

# ADINET e-News Digest

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## PAUSE & PONDER

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted”

Aesob

## Swipe to Visit' has arrived on Google Images

### AMP-enabled sites will display as previews on image search results.

Google has launched “Swipe to Visit,” an Images search feature that displays a preview of an AMP-enabled website’s header after a user selects an image result. The user can then swipe up on the preview to load the image’s corresponding web page.

Visual searches allow users to efficiently scan and compare many offerings. Capturing high-quality images and optimizing them for search provides one more way for brands to attract users to their websites. This new UI feature may help AMP-enabled publishers get more traffic from their photos by putting their websites a single swipe away.

### More on the news

First announced at I/O earlier this year, Swipe to Visit makes use of AMP’s pre-rendering to generate a preview of the associated website.

By swiping up on the preview, the user will be taken to the corresponding page and the publisher will receive a page view.

Google has said that publishers already supporting AMP don’t need to take any further action to enable Swipe to Visit on their images.

Over the coming weeks, traffic data from AMP in Google Images will also be viewable in a Search Console

performance report in a new search area called “AMP on Image result.”

Source | <https://searchengineland.com/>

## Library of Congress makes available online rare 2,000-year-old text of early Buddhism

Washington, Jul 29 (IBNS): The Gandhara Scroll, one of the world’s oldest Buddhist manuscripts, has been restored and made available online by the Library of Congress (LoC), Washington, LoC reports said.

The Gandhara Scroll, a manuscript dating back to around the first century B.C., offers insight into early Buddhist history. “This is a unique item because it is very old compared to similar manuscripts and, as such, it does bring us, historically speaking, relatively close to the lifetime of the Buddha,” says Jonathan Loar, reference librarian in the Asian Division at the LoC. The scroll is available for viewing at [loc.gov/item/2018305008](http://loc.gov/item/2018305008).

The scroll originates from Gandhara, an ancient Buddhist region located in what is now the northern border areas of Afghanistan and Pakistan, and tells the story of Buddhas who came before and after Siddhartha Gautama, the religious leader on whose teachings Buddhism was founded. Gautama had reached enlightenment under the Bodhi tree in eastern India around the fifth century B.C.

Richard Salomon, director of the British Library-University of Washington Early Buddhist Manuscripts Project, said that Gautama’s scroll is about 80 percent complete compared to the other more fragmentary Gandharan manuscripts known to scholars.

Only the very beginning and end are missing in the Gautama’s scroll of LoC. Digitizing the Gandhara Scroll was very complicated as the scroll arrived folded and packed in an ordinary pen case. Due to the fragility of the scroll, an unrolling

technique on a dried-up cigar facilitated the conservators to work with a compacted birch bark scroll.

“Digitizing the scroll offers both scholars and Buddhist communities worldwide access to a lesser-known part of Buddhist history,” Loar said. “This being as old as it is and also one of only a couple of hundred Gandharan manuscripts known to scholars means the Library’s scroll can shed new light on Buddhism’s formative period.”

Founded in 1928, the Asian Division of LoC currently holds of more than 4 million physical items in over 130 different Asian languages found in seven collections: Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, South Asian, Southeast Asian and Tibetan.

LoC, the world’s largest library offering access to the creative record of the United States as well as extensive materials from around the world both on-site and online, is the main research arm of the U.S. Congress and the home of the U.S. Copyright Office.

Source | <https://www.indiablooms.com>

### **CISF launches encyclopedia to strengthen security services Portal includes videos, case studies**

The Central Industrial Security Force launched an online encyclopaedia — Securitypedia — which incorporates a wide gamut of security-related practices across the globe.

The CISF has established a technical lab at National Industrial Security Academy (NISA) in Hyderabad to maintain and update technical knowledge about the latest innovations in the field safety and security that can be used in places like airports and government offices, he added. The technical lab has a dedicated research and development wing manned by a team of officers with a technical

background, who maintain a constant interface with various academic and research institutions and other professional agencies, said a CISF official.

“Depending upon the outreach and feedback, the Securitypedia will be made accessible to other paramilitary forces,” he said, adding that moving ahead with digital India, there was a need to empower the personnel by making technical knowledge available to them at the click of a button.

“It is not just a static website containing data archives but a platform where CISF officials can contribute by writing blogs on professional issues. It has been developed as a repository of knowledge and contains extensive information on technical learning, CISF manuals, case studies, technical compendium, etc,” said the official. There is also a feature in Securitypedia — CISF Tube — where officials can find all videos relevant to CISF. To streamline the monitoring of field units on a day-to-day basis, they have developed an innovative dashboard that provides real-time data collection.

Source | <https://www.thehindu.com>

### **Cisco partners Google to roll out free, high-speed WiFi zones in India**

**Under the partnership, Cisco is providing the network infrastructure & about 25 locations already live in Bengaluru & another 200 locations will go live in the next 2-3 months in the city**

US networking giant Cisco on Monday said it is collaborating with [Google](#) for its 'g-Station' offering that provides access to free and high-speed WiFi at public locations across the country. Under the partnership, Cisco is providing the network infrastructure and about 25 locations already live in Bengaluru and another 200 locations will go live in the next 2-3 months in the city.

These locations include public spaces like bus stops, hospitals and government offices among others. Post that, it will be extended to 300 more locations in Bengaluru, and more cities in the country as well.

"This is a global partnership and India is the first country, where we are rolling this out," Cisco President (India and SAARC) Sameer Garde said at the Cisco India Summit 2019.

The project is being rolled out in partnership with D-VoiS - an Internet service provider in Bengaluru. The next locations being looked at include outskirts of Delhi, and few cities in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.

"The success of digitization and digital citizen services is closely tied to the proliferation of high-speed internet. The partnership represents a significant growth opportunity as the demand for public Wi-Fi hotspots is expected to go up by 100X over the next three years," he said.

According to a **TRAI** (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India) report, an estimated 8 million additional hotspots need to be installed to create new market opportunities for infrastructure providers and internet service providers. Currently, India has only 52,000 WiFi hotspots.

"Solving for access is one of the core pillars of our 'Next Billion Users' strategy, and with g-Station we have developed a best in class **Public WiFi** solution that provides a seamless, high-quality broadband experience to users," said Sajith Sivanandan, MD and Business Head, Google Pay and Next Billion User Initiatives, India.

The proliferation of **Public WiFi** in India can provide a significant boost to the government's digital ambitions of ubiquitous connectivity and digital inclusion, and serve as a complementary network for telecom [companies](#).

According to the Cisco VNI report, nearly 59 per cent of internet traffic is expected to be offloaded from cellular networks to WiFi by 2022, wherein lies the tremendous opportunity for ubiquitous dispersion of WiFi.

Google, through 'g-Station', provides WiFi services in public locations in partnership with various entities. Google Station is currently at close to 1,000 locations in India and has over eight million monthly active users across India.

These locations include 400 railway stations (in partnership with RailTel) across India, 150 locations in Pune (as part of the Pune Smart City Project) and 500 locations in Bengaluru announced on Monday.

Google said two-thirds of the users of the WiFi services are in 19-34 years age group. The largest observed use cases of public wifi at railway stations are for online video consumption, social networking, searching for information, buying tickets, online banking and e-commerce. Apart from India, Google has taken the Google Station model to other countries like Indonesia, Nigeria, Thailand and Mexico as well.

**Source** | <https://www.business-standard.com>

### **Over 77,000 feedback letters on draft National Education Policy**

### **About 5% useful; about 25% of letters on teacher recruitment norms**

The Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry has received more than 77,000 comments and letters on the draft National Education Policy (NEP), according to HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank. "About 5% of the feedback received so far is useful, and will be taken into account," said a senior HRD Ministry official. The Centre has been sifting through the recommendations and

will take the next few weeks to make changes to the draft before it is submitted for Cabinet approval.

According to Ministry sources, the largest number of letters received so far — about a quarter of the total — came from a campaign opposing the draft NEP's proposal to change school teacher recruitment norms.

### **Scathing assessment**

The draft policy is scathing in its assessment of current teacher recruitment procedures. "There are few initiatives that explicitly aim to recruit the best performing students, or those that have the most talent for teaching, into the teaching profession. In particular, current teacher recruitment does not involve any interviews or classroom demonstrations that assess motivation and passion; written examinations such as the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) often have little correlation with teaching ability," it said.

Recommending a complete overhaul of the system, the draft NEP says that the TETs must be strengthened "through improved test material correlated to capacities of outstanding teachers, both in terms of content and pedagogy." It also calls for National Testing Agency scores in relevant subjects to be taken into account for recruitment of subject teachers. "Finally, in order to gauge passion and motivation for teaching, a classroom demonstration or interview will become an integral part of teacher hiring at schools and school complexes; these interviews would also be used to assess comfort and proficiency in teaching in the local language, so that every school / school complex has at least some teachers who can converse with students in the local language," says the draft.

### **Unions opposed**

Teachers unions have opposed these moves and organized a campaign to send their feedback to the Ministry. The draft NEP's recommendation to close down a

large number of substandard teacher training institutes has also come under fire, given that local political interests are often involved in the management of these institutions, according to senior HRD Ministry officials.

Private schools have strongly objected to the recommendation of School Management Committees being extended to unaided institutions, arguing that they would usurp their autonomy and independence. HRD Ministry officials conceded that this recommendation may be changed in the final policy.

While further consultations with all State Education Ministers are scheduled to be held after the end of this Parliament session, initial feedback from States on the school education section have been optimistic about the general thrust of the Policy, but skeptical about implementation, said a senior official.

**Source | [The Hindu](#) | 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

### **A "Tree Library" – New Concept**

#### **Library in New Town to learn about trees**

The three acre plot for the library is in Action Area 1D

A "tree library" has come up in New Town where, like in a library of books, visitors will be able to familiarize themselves and find basic information about trees.

The three acre plot for the library is in Action Area 1D. If travelling from Kolkata Gate to Balaka Abasan, the plot is on the left hand side. It was inaugurated by officials of Housing and Infrastructure Development Corporation (Hidco), New Town Kolkata Development Authority, forest department & pollution control board.

The dignitaries planted 13 saplings behind which were written the trees' common

name, botanical name, the name of the person planting it & the date of planting. There were trees like arjun, karanja, amlaki, jarul and rubber installed.

“How many urban youths can identify a tree these days? They won’t even know the difference between Krishnachura and Radhachura. “This library would be the first step to building a relationship with greenery.”

The residents of Snehodiya, the senior citizen’s home nearby, have also been roped in. “The idea is to leave the world to the next generation as good as, if not better than, what we received. So who better to hand down the wealth of trees to the youth than our elderly citizens?” Sen said, adding that Snehodiya residents would henceforth be planting a tree each here.

“In the *Vriksh ayurveda* treatise, it is mentioned that the value of digging 10 wells is equivalent to that of creating a small water body. Creating 10 small water bodies is equivalent to creating a lake. Creating 10 lakes is equivalent to begetting a son. And 10 sons are equivalent to one tree. This is how precious plants are and I’m delighted to be a part of this ceremony today,” said Chattopadhyay, planting a karanja.

Kalyan Rudra, chairman, state pollution control board, shared how on a trip to the high altitude Ladakh, a friend developed breathing problems and had to buy a cylinder of oxygen. “It had cost him Rs. 400 and lasted about half an hour. By that calculation round-the-clock oxygen would cost us Rs. 19,200 a day! So I urge everyone to save plants that provide us oxygen for free.”

Forest range officer Biswanath Sengupta said that the library would have space to hold 1,100 to 1,200 trees which would be looked after by the forest department.

Source| <https://www.telegraphindia.com/>

## Indian universities get free access to Urkund software

### Swedish software was chosen through a global tender process

All universities in India, public & private, have been given trial access to anti-plagiarism software Urkund August 2.

Final subscription to access the Swedish software will begin from September 1, 2019, according to a notice from the University Grants Commission (UGC).

UGC Notice Available at | <https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/7680776-UGC-letter-req-PDS.pdf>

## Vice President Naidu call attention to strengthening library movement

New Delhi, Aug 4 (IBNS): Vice President of India M. Venkiah Naidu called for strengthening library movement from universities to villages and said it should become a jan andolan on the lines of Swachh Bharat and BetiBachao, BetiPadao programmes.

### According to Naidu

He said that **libraries were temples of knowledge.**

For centuries India was once known as Vishwaguru and **our ancient Universities were treasure houses of knowledge.**

People from across the globe **used to come to India to learn and enrich their knowledge.**

Shri Naidu said that **books were greatest sources of transmission of culture.**

“**Books are our intellectual and cultural capital.** They are parts of our intangible heritage”, he added.



The Vice President said that the **habit of reading should be inculcated among students from a young age.**

Naidu also **advised the students to shun sedentary lifestyle and junk food.**

He also emphasized that one **should never forget one's mother, native place, mother tongue, motherland and the Guru,** who provided knowledge and wisdom.

Naidu said that **libraries must become vibrant places of learning and become forums for promotion of knowledge and literary issues.**

In order to retain the **relevance of library in the age of Google,** Naidu said that it was **essential to undertake digitization of libraries** for easy access to students, researchers and others.

Saying that students require holistic education and skills that equip them to face the challenges of the 21st century, the Vice President urged **Universities and educational institutions to change their teaching methods and curricula.**

Calling upon Indian educational institutions to match international standards, the Vice President said that **famous universities of ancient India such as the Magadh University have made India the 'Vishwaguru'.**

Saying that India **generously shared its wisdom for the betterment of the humanity all over the world,** he stressed that **India never considered its knowledge as 'Intellectual property,** and shared it with larger world."

The Vice President called upon **universities and higher education institutions to strive for achieving highest standards and recapture the past glory to make India the Vishwaguru again.**

Extracted from | [Vice President Naidu calls for strengthening library](#)

[movement | Indiablooms - First Portal on Digital News Management](#)

## **Developing Global Public Library Leaders**

Investing in the development of librarians is important because they are a significant reason for the greatness libraries provide to the communities and visitors they support and teach. This week's post is written by Dr. Gopal Mohan Shukla, a librarian with the Government Public Library in Allahabad, India. In his post Dr. Gopal discusses [...]

The post [Developing Global Public Library Leaders](#) appeared first on [Princh](#).

[Read more »](#)

## **Mobile Libraries – More than Brick and Mortar**

Mobile libraries are an advantageous addition to libraries and a library's services. It is something that, if feasible, should be implemented. Globally, there are libraries facing challenges like activating non-users of the library as well as extending the "reach" of the library in effort to allow the resources therein to be obtainable by everyone. [...]

The post [Mobile Libraries – More than Brick and Mortar](#) appeared first on [Princh](#).

[Read more »](#)

## **17 Great Books for Anyone Who Wants to Get Ahead in Life**

Why read? It's a practice widely held by high achievers who get ahead by learning from the wisdom of others.

The quest for continual self-improvement is certainly high on the list of the many things which set successful people apart from everybody else. That's why high achievers tend to be readers who get ahead by learning from the wisdom of others. If that's you, here are several titles to consider, according to top executives.

[Full Post](#)

### **The Radical Transformation of the Textbook**

For several decades, textbook publishers followed the same basic model: Pitch a hefty tome of knowledge to faculty for inclusion in lesson plans; charge students an equally hefty sum; revise and update its content as needed every few years. Repeat. But the last several years have seen a shift at colleges and universities—one that has more recently turned tectonic.

**Full Info | [The Radical Transformation of the Textbook](#)**

### **Varsities should send teachers on sabbatical leave for pursuing research: UGC panel**

**Universities and colleges should develop action plans to send mid-career teachers on sabbatical leave for pursuing research and writing, a panel set up by the UGC has recommended.**

Universities and colleges should develop action plans to send mid-career teachers on sabbatical leave for pursuing research and writing, a panel set up by the University Grants Commission (UGC) has recommended.

The four-member committee on “Promoting and improving quality of research in Indian universities and

colleges” headed by professor P Balaram, former director, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, recently submitted its report to the commission.

“The UGC should encourage and support state universities and affiliated colleges to put in place a rigorous but generous program that would offer sabbatical leave to mid-career teachers for pursuing research and writing books and monographs which consolidated accumulated original research knowledge,” the panel said in its report.

The report said mid-career national level sabbatical awards on a competitive basis for a year may be introduced enabling 50-100 faculty-members to pursue research which may also provide an opportunity for faculty to build collaborative contacts with major national and international institutions.

“Such opportunities must be mandated in both public and private institutions,” the report said.

Developing classroom pedagogy, curricula and system of assessment, promoting academic integrity, remedial teaching, encouraging vernacular languages, use of technology and media platforms and policy internships, are among the other recommendations made by the committee.

**Source | [Hindustan Times](#) | 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

### **Two buses to become mobile labs for 800 students in city**

Over the next two months, two buses will turn into mobile laboratories that encourage creative thinking for students studying in 12 city schools that are run by the civic body or the government.

The buses have been termed makerspaces — a collaborative workspace with learning aids — and will be operated by two trainers from the



Bengaluru-based NGO Agastya International Foundation (AIF) who will provide hands-on tutorials for schoolchildren to design, experiment, build and invent.

The bus has tablets, computers, a 3D printer, construction tool kits and other devices which will be used by teachers to conduct training sessions.

Sessions will be conducted at schools such as Dr. BR Ambedkar School at Worli, Abhudyaya Nagar School at Lalbaug, New Sion Municipal School and Collectors Colony Municipal School at Chembur and others.

These "Banao Buses" will reach out to around 800 students in the city, before heading to Navi Mumbai.

"Today, everyone is talking about the application and integration of sciences, which eventually help create start-ups. If these children can be trained to innovate early in their lives, it will change their perspective of looking at things," said Harshali Khandekar, senior program leader with AIF.

Shreekanth Singare, a teacher from BPE Society High School, Bandra, said, "Students have started applying practical knowledge to theory, which helps increase their interest in studies."

**Source | [Hindustan Times](#) | 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

**Information for this issue has been provided by Mr. Pralhad Jadhav, Senior Librarian, Khaitan & Co. Mumbai**