

ADINET (Advanced Information Network of Libraries in Gujarat)
e-News Digest

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Library Lovers' Month



Pause & Ponder

“Work hard for what you want because it won’t come to you without a fight. You have to be strong and courageous and know that you can do anything you put your mind to. If somebody puts you down or criticizes you, just keep on believing in yourself and turn it into something positive.”

– Leah LaBelle

ADINET Librarian's Day 2025

Librarians' Day 2025

Commemorating the birth anniversary of
Dr. S. R. Ranganathan
Father of Library Science Movement in India

“
One day national seminar on
**Sustainable Libraries for
Sustainable Rural Futures**
”



Jointly organized by ADINET and IRMA

Saturday, 23 August 2025

09.00 AM Onwards

Venue: IRMA Auditorium, Institute of Rural
Management Anand (IRMA), Anand

**Click on the image to download the
Brochure**

Readers Please Note

Tap the Title to read the full article

Libraries Make Us Happier: New Study Shows



At Valley of the Tetons Library (VTL) we know that libraries aren't just about books—they're about people. A new study from The New York Public Library (NYPL) and the University of Pennsylvania's Positive Psychology Center shows that libraries help people feel happier, more connected, and better prepared for life's challenges.

Libraries Help People Feel Good

The study found that libraries provide a sense of safety, peace, and focus. In fact, 92% of people who visit NYPL said they felt calmer afterward, and 74% said the library helped them handle stress better...

Source: [Teton Valley News, 23 Feb 2025](#)

From ancient emperors to modern presidents, leaders have used libraries to cement their legacies



Here in Atlanta, the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum has been part of my daily life for years. Parks and trails surrounding the center connect my neighborhood to the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Park downtown and everything in between.

At the end of December 2024, thousands of people walked to the library to pay their respects to the former president as he lay in repose. The cold, snow and darkness of the evening were a stark contrast to the warmth of the volunteers who welcomed us in. Our visit spiraled through galleries exhibiting records of Carter's life, achievements and lifelong work promoting democracy around the world.

U.S. presidents have been building libraries for more than 100 years, starting with Rutherford B. Hayes. But the urge to shape one's legacy by building a library runs much deeper. As a scholar of libraries in the Greek and Roman world, I was struck by the similarities between presidential and ancient libraries – some of which were explicitly designed to honor deceased sponsors and played a significant role in their cities...

Source: [The Conversation, 21 Feb 2025](#)

A library in transit: Bhubaneswar airport's free book haven

Travellers passing through Biju Patnaik International (BBI) Airport in Bhubaneswar are being treated to a unique experience with the introduction of Flybrary, India's first 'take a book' airport library.



A collaboration between the Bakul Foundation and the Airports Authority of India, this initiative allows passengers to browse through books and take them along, with the option of returning them on their next visit to the airport. Two bookshelves, one at departures and another at arrivals stock a collection of 600 books, ranging from novels and magazines to self-help books and children's literature in English, Hindi, and Odia.

"The initiative was launched during the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas when we received a very good response and decided to continue it," said Prasanna Pradhan, director of the BBI Airport. A Bakul volunteer visits for an hour daily to take stock of the books, rearrange the shelves, and restock them, as they are emptied daily...

Source: [The Times of India, 20 Feb 2025](#)

University libraries must be 'access brokers', not knowledge repositories

"A library is the university's heart", Essex University's first vice-chancellor Albert Sloman memorably argued in a 1963 BBC Reith Lecture on how his new "university town" would operate.



That position is truer than ever in this age of 24/7 opening hours, laptop-carrying undergraduates and near-instant journal access, but the university library – like most areas of academic life in this climate of institutional cuts – is expected to find savings. That comes despite university libraries already slashing an estimated £51 million from their budgets this year, according to a recent analysis by the Society for College, National and University Libraries.

These upcoming savings rounds will hit library collections budgets first and foremost. That will mean we cannot act like a library of record or keep up with the exploding rates of scholarly journals and articles being published. A different approach is needed...

Source: [Times Higher Education, 19 Feb 2025](#)

Decline in reading habit



In an era when the tactile pleasure of turning a page is swiftly being replaced by the tap of a screen, the age-old adage 'Books are man's best friend' seems to be fading into obscurity.

Once, books were cherished companions, offering solace and insight across the spectrum of human emotions — joy, sorrow, excitement and despair. Today, however, the omnipresence of smartphones and the allure of social media have diverted both students and adults from the enriching habit of reading.

A recent study by the National Literacy Trust has revealed an alarming decline in reading habits among children in India. According to the survey, only 34.6 per cent of children aged 8 to 18 enjoy reading in their free time, a sharp drop from previous years. Experts warn that the decline is not just about books — it reflects a broader shift in cognitive and social engagement among the younger generation...

Source: [The Tribune, 11 Feb 2025](#)

55 libraries in Coimbatore district to get additional buildings



Coimbatore: Fifty-five libraries across the Coimbatore district will get new

buildings with an outlay of 12.1 crore from the Union government.

"We have identified 55 libraries that have enough space to construct additional buildings, each measuring 500 square feet, at a cost of ₹22 lakh per unit. In some libraries with structurally strong buildings supported by pillars, an additional floor will be constructed," district library officer Rajendran said.

Twelve libraries in the city will get new buildings under the scheme. The new buildings will come up in libraries at Ramanathapuram, Sowripalayam, Peelamedu, Kuniyamuthur, Uppilipalayam, Papanaikenpudur, Thudiyalur, RS Puram, Singanallur, Avarampalayam, IOB Colony, and Vellakinaru.

All newly constructed buildings will have ramps for easy access for persons with disabilities and toilet facilities. In addition to these expansions, 15 old libraries will undergo renovation...

Source: [The Times of India, 11 Feb 2025](#)

Four simple – yet difficult – steps for reforming Indian archives and libraries



India has a curious relationship with its history.

On the one hand, Indians have politicised history to an extent that is

probably unparalleled anywhere else in the world. Where else do events from hundreds or even thousands of years ago –both real and imagined – exert such a pull on contemporary affairs?

On the other hand, modern India has exhibited stunning neglect when it comes to preserving its past. This is particularly evident in its archives and libraries, both private and government-administered. As a historian of modern India, I have had ample opportunity to compare India's record of historical preservation with those of other societies. What I have observed has deeply worried me.

About a decade ago, I wrote a series for the New York Times on the precarious state of Indian archives and libraries, places where priceless documents were left to rot, disintegrate, and be consumed by termites and vermin – or simply be stolen or misplaced. At the time, India's archival landscape appeared to be on the cusp of change. Important government institutions were entrusted to capable individuals. There was a dawning realisation that methods of preservation, cataloging and storage needed an urgent, if belated, rethink...

Source: [Scroll.in, 07 Feb 2025](#)

The misalignment of incentives in academic publishing and implications for journal reform

Abstract:

For most researchers, academic publishing serves two goals that are often misaligned—knowledge dissemination and establishing scientific credentials. While both goals can encourage research with significant depth and scope, the latter can also pressure scholars to maximize publication metrics. Commercial publishing companies have capitalized

on the centrality of publishing to the scientific enterprises of knowledge dissemination and academic recognition to extract large profits from academia by leveraging unpaid services from reviewers, creating financial barriers to research dissemination, and imposing substantial fees for open access. We present a set of perspectives exploring alternative models for communicating and disseminating scientific research. Acknowledging that the success of new publishing models depends on their impact on existing approaches for assigning academic credit that often prioritize prestigious publications and metrics such as citations and impact factors, we also provide various viewpoints on reforming academic evaluation...

Source: [PNAS, 27 Jan 2025](#)

New ALA Initiative Asks Advocates to “Show Up for Our Libraries”



Washington – Today the American Library Association (ALA) launched Show Up for Our Libraries, a campaign to harness the collective power of library advocates to influence elected leaders and policymakers.

ALA President Cindy Hohl said, “Many library advocates are rightfully concerned about what the next four years hold for our nation’s libraries. Libraries – and many people we serve – are facing unprecedented challenges and uncertainty.

“The Show Up for Our Libraries campaign is a deliberate and well-thought-out plan that calls us to move from awareness to action. Our call is not a knee-jerk response to imminent threats. We must face whatever threats come our way by showing up together – library workers and public supporters in our communities – to advocate for our patrons, our profession and our core values.”

ALA kicked off the campaign with a proactive call for library advocates to get their elected leaders on the record about how they plan to protect the freedom to read and how they will support federal funding for libraries. An email from ALA’s Public Policy and Advocacy Office urged advocates to personalize their communications with legislators, noting “Research shows that individualized messages are five times more likely than commonly used templates to influence a legislator’s decision.”

Show Up for Our Libraries was launched on the heels of new leadership in the White House and the start of the 119th Congress. President Trump has already issued numerous executive orders, including those related to DEI, such as “Ending Radical And Wasteful Government DEI Programs And Preferencing.” ALA is analyzing them for possible action, preferably in conjunction with national partners. While the president has wide latitude in issuing these orders, many already are being challenged in the courts, and others may require Congressional action...

Source: [ALA, 22 Jan 2025](#)

**This issue has been compiled by the
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