

UNIVERSAL BRIEFING NEWSLETTER

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About Universal Briefing

Universal Briefing (UB) is a voluntary, non-profit, and non-governmental organization registered as a Trustee, dedicated to advancing Library and Information Services. It focuses on nurturing young professionals by offering opportunities to develop essential skills and knowledge. UB promotes research, innovation and the creation of tools and methods to foster future growth in the field. It also empowers students with effective information-handling skills. Through extensive discussions among its founding members, UB has embraced a broader mission to contribute meaningfully to academic and intellectual development in the Library and Information Science (LIS). UB remains devoted to fostering an inclusive, collaborative environment built on unity, fraternity, and mutual support.

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Editorial Desk



From Editorial Desk.....

With the start of another month, we pause to reflect on our shared commitment to knowledge, professional values, and a community united by purpose. We extend our sincere gratitude to our readers, contributors, and supporters whose continued engagement sustains this journey. With this issue, we continue to uphold our focus on quality, relevance, and thoughtful inquiry, supported by the dedication of our team. We deeply value your insights and encourage your continued participation as we grow together.

This month offers a moment to acknowledge the enduring legacy of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, whose birth anniversary continues to inspire generations of information professionals. Revered as the father of library science in India, his pioneering vision transformed libraries into dynamic centres of learning, accessibility, and lifelong education. His timeless principles remain remarkably relevant in an era of digital transformation, open knowledge, and evolving information ecosystems, reminding us to uphold the values of equitable access to knowledge and service as we continue to strengthen our professional community.

Moving forward, we remain committed to delivering meaningful, engaging, and impactful content, while continuing to promote awareness, reflection, and responsibility within and beyond our academic community. Thank you for being an integral part of this ongoing journey.



**GO GREEN
SAVE EARTH**



Latest Vacancies

- Post: Library Trainee, Institute: Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata- 700 108, Last Date : 10/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Junior Library Information Assistant, Institute: Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi, Himachal Pradesh- 175075, Last Date: 10/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Assistant Librarian, Institute: National Gallery of Modern Art, Bengaluru, Bangalore - 560001, Last Date: 10/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Librarian, Deputy Librarian & Assistant Librarian, Institute: Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University), Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh - 221005, Last Date: 10/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Library Assistant, Institute: Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai, Mumbai - 400 076 , Last Date : 11/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Library Professionals, Institute: Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali, Punjab – 140306, Last Date: 13/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Librarian, Institute: Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB), Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560076, Last Date: 15/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Assistant Librarian , Institute: The National Law University of Meghalaya Mayurbh, Shillong - 793014, Last Date: 15/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Assistant Librarian, Library Attendant, Institute: Assam University, Silchar-788011 Last Date: 16/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Library Professional Trainees, Institute: Indian Institute of Technology Ropar, Punjab -140001, Last Date: 20/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Young Professional Institute: Brahmaputra Board, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, Basistha, Guwahati, Assam – 781029 Last Date: 26/08/2026. [View details](#)
- Post: Assistant Librarian Institute: Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu - 641112, Last Date: 31/08/2026. [View details](#)

UB Endeavour

Study Circle Reporting.....

The 55th study circle of Universal briefing took place on 25th July, 2026 at 7.30 pm. The speaker of the session was Dr. Md Ajimuddin Sk, Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Vidyasagar University and the president for the session was Dr. Sibsankar Jana, Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kalyani. The topic of the study circle was “From Rage to

UB Endeavour

Reflection: Building Emotional Intelligence through Neuro-Linguistic Programming and Bibliotherapy”.

The speaker delivered an insightful presentation on the important and interesting topic of emotional intelligence and neuro-linguistic programming. He began by introducing the concepts of rage and reflection and gradually explained the idea of emotional intelligence. The concepts were made easy to understand through several short stories and real-life examples. Dr. Ajimuddin highlighted the importance of emotional intelligence in everyday life and explained why it is often more valuable than bookish knowledge. He shared many recent real-life incidents to show its practical relevance. He also explained the structure and functioning of the brain and discussed the gut-brain axis to help understand how emotions influence thoughts and behaviour. The speaker described emotional intelligence as the bridge between rage and reflection, helping people respond thoughtfully instead of reacting impulsively. He then introduced the concept of neuro-linguistic programming and explained its key components. He also showed the connection between bibliotherapy and emotional intelligence, emphasising the role of books in developing self-awareness and responsible behaviour. He concluded the presentation with a powerful message: “A book may not change the world, but it can change a person. And a changed person can change the world.”

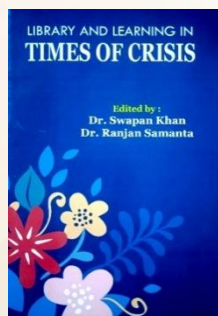
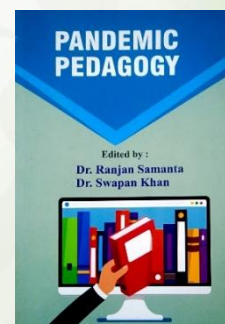
Announcement.....

UB-Study Circle (Forthcoming Notification) The 56th study circle of the Universal Briefing will take place on 29th August, 2026 at 7.30 pm. and the speaker for the session will be Dr. Prabin Karkee, Assistant Professor, University of Gour Banga.

UB Endeavour

Our Publication.....

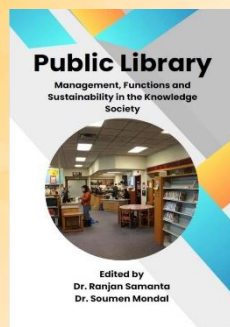
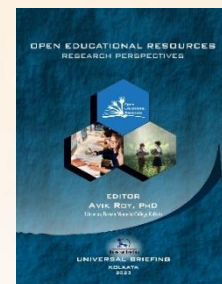
The book “Pandemic Pedagogy” was published by Prova Prakashani in collaboration with Universal Briefing in the year 2020. It was jointly edited by Dr. Ranjan Samanta and Dr. Swapan Khan. The book had informative eighteenth chapters. The outstanding contribution of authors presented an exceptional dimension on pandemic pedagogy in relation to academic library and pandemic pedagogy mainly in higher education. Thought content, practical experience and knowledge of authors would help the students, scholars, library professional and others to understand the situation of education during Pandemic and the challenge taken to overcome; teaching learning process of that situation; advancement of new technology; extension of online education and open educational resources; opportunities and threats of online education.



The book “Library and Learning in Times of Crisis” was published by Prova Prakashani in collaboration with Universal Briefing in the year 2021, edited by Dr. Ranjan Samanta and Dr. Swapan Khan. It contained seventeenth valuable research papers highlighted the role of libraries especially academic libraries and online teaching learning during the period of Global Pandemic of Covid-19. Some papers focused on Government initiatives for learners during Covid-19, effectiveness of social media for education; strength, weakness, opportunity, and threat of e-learning; importance of e-resources etc. The papers helped librarian to take various steps in every aspect of library services. Overall, all papers were very informative and insightful for learners, teachers, administrators, policy makers, and government.

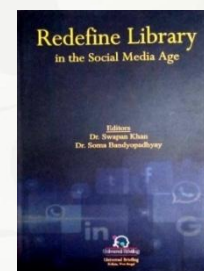
UB Endeavour

A book was published in February 2023 by Universal briefing with the title "Open Educational Resources: Research Perspectives", comprising selected articles from the two-day International Webinar of the same title, which was organised by Universal Briefing on 20th and 21st November, 2021 at Kolkata, India. The book contains 13 selected articles on different aspects of OER including SWOT analysis, NEP, copyright and license, sustainability of OER etc., written by LIS professionals from various fields. This conference proceedings volume is edited by Dr. Avik Roy, Librarian, Derozio Memorial College; and illustrated by Avijit Naskar.



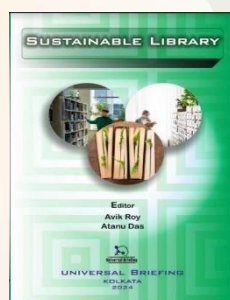
This book celebrates the profound impact of public libraries as vibrant spaces of learning, connection, and empowerment. In an era marked by rapid technological advancements and evolving societal needs, public libraries remain steadfast in their mission to provide equitable access to information and foster inclusive communities. Each chapter of this book is meticulously crafted to explore a different facet of the library experience. From the essential role of libraries in promoting literacy and lifelong learning to their innovative approaches to technology integration and community outreach, we aim to provide a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted nature of libraries in the 21st Century.

Purpose of this book titled "Redefine library in the social media age", is to visualize a dramatic transformation of concept of libraries due to rapid development of technological innovations especially in post pandemic period. The human need for information is changing day by day. They seek information from varieties of sources and formats. For this purpose, the library staff and library professionals need to adopt themselves into this dynamic environment. Social media is becoming increasingly popular



UB Endeavour

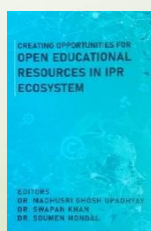
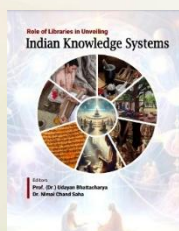
among all the stakeholders of the library. There is no doubt that the present library must be defined in the context of social media to satisfy the users in this social media age.



Any kind of scholarly work provides a serendipity of reading so many novel academic contents including books, book chapters, research articles, magazines, popular articles etc. Sustainability is the buzz of the day where almost every activity in the societal periphery culminates to the sustainable future. How can the library lag behind being one of the most important pillars of society? The present volume, "Sustainable Library" is an endeavour to add even an iota to the knowledge base of the global discourses on sustainable libraries. We remain grateful to Prof. Udayan Bhattacharya, Department of Library and Information Science, Jadavpur University, Kolkata to continuously inspire us to work on this compilation of the literature on sustainable

libraries and publish them in one volume.

Our Latest Publication.....



Research Spotlight

DLIS, YBN University, Ranchi (Awarded Works 2026)

1. **Thesis Title:** Information seeking behavior of the physicists of the selected university libraries in West Bengal: A Comparative Study
Scholar: Jiban Prasad Gond
Supervisor: Dr. Ashutosh Agrahari

DLIS, Mizoram University, Aizawl (Awarded Works 2026)

2. **Thesis Title:** A Study of Users Engagement Practices in Young Mizo Association Libraries in Aizawl District Mizoram
Scholar: Vanlalfeli
Supervisor: Dr. Pravakar Rath & Dr. Amit Kumar

DLIS, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidhyalay, Sagar (Awarded Works 2026)

3. **Thesis Title:** Assessment of information literacy competencies and awareness of G2C initiatives of farmers in Sagar district of Madhya Pradesh
Scholar: Rohit Kushwaha
Supervisor: Dr. Neelam Thapa

DLIS, Gauhati University, Guwahati (Awarded Works 2026)

4. **Thesis Title:** Perception and Practices of Research Data Management in Universities and Institutes of National Importance in North-East India: A Study
Scholar: Rituraj Borkakoti
Supervisor: Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh
5. **Thesis Title:** Management of reference services in the institutions of higher studies in north east India: A Study
Scholar: Yendrembam Haripriya Devi
Supervisor: Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh
6. **Thesis Title:** Total Quality Management in Technical Processing of the University Libraries of Assam: An Evaluative Study
Scholar: Mondita Borah
Supervisor: Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh

DLIS, Mangalayatan University, Aligarh (Awarded Works 2026)

7. **Thesis Title:** Role of Central University Libraries for Quality Enhancement of Higher Education in Bihar
Scholar: Sudhanshu Shekhar
Supervisor: Prof. Mohammad Yusuf
8. **Thesis Title:** Information And Communication Technology and Its Impact on Users of Private University Libraries of Lucknow Division
Scholar: Mohammad Talha
Supervisor: Shahwar Fatima
9. **Thesis Title:** Collection Management and Users Services in State Agriculture University Libraries Of Uttar Pradesh
Scholar: Vrij Kishor Mishra
Supervisor: Zulfiqar Ahmad Khan

Monthly Scholarly Highlights

- Amidu, G. (2026). User reactions to public library social media posts: Implications for community engagement and outreach. *The Reference Librarian*, 67(1), 110-140.
- Bates, M. (2026). Restructuring a systematic review workshop series to meet changing campus needs. *The Reference Librarian*, 67(2), 141-158.
- Bates, M., & Whitver, S. M. (2026). Negotiating discomfort: Learning from teaching library instruction in unfamiliar contexts. *The Reference Librarian*, 67(1), 89-109.
- Biswas, M. S., Hossain, T., & Mezbah-ul-Islam, M. (2025). Transformational leadership for service innovation in academic libraries in Bangladesh: a qualitative approach. *Library Management*, 46(8-9), 497-511.
- Brookbank, E. (2026). Is TikTok the new Google? How college students use TikTok to search for information. *The Reference Librarian*, 67(1), 1-27.
- Elrod, R. (2026). From overwhelmed to overjoyed: Listening and learning from neurodivergent students. *The Reference Librarian*, 67(1), 28-42.
- Kaapu, N. H., & Zimu-Biyela, A. N. (2025). Using LibQUAL to assess user satisfaction with library services at the Aloe Park South African Police Service (SAPS) National Library, Pretoria, South Africa. *Library Management*, 46(6-7), 420-437.
- Kansara, N. S., & Verma, N. (2025). Enhancing library engagement: a framework for measuring technology adoption of online library resources. *Library Management*, 46(6-7), 452-470.
- Lyaka, M., & Ngulube, P. (2025). Role of a learning culture in overcoming barriers to knowledge retention in libraries. *Library Management*, 46(8-9), 529-542.
- Newton Miller, L. (2025). Library involvement in academic program review: an exploratory survey of the Canadian perspective. *Library Management*, 46(6-7), 471-485.
- Spinney, C., & Gordon, M. (2026). Afterthought or asset? Integrating FAQs into the reference ecosystem by applying RUSA guidelines. *The Reference Librarian*, 67(2), 159-181.
- Tran, Q. H. N. (2025). Validation and reliability of performance management's scale on academic libraries. *Library Management*, 46(6-7), 438-451.
- Walker, E., & Riesen, K. (2026). Strengthening research support: Scholarly communication training for liaison librarians. *The Reference Librarian*, 67(1), 43-63.
- Zahradnik, T., Henshilwood, A., & Tran, M. (2026). Assessing reference services training through student staff satisfaction. *The Reference Librarian*, 67(1), 64-88.
- Zeynali-Tazehkandi, M., Nowkarizi, M., & Budd, J. M. (2025). Identifying essential soft skills for Library and Information Science students: a crucial component of the LIS curriculum. *Library Management*, 46(8-9), 512-528.

Forthcoming Events

Conferences, Seminars, Webinars & Summits

- **Event:** International Conference on Digital Libraries and Information Access (ICDLIA-26). Organizer: International Alliance for Academic Research (IAAR) and the Institute of Science, Engineering and Research (ISER). Date: 07–08 Aug 2026. Venue: Grand Hyatt Bali, Kawasan Wisata Nusa Dua BTDC, Nusa Dua, Bali 80363, Indonesia. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** National Webinar on Enhancing Research Visibility: Strategic Use of Online Profiles. Organizer: The Indian Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (IATLIS). Date: 09 August 2026. Time: 11:00 AM. Mode: Online mode. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** One Day State Level Seminar on the Auspicious Occasion of the Birth anniversary of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan and Librarians' Day on Theme: Role of Libraries in the Artificial Intelligence Era. . Organizer: Department of Library and information Science, Rani Rashmoni Green University in Collaboration with Tarakeswar Degree College. Date: 12th August 2026. Time: 12:00 pm. Venue: Seminar Hall, Tarakeswar Degree College. For Registration: [click here](#)
- **Event:** The RUSA PMU 2.0 Sponsored International Seminar on “Academic Libraries in the AI Era: Problems & Prospects”. Organizer: The Department of Library and Information Science, Jadavpur University, Kolkata. Date: 17th-18th August 2026. Venue: TEQIP Building (Room No. 208). For Registration: [click here](#)
- **Event:** The National Conference on Digital Transformation and Smart Information Services in Academic Libraries (NCDTSIS-2026). Organizer: The Alumni Association and the Department of Library and Information Science, Alagappa University. Date: 17–18 August 2026. Venue: Convocation Seminar Hall, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** The International Conference on Interdisciplinary Research in Science, Technology and the Humanities for Sustainable Development (ICONSTH-2026). Organizer: The PG Department of Library and Information Science and the PG Department of Physics, Vellalar College for Women (Autonomous), Erode. Date: 20 August 2026. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** 10th International Library and Information Science Society Conference (I-LISS 2026) on “Thriving Through Transformation: Innovative, Digital, and AI-Driven Futures for Librarianship”. Organizer: International Library and Information Science Society. Date: 26 – 28 August 2026. Venue: Hotel UiTM, Shah Alam, Malaysia. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** The 8th edition of SoFERENCE 2026 on the theme “AI Use Cases in Libraries: Today, Tomorrow, and Beyond.”. Organizer: The Information Resource Centre, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Bengaluru. Date: 10 September 2026, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mode: Virtual. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** International Conference on Knowledge Organization and Library Information Systems: Exploring Multidimensional Facets (ICKOLIS 2026). Organizer: The Documentation Research and Training Centre, Indian Statistical Institute, Bengaluru. Date: September 21–23, 2026. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** Two-Day National Conference on “Bridging Knowledge, Technology, and Society through Libraries”. Organizer: The Fr. Arrupe Central Library, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata. Date: 25 and 26 September 202. Venue: Fr. Albert Huart Hall (Auditorium), St. Xavier's University, Kolkata. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** The 20th International Conference on Webometrics, Informetrics, and Scientometrics (WIS) and the 25th COLLNET Meeting (COLLNET 2026). Organizer: UvaWellassa University of Sri Lanka in collaboration with COLLNET and the Society for Library Professionals, at UvaWellassa University of Sri Lanka, Badulla, Sri Lanka. Date: 1–2 October 2026. For more info: [click here](#)

Forthcoming Events

- **Event:** KohaCon26, the Koha Community's International Conference. Organizer: The Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). Date: 5th–9th October 2026. Place: Karlsruhe, Germany. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** 47 Asian Conference on Remote Sensing 2026 on “Remote Sensing for Future Earth - Innovation, Inclusion & Impact”. Organizer: Asian Association on Remote Sensing (AARS), Indian Society of Remote Sensing (ISRS) & Indian Society of Geomatics (ISG). Date: 12-16 October, 2026. Venue: Hotel Taj Vivanta, Dwarka, New Delhi, India. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** The 29th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD-2026): ETDs in the age of AI. Organizer: The Central Library, IIT Delhi, in association with the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD). Date: October 23-25, 2026. Venue: The Seminar Hall, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, HauzKhas, New Delhi, Delhi-110016. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** The International Conference on “Knowledge Access to Knowledge Equity: Libraries’ Contribution to a Sustainable Nation (Viksit Bharat)”. Organizer: the Ananda Rangapillai Library, Pondicherry University, in collaboration with the Society for the Advancement of Library and Information Science (SALIS), Chennai. Date: 29 to 31 October 2026. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** The International Conference on “Knowledge Access to Knowledge Equity: Libraries’ Contribution to a Sustainable Nation (Viksit Bharat) (KAKE-2026)”. Organizer: Ananda Rangapillai Library, Pondicherry University, Puducherry, India, in collaboration with the Society for the Advancement of Library and Information Science (SALIS), Chennai. Date: 29 to 31 October 2026. For more info: [click here](#)
- **Event:** 13th Convention PLANNER 2026. Organizer: The INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, in collaboration with Gauhati University. Date: 25-27 November, 2026. Venue: Gauhati University, Guwahati. For more info: [click here](#)

Workshops, Programmes, Training & Courses

- **Event:** ICSSR-sponsored One-Week Workshop on "Digitization and Conservation of Archival Collections". Organizer: Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), Hyderabad, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi, and the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi, under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. Date: 3–7 August 2026. For more info: [Click here.](#)
- **Event:** The 12-days Refresher Programme (Residential) on “Libraries 5.0: User- Centred, Innovative and Intelligent Information Services” under Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Program. Organizer: IGNOU-MMTTC, STRIDE in Collaboration with LIS-SOSS. Date: 16th to 29th September, 2026. For more info: [Click here.](#)
- **Event:** A Four-Day National Workshop on Data Carpentry and AI/ML Tools for Libraries-3rd Edition. Organizer: B. C. Roy Memorial Library, Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Calcutta, Kolkata, West Bengal. Date: 20-23 August 2026. For more info: [Click here.](#)
- **Event:** One-Week Residential Short Term Training Program on “Digital Integration in Scholarly Communication, Open-access, Visibility, Ethics and Rights (DISCOVER-2026). Organizer: The MMTTC of NIT Warangal. Date: 24th to 29th August 2026. For more info: [Click here.](#)
- **Event:** SWAYAM Library and Information Science Courses. Date: August 24-31, 2026. For more info: [Click here.](#)
- **Event:** 10-day Research Methodology courses for Ph.D. scholars in social sciences. Organizer: NIT Rourkela, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). Date: 21 September 2026 – 30 September 2026. For more info: [Click here.](#)

Students Corner

Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship

The Research Training Program (RTP) is the scholarship program of the Australian Government that provides funding to domestic and international students at Australian universities. The programme provides funding for Master's by Research and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) studies and is administered by individual participating Australian universities. Indian students interested in Library and Information Science (LIS), Information Science, Information Management, Digital Libraries, Knowledge Organization, Archival Studies, Research Data Management, Digital Humanities, Information Systems, Information Behaviour, Scholarly Communication, Artificial Intelligence in Information Services, and related disciplines may apply for RTP-supported masters and research degrees. Unlike centralized scholarship programmes RTP scholarships are awarded by individual universities, which assess applicants based on academic merit, research potential, and alignment with institutional research priorities.

Eligibility Criteria: Indian applicants generally must hold a bachelor's degree with honours or a master's degree in library and information science or a related discipline; Demonstrate excellent academic performance and research capability; Meet the English language proficiency requirements of the host university; Obtain support from a faculty member or prospective supervisor where required by the university; Submit a detailed research proposal aligned with the expertise of a prospective supervisor; Satisfy the admission requirements of the chosen master or research degree programme. Applicants from related disciplines such as Information Science, Information Management, Computer Science, Data Science, Digital Humanities, Media Studies, Knowledge Management, Education, and Information Systems are also eligible, depending on the proposed research topic.

Duration: RTP scholarships are available for a minimum of three years and up to a maximum of four years at the discretion of the Higher Education Provider (HEP) for students undertaking a research doctorate as a full-time student, and for a minimum of six years up to a maximum of eight years for research doctorate students studying as a part-time student. For students undertaking research masters, RTP scholarships are available for up to two years for students studying at a full-time student, and for up to four years for those studying as a part-time student.

Benefits: RTP scholarships provide substantial financial support, which may include full tuition fee for the duration of the programme; annual living stipend to cover living expenses; relocation allowance for eligible students; Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for international students; research support and access to university facilities. The exact stipends vary from one academic year to the next.

Application Procedure: Applicants should first identify a suitable Australian university and research supervisor whose expertise aligns with their proposed research topic. Most universities require applicants to submit research proposal; Academic transcripts and degree certificates; Statement of research interests; Recommendation letters; Proof of English language proficiency; Publications or research outputs (if available). Applications for admission and RTP scholarships are often submitted simultaneously through the university's online application system. Shortlisted candidates are contacted for further discussions with potential supervisors or research committees. For further information prospective applicants may consult <https://www.education.gov.au/research-block-grants/research-training-program>.

Latest Publication



Massimo Listri. The World's Most Beautiful Libraries: The World's Most Beautiful Libraries/ Die Schonsten Bibliotheken Der Welt/ Les Plus Belles Bibliotheques Du Monde, Multilingual Edition by Georg Ruppelt & Elisabeth Sladek. New Delhi: Taschen America Llc(Imported). ISBN (hbk) 978-3836535243; ₹20,160.00

Library by James W. P. Campbell & illustrated by Will Pryce (Photographer). New Delhi : Univ of Chicago Pr (Imported). ISBN(hbk) 978-0226092812 ; ₹9,373.00



Collection Development and Management for 21st Century Library Collections: An Introduction by Vicki L. Gregory. New Delhi : Neal Schuman Pub. ISBN(pbk) 978-0838917121 ; ₹7,787.00

Assessing Liaison Librarians: Documenting Impact for Positive Change (ACRL Publications in Librarianship) edited by Daniel C. Mack & Gary W. White. New Delhi : Assoc of College & Research (Imported). ISBN(pbk) 978-0838987087 ; ₹4,450.00



Trends on Tech

OpenAI launches 'Presence' for enterprise AI agents: The biggest announcement this month came from OpenAI with the launch of **Presence**, a new enterprise platform designed to help organisations build, deploy, and manage AI agents across business operations. Unlike traditional chatbots, Presence allows companies to create AI agents capable of:

- Answering customer queries
- Managing support tickets
- Accessing internal knowledge bases
- Connecting with enterprise software
- Escalating complex cases to human employees

OpenAI says the platform also includes governance controls, security permissions, monitoring tools, and continuous optimisation features, making it suitable for large enterprises managing multiple AI-powered workflows. For more information click [HERE](#).

Anthropic introduces Claude Opus 5: Anthropic announced **Claude Opus 5**, a new frontier model designed to deliver near top-tier performance while reducing costs for developers and businesses.

New highlights include:

- Improved reasoning performance
- Lower pricing than many competing frontier models
- A new **"effort" slider** that lets users decide how much computing power the model should use for each task

This allows developers to balance speed, cost, and response quality depending on the application. For more information click [HERE](#).

TubeBuddy: It is a popular browser extension and mobile app designed to help YouTube creators optimize, manage, and grow their channels. It operates as a YouTube-certified toolkit that integrates directly into the existing YouTube dashboard and YouTube Studio.

Trends on Tech

key Features:

- **Video SEO & Keyword Explorer:** TubeBuddy provides advanced tools to find high-performing tags and titles.
- **A/B Testing:** Creators can experiment with different video thumbnails and titles. The system rotates variants automatically to find which version pulls the highest click-through rate.
- **AI Ideation & Recommendations:** The platform includes AI-powered tools like title and thumbnail generators. Additionally, TubeBuddy features an integrated large language model that scans channel metrics and audience comments to generate personalized video recommendations.
- **Bulk Processing:** You can find, replace, or update descriptions, information cards, and end screens across dozens of videos simultaneously.
- **Competitor Analytics:** The software overlays extra data directly onto other channels, tracking their 30-day view trends, subscriber numbers, and upload frequency.

Pricing Options

TubeBuddy operates on a freemium model. The core Free TubeBuddy Plan can be download directly from the Chrome Web Store or mobile marketplaces. For advanced functionalities, creators choose between multi-tiered creator licenses such as Pro, Star, and Legend packages or custom enterprise accounts. For more information click [HERE](#).

Tribute



श्रद्धांजलि

यूनिवर्सल ब्रीफिंग न्यूजलेटर टीम इस अंक को भारतीय पुस्तकालय विज्ञान के जनक, पद्मश्री डॉ. एस. आर. रंगनाथन की पावन स्मृति को समर्पित करती है। ज्ञान, पुस्तकालय सेवा और आजीवन शिक्षण के प्रति उनका अद्वितीय योगदान आज भी प्रत्येक पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष एवं ज्ञान-साधक के लिए प्रेरणा का अमूल्य स्रोत है। हम उनके महान व्यक्तित्व एवं अविस्मरणीय विरासत को सादर नमन करते हैं।

TRIBUTE

The Universal Briefing Newsletter Team proudly dedicates this issue to the revered Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, the Father of Indian Library Science. His visionary Five Laws of Library Science and unwavering commitment to knowledge, learning, and service continue to inspire librarians and information professionals across generations. We pay our heartfelt tribute to his enduring legacy.

डॉ. शियाली रामामृत रंगनाथन
Dr. Shiyali Ramamrita Ranganathan
(Father of Indian Library Science)
(1892-1972)

Social Media News

The National Information Standards Organization (NISO) has announced its new Board leadership for 2026–27, marking a significant transition in governance. Jill Morris, Executive Director of PALCI, has been elected Chair, while Emily Singley, Vice President of Global Library Relations at Elsevier, will serve as Vice Chair and is slated to become Chair in 2027–28. Jonathan Clark of the DOI Foundation moves into the role of Past Chair after leading the Board in 2025–26. Three new directors have joined for the 2026–2029 term: Bill Kasdorf of Kasdorf & Associates, Wendy Queen of Johns Hopkins University Press, and Robert Wheeler of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. NISO continues to play a central role in developing authoritative standards for libraries, publishers, and scholarly communities, and is accredited by ANSI for its collaborative work.



arXiv has announced the appointment of Dr. Penelope Lewis as its first Chief Executive Officer, effective August 17, 2026, marking a major milestone in its transition to an independent nonprofit. Dr. Lewis, a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Penn State, brings nearly two decades of leadership experience in scholarly publishing, most recently as Chief Publishing Officer at AIP Publishing, where she advanced open access and research integrity. Alongside this appointment, arXiv has established its inaugural Board of Directors, composed of leaders from universities, research institutions, and foundations worldwide, to provide governance and strategic guidance. These developments underscore arXiv's commitment to sustainability, modernisation, and its mission of rapid, open scientific communication.

The IFLA Government Libraries Section (GOVLIB) Standing Committee met on 13 July 2026 with thirteen members from all six world regions, including new representatives Dennis Clark (Virginia) and Ahmed Saleh (Cairo). The meeting focused on revising guidelines for government department libraries, agreeing on definitions and a new structure of six thematic parts with fifteen chapters, each assigned to members for drafting by December 2026. The July newsletter was approved for release by 31 July and featured articles from China, India, Mexico, South Africa, and Spain. The committee also highlighted its participation in the Division B Knowledge Café at IFLA WLIC 2026 in Busan, underscoring diversity, progress, and global collaboration.

The N-LIST programme, once a key component of the e-ShodhSindhu consortium, provided access to thousands of journals and hundreds of thousands of e-books to colleges across India. However, it has now been officially closed from 2025–26, with users directed to the Government of India's One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) scheme for future access. N-LIST had 3,916 beneficiary colleges and over 364,000 active users, with usage statistics regularly tracked and top colleges highlighted.

GLAM Special Report

Beyond the Page: Kolkata's New Space Where Words Come Alive



India has officially opened Shabdlok, the nation's very first immersive language museum. The inauguration was led by Union Home Minister Amit Shah at the National Library in Kolkata. This innovative museum leverages cutting-edge technologies like AI, augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), holograms, and interactive displays to chart the journey from oral traditions and ancient manuscripts to printed words and electronic texts.

Referred to as the Museum of Word, Shabdlok celebrates India's rich linguistic diversity. Developed by the Ministry of Culture, this immersive experience

showcases a variety of languages, scripts, literature, and storytelling, all brought to life through engaging, technology-enhanced visuals. Located within the historic Belvedere House on the National Library campus, Shabdlok occupies an iconic building that has housed the National Library since 1948.

Shabdlok is an exciting exploration of the history and evolution of nearly 380 languages, featuring the 121 languages documented in the 2011 Census of India. The project also highlights several historical languages that have faded from everyday use.

Utilizing cutting-edge technology such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR), interactive touchscreens, holographic displays, gesture sensors, and audio-visual installations, Shabdlok offers a unique, immersive experience. The galleries are designed to engage visitors actively, inviting them to interact with language in a way that goes beyond traditional reading. With interactive boards, hands-on exhibits, games, and puzzles, guests can learn new words from all 22 official languages of India in a playful environment.

A standout feature of the museum is the designated sound platforms marked with footprints. When visitors step onto these platforms, they unlock audio recordings of significant moments from Indian history and literature. Among the recordings are excerpts from Kalidasa's **Abhigyan Shakuntalam**, presented in the 1988 documentary **Bharat Ek Khoj**, alongside Jawaharlal Nehru's famous "Tryst with Destiny" speech.

At this unique museum, guests are encouraged to decipher puzzles, learn new vocabulary, listen to landmark speeches, and examine the profound impact of language on the human experience. The Museum of Word redefines the traditional museum visit in Kolkata, transforming the way words are experienced, moving beyond mere display panels to become auditory and tactile experiences.



Source: The Telegraph Newspaper

Source: Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India

Library in Focus

Touching the Pages of History: The Story of the Bagbazar Reading Library



The Bagbazar Reading Library (initially established as the Bagbazar Reading Room) is one of North Kolkata's historic neighborhood libraries. It emerged during the late 19th-century boom of the "library movement" in Bengal, which aimed to foster a reading culture and encourage intellectual self-reliance among the public. When Lord Ripon was the Viceroy of India, Calcutta was in a state of immense excitement and turmoil over the passage of the Ilbert Bill. During that period of unrest, the educated and intellectual minds of the time gathered at P. C. Mitra's house located at 42 Raja Rajballav Street in North Calcutta with the purpose of exchanging various news and engaging in discussions. There, they decided that a space needed to be established so local residents could access news through newspapers free of charge and have a place to exchange their own opinions. Driven by that very inspiration, on June 16, 1883 today's historic Bagbazar Reading Library was established. Since the very beginning of its journey, this library has been enriched by iconic figures such as Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar, Ramgati Nyayaratna, Rangalal Bandyopadhyay, Dwijendranath Tagore, and Girish Chandra Ghosh. You will be amazed to know that these

famous personalities enriched the library by donating their own written books entirely free of cost. This library has been graced and honored by having illustrious personalities as its members, including the poet Girish Chandra Ghosh, Maharshi Debendranath Tagore, Mahatma Shishir Kumar Ghosh, the noted playwright Amritalal Basu, national leader Bhupendra Nath Bose, and the eminent physician Dr. R.G. Kar. Throughout this long journey, the library faced numerous hardships and was forced to relocate multiple times. Overcoming these hurdles, the library managed to arrange the purchase of its own land. On November 6, 1896, this land was acquired near 3 Raja Rajballav Street, and the library was later registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1960. Afterwards, the library briefly shifted to a house at 22 Lakshmi Dutta Lane in 1935. In August 1940, the library permanently moved to its own building at 2 K.C. Bose Road. Here, the Diamond Jubilee was celebrated under the presidency of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee. In 1958, the library celebrated its 75th anniversary. During the 5-day festival starting December 10, the then-Mayor Triguna Sen and Dr. Radhabinod Pal graced the occasion. In 1977, the government recognized it as a sponsored library. Over time, it went on to grandly celebrate its glorious Centenary (100 years) and 125th anniversaries. Librarian said that "We had original paintings by Nandalal Bose and others. Around 12 years back, these were stolen". A few rare books still on the racks are the first editions of Tagore's *Chitrangada*, *Raktakarabi*, *A Biography of Maharaja Krishnachandra Roy* (printed with wood blocks in London, 1811), *Tekchand Thakur's Allaler Ghorer Dulal*, *Colonel Todd's Rajasthan*, *Kolkatar Kotha* by Pramathanath Mullick, the first print of *Hutum Pyanchar Noksha* and others. The library also has issues of Bengali periodicals like *Balok*, *Bharati* (a comic journal), *Basantak*, *Tatta Bodhini*, *Bama Bodhini* and *Arya Darshan*. He also said that although the modern education system and the pressure of academics have somewhat reduced the footfall, this historic library has once again succeeded in bringing readers back, and its membership continues to grow. At present, this library houses nearly 60,000 Bengali and English books, along with invaluable journals and periodicals, serves as an invaluable resource for students conducting research on Bengali literature.

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