

ADINET e-News Digest

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Contents	Page no.
5 websites to buy second hand books	2
Be Careful while doing E-Subscription Computer-generated document has no evidentiary value	3
Orphan Work & Copyright Provision in India	4
e-Libraries like Easylib are Gaining Pace in India	4
Microsoft releases the new Word, Excel, PowerPoint apps for Android phones	5
Aligarh Muslim University 'Cybrary' Gets ISO Certification	6
Keep your documents safe, digitally: After Private Providers, The Government Too Is Offering Digital Locker Services	6
Report Communication in the World of Apps – Understanding how app usage is transforming the way we interact	7
A New Service for the Members: The LIS Links Newsletter	7
Smart Classroom Technologies:15 Online Resources That Help Improve Essay-Writing Skills	7
Ministry of Human Resource Development to rank top 500 institutes in India	10
Forget e-books. Here are the oldest bookstores in India	11

5 websites to buy second hand books

As schools and colleges start a new academic year, buy second hand textbooks online at cheaper rates across a wide range and good quality -

As the new academic year begins, and the rush among students to buy fresh sets of textbooks increase, chances are that you might miss the bus to find the right titles, in time for your first lecture. Worse, you might end up buying new books, and give it away to the scrap dealer at the end of the year. To put an end to such a cycle, and to promote a healthy exchange of knowledge, many online second hand book portals are doing their bit. Such portals allow you to buy second hand books at cheaper rates (almost half of the MRP). Likewise, few portals give you the option to sell books, as well as earn a few bucks. These titles range from academic textbooks to fiction and non-fiction books.

The guide picks:

1) Bucketbolt: This online portal allows all the students to buy and sell new or old used academic textbooks with a buyback guarantee and an offer of up to 60% money back on return of books at the end of the year. They deal in academic textbooks

and deliver only in Mumbai at the moment. www.bucketbolt.com

2) Madbooks.com: The portal allows sale and purchase of books online and ships all over India. They stock all kinds of books and offer free home delivery. They only accept credit mode of payment. www.madbooks.com

3) Second hand books India: They list novels, children's titles and general management books. They do not stock academic textbooks. The portal delivers throughout India and offers cash on delivery as well as credit as their mode of payment. www.secondhandbooksindia.com

4) Friends of Books: They follow a slightly different concept as they work as a lending library. You rent the book according to a subscription plan that could be for a month or year, depending on what plan you take. After the book is rented, it can be returned while another set of books can be ordered depending on the subscription pack. They deliver throughout India; delivery in Delhi/NCR region is free. They stock all genres of books. www.friendsofbooks.com

5) Kitaabi: They allow sale and purchase of all kinds of books. The delivery is free but it is confined to Mumbai at the moment. They allow only cash on

delivery as their method of payment. www.kitaabi.in

How Kitaabi took shape

We wanted to make books more accessible and cheaper for book lovers. We purchase books from suppliers of second hand books and put it up for sale at subsidized price on our Website. Thus, we're trying to transform it into an organized sector. There are very few web portals that operate with a common idea but its catching on. In future, we will shift to a different business model that won't involve money. It will become a platform for exchanging books without involving any monetary transaction. People can give away books for free or exchange them with the other users depending on needs. It will be a barter system that we aim at creating in future.

— **Vir Bhan Saini, Kitaabi, co-founder**

Source | Mid Day | 15 June 2015

Be Careful while doing E-Subscription Computer-generated document has no evidentiary value

It is very common these days for companies to send unsigned letters, invoices, etc, claiming the document is 'computer generated' and, hence, does not require any signature. This is totally

fallacious. Unlike electronically transmitted messages, which can be traced and established, other documents which are printed out cannot be proved unless they are signed. The consequences of relying on such an unsigned document would be disastrous in the event of a dispute, according to a recently ruling of the National Commission.

In 2008, Chet Ram Rotha of Shimla sent five consignments of apples to Mukhtar Aalam in Kolkata for sale on commission basis. Rotha claimed an amount of Rs 6,13,081 was due to him from the sale proceeds, after deducting expenses and commission, which was evident from the bills sent by Aalam. Since Aalam failed to pay this amount, Rotha filed a complaint before the [District Forum](#) alleging deficiency in service.

Aalam contested the complaint, saying he had paid an advance of Rs 2.5 lakh but had not received even a single box of apples. He questioned the maintainability of the complaint as the dispute involved questions.

The District Forum allowed the complaint and directed Aalam to pay Rs 6,13,081 with interest at nine per cent a year, a compensation of Rs 25,000, and costs of Rs 5,000.

Aalam went in appeal to the Himachal Pradesh State Commission, which modified the order. Instead of the entire amount, the advance of Rs 2.5

lakh was deducted and Aalam was directed to pay the balance amount of Rs 3,63,081. Aggrieved, Aalam approached the National Commission.

Aalam's main argument was the bills purportedly sent by him were not genuine but fake, and there was no evidence to prove Rotha had supplied any apples. Aalam contended he could not be expected to pay for what he had not received.

The [National Commission](#) pointed out that in order to establish deficiency in service, it would be necessary to produce the goods receipts to show Rotha as the consignor had despatched goods from Shimla for delivery to Aalam as the consignee in Kolkata. However, the goods receipts produced neither showed Rotha as the consignor nor Aalam as the consignee, and the transport was from Delhi to Kolkata.

Accordingly, by its judgment of March 31, 2015, delivered by K S Chaudhari, the National Commission held the goods receipts and bills were unreliable and did not inspire any confidence. It concluded that in the absence of documentary evidence, it could not be presumed the goods had been despatched by Rotha and received by Aalam. The Commission set aside the orders of the District Forum as well as the State Commission, and dismissed the complaint.

So, in order that documents have

evidentiary value, they must be thoroughly scrutinised to see they are properly prepared and signed.

Source | Business Standard | 15 June 2015

Orphan Work & Copyright Provision in India

A work – such as a book, a piece of music, a painting or a film – in which copyright exists, but where the copyright owner is either unknown or cannot be located is referred to as an 'orphan work'. Orphan works can be a real problem for users who want to make use of such work, whether for commercial or non-commercial purposes. For example, a filmmaker who wants to include a piece of music protected by copyright in a documentary will be unable to do so if the owner of the copyright in the music is either unknown or cannot be identified. That is, if you do not know whom to ask for permission then, unless your use of the work is covered by an existing exception to copyright, you cannot make use of the work, at least not without infringing copyright.

Source | <http://copyright.gov/orphan/reports/orphan-works2015.pdf>

e-Libraries like Easylib are Gaining Pace in India

BENGALURU: Libraries for old school and e-Libraries for the new

generation. India is fast gaining demand for e-libraries with a couple of e-libraries already in popular eyes. The growing online retail market has facilitated the growth of e-libraries, which range from renting out books to e-books for free.

Book lovers are more than excited to see some of the classics preserved online in e-libraries which are helping them find some of the limited edition novels of all genres. And best of all they are just a click away. Log in to one of the best e-libraries and browse for those books which you have always wanted. That is how simple it is to look for a book online.

Online libraries like Easylib, Librarywala, Bibliofreaks, Netflix and Rentsher cater to all age groups and children are found to be the majority readers.

Easylib has various membership options which helps you register on its website. "Koramangala is our stronghold as I have stayed there for 13 years. Currently, we provide delivery and pickup services in and around Koramangala.

We have members who have been with us for long. Many a times it happens that people come with a cart full of books to donate them to our library because they don't want to dispose it neither they want it to decay".

Microsoft releases the new Word, Excel, PowerPoint apps for Android phones

Android phone owners can now use an updated version of Microsoft's Office tools for writing, spreadsheets and slideshows.

The new Word, Excel and PowerPoint apps are designed to provide more functions on small touchscreens. Microsoft released them for Android phones this week in another move to make some of its most popular software tools available to people who don't use Microsoft's Windows operating system.

The company had released redesigned versions for Android tablets in January and for iPhones and iPads last year. But Android phone users had only a bare-bones version, except through a limited "preview" of the expanded offering. (Of course, Android device owners have also been able to use competing tools from Google and other app-makers.)

There are still no comparable apps for phones and tablets running Microsoft's own Windows system, though that will change once Windows 10 gets released next month. As Android phones have had until now, Windows phones get only the bare-bones Office. Windows tablet owners have to use a version more suited for laptops and desktops with real keyboards.

The mobile apps are free, although Microsoft is offering more features to users with an Office 365 subscription, which starts at \$70 a year.

Microsoft says some phone makers including Samsung, Sony and LG will ship Android phones with Office already installed. The new apps will work on older phones running the KitKat version of Android from 2013 and Lollipop from last year, but nothing older than that.

Source| <http://www.ibnlive.com/>

Aligarh Muslim University 'Cybrary' Gets ISO Certification

ALIGARH: The Aligarh Muslim University's social sciences cyber library or "cyberary" was accredited with the International Standard Organisation (ISO) certification, institute officials said on Friday. The "cyberary" was designed and developed by Shabahat Husain, former dean of the faculty of social sciences, to provide students access to web-based resources. The resources include e-books, e-journals, in-house publications, web courses, video lectures of eminent scholars and databases pertaining to social sciences. The cyber library is available for social scientists not only in AMU but across the globe. The usage data shows that it has been accessed in 75 countries till date. It was inaugurated by President Pranab Mukherjee on December 27, 2013.

Keep your documents safe, digitally

After Private Providers, The Government Too Is Offering Digital Locker Services

Storing hard copies and keeping records of all your financial documents is not only cumbersome but also unsafe. There is always a risk of loss or physical damage. It is thus safer to dematerialise. However, just going paperless is also not enough. It is important that you organise all your important papers at one place. In emergencies, it becomes easier for your family to access all documents quickly. With e-vaults and free cloud storage, this task has become easier. The government too recently launched a free digital vault service, DigiLocker, which lets you store such sensitive data safely.

Still in its beta phase, DigiLockers can help you consolidate all your important papers at one place. You need to have an Aadhaar card that is linked to your cell number to open an account. Around 1.52 lakh people have already registered for this. Madhya Pradesh leads the count with 28,317 registrations, followed by Uttar Pradesh (20,771) and Maharashtra (17,601). In Delhi, so far, 5,894 have registered for the facility.

How it works: To open an account you'll have to enter your UID number. The system will send a onetime password (OTP) to your registered mobile number and email ID to validate your identity.

Once registered, you can start uploading documents under the 'My certificates' section (see box). You can upload scanned copies, which, if required, can be digitally signed. The locker is also a repository of all your government issued e-documents. These e-documents are uploaded by issuers, government departments or agencies such as CBSE, registrar's office, income tax department, etc., in a standard XML format that is compliant with digital locker technical specifications. Right now, you'll only get 10MB of space, which will be later increased to 1GB.

While the documents you upload can be shared via email, the e-documents from governments' agencies can be viewed by an authorised list of requestors such as a bank, university, the passport office or the transport department. You can also digitally sign these documents using the eSign option.

Source | Times of India | 29 June 2015

Report | Communication in the World of Apps – Understanding how app usage is transforming the way we interact

Communication apps like Gmail, WhatsApp, Facebook, Hike, others dominate smartphone use: Survey

Nearly half the time spent on smartphones by Indians is on

communication apps, according to a report by [Ericsson Consumer Lab](#). This figure is the highest among the countries covered in the survey. In contrast, users in [Japan](#) use their smartphones most for browsing. In [South Korea](#), productivity tools get the highest billing after communication apps. Here's more...

Source | <http://www.ericsson.com/res/docs/2015/consumerlab/ericsson-consumerlab-communication-in-the-world-of-apps.pdf>

A New Service for the Members: The LIS Links Newsletter

A new service is introduced for the LIS Links members. The LIS Links Newsletter is an endeavour from the part of the LIS Links founder Dr. Badan Barman where the members can take active part in fulfilling the mission: to make aware of the issues both globally and more importantly, locally. It will be a medium of rapid communication of innovative ideas of the members of LIS Links fraternity in the form of technical/research articles which may be fundamental or applied or translational in nature.

Source | <http://goo.gl/es4RbO>

Smart Classroom Technologies 15 Online Resources That Help Improve Essay-Writing Skills

Throughout the journey from kindergarten to 12th grade, students are supposed to gain appropriate vocabulary and grammar skills that need to be successfully implemented into essay writing. Here are some effective online tools that can help you make the art of essay writing more attractive for your students.

1. ReadWriteThink – Student Interactives

This page is a great source of interactive tools that help students accomplish various goals, from organizing their thoughts to learning about different aspects of the English language. Some of the most popular tools for grades K-12 include Story Map, Persuasion Map, Word Family Sort, Acrostic Poems, Trading Card Generator and Comic Creator. You can choose different tools based on the grade level, capabilities, student interactive type, theme, and learning objective.

2. Interactive Sites for Education

This website serves as a resourceful guide to English language arts topics. You can find educational, interactive games and simulations for grades K-5 in the categories of grammar, compound words, capitalization, phonemes and words, punctuation, poetry, reading and sight words, parts of speech, writing and rhyming. These activities work well with an interactive whiteboard. However, you can also recommend them for

individual learning at home.

3. Graphic Organizers

Young students can hardly manage all the ideas they get if you leave them in front of a piece of paper and saying they should write an essay right away. The process requires pre-writing stages, where these graphic organizers will be of great help. Your students can use them as a way of putting their ideas and notes in order. Then, the actual writing stage will be much more focused.

4. Teach the Children Well – Language Arts

This website may not be that appealing in terms of design, but it's a great base of resources that will help you become a better teacher. This is actually a collection of awesome articles related to writing. Every educator should spend time examining these resources as they progress through different teaching methods.

5. Free Writing Resources

Time4Writing.com is mostly known for the eight-week online writing courses it offers. However, the website is also a great source of free resources in seven categories: teaching writing, writing skills, writing sentences, writing paragraphs, writing mechanics, writing essays and standardized-test writing.

6. Guide to Grammar and Writing

This website offers comprehensive lessons on all aspects of English grammar and writing. You will easily locate all

materials you need in the Index, which includes links to all resources of the Guide to Grammar and Writing, as well as Principles of Composition. This online source is like the grammar textbook you always wished to have. Now you can use it to make the lectures more accessible for your students.

7. Essay Mama

This is an online agency that offers professional assistance to students who need advice with essay writing. The company has hired PhD tutors from various areas of study, so its users can get reliable help regarding the topic they need. The blog section at this website is worthy of a bookmark, since it's a great source of inspiration, news and tips on school writing. The glossary of essay terms and essay writing guide are efficient tools that will make the process easier. In addition, your students can enter writing contests at the same website.

8. Essay Punch

Essay Punch is an interactive, online, essay-writing tutorial that takes students through all stages of the academic writing process. The guidance it offers is based on pre-set writing prompts and interactive exercises for the pre-writing, organizing, writing, editing and publishing stages.

9. Teen Ink

This well-established magazine publishes high-quality essays and other written forms created by students. The categories at the

website include nonfiction, poetry and fiction. There is no need to subscribe to the monthly print magazine; all you need to do is recommend the website as a source of inspiration. You can select some of the featured essays and read them in class in order to show great samples of academic content.

10. Thesis Builder

Your students will love this tool! Since they are always struggling to come up with a believable thesis statement, you can recommend the Thesis Builder, an automatic engine that launches a statement based upon the topic, opinions and supporting arguments the users provide in the form. Once they get the thesis, your students can proceed with the creation of an outline without looking for another online tool.

11. Novel Guide

This website offers plot summaries and discussions on some of the most notable novels ever written. Needless to say, you should warn your students about plagiarism issues; make sure to instruct them to use the content solely as an addition to their studying materials.

12. Hemingway Editor

There is a rule about long, complex sentences: You can only use them if you know how. K-12 students rarely manage to handle complex sentence structure, but they still want to impress you with big words and endless arguments. When you want to

emphasize the importance of clarity, use Hemingway as an example. This tool will highlight the common errors and long sentences that need corrections.

13. The Readability Test Tool

This tool tests the readability of a piece of writing according to a set of commonly used indicators. You can recommend it to your students as an editing aid that will help them improve the readability of their work before they submit it to you.

14. WordCounter

When you assign a specific word count for a piece of writing, you want your students to respect it. This tool will help them achieve that goal. It will not only provide them with a correct number of words in their essays, but will also enable them to locate repetitive words and phrases.

15. Citation Machine

Referencing is certainly not the most exciting part of any writing assignment. Nevertheless, you cannot simply neglect all those details and citation rules. This tool provides instant citations in Chicago, Turabian, APA and MLA styles. Upon entering the appropriate parameters, the students get a properly formatted reference without any fuss.

Source|<http://thejournal.com>

Ministry of Human Resource Development to rank top 500 institutes in India

From next month the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) will rank the top 500 institutes in the country. There will be an eight point ranking matrix based criteria for Engineering and Sciences which has been already worked out by a committee with the members from IIT, IIM, IISER, JNU, The English and Foreign Languages University, Andhra Pradesh and CII and FICCI representatives.

The participating institutes will have to send their data according to each category which will be uploaded on the website. The given data can be accessed by anybody and if they find any questionable or untrue matter then they can raise objections.

A committee member said, "There will be automated validation as well as physical checks. After the success of the pilot run, the ranking may be divided into urban and rural India."

The ministry has approved the draft proposed for Science which included parameters like teaching-learning, infrastructure, academic and performance. A similar kind of matrix is in process for the ratings of courses in arts, economics and social sciences, medicine, law, management/business administration, hotel management and mass/visual communication.

The committee will first start work on a pilot project which later will

cater to 33,000 odd institutes.

Source|

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in>

Forget e-books. Here are the oldest bookstores in India

Reading habits have changed a lot the years; from the soft rustling of paper and the beautiful smell that accompanies old novels reminding one of days gone by, to e-books and e-book readers which are supposed to make the entire experience of reading more convenient for bibliophiles.

Online portals and chains have more or less taken over the book buying experience as well. From the mountains to the metros, here we bring to you a few gems that have survived the tests of time and are a true testament to the old world charm of reading the written word.

1. Higginbotham's – Chennai

Higginbothams in Chennai. (Mint/Saisen)

Chennai, a city that boasts of a rich cultural heritage owing to its history as an important administrative centre over the centuries, is also home to the country's oldest known bookstore.

Few know that Higginbotham's that opened its doors in 1844, actually started out as a religious bookstore but has since then grown, housing books from various different genres. The

store also started publishing books in the 1960's. Higginbotham's was started by a man named Abel Joshua Higginbotham, an alleged British stowaway, who began his journey into the business of selling books- in then called Madras- by selling copies of Bibles to Soldiers.

Throughout its long standing existence, this architectural beauty situated in Anna Salai, has made its name as one of the quality bookstores in India. In fact in 1859 John Murray, in his Guidebook to the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, described Higginbotham's as the "premier bookshop of Madras".

2. Giggles – Chennai

Giggles Bookstore, Chennai (HT Photo/ Simar Bhasin)

Popularly referred to as 'The Biggest Little Bookshop' in Chennai, Giggles is hidden away beside Taj Vivanta on Binny road.

The bookstore, which its owner Nalini Chettur refers to as 'her baby', will turn 41 this year. Giggles was originally situated inside the Taj Vivanta hotel but after renovations, Chettur was asked to vacate in 1993. She refused and fought for the book shop and got a tiny place (about 100 sq feet) just beside the hotel.

This marvel of a book shop has many loyal customers who swear by Nalini's knack of getting them exactly the book that they were searching for without themselves knowing what it was!

3. Strand Book Stall – Mumbai

Strand Book Stall was established in 1948. (Facebook/ Strand Book Stall)

Sixty six year old Strand Book Stall has stood the tests of time and has set a benchmark for being one of the most affordable book stores.

Founded by the late Padmashri T. N. Shanbhag on a capital of Rs 450, Strand is regarded highly by Mumbai's literati with figures like JRD Tata, Nani Palkhivala, G.D. Birla, Keshub Mahindra, Sir Ambalal Sarabhai, Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, Dr. Abdul Kalam, Jayaprakash Narayan being known to have walked through its doors.

The bookstore started out with a simple thought by a man who wanted to make knowledge affordable without compromising on quality. The store, established in 1948, is living proof that he was indeed successful.

4. Ram Gopal Sharma & Sons – Delhi

Ram Gopal Sharma & Son in Shankar Market, Delhi. (HT Photo/Simar Bhasin)

A fantasy straight out of a bookaholic's dream, Ram Gopal Sharma & Sons is filled with books from the roof to the floor.

Little known fact about this book heaven hidden away in Shankar Market is that it was the first lending library in Delhi.

Established in 1952, Ram Gopal Sharma & Sons is THE place to go for second hand books especially if you are a Mills and Boons hoarder. The shop boasts of having the largest collection of the romance series which was all the rage in the 70's and 80's.

Moving ahead with the times, the bookstore began an online portal for renting out books. Aptly named 'bookmeabook.com', the site allows book lovers easy access to a wide range of books encompassing several genres.

Manjula Sharma, the daughter in law of the namesake founder, took over the responsibility of the store and its online presence after Ram Gopal Sharma passed away a while ago.

5. Bahrison's Booksellers – Delhi

Bahrison's Booksellers in Delhi. (Facebook/Bahrison's Booksellers)

Any true Delhiwallah is well aware of this store located in Khan Market that has been passed on from generation to generation, becoming a landmark in the capital city.

The store is almost as old as the Market in which it is situated. After opening its shutters in a post-partitioned India by a refugee whose family was forced out of their ancestral village, the bookstore has made a name for

itself as one of the most reputed book establishments and has expanded into publishing as well.

The collection at Bahrisons is one of the best in the capital, and if they don't have what you are looking for, the staff makes in that extra effort to order the book and keep you informed about its arrival.

6. College Street – Kolkata

College Street, Kolkata (Mint/Indranil Bhoumik)

Any debate or discussion on literature is incomplete without the mention of the birthplace of one of the great literary masters of India, Rabindranath Tagore.

The city of joy is known for its rich literary tradition and the College Street is a testament to that very tradition.

Academic books, second hand books, rare editions, everything and anything related to the written word is available on this street that houses various prestigious institutions such as the Hindu school, Calcutta University, Presidency University and many more. The 1.5 Km long street also houses one of the most famous hangouts for Kolkata's intellectual elite – The Indian Coffee House.

Rabindranath Tagore and Subash Chandra Bose are said to have been frequent visitors to the coffee house which is a on the bucket list of any book lover.

College Street also has the honour of being featured on Time Magazine's 'Best of Asia' list in 2007.

7. Cambridge Book Depot – Mussoorie

Ruskin Bond (centre) at Cambridge Book Depot. (Facebook/Cambridge Book Depot, Mussoorie)

The hills are famous for inspiring great literary traditions like the Gothic and many authors have taken their abode there as it provides them with the sanctuary that they require. One such place is where Ruskin Bond found his home – Mussoorie.

The Cambridge Book Depot in Mussoorie opened up in 1952 and is situated on the Mall Road near the Main Post Office. This bookstore, that houses everything that you would need to make your stay in the hills enjoyable, is also Bond's favourite haunt and he can be found there most Saturdays.

The proprietor, Sunil Arora, also maintains a special section devoted exclusively to Mussoorie authors to promote and encourage them.

8. Maria Brothers – Shimla

Maria Brothers in Shimla has one of the 27 copies of the American Declaration of Independence, printed in June 1776. (HT Photo/ Santosh Rawat)

If you have ever taken a walk down Shimla's Mall Road, you might have noticed a quaint little store painted all blue with a sign 'Maria Brothers' outside of it.

If you have and if you managed to take a peek inside, you would know that it is exactly what one would imagine a museum of books to look like.

Shimla houses many bookstores that are a favourite among the tourists and residents alike, what sets Maria Brothers apart is its collection that includes very rare editions exciting any book lover.

It is also said that the bookstore, which was set up in 1946, has one of the 27 copies of the American Declaration of Independence printed in June 1776.

We live in a fast paced, globalized world where technology rules or dictates at least a small portion of our daily existence. These bookstores, established in a different era, a different world, still have the magic to take one back to an older, simpler time; sans television, sans internet, sans all technology. So the next time you find yourself looking to escape the mundanity of everyday life, make a visit to any of the bookstores on the list. I promise you won't be disappointed.

Source | <http://www.hindustantimes.com/books/forget-e-books-here-are-the-oldest-bookstores-in-india/article1-1367180.aspx>

Forthcoming Events

Vikram Sarabhai Library, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad in collaboration with Learning Resource Center, Bajaj Auto Library, Indian School of Business is organizing a three day **Global Conference on Emerging Trends in Business Librarianship - ETBL, 2015**, during December 2-4, 2015 at IIM Ahmedabad, India.
