

# *e-journal consortium to give fresh impetus to varsity research*

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

**Kozhikode, May 31:** Giving a fresh impetus to the research activities in universities, UGC-Infonet, a consortium of e-journals, has become operational in four universities in the State.

The purpose of the e-journal consortium is to provide access to scholarly literature in all streams of learning, including Arts and Humanities, and to increase the resources and data available to the universities for research and teaching.

The project is being executed by the Ahmedabad-based Information and Lib-

rary Network Centre (Inflibnet), an autonomous inter-university centre of the UGC.

CUSAT, Kerala and Mahatma Gandhi universities have put up separate computer labs for accessing the e-journals. Though the Infonet access is ready in Calicut University, preparations on establishing a computer lab to make it open for the academia are yet to be completed.

"Access to the e-journal consortium is made via internet protocol address and all member-universities of the project have put up separate computer terminals for using the facility," said

Inflibnet senior scientist Manoj Kumar K.

Training has been imparted to library professionals as well as academicians in the use of e-journals and other learning programmes put forth by the UGC.

The consortium would provide the best current and archival periodical literature from all over the world to the academic community. Besides, it would also go a long way in reducing the severe shortage of periodicals faced by libraries. As many as 3,000 e-journals, many of them from international publishers, are available in the consortium.

CUSAT librarian Dr M.D. Baby, who is also member of the Inflibnet governing council, said the academic community in the university has plunged into the Infonet for data mining.

According to sources, in the second phase, the facility would be extended to selected colleges also.

Apart from the e-journals, the Infonet would make available on-line union catalogue of serials, theses, dissertations, books, monographs and non-book materials (manuscripts, multimedia, audio-visual and computer data) in various libraries.

"The academic commun-

ity of the state is looking forward to get identified in the UGC-Infonet and e-journal consortia programmes. Accordingly, the Inflibnet has given due priority and enveloped all the universities in the State with adequate bandwidth to start with," said Inflibnet director Dr T.A.V. Murthy.

Dr Murthy said his institution is looking forward to have more collaborative ventures with leading academic institutions in Kerala.

A few weeks back, Inflibnet senior scientist K. Manoj Kumar and a team of professionals had given training to library professionals in using e-journals.