



Visva-Bharati

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Library Network *e-Newsletter*



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Report of the Two-Day International Seminar (RLUIKS-2025)" from 21 to 22 February 2025

The Visva-Bharati Library Network made history for Visva-Bharati Library Network by successfully organizing the first-ever International Seminar in collaboration with Universal Briefing, Kolkata. The Two-Day International Conference on the "Role of Libraries in Unveiling the Indian Knowledge System in the Digital Era (RLUIKS-2025)" on February 21–22, 2025 was held at the Lipika Auditorium, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, which evident the exchange of ideas on Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) and their adaptation to the digital landscape among eminent scholars, researchers, academicians, and library professionals from around the Globe. On 20th February 2025, a press meet was organized between the local reporters and the organizing committee. The aesthetic inaugural ceremony with the Santhali Folk Song and Dance road show highly impressed the Delegates. The event was formally inaugurated by Prof. Binay Kumar Saren, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Visva-Bharati, His Excellency Mr. Qin Yong, Deputy Consul General, People's Republic of China in Kolkata, Smt. Kalpana Dasgupta, Former Librarian, National Library of India & Former Director, Central Secretariat Library, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi, Prof. Udayan Bhattacharya, President, Universal Briefing, Kolkata & Head, Department of Library and Information Science, Jadavpur University, Prof. Prabhakar Rath, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Mizoram University along with Dr. Nimai Chand Saha, Librarian, Visva-Bharati. The distinguished guests addressed the audience, emphasizing the role of libraries as custodians of knowledge and the need to integrate traditional Indian Knowledge Systems with modern digital technologies to ensure their preservation and accessibility for future generations. The Conference proceedings containing 63 research articles & 3 invited papers, and a souvenir were released by the dignitaries on the dais in the inaugural program of the seminar.

In order to make the programme memorable, innovative selfie zones were created and highly appreciated by the dignitaries and participants of the Conference. Stimulating Invited Talks and Provocative panel discussion by Prof. Prabhakar Rath, Pro Vice Chancellor, Mizoram University, Prof. Subal Chandra Biswas, Former Professor, DLISc, University of Burdwan, Prof. A S Chandel, Retired Professor & Librarian, Sikkim University, Gangtok, Dr. Subodh Gopal Nandi, Former Librarian, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, Dr V. K. Thomas, Former Librarian, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, Smt. Kalpana Dasgupta, Former Librarian, National Library of India, Kolkata, Prof. Sanjay Kumar Singh, Professor, DLISC, Gauhati University, Prof. M. Masoom Raza, Professor, DLISC, AMU, Aligarh, Prof. Shalini Lihitkar, Professor, DLISC, RTM University, Nagpur, Prof. Partha Sarathi Mukherjee, Professor, DLISC, Kalyani University, Dr Jivesh Bansal, Deputy Librarian (Level-14), Panjab

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Yoga Demonstration by Prof. Samiran Mondal, Principal, Vinaya Bhavana, & Students of the Department of Yogic Art & Science enriched the audience.

"RLUIKS-2025 has received total 194 participations from 12 states of India. Among them, there are 68 are students and research scholars and 96 are working professionals. Out of the total 170 participants are from West Bengal and rest 24 are from different states of India."

Total seventy-sixty (76) research papers including 19 invited papers were presented in eleven different technical sessions, each focusing on distinct themes related to Indian Knowledge Systems and digital innovations in libraries. There were four parallel technical sessions were conducted, out of which one was under the sky i.e. under the open area to inculcate the Tagore's Educational Philosophy. In addition to eleven technical sessions there were three different panel discussions. In the first panel discussion, the panelists were retired academicians as well as library professionals who were set the tune of the seminar with their vast experience on IKS. While in the second panel discussions, the panelists were senior academician as well as professionals to highlight their views on the topic to proceed. In the final and third virtual panel discussion the panelists were from abroad to share their thought and ideas on IKS. The Best Paper Presenter from each session was identified and felicitated to acknowledge the excellence in research and presentation skills. Mr. Prabhu Shiv Singh, Member Technical Staff, Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, was the BEST PAPER PRESENTER among the concerned session and also the best among all the sessions.

In order to pay tribute to Rabindranath Tagore's vision of holistic education and intellectual freedom and match the aesthetic theme of the Conference, a unique Open-Air Technical Session was held at the Open-Air Reading Room of the Central Library, setting the ambiance of Open-air Classes of Tagore. The Conference also featured thought-provoking panel discussions, where experts deliberated on various contemporary issues. The first day concluded with an aesthetic and cultural program celebrating India's artistic and literary heritage by the faculties and Research Scholars team of Sangit Bhavana, Visva-Bharati.

As the Rapporteur General of RLUIKS-2025, Prof. Saptarshi Gosh, Professor & Head, Department of Library and Information Science, North Bengal University, Darjeeling, efficiently summarized the key takeaways of the Conference, highlighting its role in inspiring future research and collaboration. The closing remarks were delivered by Dr. Nimai Chand Saha, Librarian, Visva-Bharati, who extended his heartfelt gratitude to all contributors, including the sponsor of the event, the Visva-Bharati Library staff members, Directors, Principals, Officers and staff of Visva-Bharati, Prof. Udayan Bhattacharya (President, Universal Briefing), the team members of Universal Briefing, all invitees and attendees. He acknowledged their invaluable contributions and unwavering support in making RLUIKS-2025 a remarkable success.

The unique features of the seminar were as follow;

- a) The event was started with the Traditional Tribal Dance to welcome the dignitaries on the venue to pay homage the Indian Traditional Knowledge, practically.
- b) One technical session was arranged under the open area to follow the legacy of educational philosophy of Tagore as a golden part of Traditional Indian Education System.
- c) A Book with sixty different research papers has been published during inauguration which is a rare at the present seminar culture.
- d) To honor the Indigenous people, felicitation has been given to the Tribal & Outsourcing staff of the Library on the dais of the main venue.
- e) The Seminar also pay homage Smt. Kalpana Das Gupta, Former Librarian, National Library of India, Kolkata, and Director, Central Secretariat Library, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, New Delhi

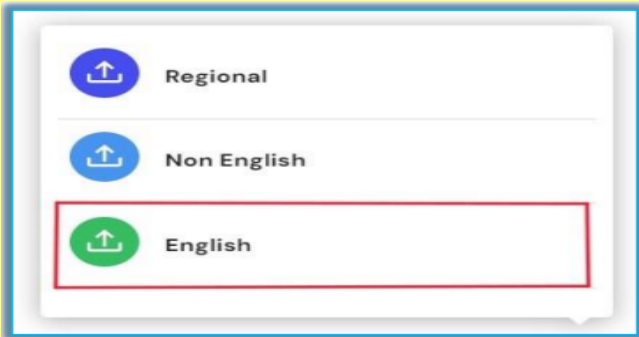
Finally, certificates of appreciation for various capacities were distributed to all the participants and guests.

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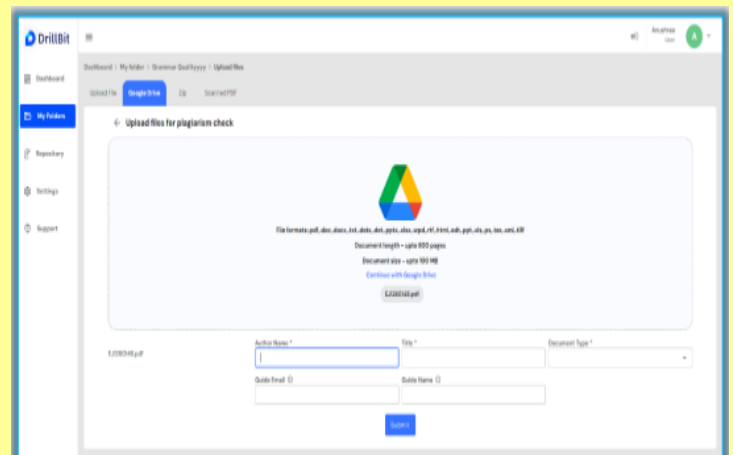
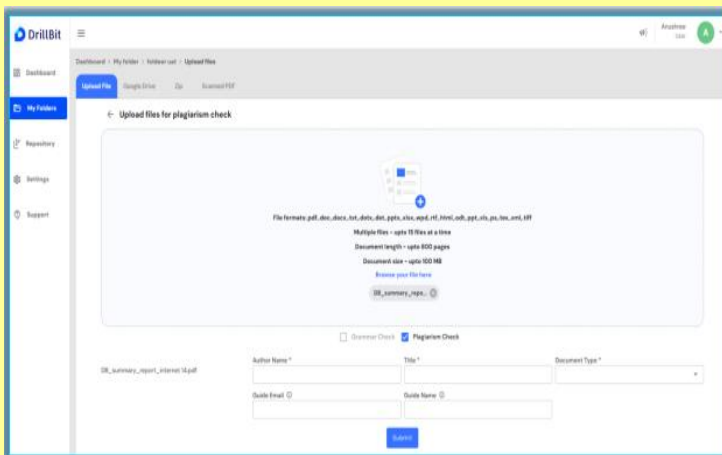
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Will be continued in next issue

Sources: *User Guide (PDF)* <https://www.drillbitplagiarism.com/userGuide/DrillBit%20Organization%20user%20guide%20-%202025.pdf>

RECENT ACTIVITIES

- **Exhibition and Celebration of Important Days at Reference Section, Central Library:** Organized special exhibitions of books and allied materials including quotations and photographs to celebrate:
 - a) **International Mother Language Day** on 21 February 2025.
 - b) 223rd Birth anniversary **Victor Hugo** on 27 February 2025.
- **Visitors:**
 - a) A Team of twenty candidates (17 students and 03 Faculty members) from Behala College, Kolkata have visited Central Library on 05 February 2025 and appreciated the endeavor take-up by the library.
 - b) Dr Vinit Kumar, Assistant Professor, DLISc, BBAU, Lucknow, UP, has visited Central Library on 19 February 2025 and expressed his deep satisfaction after visiting the library.
 - c) Dr P. K. Gupta along with 10 faculty members from Gossner College, (Ranchi University), Ranchi, Jharkhand, have visited Central Library on 23 February 2025 and appreciated the endeavor take-up by the library.
 - d) Dr Abdul Basit, has visited Central Library on 23 February 2025 and expressed his deep satisfaction after visiting the library.
- **New Additions (Books) during the Month**
 - Central Library: Number of Books received as Purchased: 31 nos (Acc. No. 444073 – 444103)
 - Central Library: Number of Books received as Gift: 01 (Acc No. G11325)
- **Similarity Checking through DrillBit Software:** Total 448 units or 130 (total 3051 from 01 October 2023 to 28 February 2025) Documents/Files/ Theses/ Articles/ have been checked through DrillBit during the month and on requirement, library has extended necessary assistance.
- **Documents / Article Delivery Services:** During the month 16 no. of soft copies of the articles have been collected and delivered through mail as requested by the academics/scholars.

New Arrivals (Books and Periodicals)

- **Books (click)**
- **Journals (click)**

IMPORTANT LINKS:

- **The Rare Book Society of India** (<https://rarebooksocietyofindia.org/>) was the first of its kind when it was founded in October 2009. It is a virtual space for rare book collectors and history enthusiasts to read, discuss, rediscover and download lost books. Importantly, it aims to highlight the understanding that there is always more than one truth in history! Sourcing from digital libraries such as The Internet Archive, Google Books, Wikipedia and the online collections of various museums around the world, RBSI has curated these rare books and images, and presented them in a context that gives them relevance and shows each piece as a part of a grander whole. Despite being an ancient literary civilization and having one of the largest literary treasures of hand-written and printed material, India does not have a single Society for rare book collectors. This is an attempt to create a forum where those elusive connoisseurs come together to discuss and share their knowledge on Indian rare books. RBSI showcases rare Indian books, prints and art, that have been digitized, with the purpose of bringing these lost words to life. Through this open virtual platform, members of RBSI can create a digital collection of rare and valuable books by downloading the digitised books that are made available here.
- **Websites that Offer Free College Textbooks** (<https://www.careeraddict.com/5-fantastic-websites-that-offer-free-college-textbooks>) One of the most frustrating aspects of university life is turning up on your first day of the course only to receive a lengthy — and very expensive — list of 'required' textbooks that you need to purchase. Yet many students are unaware that, actually, you don't necessarily have to go for the most expensive option; in fact, not only are there many ways to get your hands on alternative textbooks, but they are totally free, too. Many non-profits have been created to provide students with open educational resources (known as OERs); their goal is simply to expand affordable learning materials to as many people as possible throughout the world. To point you in their direction, we've compiled a list of organizations who offer good-quality higher education textbooks at no cost, saving you hundreds — and potentially even thousands — of dollars in the process.

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/TRAINING PROGRAMME:

- Department of Library & Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur, is organizing a National Conference on Redefining Librarianship in the AI Technological Era: Innovations, Challenges, and Opportunities (ReLAITE-2025) on 20th-21st March 2025. For details: <https://dliscutnnews.blogspot.com/2025/02/national-conference-on-redefining.html>
- 8th International Conference of Asian Libraries Building Smart Libraries: Leveraging AI Based Technologies Jointly Organised By Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida, U.P. & Asian Library Association, New Delhi (April, 24-26, 2025). For details: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QpE7TmDh5dvXz5Cp5AjFRrY7yvtLqjCy/view>

