

**Report**  
**of the**  
**Two-Day National Workshop**  
**(Librarians Development Programme)**

on

**Open Access: Application in Libraries**

held on June 13-14, 2014

at the MES's IMCC, Pune, Maharashtra

Supported by



**Indian Council of Social Science Research**

## 1. Background

MANLIBNET was registered as a Society under Societies Registration Act, 1860 in the year 2000 with broad objectives of providing a common forum to the library professionals and to develop understanding and co-operation particularly among management and business libraries and the librarians for effective collaboration and resource sharing.

Though MANLIBNET took formal shape in the year 2000, the idea was initiated in the year 1998 during the first convention jointly organised by the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA) and Ahmedabad Management Association.

This was followed by a series of conferences at various places including the IIML; IIMK; IIMI, IIM Trichy, XLRI, Jamshedpur; IMT, Ghaziabad; National Institute of Financial Management, Faridabad; Nirma University, Ahmedabad; ICSSR, KIIT University, Bhubaneshwar; IIHMR, Jaipur; University of Delhi, TAPMI, Manipal, and at various other institutions.

For the first time in the Library and Information Services profession, MANLIBNET initiated Librarians Development Programme (LDPs) in the year 2008.

LDPs are highly focussed programmes on specialised areas and, over the last few years, MANLIBNET has organised 8-12 LDPs in various cities of India. The idea of organising LDPs is to target smaller cities where librarians do not get enough opportunities which are generally available to those library professionals who work in bigger institutions. Around 800 library professionals have benefited through these LDPs over the last few years.

With regard to the publications, besides publishing the proceedings of the MANLIBNET Conferences on an annual basis, MANLIBNET has been publishing a quarterly journal '*Journal of Library Management*' since April 2012. One of the important objectives of publishing the Journal is to promote outstanding library practices by publishing original research papers in the Journal.

To incentivise library professionals to do original research, International Travel Grant is given to MANLIBNET members for presenting original and unpublished research paper in an international library conference held outside India.

## 2. Open Access: Application in Libraries

As stated above, for the first time in the Library and Information Services profession, MANLIBNET initiated Librarians Development Programme (LDPs) in the year 2008. LDPs are highly focussed programmes on specialised areas and, over the last few years, MANLIBNET has organised 8-12 LDPs in various cities of India. The idea of organising LDPs is to target smaller cities where librarians do not get enough opportunities which are generally available to those library professionals who work in bigger institutions. Around 800 library professionals have benefited through these LDPs over the last few years. The detailed list of LDPs along with their reports are available at <http://www.manlibnet.in/librarian-development-programme/>.

The Two-Day National Workshop (Librarians Development Programme) on **Open Access: Application in Libraries** was jointly organized by Management Libraries Network (MANLIBNET) and MES's Institute of Management & Career Courses (IMCC), Pune, Maharashtra during June 13-14, 2014. The LDP was supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, New Delhi.

Focusing on the theme of the LDP i.e. Open Access: Application in Libraries, the workshop dealt with the current scenario of the Open Access Resources and future directions. Some of the sub-themes of the LDP included:

- Open Access: Issues and Challenges
- Exploring Open Access Resources

- Open-Source Software: Overview
- Experience of KOHA: Case study
- Open-Source Software: D-Space (Theory & Practice)

## **I. Inaugural Function**

The inaugural function of the workshop started with lighting of the lamp by the chief guest, Dr. E. B. Khedkar, Dean of Management Science Faculty, University of Pune. Dr. Meenal Oak, Librarian, IMCC and the LDP Co-ordinator, explained the rationale and purpose of organizing the LDP.

Dr. V. H. Inamdar, Director, IMCC welcomed all the participants and seeing the resource persons and the topics of the LDP, Dr. Inamdar was confident that the participants will immensely benefit from the LDP. Dr. Tariq Ashraf, Member, Executive Council, MANLIBNET briefed the participants and the guest about various activities of the MANLIBNET.

Dr. E. B. Khedkar, Dean of Management Science Faculty, University of Pune highlighted the value of libraries and felt that the time has come librarians need to be exposed to various OA resources so that the user community may benefit from the OA resources. He also suggested that libraries need to ensure that they digitize every important library document which are not copyrighted so that the same could be made available to the library users. Shri Rambhau Dimble, Member, Governing Body of the Institute presided over the inaugural function.

During his Presidential address Shri. Dimble expressed immediate need for reader-focussed learning programmes and advised that libraries undertake activities to promote reading habits in the society. During the occasion, Dr. S. G. Mahajan, a veteran library professional was felicitated for his exemplary works in the field of library services. The inaugural function concluded with a formal vote of thanks extended by Dr. Meenal Oak.

## **II. Technical Sessions**

Following are session-wise details of the LDP:

### *a) Open Access and Open Sources Movement in Indian Libraries*

Dr. Tariq Ashraf, Deputy Librarian, University of Delhi gave a detailed overview of Open Access (OA) and Open Sources (OS) movement in Indian libraries and explained the philosophical background of the OA & OS movements. He also discussed various limitations of internet including the digital divide and at the same time stressed upon how libraries can convert these challenges to opportunities in serving the user community. The session witnessed very active QA session which was very ably handled by the speaker.

### *b) Issues and Challenges in OA and Subscription-based e-Resources*

As Dr. Akhtar Parvez, Librarian, Indian Institute of Management Indore could not attend the LDP, he delivered his talk over Skype. Dr. Parvez discussed number of issues in subscription-based and OA e-resources and suggested ways to overcome the issues faced by librarians in their day-to-day operations. Some of the issues discussed included pricing, licensing, creative common licensing, accessibility, etc. Based on his vast experience of handling e-resources, Dr. Parvez suggested useful practical solutions to the participants. He suggested that LIS

schools should take note of the changes in the digital world and should accordingly make changes in the LIS curricula.

*c) Developing and Maintaining Institutional Repositories*

Dr. Meenal Oak, Programme Coordinator, shared her vast experience in developing and maintaining of institutional repositories (IRs). With the help of a case study of her own institution i.e. IMCC, she presented a detailed step-by-step process of developing and creating IRs.

*d) Open-source software for Indian Libraries: an Analysis*

Dr. N. B. Dahibhate, Principal Technical Officer, National Chemical Laboratories, Pune delivered a thought-provoking address on the topic, *Open-Source Software for Libraries: an Analysis*. Dr. Dahibhate discussed various features of different OSS, their use, merits and limitations. He suggested that librarians should use more than one OSS for various library activities so that they are able to evaluate them and put them to use for a greater number of library services. Dr. Dahibhate categorized various OSS by library activities which helped the participants to take an informed decision about the applicability of such software in their libraries.

*e) Integrated Library Management Software*

Dr. S. K. Patil, Professor and Librarian, Symbiosis International University, Pune discussed features of various Integrated Library Management Software (ILMS). He presented various features of standalone, web based, and multi-location library software including KOHA. He not only stressed on using KOHA ILMS but also explained all the modules of KOHA (Acquisition, Circulation, Cataloguing, Admin, etc.).

*f) Open Access: The Changing Landscape of Scholarly Publishing*

The session was conducted by Dr. M.G. Sreekumar, Librarian, IIM Kozhikode. Dr. Sreekumar stated that Open Access is an overarching concept, which attempts to make available the quality assured academic and research content, openly accessible to the academic and research fraternity across the world. Predominantly, journals (scholarly) have been the major vehicles of scholarly communication. Academics and researchers across the world have been suffering from non-accessibility to world class research due to the ever increasing journal prices and the inflation effects of currencies, resulting in affordability and accessibility issues, he said. OA is now an international movement, though it started in Europe and the Budapest declaration is regarded, among the early charters. Open Access has mainly two approaches - the Gold route and the Green route. The gold route refers to journals becoming open access at source itself, whereas the Green route is to deposit the authorised version of the article (pre-prints, post-prints, publisher's version etc.) in Open Access Scholarly Archives (also known as Institutional Repositories). Today, there are over 15,000 OA journals (<https://doaj.org/>) and around 4000 OA repositories (<https://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/opensoar/>), spreading across almost all major subjects/disciplines.

*g) Overview of DSpace (<https://duraspace.org/dspace/>) Open Source Software, Features & Functionalities*

This session was also conducted by Dr. M.G. Sreekumar, Librarian, IIM Kozhikode who said that DSpace is a world-renowned open-source software for setting up Institutional Repositories. DSpace is developed and promoted by MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) in collaboration with a number of other agencies and corporate, including HP. The software architecture of DSpace is excellent and has been appreciated by a large

number of community/institutions/universities which have endorsed it and have been using it across the world, he said. This session was devoted to the overview, features and functionalities of DSpace.

#### *h) Hands-on Session on Administration and Customization in DSpace*

Participants were systematically oriented and made comfortable, about the admin facilities and the configurations and customization of DSpace from the point of view of participants' working environment/requirements by Dr. M.G. Sreekumar, Librarian, IIM Kozhikode. This session was based on a live demo of the above features of DSpace software, including the installation, administration and customization of the software.

Shri Amit Kane assisted Dr. Sreekumar in the practical sessions on the use of DSpace software.

#### *i) Hands-on Session on KOHA Installation and Customization of Modules*

The hands-on sessions were conducted by Shri. Nagesh Londhe, Assistant Librarian, University of Pune. The session was conducted in the computer lab of the Institute. During this very useful session, Shri. Londhe demonstrated the installation procedure of KOHA and all the participants installed KOHA on their respective desktop. The participants were made to work in all the modules of KOHA including the setting up of rules for various library operations in KOHA software.

The LDP witnessed a short cultural programme by the students of the MCA course of IMCC.

#### *j) Valedictory Session*

Dr. V.H. Inamdar, Director, IMCC was the chief guest of the valedictory function. The occasion was graced by other eminent academicians including Mr. Kshirsagar, Member Governing Body, MES; Dr. Tariq Ashraf, Member, Executive Council, MANLIBNET, Dr. Rajendra Kumbhar, Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Dr. Meenal Oak, Programme Coordinator, LDP.

Dr. V.H. Inamdar expressed deep satisfaction on the overall conduct of programme, its content, and choice of resource persons. He noted that the feedback of the participants was very encouraging and suggested that more such programmes may be organised of longer duration in the future.

Dr. Meenal Oak extended the formal vote of thanks and expressed her gratitude to the ICSSR for providing the financial support, MES's IMCC, Dr. H. Anil Kumar, President, MANLIBNET, Dr. Akhtar Parvez, General Secretary, MANLIBNET and Dr. Meeta Rathod, National LDP Coordinator, MANLIBNET for all the support extended for the smooth conduct of the LDP. She also thanked all the resource persons including Dr. Tariq Ashraf, Dr. M. G. Sreekumar, and Professor S. K. Patil, and Dr. Rajendra Kumbhar who acted as the Rapporteur General for the LDP.

### **III. LDP Recommendations**

The LDP was a grand success. The active participation during the entire sessions of the workshop, from all the participants as well as the resource persons, have been very encouraging to both MANLIBNET as well as the organizers, IMCC. The organizers and MANLIBNET would like to submit the following recommendations, towards strengthening the effectiveness and outcome of the such upcoming workshops:

1. The Library & Information Science discipline is a highly dynamic field, in which the advancements in ICT, Networking and Communications play a direct and far reaching effect in the library processes as well as its

operations, especially the user services, in particular. This is more so, in the case of libraries attached to institutions of higher education and research centres.

The above scenario calls for Continuing Education facilities as well as opportunity for participating in hands-on Workshops of these sorts, organized by departments of Library & Information Sciences, Institutions, as well as Library Associations/Societies such as MANLIBNET etc.

MANLIBNET therefore strongly recommend the importance of such introductory as well as advance level workshops for the benefit of Library & Information Science professionals, so as to catch up with the trends in the professional development arena.

2. MANLIBNET and IMCC acknowledge with profound thanks, the generous support received from ICSSR, for the successful conduct of this workshop.

It is recommended that suitable grants may kindly be provided by national/state agencies such as ICSSR, MHRD, AICTE, DST, DBT etc., for running such useful workshops for the benefit of the LIS community, and thereby support the academic as well as research community of the country.

3. It is recommended that follow-on workshops should be conducted on advanced/latest trends in ICT applications in the LIS profession, especially OA developments and resources, for the benefit of the LIS Professionals.
4. The feedback received from some of the resource persons, on the performance/knowledge level of some participants, were very encouraging.

It is recommended that the LIS Schools of the University Curricula may be directed to be revised/revamped to suitably accommodate the latest trends in ICT applications appropriate and applicable to the LIS discipline, so that the products coming out of the Indian Universities will be market ready and be able to find proper employments.

-----XXX-----XXX-----XXX-----XXX-----XXXX-----







