

# 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.....*

As we turn the page on another month, we take a moment to reflect on the shared purpose that unites us in the pursuit of knowledge, the preservation of our professional values and the celebration of community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who have been part of this journey like our readers, contributors, and supporters. Your engagement strengthens our collective mission to advance the Library and Information Science (LIS) profession and we remain committed to offering a publication that informs, connects, and uplifts our community. With this fourth issue, we continue the work we have been building over the past two years, maintaining our focus on quality and relevance. As the field evolves, we remain committed to thoughtful exploration, broader perspectives, and practical value. We appreciate the continued support and engagement of our readers and welcome your ongoing involvement, insights, and collaboration as this community grows.

From its modest beginnings to becoming a trusted source of professional connection and knowledge exchange, our newsletter's growth is a testament to the dedication of our team, our network of passionate professionals and you, our valued readers. This milestone is not only a celebration of what we have achieved but also a reminder of the strength of a community bound by a common purpose.

As we look ahead, we reaffirm our commitment to delivering relevant, high-quality, and inspiring content that continues to empower and unite us all. Thank you for being an integral part of this continuing journey.



**GO GREEN  
SAVE EARTH**



### Latest Vacancies

- Recruitment for the Post of Library Trainee at Central University of Odisha, Sunabeda, Koraput - 763004 : Last Date - 06.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Teaching Assistant in the Department of Library and Information Science at Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Doimukh, in the Papum Pare district of Arunachal Pradesh - 791112 : Last Date - 06.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor at Maharaja Bir Bikram University (MBB University), Agartala, Tripura, 799004 : Last Date - 06.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Librarian at Army Public School, Dinjan P.O. - Dinjan, Dist- Dibrugarh, Assam - 786189 : Last Date - 06.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Professor, Assistant Professor at University of Kalyani, University of Kalyani, Kalyani, Nadia, West Bengal, Pin Code - 741235 : Last Date - 09.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Programme Assistant (Library) at Indian Institute Of Management Mumbai, Vihar Lake Rd, near The Residence Hotel, Powai, Mumbai, Maharashtra, 400087 : Last Date - 10.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Assistant Librarian at National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, Pudukkottai Road, Tamil Nadu, Thanjavur - 613 005 : Last Date - 10.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Assistant Librarian & Deputy Librarian At National Council Of Educational Research And Training (Ncert) : Last Date - 20.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Scientific Assistant (Library), Assistant (Library) at Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, 203, B.T. Road, Kolkata-700108 : Last Date - 21.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Professor, Assistant Professor & Assistant Librarian at Mizoram University, Tanhril, Aizawl - 796004 : Last Date - 24.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of College Librarian & Professional Assistant at Central Sanskrit University, Delhi Established by an Act of Parliament 56-57, Institutional Area, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058 : Last Date - 27.02.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Librarian & Library and Information Assistant at Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology (VNIT), Nagpur, Maharashtra - 440010 : Last Date - 01.03.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Junior Library Superintendent at Indian Institute of Science Education And Research (IISER), Brahmapur, Govt. ITI Building, Engineering School Rd, Junction, Gajapati Nagar, Brahmapur, Odisha -760010 : Last Date - 02.03.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Librarian, Deputy Librarian, Assistant Librarian at Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh- 202001 : Last Date - 04.03.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Library Assistant G-II (Library Service) at Government Of Jammu And Kashmir, Jammu And Kashmir Services Selection Board : Last Date - 25.03.2026 -[Click here for more](#)
- Recruitment for the Post of Library and Information Officer in NITI Aayog Government of India, New Delhi, Sansad Marg Area, New Delhi -110001: Last Date - 30.03.2026 -[Click here for more](#)

## UB Endeavour

## Study Circle Announcement.....

**UNIVERSAL BRIEFING**

Platform for Information Exchange  
www.universalbriefing.in

Presenting



## Harnessing AI : A Future Roadmap for Research University Library

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2026

Time: 12:30-1:30 PM

Venue: TEQIP Building,  
Jadavpur University, Kolkata -700032

\*The Study Circle is scheduled to be held on 21st February during the seminar\*

PRESIDENT



**Dr. Arun Kumar Chakraborty,**

Professor, DLIS, School of Professional Studies,  
Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata- 700064

SPEAKER



**Dr. Shantanu Ganguly,**

Director, HDFC Library, Ashoka University,  
Rajiv Gandhi Education City, P.O. Rai, Sonapat Haryana-131029

**CHAIRMAN**  
DR. AVIK ROY, Librarian,  
Derozio Memorial College

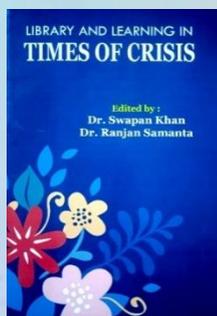
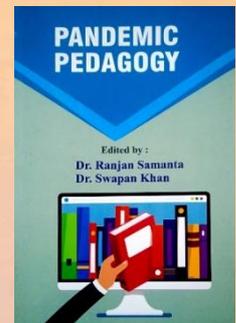
Will Be On  
**PHYSICAL MODE**

**CONVENER**  
MR. AVIJIT NASKAR, Librarian,  
PM SHRI KV BAGAF A

## UB Endeavour

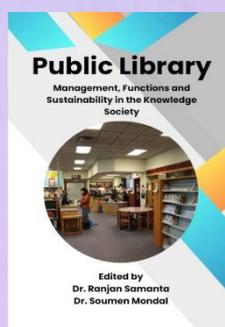
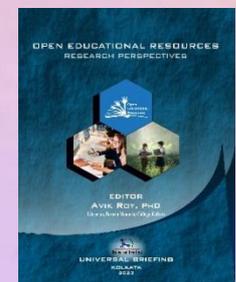
### Our Publication.....

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.



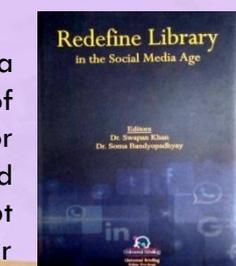
The book "Library and Learning in Times of Crisis" was published by Prova Prakashani in collaboration with Universal Briefing in the year 2021, edited by Dr. Ranjan Samanta and Dr. Swapan Khan. It contained seventeenth valuable research papers highlighted the role of libraries especially academic libraries 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.

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.



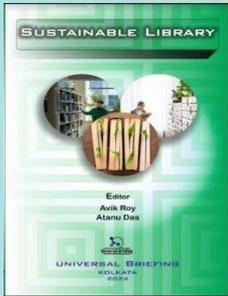
This book celebrates the profound impact of public libraries as vibrant spaces of learning, connection, and empowerment. In an era marked by rapid technological advancements and evolving societal needs, public libraries remain steadfast in their mission to provide equitable access to information and 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**

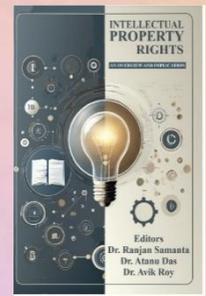
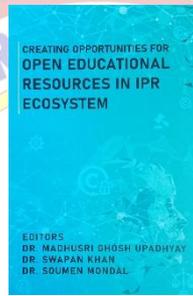
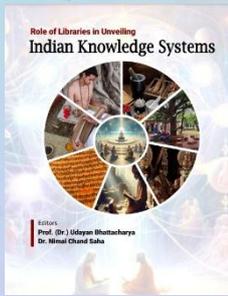
among all the stakeholders of the library. There is no doubt that the present library must be defined in the context of social media to satisfy the users in this social media age.



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.....**



**UB Endeavour**

**Announcement.....**

**International Seminar**

**on**

**Intelligent Libraries:  
Harnessing AI Driven Future**

Date: February 20-21, 2026  
Venue: TEQIP Building, Jadavpur University

Universal Briefing, a non-profit making platform for information exchange, Kolkata, India in collaboration with Muralidhar Girls' College, Kolkata, West Bengal, India

*cordially invites you to the Inaugural Session*  
on  
**February 20, 2026, at 10.30 a.m. (IST)**  
at  
TEQIP Building Auditorium, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India

*Prof. Chiranjib Bhattacharjee, Vice-Chancellor, Jadavpur University, Kolkata has kindly consented to inaugurate the International Seminar and Grace the event.*

*Prof. Pijushkanti Panigrahi, Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Calcutta, Kolkata has kindly consented to be the Chief Guest of the seminar.*

*Prof. Parthasarathi Mukhopadhyay, Professor and Head, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kalyani, West Bengal has kindly consented to be the Keynote Speaker of the seminar.*

<p><b>Dr. Kinjalini Biswas</b> Principal, Muralidhar Girls' College President, Seminar</p>	<p><b>Prof. Udayan Bhattacharya</b> President, Universal Briefing Seminar Director</p>
<p><b>Dr. Ranjan Samanta</b> Librarian, Naba Ballygunge Mahavidyalaya General Secretary, Universal Briefing Organizing Secretary, Seminar</p>	<p><b>Dr. Swapan Khan</b> Librarian, Narasinha Dutt College General Secretary, Universal Briefing Organizing Secretary, Seminar</p>

**INTERNATIONAL Seminar**

**TWO-DAY INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR**

**on**

**Intelligent Libraries: Harnessing  
AI Driven Future**

February 20-21, 2026

**TEQIP Building Auditorium,  
Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India**

*Organized by*

**Universal Briefing  
Kolkata-700103**

*In Collaboration With*

**Muralidhar Girls' College  
Kolkata-700019**



## Research Spotlight

### DLIS, Mewar University, Chittorgarh (Awarded Works 2025)

1. **Thesis Title:** Role of Library Automation Techniques and their Application in Science & Technology Libraries of NCR  
**Scholar:** Devesh Prakash  
**Supervisor:** Dr. Rajesh Kumar Singh

### DLIS, Gauhati University, Guwahati (Awarded Works 2025)

2. **Thesis Title:** Prospect of Enactment of Library Legislation in Assam Based on Existing Library Legislations of India a Study  
**Scholar:** Mitali Barman  
**Supervisor:** Dr. Dipen Deka

### DLIS, Kerala University, Thiruvananthapuram (Awarded Works 2025)

3. **Thesis Title:** Content Analysis of Intranet Library Sites and User Requirements of ISRO A Model for Web Based Services  
**Scholar:** V P Nisha  
**Supervisor:** Dr. B Mini Devi

### DLIS, Shivaji University, Kolhapur (Awarded Works 2025)

4. **Thesis Title:** Users Satisfaction with ICT based Library Services in Colleges affiliated to Gondwana University: A Study  
**Scholar:** Sneha Rohit Chile  
**Supervisor:** Dr. Yuraj G. Jadhav
5. **Thesis Title:** Evaluation of Open-Source Software for Digital Preservation  
**Scholar:** Bhavesh Narayan Patel  
**Supervisor:** Dr. Dhananjay B. Sutar

### DLIS, Jadavpur University, Kolkata (Awarded Works 2025)

6. **Thesis Title:** National library of G20 countries a comparative study with their presence in social media platforms  
**Scholar:** Chaitali Ghosh  
**Supervisor:** Dr. Udayan Bhattacharya
7. **Thesis Title:** Use of Books in Jadavpur University: An Evaluative Study to Find Out Suitable Collection Development Policy  
**Scholar:** Debashish Mukherjee  
**Supervisor:** Dr. Udayan Bhattacharya

### DLIS, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi (Awarded Works 2025)

8. **Thesis Title:** Research Trends in the Field of Geophysics: A Citation Analysis Of Doctoral Dissertations Submitted to BHU  
**Scholar:** Aditya Tripathi  
**Supervisor:** Dr. Sudhir Kumar Singh

"Are you a research scholar who just submitted their Ph.D thesis in LIS? Want to be featured in our next edition? [Click here](#) to add your details and get a chance to feature in our upcoming spotlight section!"

## Monthly Scholarly Highlights

- Adhikary, B. (2025). Trends in Library Expenditure of Top Indian Colleges in Recent Years: A Statistical Analysis. *Journal of Information and Knowledge*, 433-445.
- Aswathy, S., Sandhya, P. S., & Ajayalali, P. R. (2025). Mapping the Intellectual Structure and Collaboration Landscape of Space Sustainability Research. *Journal of Information and Knowledge*, 381-391.
- Ghosh, C., & Bhattacharya, U. (2025). Shelves of Inequality: A Multi-Criteria Assessment of Global Knowledge Gateways. *Journal of Information and Knowledge*, 399-405.
- Hua, Y., & Sun, H. L. (2025). Are you ready? An investigation of factors affecting artificial intelligence readiness of college students. *Library & Information Science Research*, 47(4), 101381.
- Kumar, D., & Singh, N. (2025). Measuring the Prowess of Artificial Intelligence in Classifying Veterinary Books. *Journal of Information and Knowledge*, 393-397.
- Leeladharan, M., & Sarin, M. S. (2025). Digital Literacy, Trust and Perceived Security of the E-government Services: A Case study of Higher Education Students. *Journal of Information and Knowledge*, 423-431.
- Rehman, I., & Haridasan, S. (2025). Altmetric Visibility and ResearchGate Engagement: A Case Study of the University of Jammu. *Journal of Information and Knowledge*, 407-421.
- Ribeiro, A. C., Sizo, A., & Reis, L. P. (2023). Investigating the reviewer assignment problem: A systematic literature review. *Journal of Information Science*.
- Roy, A., & Ghosh, S. (2025). From Warrant to Forecast: Rethinking Scholarly Classification with 'Data Science'. *Journal of Information and Knowledge*, 365-379.
- O'brien, H. L., Davoudi, N., & Nelson, M. (2025). TikTok as information space: A scoping review of information behavior on TikTok. *Library & Information Science Research*, 47(4), 101379.
- Wang, Z., Qiu, S., Wu, T., Bian, Y., & Xiao, P. (2025). The innovative momentum of knowledge sharing: How does strengthening community libraries boost patent output? *Library & Information Science Research*, 47(4), 101383.
- Wu, Q., Lee, C. S., & Goh, D. H. L. (2025). Motivating STEM and non-STEM knowledge co-creation through combinations of textual cues. *Library & Information Science Research*, 47(4), 101382.
- Wu, Z., Huang, L., Wang, M., & He, X. (2026). Data sharing intentions of neuroscience researchers: A consequentialist theory perspective. *Library & Information Science Research*, 48(1), 101398.
- Zhang, X., Zhao, Y., & Yang, F. (2025). Standing on the shoulders of giants: A review of reviews on health information behavior. *Library & Information Science Research*, 47(4), 101380.

## Forthcoming Events

### Conferences, Seminars, Webinars & Summits

- 71st ILA Conference 2026: International Conference on "Transforming Library Services in the AI Era: Library Services, User Engagement and Community Impact," to be held from 5th to 7th February 2026, organized by the Central Library, Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra (Ministry of Education, Government of India) jointly with the Indian Library Association, New Delhi. For more info: [click here](#)
- A Two-Day National Seminar Sponsored by the Telangana State Council of Higher Education (TGCHE) on "Empowering Research Excellence: AI Tools for Academic Writing and Publishing" to be held on 10th & 11th February 2026, jointly organized by the Department of Library Science and the Department of Commerce, Government Degree College, Mulugu, Mulugu District, Telangana-506343. For more info: [click here](#)
- The Department of Library and Information Science, Vellalar College for Women (Autonomous), Erode, is organizing an RRRLF-sponsored National Conference on Information Landscape: Trends and Innovations in Public and Academic Libraries (NCILTIPAL 2026), to be held on 13-14 February 2026 at Kasthurba Kalaiaragam, Vellalar College for Women (Autonomous), Thindal, Erode, Tamilnadu. For more info: [click here](#)
- The 2nd International Conference on Resilience, Reflection, and Innovation in Library Services and Practices (ICIDLHV 2026). Dates: February 20th, 2026 - February 21st 2026. Location: Jaipur, Rajasthan. For more info: [click here](#)
- The Karnataka Health Sciences Library Association (KHSLA)-2026 is organizing a Two-Day National Conference on "Health Librarianship to Health Informatics," to be held at the Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences, Mandya, Karnataka, on 20th and 21st February 2026. For more info: [click here](#)
- 2nd International Conference on Sustainable & Intelligent Computing in Science and Technology: Research Trends of ICT using Digital Libraries with Human Values & Ethics (ICIDLHV2026), will be held at Department of Applied Sciences & Central Library, Poornima Institute of Engineering and Technology (PIET), Jaipur, Rajasthan, India on February 20-21, 2026. For more info: [click here](#)
- The Department of Library and Information Science, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong is organizing a Two-Day Ruby Jubilee International Conference on 'The Multifaceted Role of Information, Knowledge Systems, Technologies, and Libraries in Various Socio-Cultural and Academic Environments', to be held from 26-27 February 2026 (Thursday-Friday) at the Multi-Use Convention Hall, NEHU, Shillong. For more info: [click here](#)
- The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH)-Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC-Library) is pleased to invite you to the Symposium on "Accessible and Inclusive Digital Library (AIDL)-2026" covering main themes viz. Assistive Technologies, Community Engagement and Designing Inclusive Library Space is scheduled on March 6-7, 2026 at IIT Hyderabad, India. For more info: [click here](#)
- LIB-BRIDGE 2026. The Documentation Research and Training Centre (DRTC)-Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) Conference on "Bridging the Gap: Trends in Library and Information Science" will be held from 11th to 13th March 2026 at the Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore Centre, Bangalore, India. For more info: [click here](#)

### Forthcoming Events

- The Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, is sponsoring an International Conference on Transforming Libraries: Innovation, Management, Smart Technologies, and Creative Knowledge of Society for the Future, to be held on 14th & 15th March 2026 (Revised Dates), organized by the University Library, Periyar University, Salem–636 011, Tamil Nadu, India. For more info: [click here](#)
- Two Day National Conference on Transforming Academic Library Services in the Digital Era: Challenges, Opportunities. Organized by Central Library, Ananda Chandra College in collaboration with National Digital Library of India (Ministry of Education, Govt. of India). Dates: 9-10 April, 2026. Venue: Ananda Chandra College, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal. For more info: [click here](#)
- The Indian Institute of Management, Kashipur, Uttarakhand, in association with the Asian Library Association, New Delhi, is organizing the 9th International Conference of Asian Libraries (ICAL-2026) on the theme “Evolving Information Landscape: Making Libraries Future-Ready,” to be held from 16 to 18 April 2026 at IIM Kashipur, Uttarakhand, India. For more info: [click here](#)
- The International Library Symposium on Knowledge and Communication (ILSKCOM–2026), titled ‘Transforming Knowledge Frontiers: Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Open Access (OA) for Sustainable Library Development’, is being jointly organised by SVKM’s Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (Deemed-to-be University), Shirpur Campus, Dhule–425405, Maharashtra, India; the Central Library; and Khon Kaen University, Thailand, on June 12–13, 2026. For more info: [click here](#)
- The 20th International Conference on Webometrics, Informetrics, and Scientometrics (WIS) and the 25th COLLNET Meeting (COLLNET 2026) will be held from 1–2 October 2026, organized by Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka in collaboration with COLLNET and the Society for Library Professionals, at Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka, Badulla, Sri Lanka. For more info: [click here](#)
- The International Association of University Libraries (IATUL), in collaboration with the University of Johannesburg (UJ), is organizing the 46th Annual IATUL Conference, titled “Navigating the Future of Knowledge: Empowering Librarians Amidst Technological, Financial, and Role Transformation for Societal Impact,” to be held from 22–26 November 2026 at The Venue, 39 Melrose Boulevard, Johannesburg, South Africa. For more info: [click here](#)

### Forthcoming Events

- Refresher Course on Library & Information Science (Online Mode). Organized by UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (formerly HRDC), Mizoram University. Duration of the Course - 5th – 18th Feb, 2026. For Registration: [Click here.](#)
- 3rd One Week National Workshop on Open-Source Software: Koha and DSpace at Aligarh Muslim University. Dates: February 9, 2026 to February 14, 2026. For more info: [Click here.](#)
- The Institute of Secretariat Training & Management, New Delhi will be conducting One Week In-Service Course for Sr. Library Professionals (ISC-LSP-01) in Offline mode for Government Library & Information Science Professionals working in libraries of any government department from 16th Feb, 2026 to 20th Feb, 2026. For more info: [Click here.](#)

## Forthcoming Events

- SWAYAM Library and Information Science (LIS) courses currently open for enrollment are free to enroll in and learn from. For more info: [Click here](#).
- Training Workshops for Public Libraries across Karnataka. Campaign by Science Gallery Bengaluru. For more info: [Click here](#).
- The 2026 Core Fundamentals Web Course Schedule @ American Library Association (ALA). CHICAGO–Core is pleased to announce the release of the 2026 Core Fundamentals Web Course schedule. This series of related online courses covers basic topics that enhance skills in various areas of library work. Courses are 4 to 6 weeks in length and are repeated throughout the year. For Registration: [Click here](#).

## Students Corner

### The National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) for ST Students

The **National Overseas Scholarship (NOS)** offers a prestigious opportunity to the meritorious Schedule Tribe (ST) students for pursuing higher education in reputed Institutes/Universities abroad. This scheme aims to empower ST students by providing financial support to access international education and research exposure. This is a Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Tribal Affairs for pursuing master's degree, Ph.D., Post-Doctoral courses at abroad. The Scheme is be implemented through the Indian Embassies/Missions abroad, Ministry of External Affairs. Eligible students of Library and Information Science domain can avail the benefits of the scheme.

Each year 20 ST students are awarded the scholarship. 17 Slots are provided to ST candidates, and 03 slots are reserved for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG). Thirty percent of the scholarship awards are earmarked for female candidates. However, in case, adequate female candidates are not available, the unutilized slots become open for eligible male candidates. The subjects/disciplines in which student can opt for studies abroad and the number of slots available under each field for grant of award includes 10 for Pure/Applied Science/ Engineering/Technology/ Mathematics (STEM), 04 for Management, Economics, Finance, Law, 04 for Agriculture/Medicine, 02 for Humanities/Social Science/Fine Arts.

**Eligibility Criteria:** Candidates applying for the scholarship must belong to one of the eligible categories of communities. Gross annual family income from all sources must not exceed Rs.6,00,000/- (Rs. Six lakhs only) per annum. Not more than one child of the same parents will be eligible, and the candidate has to furnish a self-certification to this effect. An individual is eligible for only one award and cannot be considered for any other award or same/higher level of award for the second time under the Scheme. The age limit varies depending on the course for which the scholarship is obtained. The age should not be more than 38 years for candidates pursuing post-doctoral research, 35 years for candidates pursuing Ph.D. and 32 years for candidates pursuing master's degree. At least 55% marks or equivalent grade in the qualifying examination is required to apply for the scholarship. In case of Post Doctoral Research, the educational qualification includes the marks in relevant master's degree with awarded Ph.D.; for Ph.D. courses the educational qualification is master's degree and for master's degree courses, the educational qualification is bachelor's degree. The criteria of marks obtained in Bachelor's/master's degree will not apply to those candidates who have already obtained admissions in top 1,000 Institutes as QS World ranking of the latest available report.

## Students Corner

**Duration:** Financial assistance is provided till completion of the course/research or the prescribed duration of the course, whichever is earlier. Scholarship is granted for a period of maximum 2 years for Post-Doctoral Research, 4 years for Ph.D. degree programmes and 1 or 2 years (One/Two years) depending upon the type and duration of the course for master's degree programmes.

**Benefits:** Depending on the place of the institution as well as the type of degree/course being pursued, the benefits provided to the selected candidates under the scholarship varies. The covered areas include annual maintenance allowance, annual contingency and equipment allowance, poll tax, visa fees, incidental journey expenses, tuition fees, medical insurance premium, cost of air passage from India to the nearest place to the educational institution and back to India, by economy class and shortest route at best available price, local travel in second class railway fare from the port of disembarkation to the place of study and back.

**Application Procedure:** The applications for scholarships under the scheme is invited online through National Overseas Scholarship Portal (NOSP) developed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Before filling application form online, candidates are required to register themselves on the NOSP and on Digi Locker. The short-listed candidates are required to appear for interview before the Expert Committee for selection. Before releasing scholarships to the candidates, the Indian Embassies/Missions abroad scrutinise the overall performance/ behaviour of the candidate.

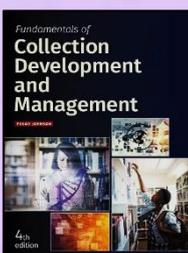
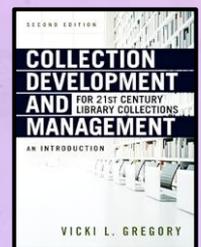
For more information on eligibility, benefits and application procedure please visit <https://overseas.tribal.gov.in>.

## Latest Publication



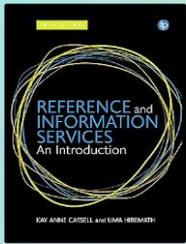
**Librarians guide to online searching: cultivating database skills for research and instruction, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.** by Christopher C. Brown. UK: Libraries Unlimited Inc. ISBN(pbk) 978-1440878237 ; ₹4,830.00. ISBN (hbk) 978-1440878732 ; ₹14,825.00

**Collection Development and Management for 21st Century Library Collections: An Introduction** by Vicki L. Gregory. New Delhi: ALA Editions. ISBN(pbk) 978-0838917121 ₹12,153.00



**Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management** by Peggy Johnson. New Delhi: ALA Editions. ISBN(pbk) 978-0838916414 ; ₹9,261.00

## Latest Publication



**Reference and Information Services: An introduction** by Kay Ann Cassell (Author), Uma Hiremath. UK: Facet Publishing. . ISBN(pbk) 978-1783306329 ; ₹5,504.00.

## Trends on Tech

### Bohrium AI:

It is a specialized, free AI-powered research platform and search engine designed for scientists, researchers, and students to streamline literature reviews. It utilizes Large Language Models (LLMs) like DeepSeek and GPT-4 to analyze over 160 million academic papers, offering summarized, citation-rich answers, data extraction, and interactive, multi-modal search capabilities.

**Key features of Bohrium AI:** Science Navigator: A core engine for in-depth literature search and summarization, analyzing over 160 million papers and 160 million patents.

**Academic Assistance:** Provides structured, citation-rich answers to research questions, helping with literature reviews, key finding extraction, and brainstorming.

**Advanced Capabilities:** Features interactive diagrams, document analysis, and the ability to follow specific scholars.

**Tools for Research:** Includes AI-powered reading, auto-generated posters, and high-performance computing resources.

**Customization:** Allows users to filter research papers by publication year, citation limits, and journal impact factors.

**Developer:** Developed by an international team under Bohrium (AI for Science with global scientists), headquartered in Singapore.

**Pricing:** Bohrium offers a free tier with daily limits and optional premium features for advanced use. The platform is designed to make the research process more efficient, allowing users to save, organize, and interact with academic materials. To know more click [HERE](#).

### OpenAI Prism:

Prism is a newly launched AI-powered research platform designed to help scientists and academics streamline their research workflows. Built on OpenAI's GPT-5.2 models, Prism aims to simplify scientific writing, collaboration, and project coordination within a unified cloud workspace. It reduces fragmentation in research tasks by combining drafting, citation handling, and teamwork tools in one environment, making work like preparing manuscripts and managing references much faster and more integrated.

**Key Features:** AI-assisted paper drafting and editing

Integrated reference management

Real-time collaboration tools

Cloud-based workspace for projects and teams

**Developer:**

Developed by OpenAI, leveraging advanced generative models for scientific writing and reasoning.

**Pricing:** Currently free to users with a personal ChatGPT account, with future plans for expanded tiers. To know more click [HERE](#).

## Obituary



**Prof. Narendra Nath Sharma**

It is with profound sorrow that Universal Briefing mourns the passing of a distinguished academician, **Prof. Narendra Nath Sharma**, a Retired Professor and former Head of the Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University, on 27th January, 2026.

His contribution to the growth and development of librarianship in North East India is truly immeasurable. A dedicated teacher, researcher, and administrator, he devoted his life to advancing Library and Information Science education and research. Over decades of committed service, he inspired generations of students and contributed significantly to the department's growth and reputation.

As Head of the Department, he provided visionary leadership, strengthened academic standards, and fostered a culture of excellence and integrity. His scholarly contributions, mentorship, and professional guidance will remain a lasting source of inspiration for colleagues and students alike. Beyond academics, he was known for his humility, kindness, and unwavering commitment to knowledge and service. The loss is deeply felt by the academic community, former students, friends, and well-wishers.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. May his noble soul rest in eternal peace.

## Social Media News



Dr. Prashant Kumar Deka, Librarian of the Gauhati University, has received the 'Best LIS Professional -2026' Award. The award was presented at the International Conference I-KOAL 2026 held at Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.

On the occasion of the International Conference on Knowledge Organization in Academic Libraries (I-KOAL-2026), held at Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, Prof. Manoj Kumar Verma, Professor and Head of the Department of Library and Information Science at Mizoram University, was awarded the prestigious LPA Excellence Award–2026 for "Best LIS Emerging Teacher".

Anke Gowda from Karnataka has been awarded the Padma Shri 2026, India's fourth-highest civilian honor. He is recognized for promoting literacy and preserving knowledge through Pustakamane, India's largest free-access library. Gowda, once a bus conductor, founded Pustakamane to make books accessible to remote and marginalized communities. The initiative has grown into a repository of over two million books in more than 20 languages, including rare manuscripts and historical texts. His work emphasizes education as a tool for social empowerment, bringing reading materials to underserved regions. This year's awards focus on unsung heroes from Dalit, tribal, and backward communities, highlighting grassroots contributions in education, healthcare, sanitation, and sustainability. Gowda's efforts are seen as a major step in expanding access to knowledge and promoting inclusive education.



GLAM Special Report

A Triumph of Heritage: How Diplomacy and Collaboration Restored the Piprahwa Legacy



In a historic triumph for cultural sovereignty, the sacred Piprahwa relics have returned to India after 127 years, marking the end of their long exile since their 1898 discovery. These treasures—consisting of bone fragments of Lord Buddha and over 300 exquisite offerings of gold, silver, carnelian, and lapis lazuli—represent the share of the Buddha's remains enshrined by his own Shakya clan at ancient Kapilavastu. While a portion of the find had remained in India, a significant cache was taken to England by the original excavator, William Claxton Peppé. The modern reclamation began in early 2025 when the Ministry of Culture and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) successfully intervened to halt a Sotheby's Hong Kong auction, where the collection was valued at over \$100 million, asserting that these sacred items are inalienable heritage rather than commercial assets.

The homecoming was made possible through a unique public-private collaboration, specifically a landmark agreement with the Godrej Industries Group, which acquired the relics from the Peppé family descendants to ensure their unconditional return to the state. This move transitioned the relics from private "artefacts" back to their rightful status as "sacred heritage." To celebrate this reunion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the grand exposition "The Light and the Lotus: Relics of the Awakened One" at the Rai Pithora Cultural Complex in New Delhi. This exhibition marks the first time in over a century that the repatriated gems have been reunited with the National Museum's existing Piprahwa collection, providing a complete archaeological and spiritual record of the Buddha's Shakya lineage.

Beyond their material beauty, the scientific and historical verification of these relics reinforces India's role as the custodian of Buddhist heritage. The ASI meticulously cross-referenced the repatriated items with the original 19th-century excavation logs to confirm their provenance. By securing these remains, the Government of India has not only rectified a colonial-era displacement but has also strengthened its Soft Power and cultural ties with the global Buddhist community. Today, the relics stand as a powerful symbol of national pride, housed permanently within the National Museum, New Delhi, where they serve as a bridge between India's ancient past and its contemporary diplomatic resolve.



## Library in Focus

### Hemchandra Library: A century old library is struggling to survive



In a lane in Khidirpur, the century-old Hemchandra Library stands the test of time. According to secretary of the library "It is unfortunate that most of us have limited knowledge on one of the stalwarts of Bengali literature, Hemchandra Bandopadhyay. He might be a forgotten poet of Bengal now". Poet Hemchandra was born on April 17, 1838 in Hooghly's Gulita, from the age of nine, the famed poet lived in Khidirpur. Educated at Hindu College and the University of Calcutta, he worked in various roles including clerk, headmaster, and lawyer, and also served as a government pleader. His literary career began with the poetry collection Chintatarangini (1861).

He is noted for the epic poem Vrittasamhara (1875–1877). Influenced by Michael Madhusudan Dutt, Bandopadhyay addressed themes such as national identity in works including Bharat Sangeet. He died on May 24, 1903, in Khidirpur, Kolkata. Four years after his death on March 9, 1907, this library was established and named after the poet Hemchandra Bandopadhyay in

1909. Address of library is 11/2, Mohan Chandra Rd, Khidirpur, Kolkata, West Bengal 700023. At that time, there were few books. But today, the library houses more than 25,000 books and periodicals of varied interests. A section dedicated to Hemchandra Bandopadhyay is also there at the library. It was first started by the members of Khidirpur Anushilan Samity and used for revolutionary activities. Many famous writers like Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay, Tarashankar Bandyopadhyay, Achintya Kumar Sengupta and Prabhabati Debi had visited the library. Actor, director and playwright Shishir Bhaduri had raised some money by staging his plays and helped in the construction of the building. The library still has a table used by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, said secretary of Hemchandra Pathagar. The library is also well known for its societal initiatives. Till today many people visited the library and explored the rich history of the Khidirpur area.

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Your opinion matters to us, and we want to make sure that our newsletter meets your expectations. Whether you have positive feedback or constructive criticism, we welcome all your thoughts. Your insights can help us enhance the content, design, and overall experience. Click the **“Your Feedback”** icon to provide your valuable remarks to us. For any LIS domain related news update, you want to share with us. Feel free to mail at [info.nlub@gmail.com](mailto:info.nlub@gmail.com)

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