

Conference Report



**Madhu Limaye Library,
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law
University, Lucknow**

Presented

**9th International Conference of Asian Special
Libraries (ICoASL-2025)**

on

**"Sustainable Development of Libraries through
Innovative Technologies"**

(09th-11th May 2025)

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Madhu Limaye Library of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, Lucknow, organised a three-day 9th International Conference of Asian Special Libraries (ICoASL-2025) on "Sustainable Development of Libraries through Innovative Technologies" (09th-11th May 2025) in collaboration with SLA-ASIA Community, Society for Library Professionals-Delhi and Uttar Pradesh Library Association-Lucknow.

The conference was supported by Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar. The corporate groups- Cambridge University Press, Taxmann, Oxford University Press, Turnitin, and Total Library Solutions also supported the event.

The conference was attended by over 300 delegates from the country, including the USA, Philippines, Indonesia, Hungary, and Singapore. The participants were from prominent institutions and organisations, which include LIS professionals, teachers & students, Law teachers, students & professionals and information technology professionals of universities, colleges, KVS, NVS, CSIR, DRDO. ICAR, BARC, etc.

A total of 139 papers were received, and 72 papers were selected to be published in two edited volumes, i.e. 'Studies on Bibliometric, Scientometrics and Webometrics' and 'Sustainable Development of Libraries in the AI Era'. The chief guest also released the e-souvenir of the conference along with other guests on the dais.



Day-1

Inaugural Session

The programme started with the lighting of the lamp and welcomed guests with 'Book and bouquet' in which all the guests on the dais were presented a book titled 'Namisarnaya' along with a bouquet. It is a new culture started by the RMLNLU.



DLIS, BBAU Lucknow.

The Conference was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Prof. Amar Pal Singh, Vice-Chancellor, RMLNLU, along with Special Guest Ms Christine Pelosi, Director-SLA-USA; Dr Labibah Zain, President-SLA-ASIA Community, Indonesia; Keynote Speaker Prof. Ajay Pratap Singh, Director General-RRRLF, Kolkata; Guest of Honour, Prof. Ramesh C. Gaur, Director-Kalanidhi Division, IGNC and Prof. M. P. Singh,

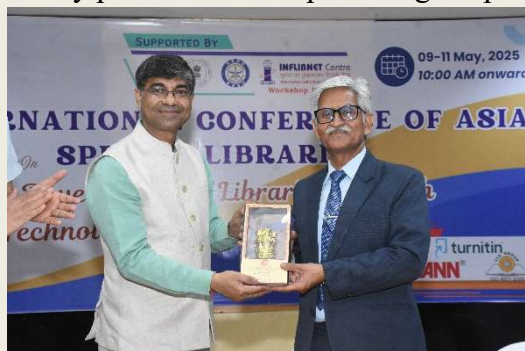
In his welcome address, Dr Maneesh Kumar Bajpai, Convenor, ICoASL-2025, welcomed the guests and highlighted issues related to the sustainable development of libraries in the AI Era.

Prof. M. P Singh talked about the role of libraries in imparting education and highlighted issues related to the development of digital libraries.

Dr Labibah Zain explained the ICoASL conference series and the role of the SLA-ASIA Community in collaborating with eminent institutions in Asian countries.

Ms Christine Pelosi highlighted the structure of SLA-USA and showcased the library services in US libraries in the current AI environment.

Keynote speaker Prof Ajay Pratap Singh set the tone of the conference by highlighting issues like the Open Access movement and the role of public libraries. He briefly explained the role of artificial intelligence in research and academic activities. He focused on the role of libraries and library professionals in providing adaptive and generative AI-based services.



Prof R. C. Gaur apprised the audience by highlighting a context from a book, *Namisarnaya*, that the conference culture was dominant in our ancient culture with the term ‘Gyan Ygya’.

Prof Amar Pal Singh highlighted the issues related to the digital information dissemination systems. He also cautioned about ethical challenges and privacy issues.

Technical Sessions/Panel Discussion Sessions

- The technical session on Libraries in AI Environment: Challenges and Opportunities was chaired by Prof. Sonal Singh, Former HOD & Dean, DLIS, Vikram University, Ujjain. Dr. Suresh Jange, University Librarian, Gulbarga University, Karnataka, delivered an invited talk on ‘Atmanirbhar Public University



Libraries in Karnataka: sustainability in the AI World’. 13 papers were presented by the delegates *and research scholars too*.

Max Mueller Bhavan Bangalore, delivered an invited talk on ‘Atmanirbhar Public

- Another parallel technical session on New Innovative & Emerging Resources & Services was chaired by Dr. P. K. Jain, Librarian, Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi. Sheshagiri R. Kulkarni, Head, Information & Library, Goethe-Institut /

University Libraries in Karnataka: sustainability in the AI World'. 13 papers were presented by the delegates *and research scholars too*.

- A panel discussion on ONOS and the Open Access Movement in the AI landscape was moderated by Dr. Debal C Karr, Librarian, Galgotia's University, Gr Noida, along with the panellists from the central university, state university and private university.



- Dr. Bibhas Kr chaired the technical session on Inclusive Library Environment and Changing Role of Libraries. Mishra, University Librarian, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur. Dr. Vinit Kumar, Assistant Professor, DLIS, BBAU, Lucknow, delivered an invited talk on '*Are Public Libraries Under Threat? Exploring the Surge of Private Reading Spaces in Lucknow*'. 11 papers were presented by the delegates *and research scholars, too*.



- Prof. K. L. Mahawar, HOD, DLIS, BBAU, Lucknow, chaired another parallel technical session on Emerging Trends in Special Libraries. Dr. Labibah Zain, Associate Professor, LIS Department, Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Kalijaga, Yogyakarta, Indonesia, & President of SLA Asia 2025, delivered an invited talk on '*Green and Smart Libraries in Indonesia*'. 09 papers were presented by the delegates *and research scholars too*.

Day 1 ended with the cultural nights. A group of students performed drama and recited stories and poems. Prof. Sonal Singh performed a dance art too.

Day-2

- A plenary workshop was organised on 'Awareness Programme on IRINS and INFLIBNET Services for Scholarly Communities' in collaboration with the INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar. Mr. Hitesh Solanki, Scientist C, INFLIBNET, Gandhi Nagar, delivered lectures and demonstrated the services of INFLIBNET. Prof. Sharad Kumar Sonkar, DLIS, BBAU, Lucknow, chaired the session. During the workshop, two posters, i.e. 'Research Corner' and 'INFLIBNET Services', were released by Prof. Amar Pal Singh, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Manish Singh, RMLNLU PhD Cell Coordinator, Dr. Maneesh Bajpai, University Coordinator and other dignitaries.



- The technical session on Research Ethics, Plagiarism & Academic Integrity was chaired by Prof. A. Suryanarayan, Retired and Former Dean, Faculty of Management, Osmania University, Hyderabad. Ms Christine Pelosi, Information Specialist, 4As Research Services, American Association of Advertising Agencies (4As), New York, USA, delivered an invited talk on *'Transforming Relationships: Strategies for Client Engagement in the Age of AI'*. 07 papers were presented by the delegates and research scholars too.



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- Prof. Manish Singh, Chair-DPIT IPR, RML National Law University, Lucknow, chaired another parallel technical session on IPR and Libraries. Dr. P. R Goswami, Ex. Director, Central Secretariat Library (CSL), Ministry of Culture & NASSDOC, Delhi, delivered an invited talk on *'Future Libraries, Future Librarians: A Discussion. This may please be uploaded for presentation'*. 07 papers were presented by the

- The technical session on Information Society: Emerging Paradigm was chaired by Dr. Ashish Kumar Srivastava, University Librarian & Dy. Director, Distance Education, CSJM University, Kanpur. Ms Maria Teresa Cabance, Head Librarian, Department of Labour & Employment, Philippines, delivered an invited talk on *'Beyond Shelves: Libraries as Safe Haven in Fostering Mental Health and Well-Being in a Technology-Fueled World'*. 08 papers were presented by the delegates and research scholars too.



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- Another parallel technical session on Ethical Challenges in Innovative Technologies was chaired by Dr. Anjali Gulati, Associate Professor, University of Lucknow, Lucknow. Dr. Raj K. Bhardwaj, Librarian, St. Stephen's College, Delhi, delivered an invited talk on *'Sustainable Development in Academic Libraries by Leveraging AI and Startup Agility in India'*. 08 papers were

- A panel discussion on the Role of Library Associations and Road Map for Future Generations was moderated by Prof. M. P. Singh, Dean, SIST, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, along with the panellists from Uttar Pradesh Library Association, Karnataka Library Association, SLP and other universities and institutions.

Online Technical Session

- An online technical session was also organised. Dr. Shiva Kanaujia Shukla, Dy Librarian, JNU, Delhi chaired it. Dr. Lee Chu Keong, Senior Lecturer, Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, National Technological University, Singapore delivered an invited talk on *'the Role of Special Libraries in Updating General Knowledge'* and Mr. Joseph M. Yap, Eotvos Lorand University delivered an invited talk on *'Civic Roles and Responsibilities of Public Librarians in Combating Information Disorders: What We Learned So Far in the Philippines?'*. 09 papers were presented by the delegates and research scholars too.



Valedictory Session

The Guests were welcomed with a 'Book & Booquie'. Rapporteur General of the conference, Dr Shweta Pandey, Deputy Librarian, CSJM University, Kanpur, presented the conference report.

Prof. Amar Pal Singh, Vice Chancellor, RMLNLU, was the chief guest of the valedictory session of the conference. In his address, he spoke about the Indian Knowledge System and the knowledge heritage of India. He highlighted several instances from the Shrimad Bhagwat Geeta.

Guest of Honour, Ms Maria Teresa Cabance, Secretary-SLA-ASIA Community, shared her experience of being at the conference and the practices of the SLA-ASIA Community.

Special Guest, Dr Ashish Kumar Srivastava, University Librarian, CSJM University, Kanpur, talked about the role of artificial intelligence in developing innovative library services.



Dr Debal C Kar, one of the coordinators of the conference, spoke about the relevance of libraries in the modern AI era.

SLA-ASIA Community and Society for Library Professionals-Delhi confirmed '2025 Best Librarian Award' to Dr. Maneesh Kumar Bajpai, Deputy Librarian, RML National Law University, Lucknow.

In his closing address, the convenor, Dr. Maneesh Kumar Bajpai, Deputy Librarian & Librarian I/c, RMLNLU-Lucknow, said the Conference would help in connecting library professionals and experts from around the world to develop a new library service environment in the artificial



intelligence technology paradigm. Professionals and academicians may also take care of copyright and licensing issues in using digital content and technologies. In his closing address, he thanked everyone for attending and supporting the conference.

Day-3:

Day 3 was reserved for academic tours. As Lucknow is one of the hubs of educational institutions. IIM, CSRI Labs, Central University, State Universities, Private Universities, Language University, Music University, University for Disabled people. Museums, Public Libraries, etc, are some of the attractions for the participants to visit, and also historical places of Lucknow attracted them.

Dr. Maneesh Kumar Bajpai
Convenor (ICoASL-2025);
University Deputy Librarian & Head,
Madhu Limaye Library,
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University,
LDA, Kanpur Road Scheme, Lucknow-226012, U.P.(INDIA)
maneeshbajpai@rmlnlu.ac.in; manish.nlu@gmail.com