



INFLIBNET NEWSLETTER

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Editorial Board

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IndCat
<https://indcat.inflibnet.ac.in/>

SOUL
<https://soul.inflibnet.ac.in/>

VIDWAN
<https://vidwan.inflibnet.ac.in/>

e-ShodhSindhu
<https://ess.inflibnet.ac.in/>

N-LIST (E-resources for College)
<https://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/>

InfiStats: Usage Statistics Portal for e-Resource
<https://infistat.inflibnet.ac.in/>

Indian Research Information Network System
<https://irins.org/irins/>

She Research Network in India (SheRNI)
<https://sherni.inflibnet.ac.in/>

e-PG Pathshala
<https://epgp.inflibnet.ac.in/>

Vidya-Mitra: Integrated e-content Portal
<https://vidyamitra.inflibnet.ac.in/>

INFLIBNET's Institutional Repository
<https://ir.inflibnet.ac.in/>

Shodhganga
<https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/>

ICT Skill Development Programmes
<https://hrd.inflibnet.ac.in/>

INFED
<https://parichay.inflibnet.ac.in/>

INFLIBNET Learning Management Service
<https://www.inflibnet.ac.in/ilms/>



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निदेशक की कलम से From Director's Desk



Dear Readers

I am glad to present the first quarter issue of the INFLIBNET Newsletter for 2025. As we have just entered 2025, I take this opportunity to acknowledge that over the past year, we have made significant progress together at the INFLIBNET Centre. Now it is time to envision, plan, and work towards a fulfilling year in 2025, and the team at the Centre is eagerly looking forward to contributing towards it.

The Centre is proud to announce its much-awaited biennial international convention: the 14th International Convention on Automation of Libraries in Education and Research Institutions (CALIBER 2025), scheduled to take place at Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, India, from 17th to 19th November 2025. The INFLIBNET Centre is jointly organising it in collaboration with Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati. The convention theme is "Library 2047: Democratizing Knowledge Towards Viksit Bharat".

During the quarter, the Centre successfully hosted its Open Day, an annual event commemorating Foundation Day, on 27th February 2025. In the event, the achievements, initiatives, and contributions of the Centre in advancing library and information services, digital infrastructure, and academic research support that contribute to the advancement of the country's higher education sector are showcased. During the event, the Centre officially launched its Mobile App and WhatsApp Service, aimed at enhancing accessibility, communication, and user engagement with its extensive suite of academic and research services. The event witnessed more than 300 participants across the country.

The INFLIBNET Centre officially signed the Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with the Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa, on 20th February 2025, and with Gujarat Technical University (GTU), Gandhinagar, on 21st March 2025, to ensure the seamless implementation and effective use of INFLIBNET services for the stakeholders of the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE), specifically the colleges under the DHE in Goa, and for GTU Stakeholders, respectively.

Until the reported period, the Centre had created 1,521 IRINS instances for institutions, including 100 instances created during the reporting period. A total of 159 universities have signed up for an MoU with the INFLIBNET Centre until the reported period to use Shodh-Chakra, including 14 universities that signed up for an MoU during the period under report. The number of theses deposited into the Shodhganga repository has grown to 596,034+, with 19,303 theses uploaded during the reported period. 958 (848 universities + 110 CFTIs/INIs) have signed MoUs on Shodhganga with the INFLIBNET Centre, including 15 MoUs during the reported period. Furthermore, as per the recommendation of the newly constituted Shodhganga National Steering Committee (SNSC), the Centre is working towards revamping Shodhganga and migrating to a newer software version. The inclusion of ORCID and Plagiarism Reports has been made mandatory for uploading along with thesis chapters/files into

Shodhganga from January 2025 onwards. In PDS: ShodhShuddhi, as of 31st March 2025, a total of 51,64,480 documents have been submitted for checking similarity and plagiarism from 1,150 (864 active) Universities/Institutions since inception.

During the reported period, a total of 4,135 stakeholders registered through the ISBN portal, and 11,236 applications for ISBN allotment were received. A total of 154,870 ISBNs were allocated to stakeholders and publishers.

Under its HRD initiatives, the INFLIBNET Centre regularly conducts specialised training programmes and workshops, both offline and online, to train participants from various institutions nationwide. During the reported quarter, the Centre conducted two five-day training programmes (172nd and 173rd Offline) on "SOUL 3.0: Installation and Operations" from 20th - 24th January 2025, and 03rd - 07th March 2025, respectively. Two (02) specialised training programmes: one Three-Day Advanced Training Programme on Ethical Issues and Use of Plagiarism Detection in Research from 03rd - 05th February 2025, and one Three-Day Workshop on Research Information Management System (RIMS), from 19th - 21st March 2025, were organised at the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar.

The Centre conducted three INFLIBNET Regional Training Programmes on Library Automation (IRTPLA-2025) jointly organised with Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, from 13th - 17th January 2025; Dr. S. R. Ranganathan Institute of Library and Information Science, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi, from 03rd - 07th February 2025; and Dr. V.S. Krishna Government Degree College (A), Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, from 24th - 28th March 2025.

Furthermore, during the reported period, the Centre conducted six institutional training programmes on Shodh-Chakra and three training programmes on ILMS. On behalf of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, the Transgender & Beggary Division of the National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), 24 Training Programmes on the National Portal for Transgender Persons for District Magistrates/Collectors and concerned officials, were conducted through the INFLIBNET Centre during the reported period. A one-day awareness programme on Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS) was also held, co-organised by the DLIS, Central University of Tamil Nadu, on 21st March 2025.

The INFLIBNET Centre proudly celebrated International Women's Day with a special segment on the SheRNI portal on 10th March 2025. Following that, the Centre conducted a Sensitization Programme related to sexual harassment of women at work (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redress) on 18th March 2025, in its Auditorium. Dr. Prachi Motiyani, WDC & ICC, Member Secretary, HOD-School of Law (Gujarat University), delivered an insightful address on the Topic "Gender Sensitisation: Transforming Perspectives, Creating Change" during the programme. A total of 120 staff members attended the sensitisation Programme.

The INFLIBNET Centre celebrated Sports Week from 16th to 23rd January 2025 for its staff members, and celebrated the 76th Republic Day on 26th January 2025, at its premises. Basant Panchami was also celebrated on 02nd February 2025 in the Centre.

I am confident that readers will enjoy this issue of the INFLIBNET Newsletter.

Best wishes to you all!

Thank you.



(Prof. Devika P. Madalli)

INFLIBNET Training Programmes/Workshops

172nd Five-Day Training Programme on SOUL 3.0: Installation and Operations, INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, 20th - 24th January 2025

The 172nd five-day Training Programme on "SOUL 3.0: Installation and Operations" was organised at the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, from January 20th to 24th, 2025. Sh. Manoj Kumar K, Scientist-F (CS), INFLIBNET Centre, inaugurated the training programme. Sh. Yatrik Patel, Scientist-E (CS) and Technical Coordinator, briefed about the training programme. Mrs. Hema Cholin, Scientist-B (LS)

and Sh. Vijaykumar Shrimali, Scientist-B (CS), were the course coordinator and joint coordinator. A total number of 24 participants attended the training programme. A local educational tour was arranged at Gandhinagar and Ahmedabad for the benefit of participants.



Participants of the 172nd Five-Day Training Programme on SOUL 3.0 Installation and Operations at INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar

The details of lectures delivered by staff members of the INFLIBNET Centre are as follows:

Module	Resource Person
INFLIBNET Activities & Services	Dr. H. G. Hosamani, Former Scientist-E (LS)
Administration Module	Mr. Vijay Shrimali, Scientist-B (CS)
Catalogue Module	Ms. Roshni Yadav, STO-I (LS)
Circulation Module	Mrs. Hema Cholin, Scientist-B (LS)
Acquisition Module	Dr. H. G. Hosamani, Former Scientist-E (LS)
Serial Control Module	Mrs. Arti Sawale, STO-I (LS)
SOUL 3.0 Installation	Mr. Divyakant Vaghela, Scientist-D (CS)
SOUL 3.0 Web OPAC & Backup	Mr. Swapnil Patel, Scientist-D (CS)
Hands-on Practice	Mrs. Hema Cholin, Scientist-B (LS) Mr. Viraj Parekh, Library Officer (LS) Mr. Rajan Pandey, Library Associate (LS) Ms. Rose Mary, Library Associate (LS) Ms. Shijina, Library Associate (LS) Ms. Harsha Pareek, Library Associate (LS) Ms. Satish Kumar, Library Associate (LS)

In the valedictory session, Sh. Ashok Kumar Rai, Scientist-F (CS), INFLIBNET Centre, distributed the certificates to participants. Dr. H. G. Hosamani, Former Scientist-E (LS), shared his valuable

experience with positive concluding remarks on the programme. The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Ms. Amrita Devi, Scientist-B (LS).

Three-Day Advanced Training Programme on Ethical Issues and Use of Plagiarism Detection in Research, INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, 03rd - 05th February 2025

A three-day Advanced Training Programme on Ethical Issues and the Use of Plagiarism Detection in Research was organised at the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, from 3rd to 5th February 2025. Hon'ble Director of the INFLIBNET Centre, Prof Devika P Madalli, inaugurated the programme in the presence of University Coordinators of Shodhganga & ShodhShuddhi, Research Scholars, Professors and Library

Professionals from various Universities and Institutes from India. In her inaugural address, she emphasised that the training aims to promote academic integrity and equip researchers with essential skills for ethical research practices. She also urged universities to establish the 'INFLIBNET Research Corner' to enhance access to vital research services for the academic and research community.



Participants of Advanced Training Programme on Ethical Issues and Use of Plagiarism Detection in Research, INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar

Mr Manoj Kumar K, Scientist-F (CS) at the INFLIBNET Centre and in charge of the project, coordinated the programme and delivered the welcome address. He provided a brief program overview and outlined UGC policies and guidelines, emphasising their critical role in addressing plagiarism issues within the academic

community. Dr Surbhi welcomed the participants and provided an overview of the programme, emphasising that the session would be more practical. At the end of the Inaugural session, Mr Rajan Kumar proposed a formal vote of thanks to all the dignitaries and invited participants.

Details of the lectures delivered by the Faculty of the INFLIBNET Centre and resource persons during the training programme are as follows:

Topics	Name of Resource Person
An Overview of INFLIBNET Activities	Mr. Manoj Kumar K, Scientist-F (CS)
Introduction to Research Ethics/Academic Honesty & Plagiarism Issues: UGC Policies & Guidelines	Mr. Manoj Kumar K, Scientist-F (CS)
Demo on DrillBit Extreme Plagiarism Detection Software	Mr Jayanna Belavadi (DrillBit Extreme)
Assessing and Evaluating Research Performance: Bibliometrics Indicators	Dr. Kruti Trivedi, Scientist-D (LS)

Topics	Name of Resource Person
Introduction to Shodhganga/ShodhShuddhi	Dr. Surbhi, Scientist-C (LS)
Use of Reference Management Tools: Mendeley, Zotero, etc. & Writing Research Report	Dr Miteshkumar Pandya, Dy. Librarian, (NFSU)
Introduction to INFED and Usage Analysis	Mr. Raja V, Scientist-C (CS)
IRINS: Indian Research Information Network System (RIMS) & An Overview of (ORCID)	Dr Kannan P, Scientist-E (LS)
Statistical Methods for Research & Data Analysis using R/Jamovi	Mr. Hitesh Solanki, Scientist-C (CS)
Introduction to ShodhChakra: A Gateway to Researchers for Resources	Dr. Abhishek Kumar, Scientist-E (CS)
Demo of Theses uploading and Introduction to Shodhgangotri and Synopses Uploading	Mr. Rajan Kumar, Scientist-C (LS)
Hands-on practice on PDS/Shodhganga	Team PDS/Shodhganga

Twenty-six (26) participants from 07 States of India attended the programme. The certificate of participation was distributed to all participants at the end of the programme. The participants gave

very good feedback about the overall training as well as for all sessions and lectures conducted, along with canteen and logistic support.

173rd Five-Day Offline Training Programme on "SOUL 3.0: Installation and Operations, INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, 03rd - 07th March 2025

The 173rd five-day training programme, "SOUL 3.0: Installation and Operations," was organised from March 3rd to 7th, 2025, at the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar. Prof. Devika P. Madalli, Director of the INFLIBNET Centre, inaugurated the training programme. Ms. Amrita Devi, Scientist- B

(LS), warmly welcomed the dignitaries and participants. Technical Coordinator Sh. Yatrik Patel, Scientist-E (CS), briefed about the training programme. Mrs. Hema Cholin, Scientist-B (LS), and Ms. Roshni Yadav, STO-I (LS), served as the course coordinator and joint coordinator.

The details of lectures delivered by staff members of the INFLIBNET centre are as follows:

Module	Resource Person
INFLIBNET Activities & Services	Mr. Manoj Kumar K, Scientist-F (CS)
Administration Module	Mr. Vijay Shrimali, Scientist-B (CS)
Catalogue Module	Ms. Roshni Yadav, STO-I (LS)
Circulation Module	Mrs. Hema Cholin, Scientist-B (LS)

Acquisition Module	Dr. H. G. Hosamani, Ex. Scientist-E (LS)
Serial Control Module	Mrs. Arti Sawale, STO-I (LS)
SOUL 3.0 Installation	Mr. Divyakant Vaghela, Scientist-D (CS)
SOUL 3.0 Web OPAC & Backup	Mr. Swapnil Patel, Scientist-D (CS)
Hands-on Practice	Mr. Viraj Parekh, Library Officer (LS) Mr. Rajan Pandey, Library Associate (LS) Ms. Rosemary, Library Associate (LS) Ms. Shijina, Library Associate (LS) Ms. Harsha Pareek, Library Associate (LS) Mr. Satish Kumar, Library Associate (LS)

A total of 13 participants attended the training programme. A local educational tour was arranged at Gandhinagar and Ahmedabad for the benefit of participants. In the valedictory session, Sh. Manoj Kumar K, Scientist-F (CS), INFLIBNET Centre,

distributed the certificates to participants. Dr. H G Hosamani, Ex. Scientist-E (LS) shared his valuable experience, concluding with positive remarks on the programme. The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Ms Amrita Devi, Scientist-B (LS).



Participants of the 173rd Five-Day Offline Training Programme on "SOUL 3.0: Installation and Operations" at INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar

Three-Day Workshop on Research Information Management System (RIMS), INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, 19th - 21st March 2025

The three-day Workshop on Research Information Management System (RIMS) was organised from 19th to 21st March 2025 at the INFLIBNET Centre. The Honourable Director of the INFLIBNET Centre, Prof. Devika P. Madalli, inaugurated the workshop. In her inaugural address, she emphasised that she aimed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate contemporary research practices efficiently. She emphasised the importance of encouraging women researchers to register on the "SheRNI Portal" to further enhance women's research contributions. She also urged universities

to establish the 'INFLIBNET Corner and Research Corner' to improve access to vital research services for the academic and research community. Mrs. Amrita Devi, Scientist-B (LS), extended a warm welcome to the dignitaries and participants. Dr Kannan P, Scientist-E (LS) and Mr Pallab Pradhan, Scientist-C (LS), were the coordinators of the workshop. Dr Kannan P. briefed the participants about the workshop. At the end of the Inaugural session, Mr Pallab Pradhan, Scientist-C (LS), proposed a formal vote of thanks to all the dignitaries and invited participants.

Details of the lectures delivered by the Faculty of the INFLIBNET Centre and resource persons during the programme are as follows:

Topic	Expert
INFLIBNET Activities and Services	Mr. Yatrik Patel, Scientist-E (CS)
Academic Identity Overview: ORCID	Mr. Hiteshkumar Solanki, Scientist-C (CS)
Research Metrics	Dr. Kruti Trivedi, Scientist
Overview of Research Information Management System (RIMS)	Dr. Kannan P, Scientist-E (LS)
Open Science and Perspectives	Mr. Pallab Pradhan, Scientist-C (LS)
IRINS Overview & SheRNI	Dr. Kannan P, Scientist-E (LS)
Altmetrics Overview	Mr. Pallab Pradhan, Scientist-C (LS)
IRINS Analytics & Nodal Officer Dashboard	Dr. Kannan P, Scientist-E (LS)
CRIS/IRINS Standards, Metadata, and Data Sources	Mr. Pallab Pradhan, Scientist-C (LS)
Data Curation and Profile Creation	Ms Savita Devi, STA (LS) and Practical Team
Data Curation and Profile Creation - Practice	Ms Savita Devi, STA (LS) and Practical Team
Shodh-Chakra - Scholars' Profiles and Resources Management System	Dr Abhishek Kumar, Scientist-E (CS)
Research Analytics Dashboard	Dr Kruti, Scientist-D (LS)
Research Data Management	Mr. Dinesh Ranjan Pradhan, Scientist-D (LS)

A total of 34 participants, including university nodal officers, Professors, the Registrar, Research Scholars, and Library Professionals from various Universities and institutes in India, attended the workshop. A quiz session was held on all three days, featuring 12 questions related to the lectures delivered during the sessions.

In the valedictory function, Ms. Amrita Devi, Scientist-B (LS), welcomed the dignitaries and participants and coordinated the valedictory

ceremony. Sh. Manoj Kumar K, Scientist-F (CS), addressed the gathering and distributed certificates of participation to all attendees. Some participants expressed their views and appreciated all the theoretical and practical sessions. The Workshop provided a valuable platform for participants to enhance their understanding of contemporary research practices and digital tools. The function ended with a vote of thanks by Dr H.G. Hosamani, Ex. Scientist-E (LS).



Participants of the Three-day Workshop on Research Information Management System (RIMS) at INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar

INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme on Library Automation (IRTPLA)

INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme on Library Automation (IRTPLA), Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, 13th - 17th January 2025

The Five-Day INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme (IRTPLA) was organised by the Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS), Shimla Library,

in collaboration with the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, from January 13th to 17th, 2025. There was an overwhelming response from

the library professionals from different districts of Himachal Pradesh. However, due to the limited number of seats and the programme's guidelines, the institute selected a small number of professionals who were very keen to implement SOUL in their respective colleges. Thus, the programme was attended by 44 participants.

Sh. Prem Chand, Librarian of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, welcomed the delegates. He highlighted various features of SOUL 3.0 and informed the participants that SOUL 3.0: Software for University Libraries (SOUL) is a state-of-the-art, integrated library management software designed and developed by the INFLIBNET Centre based on the requirements of college and university libraries. He further highlighted that the INFLIBNET Centre has played a pioneering role in automating academic libraries in India. The Centre has initiated a range of programmes to automate libraries, which include the development of library management software and training of human resources. He expressed his sincere gratitude to Prof. Devika. P. Madalli, Director, INFLIBNET Centre.

Sh. Yatrik Patel, Scientist-E (CS), INFLIBNET Centre, delivered the inaugural address. He highlighted the importance of library automation and SOUL software in libraries. While addressing the audience, he informed them that the various programmes initiated by the INFLIBNET Centre are for the benefit of the library Community. Dr. H. G. Hosamani, Consultant at the INFLIBNET Centre, in his speech, urged the participants to automate their libraries by using SOIUL software, a user-friendly and cost-effective solution. He highlighted that SOUL adheres to all international standards.

Sh. Mehar Chand Negi, Secretary of IIAS, Shimla, thanked the INFLIBNET Centre for extending

financial support to organise the training programme at IIAS.

The technical sessions followed the inaugural programme. On the first day, two invited speakers delivered lectures on the interesting and emerging modules of SOUL 3.0. Sh. Yatrik Patel and Dr. H.G. Hosamani, from the INFLIBNET Centre, delivered lectures on the introduction to SOUL 3.0 and the Catalogue Module, including both lecture and practical components. In their lectures, they elaborated on how librarians should take the initiative to bring about changes and provide value-added services. On the third day, Sh. Yatrik Patel demonstrated the installation of SOUL software and delivered lectures on all the modules of SOUL. A live demonstration of the SOUL installation was arranged, which helped participants develop confidence in using and managing the software.

On the third day, there was intensive training on the SOUL 3.0 Acquisition Module and the Practicals and Circulation Module, including lectures and practical sessions. On the fourth day, Dr. H.G. Hosamani and Sh. Shrimali Vijaykumar M, Scientist-B (CS), delivered a lecture on the Soul 3.0 Module Web OPAC & Backup/Restore, Soul 3.0 Installation Demonstration, and Serial Module.

During the valedictory session of the training programme, a special lecture was arranged by Prof. P.K. Ahluwalia, a Former Professor from the Physics Department of H.P. University. Prof. Ahluwalia delivered a lecture titled "The New Role of Libraries in the 21st Century: The Emergence of New Technology."

Prof. A. S. Chandel, Professor Emeritus, was the chief guest of the valedictory session. During his

address, he emphasised the need for automation and digitisation of library resources. He highlighted the current status of automation in Himachal Pradesh and encouraged all participants

to play an active role in automating their libraries. Prof. Chandel awarded certificates to all participants who attended the training programme.



Participants of the INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme on Library Automation (IRTPLA) at IAS, Shimla

INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme on Library Automation (IRTPLA), Dr. S. R. Ranganathan Institute of Library and Information Science, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi, 03rd - 07th February 2025

The INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme on Library Automation (IRTPLA) was organised by the Dr. S. R. Ranganathan Institute of Library and Information Science, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi, in collaboration with the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, from February 3rd to 7th, 2025, at Bundelkhand University, Jhansi. Prof. R.K. Saini (Dean, Science), Prof. Munna Tiwari (Dean, Arts), Dr. J. Shri Devi, Library-in-charge, Central Library of Bundelkhand University, Mrs. Hema V Cholin, Scientist-B (LS), INFLIBNET Centre, Dr. Ritu Singh, (HOD), Department of Library and Information Science, Bundelkhand University, formally inaugurated the programme.

Dr Jyoti Gupta, Assistant Professor at the Dr S. R. Ranganathan Institute of Library and Information Science, warmly welcomed the participants and stressed the importance and growing necessity of automation in Government Degree College libraries.

In her address, Mrs. Hema Cholin, Scientist-B (LS), INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, briefed participants and guests about the Centre's ongoing initiatives and services. She provided a detailed overview of the IRTPLA programme, highlighting INFLIBNET's contributions to the promotion of information science, digital library services, library

networking, and software tools like SOUL. She emphasised the role of library automation and digitisation in the dissemination of educational resources and enhancing library collaboration across institutions.

Dr. Ritu Singh, Head of the Department of Library and Information Science at BU, focused on the impact of Library Automation and the benefits of using automation software, such as SOUL 3.0, in streamlining library operations. She encouraged participants to embrace emerging technologies to modernise library services.

A formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Vinod Kumar, Assistant Professor at the Dr. S. R. Ranganathan Institute of Library and Information Science, who acknowledged the support of the INFLIBNET Centre and the dedication of the organisers.

The training sessions were conducted by Mrs. Hema Cholin, Scientist B (LS), and Ms Roshni Yadav, Scientific and Technical Officer (LS), who served as the primary resource persons from the

INFLIBNET Centre. The sessions focused on SOUL 3.0 modules, such as Administration, Acquisition, Circulation, Cataloguing, and Serial Control, combining theoretical instruction with hands-on practical experience to enhance participant understanding.

Guest Lectures enriched the programme further. Dr. Ritu Singh, HOD & Associate Professor, Dr. Jyoti Gupta, Assistant Professor, Dr. Roopendra Singh, Assistant Professor, Dr. Nidhi Srivastava and Dr. Vinod Kumar, all from Dr S R Ranganathan Institute of Library & Information Science, delivered on web designing, Digital Collection Management, Metadata and digitisation requirements topics.

The programme concluded with an interactive session, during which participants discussed the SOUL 3.0 features and the role of AI in libraries. During the valedictory session, 47 participants were felicitated with certificates, recognising their active engagement and commitment to professional development.



Participants of INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme on Library Automation (IRTPLA) at Dr. S. R. Ranganathan Institute of Library and Information Science, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi

INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme on Library Automation (IRTPLA), Dr. V.S. Krishna Government Degree College (A), Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, 24th -28th March 2025



Participants of INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme on Library Automation (IRTPLA) at Dr. V.S. Krishna Government Degree College (A), Visakhapatnam

The INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme on Library Automation (IRTPLA) was organised by Dr. V.S. Krishna Government Degree College (Autonomous), Visakhapatnam, in collaboration with the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, from March 24th to 28th, 2025, at Dr. V.S. Krishna Government Degree College (Autonomous), Visakhapatnam. Prof. P. Venkateswarlu, Chief Librarian of Andhra University, inaugurated the programme. Dr. I. Vijaya Babu, Principal, warmly welcomed the participants and emphasised the importance and growing need for automation in Government Degree College libraries.

In her address, Mrs. Hema Cholin, Scientist-B (Library Science), INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, provided attendees with an overview of the Centre's ongoing initiatives and

services. She provided a detailed overview of the IRTPLA programme, highlighting INFLIBNET's contributions to the promotion of information science, digital library services, library networking, and software tools like SOUL. She emphasised the role of digital platforms in disseminating educational resources and enhancing library collaboration across institutions.

Prof. P. Venkateswarlu underscored the impact of automation and the benefits of SOUL 3.0 in streamlining library operations. He encouraged participants to embrace emerging technologies to modernise library services. A formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. M. Srinivasa Prasad, the Librarian of the host college, who acknowledged the support of the INFLIBNET Centre and the dedication of the organisers.

The training sessions were led by Mrs. Hema Cholin and Mr. Arti Sawale, Scientific and Technical Officer (CS), who served as the primary resource persons. The sessions focused on SOUL 3.0 modules, combining theoretical instruction with hands-on practical experience to enhance participant understanding.

The programme concluded with an interactive session, during which participants discussed the SOUL 3.0 features and libraries. During the valedictory session, 39 participants were felicitated with certificates, recognising their active engagement and commitment to professional development.

Awareness Programme on Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS)

A one-day awareness programme on Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS) was held at the Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur, on 21st March 2025, co-organised by the Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu, and the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Dr. S. Thanuskodi, Programme Coordinator, Professor, and Head of the Department of Library and Information Science at the Central University

of Tamil Nadu, welcomed the participants to the programme. In his welcome address, he emphasised the benefits of implementing IRINS in universities to showcase the research output. Dr. P. Kannan, Scientist-E (Library Science), INFLIBNET Centre, was the resource person who handled the sessions on RIM & IRINS and Academic Identity in the scholarly communication system ORCID. All sessions were interactive, with participants engaging in discussions.



Training Programmes on Shodh-Chakra: A Gateway to Researchers for Resources

During the reported period, the INFLIBNET Centre organised six institutional training programmes (online and offline) on Shodh-Chakra.

Sl. No.	Name of Institute	Date of Training	Number of Participants	Resource Person from INFLIBNET
1	Cotton University, Assam	22-01-2025		Dr Abhishek Kumar / Sana Aslam
2	Bhaikaka University, Gujarat	23-01-2025	29	Dr Abhishek Kumar / Vaishnavi Ingle
3	Majhuli University, Assam	24-01-2025	9	Dr Abhishek Kumar / Vaishnavi Ingle
4	National Institute of Pharmaceutical & Research, NIPER, Uttar Pradesh	27-01-2025	25	Dr Abhishek Kumar / Vaishnavi Ingle
5	Banda University, Uttar Pradesh	18-02-2025	3	Dr Abhishek Kumar / Vaishnavi Ingle
6	Maharaja Sayajirao university, Gujarat	18-03-2025	4	Dr Abhishek Kumar / Vaishnavi Ingle

Online Training Programmes on INFLIBNET Learning Management Service (ILMS)

The INFLIBNET Centre conducted 03 training programmes on ILMS during the reported period.

Sl. No.	Name of University	Date of Training	Experts	Number of Participants
1	Central University of Kashmir, Gandarbat, Jammu and Kashmir	03-02-2025	Dr. Abhishek Kumar (Scientist-E) and Arshad Rafiq Khan	200
2	Dr. M.G.R. Educational and Research Institute, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh	07-03-2025	Dr. Abhishek Kumar (Scientist-E) and Arshad Rafiq Khan	30
3	Prof. Rajendra Singh (Rajju Bhaiya) University, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh	28-03-2025	Dr. Abhishek Kumar (Scientist-E) and Arshad Rafiq Khan	10

Online Training Program on National Portal for Transgender Persons

At the request of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, the Transgender & Beggary Division of the National Institute of Social Defence (NISD) conducted 24 Training Programmes on the National Portal for Transgender Persons for District Magistrates/Collectors and concerned officials through the INFLIBNET Centre during the reported period. The training programs aimed to sensitise District Officials about the portal's operation and to clarify their doubts and technical issues related to the issuance of TG Certificates and ID Cards.

Sl. No	State	Date
1	Madhya Pradesh	20-01-2025
2	Karnataka	21-01-2025
3	Uttar Pradesh	22-01-2025
4	Telangana	23-01-2025
5	Maharashtra	27-01-2025
6	Tamil Nadu	28-01-2025
	Puducherry	
7	Andhra Pradesh	30-01-2025
8	Chhattisgarh	31-01-2025
9	Haryana	4-2-2025
10	Bihar	6-2-2025
	Jharkhand	
11	Manipur	7-2-2025
	Assam	
12	Punjab	10-2-2025
	Chandigarh	
13	Ladakh	11-2-2025
	Jammu & Kashmir	
14	Gujarat	12-2-2025
15	Rajasthan	13-02-2025
16	Kerala	14-02-2025

17	West Bengal	17-02-2025
	Mizoram	
18	Uttarakhand	18-02-2025
19	Himachal Pradesh	20-02-2025
	Nagaland	
	Meghalaya	
	Sikkim	
	Arunachal Pradesh	
	Tripura	
20	Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	4-3-2025
21	Odisha	5-3-2025
22	Delhi	6-3-2025
23	Goa	7-3-2025
24	Sikkim	10-3-2025

Current Status of INFLIBNET Projects



VIDWAN and Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS)

The VIDWAN database contains detailed profiles of more than 29,15,19 faculty members and scientists working in 21,875 academic institutions up to the reported period. IRINS, the web-based Research Information Management (RIM) service provided to higher education institutions in India by the INFLIBNET Centre, facilitates academic, R&D organisations, faculty members, and scientists in collecting, curating, and showcasing their scholarly communication activities, providing an opportunity to create a scholarly network. The INFLIBNET Centre has created 1,521 IRINS instances for institutions until the reported period including 100 instances created during the period under report. This project has connected 229,952 faculty members. The project retrieved 31.47 lakhs + (3,147,601) publications metadata from various sources, received 272 lakhs + (27,246,486) citations, and 106 lakhs + (10,618,422) Altmetrics mentions until the reported period.

Shodh-Chakra: A Gateway to Researchers for Resources

Shodh-Chakra is an initiative of the INFLIBNET Centre, under the guidance of the UGC, to support the academic community throughout their research life cycle. Shodh-Chakra provides a unique space for the researcher, guide/supervisor, and university to manage the research lifecycle of a research scholar. The portal is integrated with millions of resources, including full-text theses, and provides helpful tools for researchers, which are essential during the research process. A total of 159 Universities have already signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the INFLIBNET Centre to use Shodh-Chakra, including 14 Universities that signed the MoU during the reported period. The details of 14 Universities are provided below:

Sl. No.	Name of Institutes/Universities	Date of Signing MoU by University	Date of Signing MoU by the INFLIBNET Centre
1	IIS (Deemed to be University), Jaipur	26-12-2024	03-01-2025
2	Bhaikaka University	20-12-2024	03-01-2025
3	Aliah University	18-12-2024	08-01-2025
4	Banda University of Agriculture and Technology	18-01-2025	06-02-2025

Sl. No.	Name of Institutes/Universities	Date of Signing MoU by University	Date of Signing MoU by the INFLIBNET Centre
5	University of Jammu	30-01-2025	06-02-2025
6	Institute of Business Management & Research, IPS Academy	12-02-2025	28-02-2025
7	Noble University	24-02-2024	18-03-2025
8	Gujarat Technological University	06-03-2025	21-03-2025
9	Vellore Institute of Technology	18-03-2025	
10	Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda (MSU)	17-03-2025	17-03-2025
11	SVKM's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS)	10-03-2025	21-03-2025
12	Maharaja Chhatrasal Bundelkhand University	20-01-2025	18-03-2025
13	Bhakta Kavi Narsinh Mehta University	15-03-2025	
14	The Assam Royal Global University	27-02-2025	18-03-2025



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing event with The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, on 17th March 2025 for Shodh-Chakra



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central Sanskrit University, Delhi, on 26th March 2025 for Shodh-Chakra

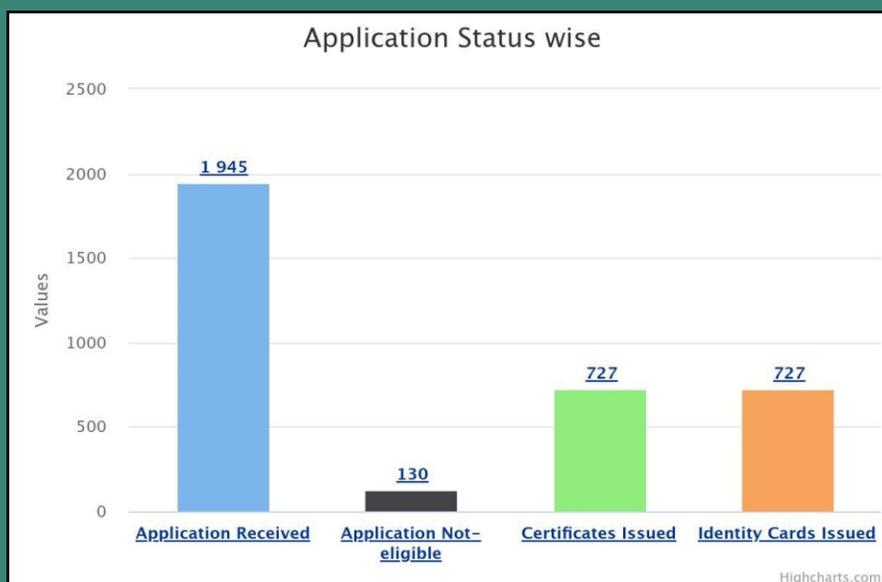
International Standard Book Number (ISBN)

As approved by the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, has been tasked with managing and executing its day-to-day activities, including registration, applications, and allotment of ISBNs, as well as technical maintenance of the ISBN Portal. During the reported period (January 1st to March 31st, 2025), 4,135 stakeholders registered on the ISBN portal, where 11,236 applications were received, and 154,870 ISBNs were allocated to the stakeholders and publishers.

National Portal for Transgender Persons (TG Portal)

Under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, the INFLIBNET Centre has developed the 'National Portal for Transgender Persons.' The portal enables transgender individuals to apply digitally for a certificate and identity card from anywhere in the country, eliminating the need to visit an office. The Centre has continued the services as per the MoU. The table below presents statistics on the number of applications received, certificates and ID cards issued, and other relevant information during the reported period.

Application (Status-Wise)	Nos. of Application Received	Nos. of Application not found eligible	Nos. of Certificate Issued	Nos. of Identity Card Issued
Duration: January to March 2025	1945	130	727	727



Shodhganga: A Reservoir of Indian Theses

The first quarter of 2025 was marked as a remarkable period for Shodhganga, characterised by the growth of carved-in PhD Theses from universities, CFTIs, and INIs, as well as the testing of upgrades to Shodhganga. Shodhganga, a repository of full-text theses in Indian Universities, has grown progressively, with a total of 596,034 full-text theses and 19,303 Theses uploaded during the period under report, i.e., January - March 2025.

Till 31st March 2025, a total of 958 (848 universities + 110 CFTIs/INIs) have signed MoUs on Shodhganga with the INFLIBNET Centre, increasing the number of full-text theses in Shodhganga, where 15 MoUs from Universities were added during the period. As such, the repository has grown progressively over the period covered in this report. The total theses uploaded (Fig. 1) in Quarter 4 (January-March 2025) is 19,303.

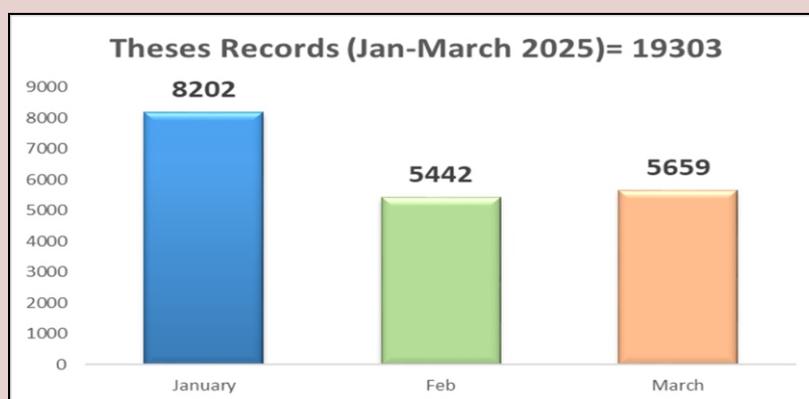


Figure 1: Theses uploaded to Shodhganga

Recommendations of the Newly Constituted Shodhganga National Steering Committee (SNSC) and inclusion of the ORCID

According to the recommendations from the newly constituted Shodhganga National Steering Committee (SNSC) meeting held on August 21, 2024, the inclusion of ORCID and Plagiarism Reports has been made mandatory for uploading along with the Thesis chapters/files into Shodhganga from January 2025 onwards.

The migration work of Shodhganga to a new version is in progress, with enhanced speed and faster access. This includes upgrading the infrastructure, migrating the database and interface, and adding additional features and plug-ins to Shodhganga for improved efficiency.

Shodhgangotri

Shodhgangotri is now also open to PG dissertations, as per the request of the Ministry of Ayush. Currently, the repository hosts 16,194 synopses, MRPs, PDFs, fellowships, and PG Dissertations contributed by 147 Universities. During this period, 942 Synopses/MRPs/PDFs/Fellowship/PG Dissertations were added.

ShodhShuddhi and Plagiarism Detection Software (PDS)

The Ministry of Education, through its initiative ShodhShuddhi, provides access to Plagiarism Detection Software (PDS) to all Universities, including Central, State, Deemed, and Private Universities, as well as Centrally funded Technical Institutions/Institutes of National Importance (CFTIs/INIs) in India through Central funding to enhance academic integrity in academic institutions and to curb plagiarism, w.e.f. 01 September 2019. From October 2023 onwards, the new PDS Software (i.e., DrillBit Extreme) was procured for over 1100 HEIs, and the current/existing order has been extended for one more year until October 2025, based on the recommendation of the evaluation Committee under the same terms and conditions.

As of March 31st, 2025, a total of 51,64,480 documents have been submitted for checking similarity and plagiarism from 1,150 (864 active) Universities/Institutions since inception. The Project Shodhshuddhi envisioned using 10 Lakhs of documents per year, with a 20% extra allocation. As of March 31st, 2025, 51.64 Lakhs of documents have been submitted.

Usage Statistics of PDS during the period under report

Total Submission of documents into PDS during the period under report 1,65,773. Figure 2 shows the number of submissions over the last three months (January: 59667, February: 51944, March: 63454), with an average of 58,355. Figure 3 shows the monthly number of active users during the reporting period.

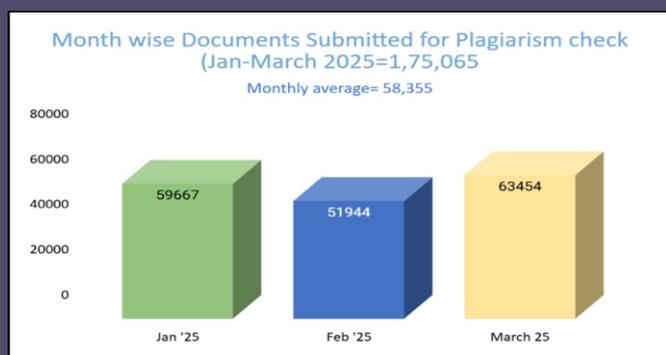


Figure 2: No. of Submissions in PDS# month-wise (January-March) 2025

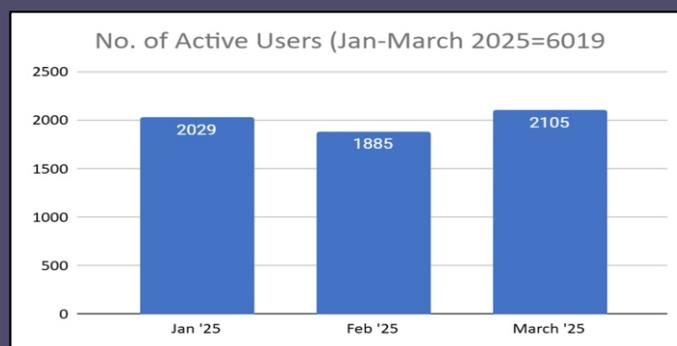


Figure 3: No. of Active Users during the period

*The INFLIBNET Centre's ShodhShuddhi-PDS Project, under the Ministry of Education, is exclusively for checking plagiarism in PhD theses, synopses, and articles related to the same thesis. Universities restrict users according to the institute's policy, and the responsibility of scanning documents for plagiarism checks is assigned to the responsible officer(s) in many universities.

Launching of the INFLIBNET Centre Mobile app and WhatsApp Service

The INFLIBNET Centre is pleased to announce the official launch of its Mobile App and WhatsApp Service, aimed at enhancing accessibility, communication, and user engagement with its extensive suite of academic and research services.



Mobile App Highlights:

- Easy access to INFLIBNET services like Shodhganga, ShodhShuddhi, e-ShodhSindhu, VIDWAN, IRINS, and more.
- User-friendly interface for seamless navigation.
- Real-time notifications about academic resources, updates, and events.
- Available for download on Android and iOS platforms.

WhatsApp Service Features:

- Instant information delivery on key INFLIBNET resources.
- Quick access to FAQs, contact details, and updates.
- Subscription-based academic alerts and reminders.
- Easy interaction with support services via WhatsApp chat.

These initiatives reflect the INFLIBNET Centre's continued commitment to supporting the academic and research community through digital innovation and user-centric services.

14th International CALIBER 2025 Announcement

CALIBER 2025 is the 14th International Convention on Automation of Libraries in Education and Research Institutions, organised by the INFLIBNET Centre in collaboration with Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati. The convention is scheduled to take place from 17th to 19th November 2025, at Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Theme: Library 2047: Democratizing Knowledge Towards Viksit Bharat

This theme focuses on envisioning the future of libraries in India by 2047, emphasising equitable access to knowledge and the role of libraries in national development.

Sub-Themes:

Digital Knowledge Creation, Sharing, and Infrastructure

- o Designing policies to strengthen library systems across India
- o The role of cloud computing, AI, and blockchain in library systems
- o Strengthening the open access movement for research and education
- o Open Educational Resources (OERs) for equitable learning opportunities
- o The role of the government, the private sector, and NGOs in democratising access and funding strategies for scaling and modernising library infrastructure

Libraries as Enablers of Social Equity and SDGs

- o Expanding library services for underserved and marginalised communities
- o Libraries empowering women, children, and differently-abled individuals
- o Inclusive library programs to bridge the urban-rural knowledge gap
- o Libraries as advocates for environmental awareness and education
- o The role of libraries in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Libraries as E-Resource Gateways and Innovation Hubs

- o Federated search and discovery services to access e-resources
- o Strengthening library networks for global information access
- o Fostering startup ecosystems through knowledge access and mentorship
- o Strengthening research and innovation through smart libraries, maker spaces, and digital labs
- o Benchmarking and performance metrics for academic libraries

National and International Outreach

The INFLIBNET Centre officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa, on 20th February 2025. The collaboration will ensure the seamless implementation of INFLIBNET services for the stakeholders of the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE), specifically the colleges under the DHE in Goa.



The Information and Library Network Centre, Gandhinagar, officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Gujarat Technical University (GTU), Gandhinagar, on 21st March 2025 for INFLIBNET Services. The collaboration will lead to the implementation and effective use of #INFLIBNET Services for GTU Stakeholders.



Preview Release of Open SOUL: A Next-Generation Library Automation System

The INFLIBNET Centre proudly announces the preview release of Open SOUL, a revolutionary web-based version of the SOUL Library Automation System, designed to meet the evolving needs of academic and research libraries. Built from scratch, Open SOUL introduces a range of innovative features and cutting-edge technologies that redefine the library automation landscape.

What's New in Open SOUL?

- ▶ **Completely Redeveloped:** Engineered from scratch to ensure superior performance and scalability.
- ▶ **RESTful Services-Based Architecture:** Highly scalable and modular architecture
- ▶ **Modular Approach:** Allows seamless integration of modules to enhance functionality.
- ▶ **Open Source Tools & Technologies:** Developed using open-source frameworks, ensuring cost efficiency and flexibility.
- ▶ **Browser-Based Lightweight Software:** Accessed effortlessly through modern web browsers.
- ▶ **Cloud Deployable:** Capable of deployment on cloud infrastructure for greater flexibility.
- ▶ **SaaS Compatibility:** Can be offered as a Software as a Service (SaaS) model.
- ▶ **Enhanced Functionality:** It retains all features of SOUL 3.0 along with several new add-ons.

Technology Stack

- ▶ **Technology:** JDK, Java EE, Jersey Framework, Apache Maven, Node.js
- ▶ **Database:** MySQL/MariaDB for robust data management
- ▶ **Deployment Servers:** REST API Hosting: Apache Tomcat, Client Hosting: Apache HTTP Server
- ▶ **Browser Support:** Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Edge
- ▶ **Client Application:** HTML, JSP, CSS, Javascript, Vue.js for an intuitive and responsive user interface
- ▶ **API Security:** JWT-based authentication and authorization for secure access
- ▶ **Key Features**
 - ▶ **Faster OPAC with Recommendation System:** Enhanced search and discovery with intelligent recommendations.
 - ▶ **Browser Independent:** Fully functional on all major browsers.

- » **User-Friendly Responsive Interface:** Ensures a seamless user experience across devices.
- » **Improved Functionalities:** Significant enhancements across modules for better library operations.
- » **Customizable Reports:** Generate tailored reports as per institutional needs.
- » **Configurable Email/SMS Alerts:** Automatic notifications for critical updates and user interactions.
- » **Combined Acquisition System:** Integrated acquisition of books and serials for streamlined processes.

Shri Yatrik Patel, Scientist-E(CS), INFLIBNET Centre, delivered an insightful presentation on the Open SOUL during the Open Day 2025 held at INFLIBNET Centre on 27th February 2025.

The presentation was well-received by the participants, generating considerable interest and enthusiasm among the library community regarding the upcoming Open SOUL.

To enable users to explore, evaluate and test the new features and functionalities, a preview release (beta) of the Open SOUL has been made available online.

Registration Steps for Preview Account of Open SOUL

- » Go to <https://soulweb.inflibnet.ac.in>
- » Submit your details on the signup page.
- » You will receive an OTP via email. Verify your account using the OTP.
- » Upon successful verification, your account will be reviewed and approved by the SOUL Team.
- » Once approved, you will receive an email with instructions to set your password.
- » Access your preview account and enjoy the new features and functionalities.

The Open SOUL preview release (beta) offers a hands-on opportunity to experience the enhanced features. The actual release of the software will be announced in due course of time.

Other Notable Events and Activities

Sports Events on the Occasion of Sports Week

The INFLIBNET Centre Celebrated Sports Week from 16th to 23rd January 2025 for the INFLIBNET Centre's staff members at the Recreational Club, INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar. Chess, Carom, Badminton, Box Cricket, Tug of War, Pitthu, and Target Shooting games were organised, and the INFLIBNET Staff participated in the Sports Week in teams or individually, as per the rules of the respective games. The Winners were announced and appreciated with a token of Memento on the 76th Republic Day, 26th January 2025. Certificates of Participation were distributed to all participants.

Republic Day Celebration

The INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, celebrated the 76th Republic Day on 26th January 2025 at its premises. The National Flag was hoisted by Prof Devika Madalli, Director, INFLIBNET Centre. She addressed the staff members and their families about the activities of the Centre on this occasion.



76th Republic Day Celebration on 26th January 2025 at the INFLIBNET Centre

Basant Panchami

Basant Panchami was celebrated on 02nd February 2025 in the Centre's premises. The celebration started with Saraswati pooja and Aradhana by Prof Devika Madali, Director, INFLIBNET Centre along with the staff.



Saraswati Pooja on Basant Panchami at the INFLIBNET Centre

INFLIBNET Centre Open Day Celebration, 27th February 2025, INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar

The Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre, Gandhinagar (an autonomous Inter-University Centre of the University Grants Commission, Ministry of Education, Government of India), successfully hosted its Open Day, an annual event commemorating Foundation Day, on 27th February 2025. Aimed to

showcase the achievements, initiatives, and contributions of the INFLIBNET Centre in advancing library and information services, digital infrastructure, and academic research support that are contributing to the advancement of the country's higher education sector, the event witnessed more than 300 participations, mostly library professionals, research administrators, faculty members and students/research scholars from different higher education and R&D organisations across the country.



During the inaugural session of the Open Day event, addresses were given by several invited speakers. In her welcome address, Prof. Devika P. Madalli, Director of the INFLIBNET Centre, discussed INFLIBNET and its verified national initiatives and services, which cater to the country's higher education and research needs, including libraries, research, and academia. Mr. Manoj Kumar K, Scientist-F, INFLIBNET Centre, followed with a brief introduction about the Open Day event.

After that, the Chief Guest, Ms. Mona Khandhar, IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Gujarat, launched the INFLIBNET Mobile App and WhatsApp Service, which aims to bring INFLIBNET services to the public and end-users of research and academia across the country. She further announced the raffle winner for the Research Corner Implementation at libraries and institutions. In her inaugural address, she emphasised the importance of knowledge-based services. She said that "to achieve our national development goals, we need to develop and improve our technology, innovation, and services towards that end."

The next invited speaker, Dr. B. Ahilan, Joint Controller of Patents & Designs, Government of India, emphasised the importance of innovation and patenting new ideas with solutions in his address. He urged the audience to develop problem-solving solutions for the benefit of society and to make India a developed country by 2047.

Dr. Sergio Luis Suarez, Dean of the Consular Corps, Córdoba, Spain, in his speech, thanked the Director of the Information and Library Network Centre, Gandhinagar, for the invitation to the event Open Day 2025 and expressed a desire for cross-collaboration and knowledge sharing between INFLIBNET and Argentine institutions.

The inaugural session ended with a vote of thanks by Sh. Dinesh Ranjan Pradhan, Scientist-D, INFLIBNET Centre, followed by a group photo. Then, guests and participants visited Open Houses showcasing the Centre's projects, initiatives, and milestones achieved to date.

After the launch, selected ideas from the Ideathon competition were presented, followed by a photography and quiz competition based on the INFLIBNET Centre's activities and services. Then, Sh. Yatrik Patel, Scientist-E, INFLIBNET Centre, presented briefly on Open SOUL (SOftware for University Libraries), and Sh. Dinesh Ranjan Pradhan, Scientist-D, INFLIBNET Centre, presented on BharatCat as part of the budding initiatives at the INFLIBNET Centre.

In the valedictory/closing session, Dr. Kruti J Trivedi, Scientist-D (LS), INFLIBNET Centre, delivered the welcome address, followed by a summary presentation of the Day's proceedings by Sh. Dinesh Ranjan Pradhan, Scientist-D, INFLIBNET Centre, then feedback from participants. After that, Prof. Devika P. Madalli, Director of the INFLIBNET Centre, addressed the audience, and prizes were distributed to the winners of the Ideathon presentations, the INFLIBNET research corner raffle, the quiz, and the photography competition.

Then, the Chief Guest of the Closing Session, Shri. M Nagarajan, IAS (Vice Chairman and Managing Director, GSRTC), highly praised the Information and Library Network Centre, Gandhinagar, for its national-level services for democratising knowledge, making 'Knowledge For All.' He mentioned that we can never deliver societal benefits based on business culture. Furthermore, he said, simply creating knowledge is not enough; its replication is also necessary. He remarked that we should help our youth develop the right ideas, then support and scale them in a better way to make India an innovation hub and a knowledge society, in line with the vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi.

The Open Day 2025 event ended with a vote of thanks by Sh. Kannan P, Scientist - E, INFLIBNET Centre, followed by the National Anthem.

The Open Day 2025 at the INFLIBNET Centre provided an excellent platform for the Centre to directly engage with the public and its end users, share its vision, mission, and strategies, and demonstrate its commitment towards facilitating better resources, services, technological infrastructures and support to the library, academic and research communities in the country. It provided visitors with the opportunity to learn more about the Centre's activities and services, gain valuable insights, and directly engage with the technical teams at the Centre.

International Women's Day Celebration and Sensitisation Programme, INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, 18th March 2025

The INFLIBNET Centre proudly celebrated International Women's Day with a special segment on the **SheRNI** portal on 10th March 2025.



The Centre conducted a Sensitization Programme related to sexual harassment of women at work (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redress) on 18th March 2025. Hon'ble Director, INFLIBNET Centre, Prof Devika P Madalli, inaugurated the programme along with invited speaker Dr. Prachi Motiyani, Member Secretary, WDC & ICC, School of Law (Gujarat University), in the presence of the staff members of the INFLIBNET Centre. Dr Surbhi, Scientist-C (LS), from the ICC Committee coordinated the programme and delivered a welcome address. She provided a brief overview of the program and the ICC Committee and its activities. Prof. Devika P Madalli, Director, emphasised that safety at work must be taken care of. She also stressed the importance of treating all genders equally. She also highlighted the SheRNI platform of INFLIBNET, which was created for female professionals, and mentioned that it has surpassed the milestone of one lakh SheRNI profiles. Dr. Prachi Motiyani, WDC & ICC, Member Secretary, HOD-School of Law (Gujarat University), delivered an insightful address on the Topic "Gender Sensitisation: Transforming Perspectives, Creating Change" during the programme.

Dr. Prachi Motiyani, in her address, highlighted the VISHAKHA Guidelines, focusing on Article 15(3) and the POSH Act, and discussed other cases recorded related to sexual harassment. She also emphasised women's equality in the workplace. She also informed that, as per the Law in any Institution, if there are more than 10 Staff members, an ICC must be established. Within 90 days, the ICC must take action if any case is recorded, and the report must be submitted within 60 Days. She also highlighted the punishments for the culprits under the Law in her presentation.



At the end of the Inaugural session, Mr Ramakushna Vulasala, the Administrative Officer(F&A), proposed a formal Vote of Thanks to all the dignitaries and staff members. Dr Roma Asnani anchored the Programme. A total of 120 staff members attended the sensitisation Programme.

Visitors

Institutional Visitors' Details			
Sl. No.	Institute Name	No. of Students	Visiting Date
1	Shree Mahalaxmi District Institute of Education & Training, Ahmedabad	50 Students & 5 faculty members	07-01-2025
2	SHPT School of Library Science SNDT Women's University	23 Students + faculty members	18-01-2025
3	Dr. Subhash University, Junagadh	65 Students + faculty members	06-02-2025
4	Gokul Global University, Sidhpur, Gujarat	100 Students + faculty members	11-02-2025
5	C.M. Patel College of Physiotherapy	23 Students + faculty members	10-03-2025
6	Shree G.K. & C.K. Bosamia Arts & Commerce College - Jetpur	54 students + faculty members	11-03-2025
7	Natubhai V. Patel College of Pure and Applied Sciences (A Constituent College of CVM University)	56 students + faculty members	18-03-2025
8	Asian Institute of Technology - Vadali	110 Students + faculty members	28-03-2025



Shree Mahalaxmi District Institute of Education & Training, Ahmedabad



SHPT School of Library Science SNDT Women's University, Mumbai



Dr. Subhash University, Junagadh



C.M. Patel College of Physiotherapy



Shree G.K. & C.K. Bosamia Arts & Commerce College – Jetpur



Natubhai V. Patel College of Pure and Applied Sciences (A Constituent College of CVM University)



Asian Institute of Technology - Vadali

New Appointments

Dr. Navneet Kumar Sharma, Scientist B (LS)



Dr. Navneet Kumar Sharma joined the INFLIBNET Centre as Scientist-B (LS) on 14th February 2025. He is involved in the IndCat project of the INFLIBNET Centre. Before this, he served as Professional Assistant at Kamala Nehru College (KNC), University of Delhi (DU), Academic Counsellor at School of Open Learning (SOL), DU, Senior Research Fellow at Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi and Junior Project Fellow at National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi. Dr. Sharma holds a B.Sc. in Geology and an MLIS from BHU. He completed his Ph. D. on the Academic Library System in 2023. He received the BHU Gold Medal for securing First position in MLIS from BHU, Varanasi. He qualified for the UGC-NET JRF with an All India Rank of 1 in December 2014. He has published several articles in Scopus and Web of Science-indexed journals. His expertise includes Knowledge Organisation, Information Literacy, Accessibility in Libraries, Literature Searching, Service Quality, and ICT Applications in Libraries.

Mr. Hemant Kumar, Scientist B (LS)



Mr. Hemant Kumar joined the INFLIBNET Centre as a Scientist-B (LS) on 27th March 2025. Before this, he worked as a Senior Knowledge Engineer (Ontologist) at S&P Global. He holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Science from the Documentation Research and Training Centre (DRTC) at the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Bengaluru, as well as a Master's degree in Physics. His expertise and research interests span Knowledge Organization, Metadata and Data Management, Ontologies, Linked Data, Semantic Web Technologies, and Open Access to Information.

Staff News

Prof. Devika Madalli, Director

- Prof. Devika Madalli was invited to the Expert Consultation chaired by Dr. Parvinder Maini, Scientific Secretary of the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, on 8th January 2025, in New Delhi. The session was focused on shaping a framework for DEIA in STEM to drive diversity, inclusion, and innovation.



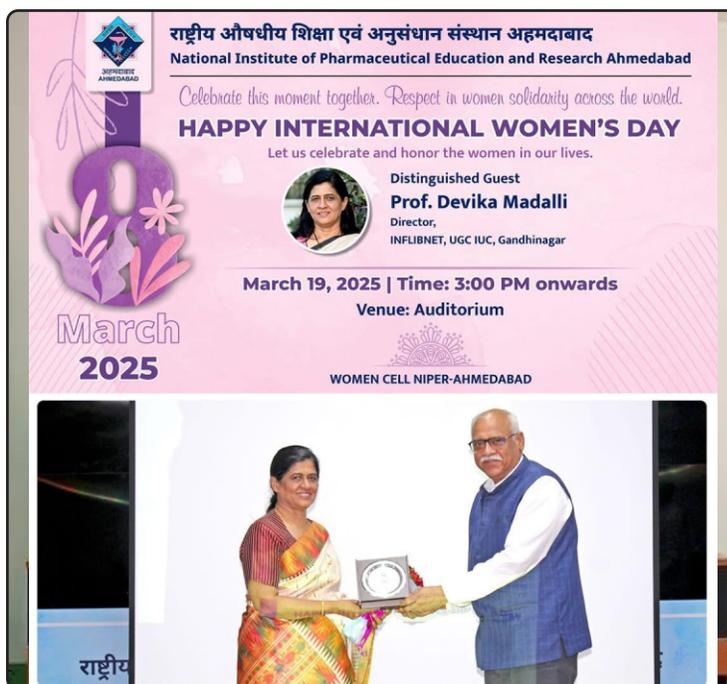
- Prof. Madalli visited the Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC) and shared her valuable insights, fostering inspiring discussions on innovation and knowledge sharing.
- Prof. Madalli was invited to the esteemed Panel Discussion "Women Scientist Talk" at Swaminarayan University, Kalol, on 29th January 2025.
- Prof. Madalli delivered an inspiring session on "Open Research, Open Science: Towards Knowledge for All" on 23rd February 2025. The session was part of the theme "Assessment Mechanisms: Research/Researcher/Institution - An India Centric Platform for Publication of Quality Journals" at the India Challenge: Brainstorming Session on India-Centric Research, held at the Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar from 22nd to 23rd February 2025.



- Prof. Devika P. Madalli attended as the Chief Guest in the National Seminar on "Empowering Communities: User-Centric Library Services for Advancing Sustainable Development Goals," held from 11th to 12th March 2025, organised by Central Library, Mizoram University, Mizoram.



- Prof Madalli was invited as a Distinguished Guest in the celebration of "Happy International Women's Day," organised by the Women Cell, NIPER-Ahmedabad, on 19th March 2025.



- Prof. Devika Madalli was invited to the Three-Day Symposium on Transforming Sanskrit Libraries in the Context of NEP 2020 for ViksitBharat @2047, organised by Central Sanskrit University, Delhi, in Collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi, at Samvet Auditorium, IGNC, Janpath, New Delhi, from 26th to 28th March 2025. During the symposium, she shared her views in the Vice Chancellor's Panel Discussion: Sanskrit and Indic Libraries for VikSitBharat 2047.



Mr Manoj Kumar K, Scientist-E (CS)

Sh Manoj Kumar K was invited to deliver invited talks/lectures mentioned below

- Delivered an online talk on 4th March, 2025, during a one-week UGC-sponsored 'Short-Term Course – Research Methodology' from 03rd to 08th March 2025, organised by Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati.
- Invited to deliver a lecture on Services of INFLIBNET for Scholars on 21st February, 2025, jointly organised by Central Library and Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kalyani, Vidyasagar, West Bengal.
- Invited as a keynote speaker by Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, for a three-day workshop on Academic Integrity and Research Publication, organised by the Research and Development Cell in collaboration with the IQAC, RBU, on 20th February 2025.
- Attended the MoU exchange event for Shodhganga at Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU), Kolkata, organised on 19th February 2025 and delivered a talk on major initiatives of the INFLIBNET Centre for research and a discussion with the guests. Additionally, he addressed the internship students of the library at the NSOU Regional Campus in Kalyani.
- Delivered a lecture to the faculty members of the Vidyasagar College for Women, Kolkata, and the nearby colleges in a hybrid mode on the topic "INFLIBNET Initiatives for the Research Collaborations".
- Delivered a session during the one-day workshop on "Supporting Higher Education and Research: Leadership Roles for Librarians" for

library professionals in Kerala State on 27th January 2025, organised by the School of Engineering Library, Cochin University of Science and Technology.

Dr Abhishek Kumar, Scientist-E (CS)

Dr Abhishek Kumar was invited to deliver invited talks/lectures as mentioned below:

- Delivered a presentation on IRINS for ICAR: Implementation of Web-Based Research Information Management (RIM) Service on 11th January 2025.
- Delivered a lecture on Role of INFLIBNET Towards Academic Community during the 15th Online Faculty Induction Programme (20th January - 16th February 2025), organised by UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, Sardar Patel University on 25th January 2025.
- Delivered a session on Library Orientation and Information Literacy in Educational Research: INFLIBNET, ERIC, JSTOR, Springer & Archives Browsing at Indian Institute of Technical Education (IITE) on 25th January 2025.
- Conducted an online awareness session on INFLIBNET Services: ShodhChakra & IRINS for Research and Development Cell (RDC), Gujarat Technological University (GTU) on 6th February 2025.
- Invited as Resource Person for the Meeting on Discussion of Implementation Strategies for Bharatiya Bhasha Pustak, at IIT Delhi on 7th February 2025.
- Delivered a session on Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS) during the 18th Faculty Induction Programme, organised by

UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong on 14th February 2025.

- Delivered a session on Shodh-Chakra during the 18th Faculty Induction Programme, organised by UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong on 19th February 2025.

Mr. Hiteshkumar Solanki, Scientist-C (CS)

Mr Hiteshkumar Solanki was invited to deliver talks/lectures as mentioned below:

- Invited to deliver a talk in online mode during webinar on "Research Data Management" organised by Pondicherry University community and Vidya Bharathi Uchchha Shiksha Sansthan, Tamil Nadu, on 11th February, 2025.

Mr. Dharmesh Shah, Scientist-B (CS)

Mr. Dharmesh Shah was invited to deliver talks/lectures as mentioned below:

- Was invited to deliver a session as a resource person on the topic of "Information Security and Privacy Preserving Strategies for IoT" in Faculty Development Programme (FDP) organized by KCG, Ahmedabad on February 11, 2025.
- Was invited to deliver a session as a resource person on the topic of "Cloud Computing" in a one-day National Technical Mega Festival "La-Compass 2025" at Shree Maneklal M. Patel Institute of Science and Research, Gandhinagar on 15th February 15, 2025.

- Attended the First Springer International Conference on Advances in Smart Computing and Applications (ICASCA-2025) held on 15th-16th February, 2025 at GLS University in Hybrid mode as Listener Category jointly organized by Faculty of Computer Applications & Information and Technology and Faculty of Engineering and Technology.

- Was invited as a Judge at the "National Conference ARYA- 2025" on Poster Competition at School of Emerging Science and Technology, Gujarat University on 7th March, 2025.

- Was invited to deliver a session as a resource person on "Hands-On Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning" in offline mode at Centre for Professional Courses (CPC), Gujarat University on March 29, 2025.

User's Speak

For Shodhganga

I hope that you are doing well., a research scholar pursuing my Ph.D. from the P.G. Department of Business Administration, Berhampur University. I am writing to kindly request the creation of a ShodhGanga ID to access the valuable resources available on your platform and stay updated with the latest research developments.

As a part of my research work, ShodhGanga will be an invaluable resource for accessing theses, dissertations, and other scholarly materials. Having a ShodhGanga ID will enable me to explore and utilise these resources effectively, contributing significantly to the progress of my resources.

Research Scholar, Berhampur University

Dear Shodhganga Team,

Heartiest congratulations on successfully enhancing the services, efficiency, and responsiveness of Shodhganga: A Repository of Indian Theses and Dissertations. Since its inception, the INFLIBNET Centre has played a pivotal role in supporting India's higher education system and remains deeply committed to expanding its resources and services.

Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Hi,

It would be really helpful if someone could help with this article and the issue that I am having as there are many papers that I would like to read upon on your website.

172 university libraries now using SOUL



Resource persons and participants posing for a photo during the two-day national conference on Library Science at Dnyanprassarak Mandal's College and Research Centre at Assagoa in Goa. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

Director of INFLIBNET (Information and Library Network Centre), Gandhinagar, Gujarat, Devika Madalli has said that SOUL (Software for University Libraries) has now been integrated into an open-source model and is now being used by 172 university libraries.

Inaugurating and delivering the keynote address at the two-day national conference on "Envisioning the Future: AI Tools for Libraries" organised by Dnyanprassarak Mandal's College and Research Centre at Assagoa in Goa recently, Prof. Devika said that the participation of Goan colleges in INFLIBNET's initiatives has been commendable.

SOUL (Software for University Libraries) is a state-of-the-art integrated

library management software designed and developed by INFLIBNET Centre, which is an autonomous inter-university centre of the University Grants Commission.

In her keynote address, Prof. Devika deliberated on INFLIBNET's contributions, including initiatives like Shodhganga, INDCAT, ePgPathshala, BharatCat, ShodhaChakra and Sherni, which, she said, have empowered academic research and women researchers in India.

Prof. Devika also launched "Library ChatBot", an advanced virtual assistant designed to enhance user interaction with library services developed by the college, and released the conference volume.

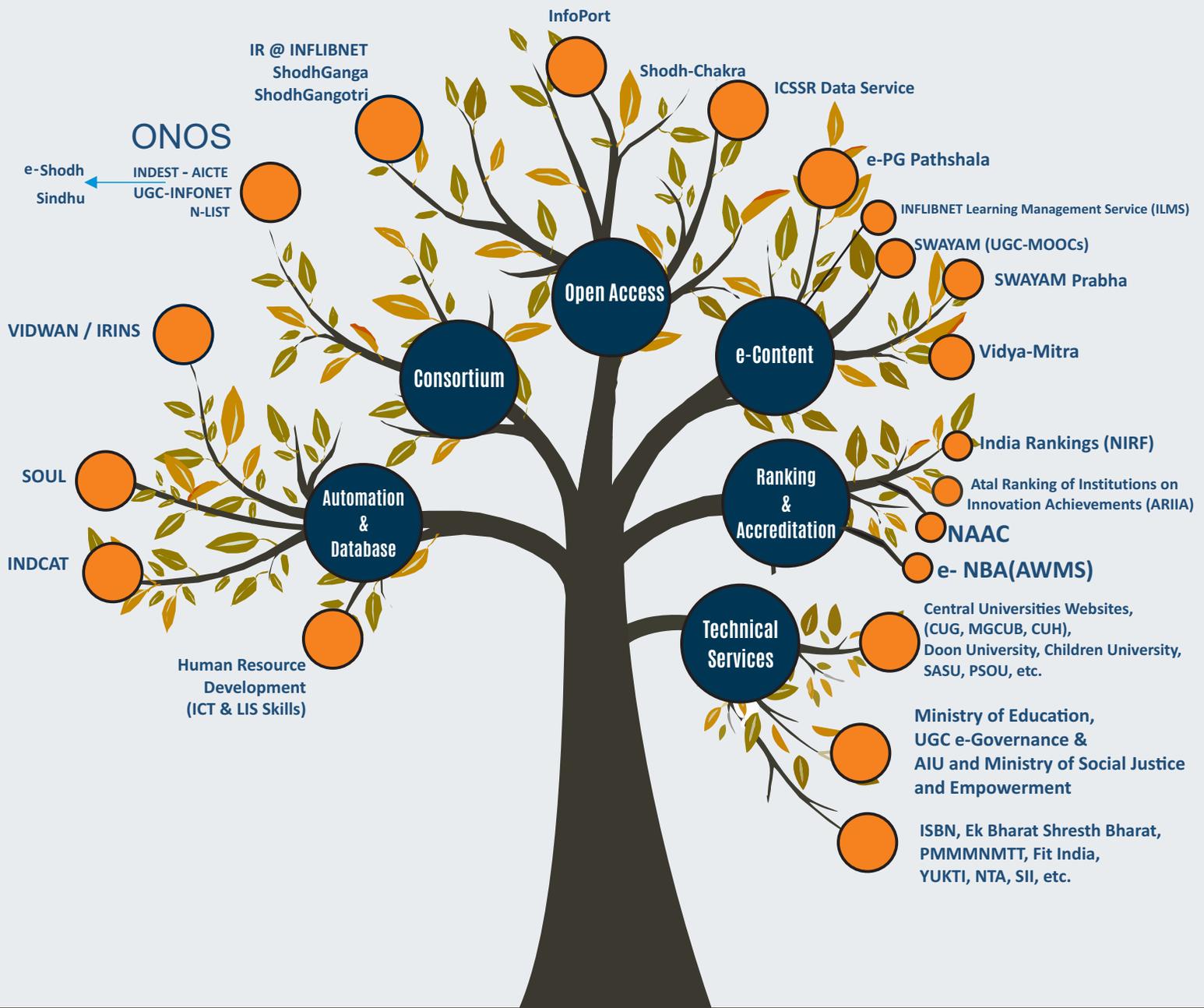
Organising secretary of the conference and librarian Jayaprakash G. Hugar

elaborated on the conference theme, tracing the evolution of library science from traditional print media to AI-driven digital repositories.

Principal of the college D.B. Arolkar said that the conference is a significant milestone in the institution's golden jubilee celebrations.

During the technical sessions that followed resource persons P.G. Tadasad, Ramesh R. Naik, Sunil M.V. and T.S. Kumbar presented papers on various topics.

The conference concluded with a set of resolutions emphasizing four key areas: the pros and cons of AI applications in libraries, education and training requirements for AI integration, innovative practices in AI tool development and strategies to address potential employment concerns.



Information and Library Network Centre

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