

ADINET e-News Digest

No. 17

February 2016

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HRD Ministry to provide 12,000 free e-books on mobile app

The Union Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry is set to provide 12,000 books in e-format for higher education in the next month under its prestigious e-Pathshala initiative. According to HRD minister Smriti Irani, this study material in the form of books will be available free on a mobile app.

Irani was visiting the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU) here to lay the foundation stone of a women's hostel. Addressing the gathering, she said, "The study material would be related to various subjects and topics for higher education."

The ministry has already made available all NCERT textbooks, from class 1 to 12, in e-format for students. Irani also said that under the ministry's 'Unnat BharatAbhiyan', all higher educational institutions would now have to adopt 10 villages, instead of five, in their vicinity.

Under the scheme, institutes like the IITs, IIMs and central universities have to adopt villages to educate children who do not have access to education.

"The institutions must make sure that they mention in the academic record of every student about his or her participation in the abhiyan," Irani said.

She also assured all financial aid to BBAU and other institutions in implementing the scheme.

Irani also appealed to students to help one needy person each after passing out from their institutions. "After getting their degrees, students are busy searching for a job. This is justified as they have to secure their future and serve their parents. But they must also make sure to help at least one needy person each," she said.

ELink| <http://www.hindustantimes.com/education/hrd-ministry-to-provide-12-000-free-e-books-on-mobile-app/story->

How to disseminate your research via social media

Social media is prevalent in everyday life: in social settings; corporate environments; and within the scholarly community. It is a valuable tool which can help you with your research before, during and after publication. By using social media effectively, you can increase the impact of your work and positively influence communities. Additionally, you can use social media as a means of meeting and sharing ideas with other researchers in your respective field, thereby expanding your scholarly networks.

The important thing to note is that, although social networks are indeed "social" and play an increasingly important part in people's everyday lives, social

media is still underused as a way of disseminating research within the academic community, as many researchers and authors underestimate its importance. Here at Emerald, we are committed to supporting our authors along every step of the academic journey to ensure your research makes the real-world impact it deserves.

As such, we have created some features and tools to help you make best use of the social media platforms freely at your disposal.

By using social media to its full potential, you could:

- Boost the influence your research has within your chosen field
- Create greater interaction and collaboration with other experts in your field on a global scale. This may include people you would not normally have the chance to work with or that you've wanted to network with for some time
- Benefit from the expertise of other researchers that can provide a sounding board for your ideas before, during or after the research process. A bit like an informal version of peer-review, with the main aim being to help enrich your work
- Raise the profile of your research
- Extend the reach of your research to include

publications you may not have originally considered

- Ultimately give your work an enhanced opportunity to have real-world, far-reaching impact
- Social media for authors infographic

A quick-reference guide to help you effectively use social media to disseminate your research is given.

Source| http://www.emeraldgroupublishing.com/promo/social_media.htm

Gandhi Ashram library opens for researchers

TNN | Jan 18, 2016,

Ahmedabad: After a long time, Gandhi Ashram's refurbished library is now open for researchers and scholars for reference work. The library was recently renovated and a new digital library facility too was added. The library consists of a rich collection of 48,000 books and there are nine computer terminals where one can surf through eight lakh pages of digital archive material.

Apart from the ashram's own collection of books, there are books donated by Mahatma Gandhi's close associate Mahadev Desai, then there is Purshottam Mavalankar collection, Gandhian scholar L C Jain's papers, a section also consists of books donated by the Sahitya Academy

and nearly 100 books by short story writer Anjum Hasan.

"The library is open to all who want to do reference work. One can take a 15 day membership for a token fee and read, make copies or take notes," said Sabarmati Ashram director Tridip Suhrud.

Amazing Web 2.0 Projects Book

The purpose of this booklet is to give you some practical ideas about the kinds of things you can do with Web 2.0 technology. Please note: this was not intended to be a compilation of projects using cutting edge applications. I simply invited teachers to share what they have been doing.

In many cases the projects were in their infancy. Also, almost all projects will need following up in some way. For example, what were the longer term benefits, or what exactly was meant by "amazing results"?

Link to E-Book

http://static1.squarespace.com/static/53b7d42de4b04cfc3188c6eb/t/564f731ae4b05d63deec3ccc/1448047386363/Amazing_Web2_Projects.pdf

Publishers can be booked for two years for failing to deposit books in public libraries

A new bill that proposes a two-year jail term for publishers who

fail to deposit their books at four public libraries in India is now with the law ministry for review, reports The Telegraph.

The Deposit of Books, Newspapers and Electronic Publications in Libraries bill aims to replace an old bill of the same nature which did not acknowledge e-books.

According to the bill, a copy of every book published in India has to be sent to the National Library in Kolkata, the Connemara Public Library in Chennai, the Asiatic Society Library in Mumbai and the Delhi Public Library. The idea is to disseminate information among all citizens of India.

While the old law penalised publishers who did not send copies of their books to these libraries, the penalty was simply a fine equivalent to the cost of the book.

The new law envisages a two-year jail term and a fine that is 500 times the cost of the book. However, instead of sending one copy to each of the four public libraries, the new bill allows one copy to the National Library in Kolkata and just one more to any of the other three libraries.

Publishers feel the government has gone too far with this bill, even though they acknowledge that they sometimes do not comply with the law. Rukun Advani of publisher Permanent Black said the jail term is "a draconian measure", while

Karthika VK of HarperCollins India said such a move is unnecessary and added: "There is no conflict of interest here. We all want our books to be immortal. All that is needed is to get systems in place to facilitate the deposit of books."

Japanese library to come up in Aundh

Pune: The shelves are stocked and all arrangements are complete for what is likely to be the biggest Japanese book library in the city.

Initiated by the Science and Technology Park and the Indo-Japan Business Council, Pune, the library would be inaugurated by Yoshiaki Ito, the Consul General of Japan in Mumbai, on Monday in Aundh.

In its first phase, the library would have 5,000 books across seven categories, including novels in basic Japanese for beginners, comics, dictionaries, encyclopedia on history, geography and culture, Japanese food recipe books and management books.

"These are only a fraction of the 27,000 books donated to the Science and Technology Park over the years. But sorting and tagging all the books takes a lot of time and manpower. The library is likely to have around 20,000 books by the end of the year," said Shrikant Atre of the Indo-Japan Business Council, also an assistant professor at Tilak Maharashtra Vidyepeeth (TMV).

The library aims to promote Japanese culture, language and education while serving the Japanese and Indian community. It will not only serve the Japanese language teachers and students, but also those interested in the culture, besides natives of Japan in Pune and companies doing business with Japan.

"Be it science, technology, education or social life, Pune and Japan always enjoyed a special bond. Today, around 200 Japanese people are working in Pune across various companies, industries and associations. Three institutions - Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU), TMV and Indo Japanese Association - offer Japanese language courses and nearly 15,000 people from Pune have learned the language from these institutions.

Around 50 Japanese students are currently residing in Pune and many of them have learned Marathi," said Sudhir Rashingkar, a management committee member of the council.

Source

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/Japanese-library-to-come-up-in>

Aundh/articleshow/50875285.cms

Asiatic Society to digitise one lakh books

MUMBAI: The state government has sanctioned Rs 5 crore for the digitisation of over 1,00,000

books, manuscripts, journals and maps at the library of the Asiatic Society of Mumbai.

An amount of Rs 2.5 crore is to be disbursed to the society this week. The microfilming of pages and the digitisation of content will begin in a few days.

The digitisation programme involves setting up a web portal and over 1,00,000 books, 2,500 manuscripts and 1,200 maps will be uploaded online. The state government's higher and technical education department on Thursday issued a GR announcing the move.

"Besides uploading the content online, it will also be saved in the form of DVDs and microfilms for access of researchers and scholars," said S G Kale, president of library. "The programme will benefit the library as we will not have to handle the books for readers. As many as 15,000 of our books have been categorised as rare and valuable, and are fragile. By making their content available online, we will save the risk of loss of pages."

The library will issue the letter of intent to set up a web portal this week. "It will take around six months to complete the process of setting up the portal and upload viewable content on it," says Kale. "After which, the readers will be able to view the pages online, however, if they will be able to download it is yet to be decided."

The library is also seeking legal opinion about the copyright of books in its possession. "Access to digitised copyright books is an issue we are facing," said an official from the library.

The remaining Rs 2.5 crore will be disbursed after reviewing how the initial half is spent. Kiran Dhulare, Director of libraries, Mumbai is appointed as the sanctioning authority.

GR Link

[|https://www.maharashtra.gov.in/Site/Upload/Government%20Resolutions/English/201602041157591208.pdf](https://www.maharashtra.gov.in/Site/Upload/Government%20Resolutions/English/201602041157591208.pdf)

India's travelling library takes books to people

Started by two bibliophiles, the **Read More India** project aims to encourage the habit of reading among people across the country

So far, Shatabdi Mishra and Akshaya Rautaray have travelled to seven states in India, covering cities.

Passers-by go through the books on display in Read More India's custom-made book truck

Supplied Twenty states, 90 days, 10,000 kilometres — this audacious tour plan involving two determined riders and a truckload of books is the outline of a new mission: to make India read more.

The story begins in January 2014 with bibliophiles Shatabdi Mishra and Akshaya Rautaray setting up Walking BookFairs, an independent bookstore, in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

After a chance meeting in a bookshop and several discussions on the reading habits of people and the lack of availability of books beyond urban areas, both quit their jobs in advertising and publishing to hit the road and travel to remote corners of the state with books. They first backpacked, walked, trekked and travelled by bus and auto-rickshaws to Koraput district, a mineral-rich tribal region in Odisha.

They eventually bought a second-hand van and 1,000 Oriya and English books on credit before embarking on a journey within the state.

“By carrying books to various public places and displaying them on the footpath, bus stops, etc. we wanted the common man to come and have a look at them, to feel, touch and experience them,” says Mishra.

The dearth of public libraries, and shops filled only with textbooks, prompted them to find a way to get stories to people who would otherwise never find them.

Having already covered 30 districts in the state and conducting activities to inspire people to read more, they devised

a more ambitious plan at the end of 2015.

Read More India is a book tour to promote reading and spread the love of books all across the country. The custom-made book truck, which began its journey from Bhubaneswar on December 15, 2015, is designed to hold 4,000 books and is always driven by Mishra (Rautaray never learnt how to drive).

They are the only members of Walking BookFairs and are now traversing the country with their free library, where people can browse, read for free or buy books at 20 per cent discount.

Three publishers — HarperCollins, Pan Macmillan and Parragon — are supporting the tour, while the truck is also carrying books from other publishers such as Speaking Tiger, Westland, Tara Books, Duckbill, Karadi Tales, etc.

All titles are in English (original and translations of regional works) and the duo has been conducting free reading sessions with thousands of school children. They also stop at different locations in the city or town and hold public book displays where people come to browse, read or buy books.

“We have been receiving so many messages from people all over the country about the tour. Many well-wishers have been suggesting that we crowd fund the tour, but we are happy that publishers are partly supporting

this unique initiative, for we believe that the book industry must support bookshops. Booksellers can then reach out to more people everywhere. It is only by acting together that we can spread the love of books all around," says Rautaray.

Their journey has so far taken them through ten states — Odisha, Chhatisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, covering cities such as Nagercoil, Chennai, Auroville, Mumbai, Kanyakumari. At most of the places, such as the newly formed Telangana state, it has been a joyride, with scores of people inviting them to their cities as they follow their trail via Facebook.

However, their van did encounter countless police checkpoints in Bastar district in Chhattisgarh, a hotbed of Communist guerrilla groups, and they were stopped for questioning several times. The tour is now in its eleventh state — Gujarat.

While the routes are mostly mapped out keeping in mind road connectivity in the regions, details such as places to stay the night in every location are sometimes decided at the very end. "Some kind and generous people who have read about us or are following our tour via Facebook have been in touch to host us at various places, but that doesn't happen at all locations. So, we do land up and explore the city,

display the books, then find a decent budget hotel to spend the night and move on," says Mishra.

At some places they had trouble finding wide open spaces to park the truck and display the books, with half the roads being encroached upon by shops, houses, etc. Yet, undeterred, the books-on-wheels rides on, having found a way to reach scores of people across the country even as brick and mortar stores — some of them cultural landmarks — continue to close down due to financial unviability and the impact of e-commerce platforms.

Reading for pleasure remains an alien concept to many and the Indian education system does little to promote literary expression among students. International schools are being built all over the country. Every day, new engineering and management colleges are coming up, but we do not have libraries, we do not have bookshops.

We as a people, as a country, do not think reading books is important. Even when there are good books being published, they don't reach beyond some city bookstores due to poor distribution channels. We have successfully alienated a whole generation of young people from reading, thinking and questioning. We as a society, as citizens, as parents, teachers and friends, have an obligation to inspire and encourage young people to read more books," says Rautaray.

During their first few outings on the streets of Odisha, Mishra and Rautaray also realised that the unique format of their book display allowed many curious and eager readers, who may have felt intimidated by bookshops, to feel at ease and connect with books. For some it was the very first time stories had travelled to them.

Children in particular have found their concept very appealing and the readings they've done at schools remain among the most memorable experiences they've had so far.

A special trip Mishra and Rautaray made before the nationwide tour was to Mayurbhanj district in Odisha where they started the first Walking BookFairs Library in Bisoi Government School for children who were working as child labourers. "These 116 children have been rescued and rehabilitated by the district administration. They now go to school and all of them love stories.

Walking BookFairs helped start a small library for them with a box full of story books and picture books [some of them cannot read yet]," says Mishra. In Bhubaneswar, their book shack, which offers all books at 20 per cent discount throughout the year, has also transformed into a hotspot for authors, poets and well-known writers to host regular reading sessions.

The duo relates an exciting encounter with writer Ruskin

Bond who visited their van in Bhubaneswar and appreciated their initiative.

Bond is among the celebrated authors whose books are part of the tour, as are some of Mishra's and Rautaray's favourites. While she is reading a lot of Indian writers in translation at the moment, Rautaray swears by an all-weather friend — Albert Camus's *The Outsider*.

Their tour culminates on March 15 in Bhubaneswar, after covering the states of Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Bihar, West Bengal and Jharkhand. This nationwide tour is their way of celebrating books, reading, writers, bookshops, booksellers, libraries and publishers.

"There are so many people, especially children, who haven't even seen a story book, let alone read one. This book tour will give people from all sections of the society a chance to explore the world of books, free of cost. We hope to inspire and encourage people everywhere to read more books and to spread the love of books far and wide," says Mishra.

Even as the country is pushing for free internet in rural India, reading books remains a luxury limited to the cities, but even there, more convenient and less engaging pastimes are taking over. As bookstores bemoan the dying breed of book lovers, the Read More India tour is an example of not just how a new

generation of entrepreneurs is building hope for the future, but also how the pleasures of reading can be brought to more people by taking the stories to them.

UN launches electronic library

The UN launched an electronic library, the first comprehensive global search, discovery, and dissemination platform for digital content created by the United Nations, said a UN spokesman on Friday.

To begin with, the United Nations iLibrary, launched by the UN Publications includes publications, journals and series comprising facts and expertise on international peace and security, human rights, economic and social development, climate change, international law, governance, public health, and statistics, said UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric.

In future releases, the platform will also provide access to other resources such as working papers series and statistical databases, said Dujarric.

At its launch, the iLibrary comprises 750 titles in English, and 250 in the other official languages of the United Nations: French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic, he said.

MSSRF's INELI initiative to hone leadership skills of public librarians

Public library professionals, a group of 26 public librarians from across India gathered in the city as part of the first-ever International Network of Emerging Library Innovators (INELI) initiative.

The four-day programme, launched by the M S Swaminathan Research Foundation through the Global Libraries programme of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, concluded here today.

The programme aims to build capacity of public library professionals for changes in the public library landscape in India, with the rationale that access to information facilitates opportunities for people who lack easy access and skills to use relevant information to improve their lives.

A release from MSSRF here said the programme aims to build leadership skills and strengthen the network of library professionals in the country.

"The first batch of 26 professionals from 16 states and two Union Territories had its first convening from February 9 to 12 here", it said.

Forthcoming Seminars

ISKCOM 2016 - International Symposium on Knowledge and Communication " THEME - Future Librarianship : Innovative, Embedded, Sustainable and Emerging Trends" to be held on June 10-11, 2016 at SVKM's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies(NMIMS) Deemed to be University , (Mumbai) at Shirpur Campus, Dist- Dhule (Maharashtra), India.

Conference website:

<http://iskcom.nmims.edu/>

Scientific Information Resource Centre, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Colaba, Mumbai in collaboration with Bombay Science Librarians Association (BOSLA), Mumbai is organising a National Conference on "Future Librarianship: Innovation for Excellence" during 22-23 April, 2016

Conference Website

<http://bosla2013.wix.com/bosla>