organisation of Libraries and Information Centers in the 21st Century” from 26-27, May 2000 at CHMK Library, University of Calicut, Kerala.

For further details contact:

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NEW URL FOR INFLIBNET

1. INFLIBNET Web Server:
<http://www.inflibnet.ac.in>
2. SEWAK: Offline mode to access INFLIBNET databases
Sewak@soul.inflibnet.ac.in

FEEDBACKS

The Editorial Board requests the librarians, and others to contribute news items pertaining to important activities and events taking place in their universities. We also solicit your comments, suggestions in making this newsletter an effective media to communicate INFLIBNET activities.

Following proceedings of CALIBER are available for purchase:

1. Academic Libraries in INTERNET Era: Proceeding of the CALIBER 1999. Price Rs. 500+Postage
2. Information Management in Academic and Research Libraries: Proceeding of CALIBER 1998. Price Rs. 350+Postage
3. Information Technology Application in Academic Libraries: Proceedings of the CALIBER 1997. Price Rs. 300+Postage.

For ordering your copy, please write to:

Administrative Officer-I (P & S) INFLIBNET Centre (UGC), P.B.No. 4116, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad- 380 009.