

# ACLA NEWSLETTER

1<sup>st</sup> Issue

(March, 2017)



## Editorial Board

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## Appeal to Esteemed Members

News on LIS and related fields are solicited from ACLA members for inclusion in the newsletter. Please, correspond such news to the Editor in the following email ID.

*Email:*  
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## *From President's Desk*

### Library Association Vis-a-Vis the ACLA

Library association is for all round developments of the libraries and library professionals. Basic purposes of library association are to create social awareness on the importance of library establishment, to act proactively for optimum use of library resources, flow of literary output among those who are in need of information and creating a congenial atmosphere for the knowledge workers. It provides a common platform to the professionals for exchange of information, ideas, experiences and expertise for furthering the social, intellectual, scientific causes in order to create a reading culture in the society. Besides, the association is to work for the welfare of its members and also to try to develop their skills. Library associations are organized covering different geographical area: international, national, regional, state and even at local levels in general and in addition associations are also formed at sectoral levels with specific discipline orientation. In supplementing and coordinating for the cause of the parent institutions, the libraries are established and the specific associations are following the path in meeting towards the goals. It is expected that different associations are to take role for meeting the goals of library establishments. To make it clearer, if we consider in Indian context, the Indian Association of Libraries and Information Centers (IASLIC), Kolkata and the Indian Library Association (ILA), New Delhi are two national level associations working with the common goal enhancement of library atmosphere. In all probability, these two organizations need to work together for bringing a congenial environment at the national level for the libraries and the librarians; keeping intact their individual identity. The Assam College Librarians' Association (ACLA) established in 1973 is continuously working for the development of college libraries in particular and library environment in general particularly in Assam. The ACLA has conducted number of professional events like organization of seminars, conferences, publishing professional journals and other publications. Moreover, the association is also actively engaged in bringing attention of the Government, Universities including UGC and other authorities for creating a proper library environment in each college and is successful to a large extent in this endeavour. There are other Library Associations also in the state and all of them are engaging themselves with their own goals in addition to a common goal: to create a proper library environment and a reading society. All these associations should have their policy in order to associate, coordinate with other LIS Associations in order to avail the benefits of different developments taken place in and around. They should identify common areas of concern and jointly work for evolving permanent solution for their betterment. The ACLA has taken one bold step by publishing the Newsletter; inviting the attention of the authorities concerned and the LIS Professionals of their support in creating a conducive library environment for the present day knowledge society. I am confident; ACLA will achieve its objectives.

March 27, 2017

**Prof Narendra Lahkar**  
*President, ACLA*

## ACLA Conference at Guwahati College

The 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Assam College Librarians' Association was held at Guwahati College on July 22-23, 2016. A National Seminar was also organized along with this two day programme. On July 22, the Inaugural meeting was chaired by the Principal, Guwahati College, Dr Pranab Sandilya. In his inaugural speech, Dr Sandilya shared his valuable ideas, thoughts and experiences regarding the importance and role of library and librarian in higher academic institutions. Prof Krishnapada Majumder from Jadavpur University graced the programme as Seminar Director. Prof Sanjay Kumar Singh, HoD, Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University was the Keynote Speaker of the National Seminar and in his speech he shared regarding the ICT applications in college libraries in Assam and their issues and challenges. In the inaugural programme, the journal published by the Association 'ACLA Bulletin' (Vol 8) edited by Dr Nirmal Ranjan Mazumdar and the 'Abstract Volume' of the National Seminar were also released. On July 23, Prof Narendra Lahkar, President, ACLA attended as a Chairperson of the Open Session. Prof Alaka Buragohain, Director of Media Trust, Assam and Dr Hari Prasad Sarma, Rector, Gauhati University attended the Programme as Chief Guests. The different issues and the prospect of the college librarians were expressed in their valuable speech.

The Souvenir of the 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference was released by Dr Sarma. The Association felicitated the retired College Librarians Ms Pranati Baruah, (Kakajan College), Mr Deva Hazarika, (Sibsagar College), Ms Rajlakshmi Dutta Bora, (Chaygaon College) and Ms Joya Khaond, (Dakshin Kamrup Girls' College) in the Open Session. The representative from Assam College Teachers' Association, Mr Biswajit Bhuyan and Mr Himangshu Maral were also present in this session as Invited Guest. In this two days programme more than 100 delegates from different parts of the state participated and discussed regarding different issues and challenges they are facing in their professional life. In the seminar, more than 65 papers were presented by different college librarians, library professionals as well as research scholars in different technical sessions. Mr Deba Hazarika, Retd Librarian, Sivasagar College, Ms Pranati Baruah, Retd Librarian, Kakojaan College, and Dr Tilak Hazarika, Asst Professor, DLISc, Gauhati University attended as the Chairperson in different technical sessions in the seminar. Mr Sadananda Nath, Librarian, Tinsukia Commerce College, was the Rapporteur General of this Seminar. During this Conference, a new executive body of ACLA was formed for the next session. Mr Anujoy Saikia, Librarian, Guwahati College acted as the Coordinator cum Organizing Secretary of this Programme.

### New Executive Committee of ACLA

#### Office-Bearers

<b>Adviser:</b>	Prof Alaka Buragohain	<b>General Secretary:</b>	Dr Prasanta Kumar Deka
<b>President:</b>	Prof Narendra Lahkar	<b>Assistant General Secretary:</b>	Dr Bibhuti Chaudhury Dr Sadananda Nath Dr Nabajyoti Das
<b>Working President:</b>	Mr Srimanta Madhab Bora	<b>Publicity Secretary:</b>	Dr Nirmal Ranjan Mazumdar
<b>Vice Presidents:</b>	Dr Labanya Hazarika Dr Dhruvajit Das	<b>Treasurer:</b>	Dr Gajendra Ballav Devchoudhury
<b>Organizing Secretary:</b>	Dr Jnandeep Saikia		

#### Executive Members

Mr Dipen Gogoi	Mrs Dipika Das	Mr Prasanta Bhattacharjee	Dr Gouri Sankar Karmakar
Dr Kishore Kalita	Mrs Bhagawati Narzary	Dr Ranjanjyoti Sarmah	Mrs Jitamoni Bhattacharjee
Mr Babul Malakar	Dr Utpal Sarma	Mr Anujoy Saikia	

## ACLA Zonal Meet

### At Silchar

A Zonal Level meeting of the Assam College Librarians' Association (ACLA) was held on September 14, 2016 in Radhamadhab College, Silchar, Assam. Prof Narendra Lahkar, DLISc, Gauhati University and the President of the Association chaired the meeting. In the meeting, a host of professional issues like academic status of the librarians, membership in the governing body of colleges, introduction of library and information science subject in undergraduate level, *etc* were discussed. The members of the ACLA (Barak Valley Zone) attended the programme and shared their views. Ms Sonali Choudhury, Librarian, Radhamadhab College acted as the Coordinator of this programme.

### At Tezpur

A meeting of ACLA, Tezpur zone was held on October 27, 2016 at Tezpur. Prof Narendra Lahkar, President of ACLA, presided over the meeting. Most of the college librarians of Tezpur zone were attended the meeting along with Librarian of Tezpur Law College. President Prof Lahkar informed all the steps taken by central committee for the development and uplift of the profession. Mr Hemanta Gogoi, Librarian, Chaiduar College expressed that, all the professionals should be technologically sound and all the members should keep in touch with each other through online or offline mode so that ACLA can take any steps for the betterment of our profession. Mr Ramani Haloi, Librarian, Udalguri College and Mr Pradip Dutta, Librarian, Lakhimpur Kendriya Mahavidyalaya were also present in the meeting and both of them were expressed their views for the development of our profession. All the members of Tezpur zone were agreeing to work together for the development of the Association and the library profession. Ms Mitali Goswami, Librarian, Tezpur College and Coordinator

of the zone offered vote of thanks to all the participants and to the President.

### At Sibsagar

A Special Zonal Level Meeting of the Assam College Librarians' Association (ACLA) was held on December 17, 2016 at Sibsagar Girls' College, Sivasagar district of Assam. Almost 35 college librarians from 5 Districts of Upper Assam (*i.e.* Sivasagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia) were present in the meeting. The Meeting was presided over by Mr Srimanta Madhab Bora, Working President and coordinated by Dr Jnyandeep Saikia, Organising Secretary of ACLA. Dr Prasanta Kr Deba, General Secretary; Dr Dhrubajit Das, Vice President, Dr Bibhuti Choudhury, Assistant General Secretary, Mr Sadananda Nath, Assistant General Secretary, Dr Jnyandeep Saikia, Organising Secretary & Dr Gajendra B Dev Choudhury, Treasurer of ACLA were also present in this meet and shared their views on different issues in detail. A host of professional issues like academic status of the librarians, membership in the governing body of colleges, introduction of SLET in LIS in Assam, *etc* were discussed and resolutions were taken unanimously for further improvement of the professionalism. Mr Abhijit Borpuhari, Librarian, Sibsagar Girls' College acted as the Convenor of this programme.

### Librarian Felicitated

Sjt Khorgeswar Bora, retired Librarian of DKD College, Dergaon as well as a noted educationist, and writer was felicitated and honoured as '*Granthapran*' for his outstanding contributions towards the greater Dergaon area on March 10, 2017. To mark the occasion, a festschrift volume titled '*Prajnalap*', edited by Dr Chandcharan Goswami was released by Prof Kandarpa Kumar Deba, Vice-Chancellor of Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankaradeva Viswavidyalaya, Nagaon. The programme was organized by Avinandan, a socio-cultural organization of Dergaon.

## National Seminar on ICT

A UGC sponsored National Seminar on 'ICT and Knowledge Management' was organized by Dikhowmukh College, Sivasagar, Assam in collaboration with IQAC, Dikhowmukh College and Library and Information Science Professional Association (LISPA), Assam on May 27-28, 2016. On May 27, Mr Dulal Boruah, President of Governing Body of the College inaugurated this National Seminar, where Dr Lutfun Nahar, Principal i/c has delivered the welcome speech. Dr Wakidur Rahman, President of LISPA attended as a Chairperson of the inaugural function. Professor Rabi Narayan Mishra, HoD, Department of Library and Information Science, Mizoram University was the keynote speaker for the programme. Dr Smritirekha Boruah, Deputy Librarian, Assam Agriculture University, Jorhat, Prof Sanjay Kr Singh, HoD, DLISc, Gauhati University, Dr Prasanta Kr Deka, Librarian, K C Das Commerce College, Guwahati, and Mr Deba Hazarika, Rtd.-Librarian, Sivasagar College attended as the Chairperson in different technical sessions in this two-day programme. More than 100 participants from LIS and other fields enrolled and presented papers in this seminar. Mr Prasanta Bhattacharyya, Librarian, Dikhowmukh College was acted as the Coordinator cum Organizing Secretary of this programme.

## National Workshop on Library in Digital Environment

A UGC sponsored National Workshop on 'Library in the Digital Environment' was organized by Uma Charan Bania Library and Education Center of Karmashree Hiteswar Saikia College in collaboration with Assam Library Association on July 4, 2016. In the inaugural session, Prof Alaka Buragohain, Director of Media Trust, Assam spoke on the importance of overcoming technological barriers in the growth of library which is the nucleus of learning. Prof Narendra Nath Sharma and many other dignitaries graced the occasion. The technical session was composed of presentations by invited resource persons, viz. Prof Narendra Lahkar, DLISc, GU, Dr Bikika Laloo, Associate Professor, DLISc, NEHU, Prof Sanjay Kr. Singh, Head, DLISc, GU and Dr Nabajyoti Das, Librarian, Handique Girls'

College. The experts mainly focused on the latest technologies used in libraries and how students and faculties can be benefited by it. Nearly 75 participants and 10 resource persons from Assam, Meghalaya and West Bengal were present. A book 'Digital Library: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities' edited by Mrs Gitika Das was released during the occasion. Mrs Das, Librarian, Karmashree Hiteswar Saikia College, Guwahati acted as the Convenor this programme.

## NACLIN 2016

The 19<sup>th</sup> National Convention on Knowledge, Library and Information Networking – NACLIN 2016, was held at Tezpur University which was jointly organized by Developing Library Network (DELNET), New Delhi and the University itself on October 26-28, 2016. On the very first day, the Convention was inaugurated by the Vice President of India, Sjt M Hamid Ansari. The Governor of Assam, Sjt Banwarilal Purohit, the Minister for Irrigation, Handloom & Textiles, Government of Assam, Sjt Ranjit Dutta and the Vice-Chancellor of Tezpur University, Prof Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri were present on this auspicious occasion. A number of papers contributed by LIS professionals from different part of the country have been presented in this three day Convention. Prof Narendra Lahkar, Prof of DLISc, GU and the President of the ACLA also chaired a technical session and he was one of the Panelists in this convention.

## PLANNER 2016

Promotion of Library Automation and Networking in North-Eastern Region (PLANNER) is a national convention with a special focus to uplift academic libraries in the North-Eastern region, India in the aspect of library automation and networking organized by INFLIBNET Centre. The 10<sup>th</sup> Convention PLANNER 2016 was organized by INFLIBNET in collaboration with NEHU, Shillong during November 9-11, 2016. A host of Library professionals from different corners of the country and abroad participated this convention and presented papers and shared their ideas. A number of ACLA members also attended this event and Dr Prasanta Kumar Deka, General Secretary of ACLA was invited to chair a session in this national convention.



## Golden Jubilee of DLISc, GU

The Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University started its golden jubilee celebration on September 27, 2016. The yearlong jubilee celebration was inaugurated by Prof Hari Prasad Sarma, Rector of the University. This is the pioneer department of LIS education in the entire north eastern part of the country. In connection with the celebration, a three day national workshop cum training programme on DSpace, was organized by the Inflibnet Centre, Gandhinagar, Gujarat in collaboration with Department of Library and Information Science and IDOL, Gauhati University, where thirty library professionals of different colleges, institutions and universities of Assam participated this workshop. A golden jubilee celebration committee has been formed with Mridul Hazarika, Vice Chencellor, GU as Patron, Prof Narendra Lahkar as Chairperson and Prof Sanjay Kumar Singh as organizing secretary. A series of programme will be organized by the Department as a part of the Golden Jubilee Celebration during the period.

## Book Released

A book titled 'Prospects of consortia for North East India Libraries' was released on January 24, 2017 at Department of Library & Information Science, Gauhati University by Prof AR D Prasad from DRTC, Bangalore. In the inaugural speech, Prof Prasad explained how knowledge can be represented in the internet era using the ontological framework for better and precise retrieval of information. This published book edited by Prof N Lahkar is an outcome of the proceedings of a national workshop held on March 17-18, 2016 organized by the Department and IGNC, New Delhi.

## RFID Installed at College Library

Gurucharan Medhi Library, Morigaon College, Morigaon has initiated the RFID system. Sjt Wooma Sankar Dev Nath, Librarian of K K Handique Library, Gauhati University inaugurated the system on August

2, 2016. Mr Alakesh Roy is working as Librarian in this Library.

## Lecture Programme on E-Resources

A Lecture Programme was organized by Radhamadhab College Library on the topic 'E-Learning Solutions at College Level' on September 14, 2016. Dr Kishore Satpathy, Librarian, NIT, Silchar attended the programme as the Chief Speaker who enlightened the stake holders of the college on a wide range of electronic resources, which can be immensely helpful for academic purpose. Ms Sonali Choudhury, Librarian of the College is the Coordinator of this programme.

## Tutorials on Digital Library and SOUL

Library and Information Science Professionals' Association (LISPA) and Central Library, Moridhal College of Dhemaji jointly organized a one day Special Meeting cum Tutorials on Digital Library and SOUL Software for College Librarians of Dhemaji and Lakhimpur District of Assam on December 15, 2016 where 43 participants have participated in this event. Mr Birender Pal, Librarian of Dhakuakhana College was the resource person and Mr Gunin Kr Dutta, Librarian of the College was the Organizing Secretary of the same.

## Call for Research Papers

Research papers/ Articles are invited from the LIS professionals for *ACLA Bulletin* (ISSN 2229-6492) to be published in the month of May, 2017. Papers should be brief and research oriented covering different issues and challenges of library services and LIS professionals. Authors are requested to submit article/ research paper preferably survey oriented before April 20, 2017 to [aclabulletin@gmail.com](mailto:aclabulletin@gmail.com). For details please log in [www.acla.co.in](http://www.acla.co.in)

Editors

Dr Nabajyoti Das/Dr Gouri Sankar Karmakar

## Let's Read Book

An awareness meeting on the theme '*Kitap Parhu Aahok*' ('Let's Read Book') was held on October 1, 2016 at the premises of Duliajan Girls' College in Dibrugarh district. The awareness programme was organized by the Central Library of the College in association with Assam Library Association (ALA), Guwahati. Prof Alaka Buragohain, President of the Association and the Director of Media Trust attended the Programme as Chief Guest. Prof Buragohain delivered a lecture on the role of library service and importance of books in a modern society. She urged public, specially the rural libraries to take initiatives for attracting readers. She emphasized on the library legislation in the State. As a guest of honour, Dr Nabajyoti Das, Librarian, Handique Girls' College, Guwahati explained how the reading habit makes a person mentally strong. Mr Dhiman Seal, General Secretary, ALA, and Librarian, Assam Engineering Institute, Guwahati, teaching and nonteaching staff along with the students of the College with many distinguished persons of the locality attended the programme in large number. Ms Rajurani Saikia, Librarian, Duliajan Girls' College was the Coordinator of this programme.

## Public Library Day Observed

The Assam Library Association (ALA) observed Public Library Day at the Satyanath Bora Hall on May 22, 2016 to mark the 244<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Raja Rammohan Roy. On this occasion ALA invited Dr. Bhupen Deka, retired professor of Gauhati Medical College as well as a social worker, and Mr Kanak Ch Sharma, noted writer and retired government administrator to speak and share their experiences on the topic 'Expectation of Readers from the Public Library Services'. The meeting was chaired by Prof Alaka Buragohain, President of ALA. Initiating the discussion, Prof Buragohain pointed out the role of the public library in creating an educated and enlightened society. She also mentioned regarding the Assam Public Libraries and Information Service Bill submitted to the Govt of Assam, which has been lying pending since 2008. Dr. Deka shared his experiences of

visiting various public libraries. Sjt Kanak Ch Sharma paid tribute to Raja Rammohan Roy and highlighted various contributions made by him towards society. He said the library movement in Assam in the pre-Independence period was started by the 'Satra Sanmilan' in 1916-17 for creating a reading environment in the villages. He pointed out that the library movement in Assam under the leadership of Kumudeshwar Barthakur starting from 1938, continued growing till the 1960s, and then gradually started diminishing from 1970 onwards. Mr Dhiman Seal, General Secretary of ALA threw light on the life and social works of the great social reformer Raja Rammohan Roy. A group of library professionals attended the programme and took active part in its programme.

## Seminar on Public Librarianship

Assam Library Association in association with the Directorate of Library Service, Assam, held a RRRLF Sponsored State-Level Seminar on 'Public Librarianship and the Glorious Heritage of Karmabir Nabin Chandra Bardoloi Library (Reading Hall): Plan for Renovation and Development' on January 22-23, 2017. The seminar was inaugurated by noted litterateur Nirupama Borgohain. East Guwahati MLA Siddhartha Bhattacharyya released the souvenir published on the occasion. State's Commissioner of Cultural Affairs Pritam Saikia also addressed the function. During these two days, besides the LIS professional, renowned Academicians, Journalists, Artists, Architects, *etc.* shared their views and demand on the public library system. Sjt Kanak Sen Deka, Dr Hiren Gohain, Sjt Biswa Dutta, Sjt Nirupama Bargohain, Dr Shyambhadra Medhi, Prof Narendra Lahkar, Sjt Kanak Chandra Sarma, Dr Pradip Sarma, Dr. Bhupen Deka, Mr Kishor Das, Dr Dhruvajit Das, Dr Utpal Sarma among others, took part in the seminar as distinguished speakers. A proposal for modernization of Karmabir Nabin Chandra Bardoloi Library has also been penned at this seminar. Prof Alaka Buragohain and Mr Dhiman Seal were the President and the Convener of the programme. Prof ARD Prasad from DRTC, Bangalore graced the valedictory session as Invited Guest.

## **Librarians' Day Celebration**

### **By ACLA**

Assam College Librarians' Association (ACLA) Barak Valley Zone observed 'National Librarians' Day' on August 12, 2016 in Gurucharan College, Silchar to commemorate the Birth Anniversary of Dr S R Ranganathan, the Father of Library Science in India. Prof Tapodhir Bhattacharjee, Ex Vice-Chancellor of Assam University was the Chief Guest of the Programme. In his valuable speech, he emphasized on the importance of libraries for the development of the nation and the importance of conventional print resources even in the age of ICT. Dr Sumanash Dutta, Dean, School of LIS, Assam University graced the occasion as Guest of Honour and he acknowledged the role of the librarians in transforming the students and the academic mind set, with which they proceed to support the teaching-learning process of the institution. At the outset, under the chairmanship of Dr Sourindra Kumar Bhattacharjee, President, Governing Body, Gurucharan College, the Principal Dr Bibash Deb and the librarian Mrs Sehnara Begum Choudhury welcomed all the dignitaries of behalf of ACLA. Mrs Sonali Choudhury Biswas, Librarian, Radhamadhab College, Silchar talked on 'Information Resources and E-Learning Solutions through Internet' and Ms Deepshikha Sen, Research Scholar, DLISc, Assam University highlighted the contributions of Dr Ranganathan in the field of LIS. The programme was attended by the faculty, non-teaching staff and students of the college along with a number of ALCA Members and other LIS science professionals from various organizations. On the same occasion, the inauguration of the six-month Diploma Course in Library and Information Science by B C Gupta Memorial Library, G C College, Silchar was officially announced by the college authority. The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Mr Pradip Kumar Sinha.

### **By Gauhati University**

Department of Library and Information Science, Guahati University celebrated Librarians' Day on August 12, 2016. A Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of the Head of the Department Prof. Sanjay Kumar Singh.

The Chief Guest Prof. Alaka Buragohain, President, ALA and Director of Media Trust, Assam, delivered a thought provoking lecture on the role of library services in the society and the changes occurred in the system. She has emphasized on the immediate need of Library Legislation in the state. The invited speaker Sjt Mahendra Nath Borah, Retd Librarian, Assam Agriculture University & Tezpur University being the student of first batch of the department enlightened on the evolution of the library from the past to the present. Sri Borah shared his experience of professionalism from 1966 to 2016. Dr Prasanta Kumar Deka, General Secretary, ACLA talked about Dr S R Ranganathan and his contributions to the field of library science. Prof R K Barman and Dr Tilak Hazarika, teachers of the department shared their views on the present library system and the contribution of Dr Ranganathan in today's context. In the Chairman's speech, Prof Singh shared his views regarding the importance of LIS education and the status of the librarian and expressed his views that the department will provide full support and cooperation for the enactment of Library Legislation in Assam. A number of college librarians, research scholars and students of library & information science participated in the celebrations in large number.

### **At Jorhat**

Jorhat Kendriya Mahavidyalaya celebrated Librarians' Day where Sjt Deba Hazarika, Retired Librarian, Sibsagar College and Dr Anjana Chaliha, President, Governing Body of the College graced the event as Chief Guests. Mr Hazarika in his valuable speech spoke about the duties and responsibilities of the students and the vital role of a library in moulding and shaping the young minds. On this auspicious occasion a 'Library song' has also been released. Dr Madhumita Handique, Librarian of this College convened the programme.

### **At Dhemaji**

Dhemaji College Library also observed the Librarians' Day with a Day long programme and arranged an essay competition on "Role of library in human resource development" among the students. Dr Labanya Hazarika, Librarian of this College convened the programme.

## **First Braille Library in Guwahati**

The first Braille library for the visually impaired students was inaugurated on January 4, 2017 at the Guwahati Blind High School as the day is marked as World Braille Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Louis Braille, the inventor of the Braille code. The library can now extend services to visually impaired students with the Braille versions of a variety of books and journals of including academic books, fiction, self-help, general knowledge. It needs mention that Amway Opportunity Foundation (AOF), the CSR arm of Amway India has supported the project. Dr M Angamuthu, Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup (M) inaugurated this special kind of library facility.

## **National Seminar on Library Professionals in Digital Era**

A two day UGC sponsored National Seminar was organised under the aegis of the Alokesh Chandra Barua Central Library, Pramathesh Barua College, Gauripur in Collaboration with Gauripur Sakha Sahitya Sabha on the topic 'Issues and Challenges of Library Professionals in Digital Era' on January 20 & 21, 2017. Dr Asit Kumar Das, Principal of the college chaired the inaugural session. The seminar was inaugurated by Mr Ganga Shankar Pandey, former Principal of the College. Dr Partha Sarathi Mukhopadhyay, Associate Professor, DLISc, Kalyani University took part as a keynote speaker. Prof Sanjay Kumar Singh, Professor & Head, DLISc, Gauhati University, Dr Badan Barman, Assistant Professor, DLISc, Gauhati University, Dr Subal Kumar Barui, Deputy Librarian, University of Calcutta were present as resource persons in the technical sessions. Dr Prasanta Kumar Deka, Librarian, K C Das Commerce College and General Secretary, Assam College Librarians' Association was present as a special guest. On the second day of the seminar a panel discussion was also organized on the topic 'Issues and challenges

for establishing Digital Library in the Colleges in Assam' chaired by Dr Sanjay Kumar Singh. A total numbers of 37 participants from various parts of the country were present in the seminar. Mr Tilak Sarma, Librarian of the College coordinated this programme.

## **Workshop on Library Automation**

Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in collaboration with Assam Don Bosco University organized a 'Workshop on Open Source Software for Library Automation' from the January 23 – 25, 2017 at the University's Azara campus. The workshop emphasized on the application of open source software and tools in libraries and provided hands-on training to the participants by the experts like Prof ARD Prasad; Prof Devika P Madalli, ISI, Bangalore; Dr Sunita Barve, NCI, Pune and Dr Gautam Kr Sarma, IDOL, Guwahati. The use and application of the open source software 'Koha' were taught with hands-on practice. Altogether 23 library and information science professionals from various parts of the north-eastern region and members of LIS communities participated in the workshop.

## **Peer-reviewed LIS Journal Released**

The second volume of peer-reviewed LIS journal *Granthakuthi* (ISSN: 2349-7386), published by Dibru College Central Library has been released on December 31, 2016 by the College Principal Dr Poresh Boruah. This journal is edited by Mrs Dipika Das, Librarian of this College. This issue on the theme 'Impact of ICT in Library Services' has been reviewed by Dr R C Gaur, Librarian, JNU, New Delhi, Dr M Saikia, Librarian, Tezpur University, Prof S K Singh, HoD, DLISc, Gauhati University, & Sjt U K Gogoi, Former Deputy Librarian, Dibrugarh University. This issue is dedicated to in loving memory of Late Nilim Choudhury (1960-2011), who was former Deputy Librarian and Librarian (I/c) of LNB Library, Dibrugarh University.



## One Day Workshop at Dhakuakhana College

A one day state level workshop entitled ‘Capacity Building on Library Automation and E-Resources for College Libraries’ was organized by Central Library, Dhakuakhana College in collaboration with Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Dhakuakhana College on March 18, 2017. Prof Rajani Kanta Barman and Prof Sanjay Kumar Singh, Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University provided their gracious presence as resource persons of the workshop. Dr Jugananda Sut, Principal, Dhakuakhana College delivered the inaugural speech elaborating the significance of the workshop. Mr Jamini Kumar Saikia, Coordinator, IQAC imparted his welcome speech. Prof Rajani Kanta Barman captured everyone’s attention through his speech on Library Automation. He highlighted the relevance of using technology for easy and smooth access to library sources. Prof Sanjay Kumar Singh contemplated on the significance of E-Resources for the college libraries in Assam. Advocating the need for complete digitalization of libraries he treaded on a multitude of avenues of e-resources amidst appreciation of the congregation. Mr Birender Pal, Librarian, Dhakuakhana College also informed the gathering about latest software versions for easy access to information regarding library resources. A total of ninety seven participants took part in the workshop highlighting the essence of the endeavour of the Dhakuakhana College fraternity.

### Paper Awarded

Dr Arun Kumar Sharma, Librarian, Assam University, Silchar was conferred the ‘DLA-Dr Ramesh Chandra Vashishth Best Paper in Library Herald Award -2016’ for the paper titled ‘Koha Web OPAC-Customising it to make a Library Portal: A Case Study of Assam University Library’ published in Library Herald (Vol 54 No 2) June, 2016. Dr Sharma is the principal author and Mr Vinod Kumar Mishra and Mr D P Tripathi, Assistant Librarians in NIT, Rourkela are the co-authors of this paper.

### Guwahati Library Opens 24/7

‘Competition Care’, a private library has been opened at Satgaon area in Guwahati that remains open 24 hours a day. The library has a good collection of books especially for aspirants who want to appear for UPSC, APSC, SSC, Bank PO, IIT JEE, *etc.* with the facilities like Wi-Fi connection, canteen service, quiet and relaxed reading environment. Mr Anshuman Gogoi is the proprietor of this library.

### An Appeal to the Members

All the esteemed Members of ACLA are hereby requested to deposit their Membership Renewal Fee to the following Bank Account. The newly appointed College Librarians are also appealed to collect the ACLA Membership Form from the Association’s website and submit the same accordingly.

#### **Account’s Detail:**

**ASSAM COLLEGE LIBRARIANS’ ASSOCIATION**

SBI (West Guwahati Branch)

Acc No: 30184795264 IFS Code: SBIN0006878

Dr Prasanta Kr Deka  
General Secretary, ACLA  
(Ph No 9864040110 / Email Id:  
dekapk@gmail.com)

## Achievement

Sehnara Begum Choudhury, Librarian, Guru Charan College, Silchar, has been awarded the Ph D Degree by Assam University for her research work 'Bibliometric Analysis of Doctoral Theses in Life Sciences Submitted to Assam University during 1996-2012' in 2017. Dr Choudhury completed her works under the supervision of Dr Mukut Sarmah, Assistant Professor, DLISc, Assam University.

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Sadananda Nath, Librarian, Tinsukia Commerce College, Tinsukia, has been awarded the Ph D Degree by Gauhati University for his research work 'College Library Effectiveness Study with Special Reference to Tinsukia and Dibrugarh Districts' in 2017. Dr Nath completed his works under the supervision of Prof Narendra Nath Sharma, Retired Professor, DLISc, Gauhati University.

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Kishore Kalita, Librarian, Barbhag College, Nalbari, has been awarded the Ph D Degree by Gauhati University for his research work 'Challenges and Realities of Children Libraries of Assam: An Analytical Study' in 2017. Dr Kalita completed his works under the supervision of Prof Narendra Nath Sharma, Retired Professor, DLISc, Gauhati University.

## Upcoming Events

### Golden Jubilee Talk at Gauhati University

Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University is arranging Golden Jubilee Talk on theme 'The dilemma of library collection in the electronic age: designing our future by taking small steps today'. Ms Julie Bobay, Executive Associate Dean, Indiana University Library, Bloomington, USA will deliver on the said theme on March 28, 2017 at 2.30 pm at Phanidhar Datta Seminar Hall, Gauhati University.

### Interaction with Guest Ms Julie Bobay

Assam College Librarians' Association is organizing an Interaction Programme with International Invited Guest Ms Julie Bobay on March 30, 2017 at 4 pm at Pandu College, Guwahati.

### Awareness Programme on Book Reading

Assam Library Association is organizing an awareness meeting on the theme '*Kitap Parhu Aahok*' ('Let's Read Book') at Barpeta Town on April 2, 2017 under the aegis of Enajori, Barpeta.

### CALIBER 2017

The 11<sup>th</sup> International Caliber organized by the INFLIBNET Centre will be held at Anna University, Chennai on August 2-4, 2017. The theme of this International event is 'Re-Envisioning Role of Libraries: Transforming Scholarly Communication.'

Detail can be accessed from <<http://caliber.inflibnet.ac.in/index.php>>

## **Prof Lahkar Elected as Vice President**

**P**rof Narendra Lahkar from Gauhati University and the President of ACLA has been elected (Uncontested) as the Vice President of IASLIC, a national level LIS professional body in India for the session 2017-19.

## **ACLA's President at National Library**

**P**rof Narendra Lahkar, President of ACLA was present as a Special Guest in the Librarians' Day Celebration on August 12, 2016 organized by the National Library in collaboration with the Central Reference Library, Kolkata. In his speech, he shared his view on the works of noted library scientists Dr S R Ranganathan and Melvil Dewey.

## **Talk on Public Library System**

**P**rof Alaka Buragohain was the Invited Speaker at Prof Prabir Roychaudhury and Amita Roychaudhury Endowment Lecture 2016 organized by the DLISc, University of Calcutta on September 7, 2016. She spoke on 'Public Librarianship in India in the Path of Transformation'.

## **AACEA Conference at Rangia**

**T**he 48<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of All Assam College Employees' Association was held at Rangia College on October 26-28, 2016. In the General Meeting held on October 28, the General Secretary of ACLA Dr Prasanta Kumar Deka was there as the Invited Guest and shared his expectation from this Association. He assured that both the ACLA and AACEA will march hand in hand for the development of the higher education in the state. He also demanded to fill up the vacant post of Library Assistant, Library Bearer, *etc* in the colleges soon.

## **AIFUCTO Academic Conference at Guwahati**

**T**he 30<sup>th</sup> Academic Conference of the All India Federation of University and College Teachers' Organisations (AIFUCTO) was held at Guwahati from December 7 to 9, 2016. The Assam College Teachers' Association (ACTA) hosted this three day meet where more than a thousand university and college teachers, besides some academic luminaries from different states and Union Territories of the country. The Assam College Librarians' Association, a Member of AIFUCTO was also associated with this event. Dr Prasanta Kumar Deka, General Secretary of ACLA was the Joint Secretary of the Organizing Committee where Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma, Education Minister of the State was the President of the same.

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## Obituary

Shri Bhadra Bora, retired teacher of Library & Information Science, Gauhati University and an eminent satirist passed away on March 1, 2017 at Guwahati at the age of 84. Starting his career as a lecturer of Assamese at Nowgong College, he moved to Shillong and became the Librarian in the Assembly Library and finally settled in Guwahati in the 1970s as a faculty member in the Department of Library Science, Gauhati University. He retired as the Reader and Head of the Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University in 1994.

Bora's humorous writings, spread over books and magazines, have been widely acclaimed. He was a columnist for *Dainik Asam*, a popular Assamese daily. He also used to write for the *Asomiya Pratidin* and the weekly *Asam Bani*. He has six books of satirical writings to his credit. DLISc, Gauhati University, Assam Library Association, Assam College Librarians' Association have mourned the death of this noted professional and writer.

## ACLA Welcomes You to the Noble Profession

- Ms Deepamoni Das joined as Librarian at Kampur College on March 2, 2016
- Mr Prafulla Kumar Mahanta joined as Librarian at Digboi College on August 1, 2016
- Mr Uninda Jyoti Choudhury joined as Librarian at Pragjyotish College on January 27, 2017

## Editors' Line

A hearty welcome to the very first issue of the ACLA Newsletter, a Newsletter of Assam College Librarians' Association. This Newsletter is a result of the proposal taken at the 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of ACLA held in July, 2016 and it aims both in publicizing and documenting the library activities in the state as a whole and those by the Association in particular. We would like to acknowledge those who have communicated the news on different library activities included in this Newsletter. We hope readers will enjoy this Issue and feel free to post their suggestions, comments or ideas regarding this Newsletter to us via email.

March 27, 2017

Dr Nirmal Ranjan Mazumdar/ Dr Kishore Kalita

**ACLA NEWSLETTER:** A Newsletter of Assam College Librarians' Association

**Editors:** Dr Nirmal Ranjan Mazumdar, Librarian, Pub Kamrup College, Baihata Chariali, Kamrup

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