EDITORIAL TEAM :

S.M. Salgar
O.P. Arora
Gayatri Doctor

EDITOR:

M. Paul Pandian

PUBLISHED BY:

Information and Library
Network Programme
University Grants Commission
Gujarat University Campus
P.B.No.4116, Navrangpura
Ahmedabad - 380 009

Tel : (079) 6569695 / 425971 / 449528

Fax : 079-406990

E-mail :

postmaster@infahd.ernet.in

(For Private Circulation Only)

FROM DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear friends,

It gives me great pleasure in placing before you the first issue of INFLIBNET News-letter meant for sharing information amongst all its users and well wishers.

INFLIBNET programme of the University Grants Commission was initiated, with its head quarters at Ahmedabad in 1991. The Programme aims at the establishment of a national network of libraries and information centers in universities, colleges, institutes of higher learning and R & D institutions in India. INFLIBNET programme is directed towards modernisation of libraries and information centers and includes establishment of a mechanism for information transfer and access to support scholarship, learning and academic pursuits. It is a cooperative endeavour in resource development, sharing and its utilisation on national level.

To begin with, manpower development was given the highest priority. Accordingly, during the last two years INFLIBNET has organised a large number of training courses for library staff from various academic, institutions and their managers. The generation of standards, particularly standards for data capturing, was another important activity which needed immediate attention. It has helped initiating development of national database of library resources. We are at present concentrating on computerisation of libraries and creation of computerised databases to take advantage of networking facilities. It is proposed to extend INFLIBNET services through available Data communication networks in the country. This will provide a basic platform to academic libraries for sharing information on-line. We solicit support and participation from all academic, R&D institutions and all well wishers in this national cooperative venture.

Hope 1995 will prove a turning point in information management and reduce some of the difficulties faced by academicians.

With good wishes.

Pramod Kumar

INFLIBNET ACTIVITIES

Training Programme

To enable the librarians to initiate computerisation in their libraries, suitably packaged training courses are being run regularly. Main emphasis is given on practicals to provide hands-on experience to the participants. Computer facilities are kept open till late hours in the night along with resource persons. Participants are exposed to modern information technology such as remote access, use of CD-ROM, E-Mail, LAN, etc. They also visit computerised libraries for exposure to the working environment in a modernised library. Till now nine training courses of 3-4 weeks duration have been undertaken for operational library staff. Two courses of about two weeks duration were organised for library executives on management of modernised libraries. First course was organised in collaboration with Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Ahmedabad in February 1994 and second course was organised in collaboration with Osmania University at Hyderabad in .February, 1995. A two week training programme for college librarians was also organised. On completion of training most of the participants have been able to initiate the task of computerisation in their libraries.

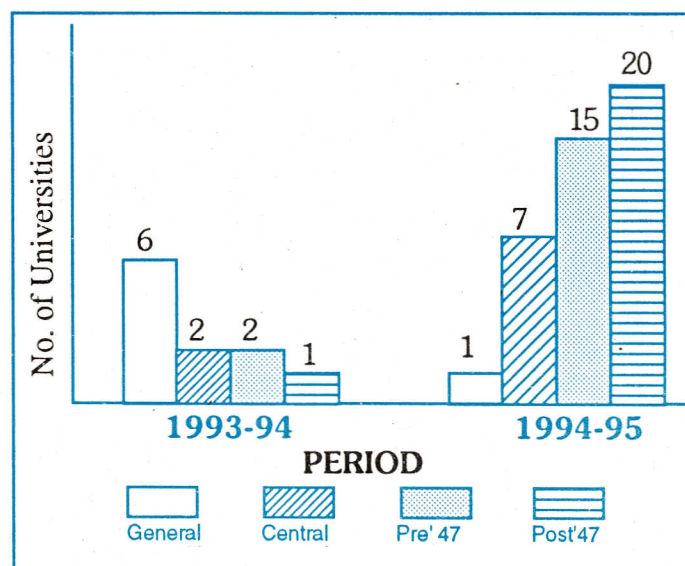| S.No.	Period	No.of univs./instts.
Training Programmes		
1	Nov - Dec '92	12
2	Jan - Feb '93	09
3	Mar - Apr '93	10
4	Aug - Sep '93	10
5	Nov - Dec '93	10
6	Jan ' 94	08
7	May - June '94	10
8	Nov - Dec '94	11
9	Mar - Apr '95	10
Workshops		
1	Feb ' 94	20
2	Feb ' 95	20

Convention

A National Convention on Automation of Libraries in Higher Education and Research Institutes (CALIBER-94) was organised on 19th and 20th February, 1994 at Ahmedabad . The theme of the convention was "Library Automation". It was inaugurated by Prof. Yashpal, National Professor and attended by about 170 delegates from all over the country. Second national convention was organised in collaboration with University of Hyderabad at Hyderabad. This was inaugurated Dr. D. Balasubramanian, Director, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad and attended by 200 delegates. The theme of the convention was "Information access through Networks".

Computerisation of Libraries

To initiate culture of using computers in libraries, the Computer Development Committee (CDC) of UGC started providing funds to universities for procuring computers in their libraries associated with each computer grant during 1991-92. INFLIBNET has since been helping them in defining computer configuration, software and training of personnel.

As per the project proposal approved by the Commission, 11 university libraries were sanctioned funds in FY 93-94 for procurement of computers and associated system. Most of the universities have already procured the computer systems and have initiated the task of computerisation in their libraries.
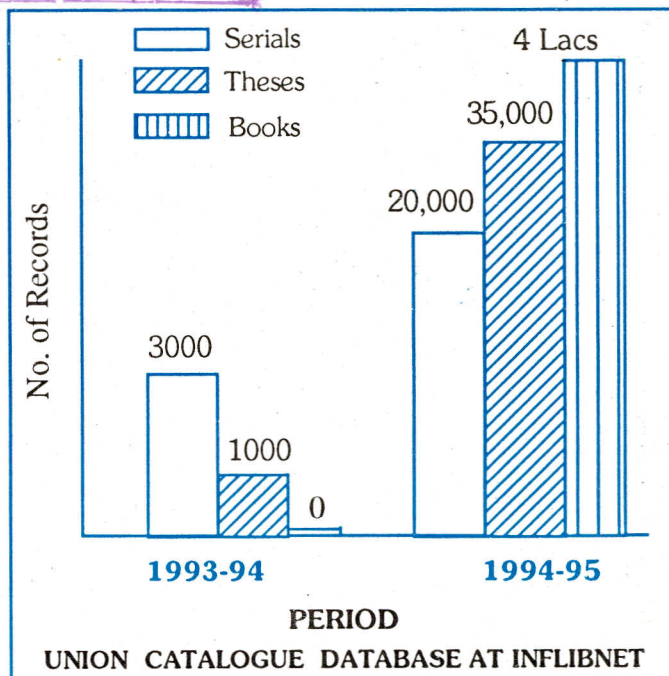
UNIVERSITIES IDENTIFIED UNDER INFLIBNET

University Grants Commission further sanctioned funds in FY 94-95 to 9 central 15, state universities established prior to 1947 and 20 more universities established between 1947 and 1960 for automation of their libraries under INFLIBNET Programme. Till date about 54 universities have been provided funds.

Database Development

(a) Standardisation committee has finalised standards and formats for serials, books, theses and dissertations, to be used by libraries for creating databases. A detailed manual on standards and formats providing guidelines for data capturing with illustrative examples has been prepared and distributed to over 80 university libraries having computers and whose manpower has been trained at INFLIBNET. This will help libraries to initiate computerisation of their holdings ensureing uniformity. The document has proved to be very useful.

(b) Many software application interfaces for central database creation and database management have been developed. These are outlined below.

* Software for customised data entry, search and print in CDS/ISIS at user end.
* Software for converting records from the different available sources into ISO format in CDS/ISIS using CCF tags.
* Software for Union Catalogue Database development.
* Software for identification and deletion of duplicate records.
* Software for effective data entry of serials holdings from hard copy to CDS/ISIS.
* Software for data validation and merging of the incoming records into the central database.

(c) Data has been received from more than 50 universities which is being integrated into the central database. Till date, data partaining to 4 lakh books, 20,000 serials holding and 35,000 theses/dissertation have been developed. This database is steadily growing and will lead to an Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC).

UNION CATALOGUE DATABASE AT INFLIBNET

Utmost care is taken in preparation, management and protection of the central databas. The database is authenticated with the help of available sources to avoid typographical errors. Complete bibliographical details such as ISSN or ISBN, title, author, publisher, year, subject description, bibliographical notes, coden, etc. are included.
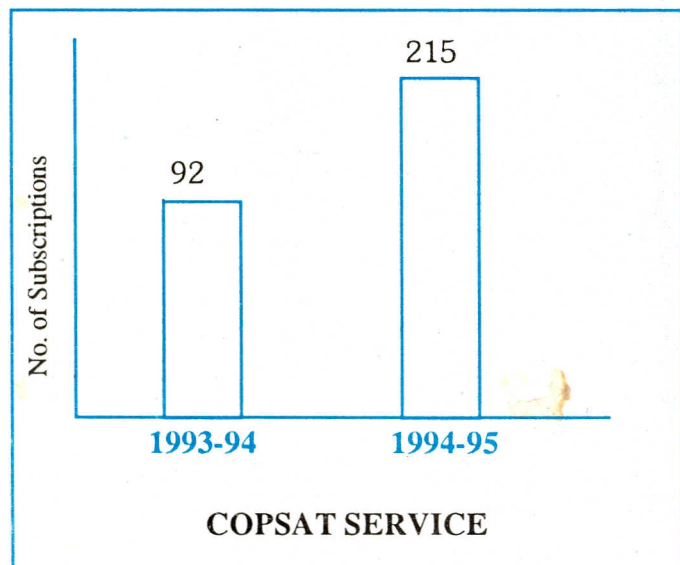
Software Development for Library Management

A library management software is being developed jointly by INFLIBNET and DESIDOC. The software is designed to work under DOS and Unix environments. Cataloguing and circulation modules have been completed and are being installed in the libraries. Acquisition and serial control modules are under development.

COPSAT Service

INFLIBNET Programme in collaboration with National Centre for Science Information (NCSI), Bangalore has introduced "Contents with Abstracts of Periodicals in Science and Technology (COPSAT)" service with effect from 1-4-1993. Under this scheme, a subscriber can get every month the content pages along with abstracts (wherever available) of arcicles of their interest for 25 journals on paper (print) or 40 journals on a floppy diskette from a list of 3000 leading journals in the area of science and technology. This is a low cost high value service providing latest information. ISO 2709 format has been introduced in the service to enable subscribers to create their own

COPSAT databases. This service has been found very useful by the research and academic community. 215 subscriptions have been received till date. Provision also exists for getting the photocopies for desired articles through document delivery service.

COPSAT SERVICE

INFLIBNET teams visit University Libraries

INFLIBNET is deputing teams of technical staff to the participating libraries, who have already procured computers. The teams will provide all necessay assistance in close interaction with the libraries in establishment and operationalisation of the computerised library system.They will also train local staff in executing different library functions using computers

ADINET inaugurated

INFLIBNET has taken initiative to start Ahmedabad Libraries Network (ADINET), a city network sponsored by NISSAT/DSIR for linking initially libraries of about 32 important institutions in Ahmedabad. ADINET was formaly inaugurated by Dr. Kartikeya Sarabhai, Chairman ADINET and Director, Centre for Environment Education and key-note address was given by Dr. A. Lahiri, Jt. Advisor, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research on March 25, 1995 at Ahmedabad. It is proposed to provide e-mail services, OPAC service, etc. This network is to be used as a test-bed for INFLIBNET. Memorandum of Association and Rules have been framed. ADINET has been registered as a Society. The task of creating a Union Catalogue is in progress.

LIST OF UNIVERSITIES IDENTIFIED BY UGC PARTICIPATION IN INFLIBNET DURING 1993-94 AND 1994-95

1. Agra University, Agra.
2. Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
3. Allahabad University, Allahabad.
4. Andhra University, Waltair.
5. Anna University, Madras.
6. Annamalai University, Annamalainagar.
7. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.
8. Bombay University, Bombay.
9. Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur.
10. Bihar University.
11. Burdwan University, Burdwan.
12. Calcutta University, Calcutta.
13. Delhi University, Delhi.
14. Dr. Harisingh Gour Viswavidyalaya, Sagar.
15. Gauhati University, Gauhati.
16. Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.
17. Gulbarga University, Gulbarga.
18. Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur.
19. Himachal Pradesh University, Simla.
20. Hyderabad University, Hyderabad.
21. Jadavpur University, Calcutta.
22. Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi.
23. Jammu University, Jammu.
24. Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
25. Jai Narayan Vyas University, Jodhpur.
26. Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra.
27. Kerala University, Thiruvananthapuram.
28. Kashmir University, Srinagar.
29. Karnataka University, Dharwad.
30. Kalyani University, Kalyani.
31. Lucknow University, Lucknow.
32. Madras University, Madras.
33. Manipur University, Imphal.
34. Mysore University, Mysore.
35. Marathwada University, Aurangabad.
36. M.S. University, Baroda.
37. Nagpur University, Nagpur.
38. North Eastern Hill University, Shillong.
39. Osmania University, Hyderabad.
40. Patna University, Patna.
41. Pondicherry University, Pondicherry.
42. Poona University, Pune.
43. Pt. Ravishankar University, Raipur.
44. Panjab University, Chandigarh.
45. Roorkee University, Roorkee.
46. Ranchi University, Ranchi.
47. Rajasthan University, Jaipur
48. Rani Durgavati University, Jabalpur.
49. SNDT women University , Bombay.
50. Shri Venketeshwar University, Tirupati.
51. Sardar patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar.
52. Utkul University, Bhubhaneshwar.
53. Visva-Bharti University, Shantiniketan.
54. Vikram University, Ujjain.