

## **CONFERENCE REPORT**

### **National Conference Report: Transforming Education through Information Literacy: The Librarian's Perspective**

This landmark Event wonderfully Organized by the (RTLA) Rajasthan Technical Library Association held on *1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025* at King Edward Memorial Hotel, Ajmer (Rajasthan). This conference brought together thought leaders, Librarians, Academicians, Distinguished experts, Research scholars, to discuss the significant role of Librarians in Transforming Education Through Information Literacy and share their insights on the Easy Access and availability on information resources in a digital age and transformative power of information literacy in education. The Conference aimed to foster Collaboration, Explore Innovative Strategies, Strengthen the welfare of library professionals.

The first day of the conference 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2025 began with the arrival of delegates, who completed their registration process and received their conference kits. The well-organized registration desk ensured a smooth check-in experience for all attendees. Following the registration, delegates enjoyed a *refreshing breakfast*, providing an excellent opportunity for networking and informal discussions.

The conference officially commenced with an *online technical session*, where experts shared valuable insights on the theme of the event. The session chaired by Dr. Mukesh Pathak, deputy Librarian, school of Planning and Architecture , Bhopal, With Special guest appearance by Dr. Rishi Tiwari Head & Librarian at MNIT, Jaipur , Co-chaired by Dr. Pooja Gautam, Librarian – BIMTECH , Greater Noida and Rapporteur of the Online session was Dr. Seema Sharma , Chief Librarian ,NC Medical College and Hospital, Panipat. Total *10 papers* presented by the paper presenters in a very smooth way on different topics aligning with conference theme like exploring Inforpreneurship in libraries, Data Analytic stools, Green Libraries, Social Media Influence, Ranking and Accreditation of Libraries and so on. The session set the stage for engaging discussions and knowledge exchange among participants.

After the insightful technical session, delegates *relished a delicious lunch*, fostering discussions and networking. The meal break provided a refreshing pause before the next sessions.

After lunch, the **Opening ceremony** commenced with great enthusiasm, marking the formal beginning of the conference. A **solemn lamp-lighting ceremony** was conducted, symbolizing wisdom and knowledge. This was followed by a **graceful rendition of Saraswati Vandana**, by Mrs. Triveni Sharma, Librarian DAV Public School, Ajmer invoking the blessings of the Goddess of Learning. The auspicious start set a **positive tone** for the two-day academic discourse and knowledge-sharing sessions. .

The event started with a **thought-provoking address**, highlighting the significance of the gathering. **Mr. Qumar Abbas President RTLA** & Organizing Secretary of this Conference delivered the welcome address. Mr. Abbas extended kind wishes and warm welcome to all participants, setting the stage for meaningful discussions.

**Dr. Mukesh Pathak**, the **Conference Director**, warmly welcomed the participants, and provided comprehensive overview emphasizing the significance of the event in fostering academic and professional growth. He highlighted the conference's theme and encouraged meaningful discussions and collaborations among delegates.

The Honorable **Chief Guest** Dr. Raj Kumar Bhakar Prof. at Shri JYT University, Jhunjunu delivered a thought-provoking speech, inspiring the participants with profound insights on **success and moral values**. He emphasized that integrity, dedication, and ethical conduct are essential for personal and professional growth. Encouraging the audience to work wholeheartedly, he highlighted the importance of perseverance in achieving one's goals. He urged participants to strive for excellence in their respective fields, ensuring their profession reaches new heights. His motivational words left a lasting impact, inspiring everyone to shine through hard work, determination and dedication.

The distinguished dignitaries were **felicitated** with a **bouquet of flowers** and **mementos** as a token of appreciation and respect.

The **Honorable Chief Guest** and other **distinguished dignitaries** on the dais formally **released the conference proceedings**, titled **"Transforming Education Through Information Literacy: The Librarian's Perspective."** Mrs. Triveni Sharma delivered the **Vote of Thanks**. The session concluded on a note of appreciation and optimism for the insightful discussions ahead.

After the **opening ceremony**, the **second technical session** commenced, featuring insightful presentations on various contemporary topics. The session chaired by Dr. Anita Jain, Chief Librarian, JECRC, Jaipur and Co-Chaired by Dr. Kamlesh Patel, Retd senior Librarian, RPSC, Ajmer. And Rapporteur ***Five (5) research papers*** were presented; covering themes such as **inclusive libraries, bridging the knowledge gap for transgender communities, the role of libraries in the "One Nation, One Subscription" initiative, open access initiatives, and revolutionized library services**. Each presentation sparked engaging discussions, highlighting innovative perspectives and research findings.

Following the paper presentations, the session transitioned to an **invited talk** by **Mr. Umesh Sharma** on **"Effective Approaches to E-Resources Procurement in Libraries: Strategies, Challenges, and Best Practices"** by Mr. Umesh Sharma: Mr. Sharma shared his expertise on navigating the complexities of e-resource procurement. He outlined practical strategies, after the **second technical session**, delegates enjoyed a refreshing **high tea**, providing a relaxed environment for networking and discussions and evening took a vibrant turn with captivating cultural program featuring mesmerizing performances that showcased India's rich cultural heritage. The event was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impression on everyone. The day concluded on a delightful note with a **delicious dinner**, where participants engaged in informal conversations, reflecting on the day's insightful sessions. With enriching discussions, engaging presentations, and warm hospitality, **Day 1** ended on a memorable note.

Mr. Kumar Abbas and Mrs. Triveni Sharma again welcomed the participants on sunny morning of Sunday. The second day , 2 march, 2025 of the conference featured more insightful sessions on information literacy, digital libraries, and the future of knowledge management. The session chaired by Dr. Anamika Mathur, Associate Professor, MVGU, Jaipur, Co-chaired by Mrs. Triveni Sharma, Librarian, DAV Public School, Ajmer and Rapporteur of session Mr. Manish Sharma Asstt. Librarian, Govt. Rajindra Medical College and Hospital, Patiala. The **third technical session** commenced with the presentation of **(6) six insightful research papers** on diverse and contemporary topics. Scholars and researchers shared their perspectives on **Customer Relationship Management: Emerging Trends and Technology, the Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Libraries, the Importance of the One Nation One Subscription Initiative, and the Changing Role of Libraries in the Digital Era**. Each presentation provided

valuable insights, sparking meaningful discussions among participants. The session highlighted innovative approaches and emerging challenges in the evolving landscape of library and information science.

After the **third technical session**, the event proceeded with an **invited talk**, where a distinguished speaker shared valuable insights on a relevant topic. The first invited talk on **"Breaking Barriers: The future of knowledge sharing through One Nation, One Subscription"** by **Dr. Vineeta Chouhan**: Dr. Chouhan emphasized the importance of accessible and affordable knowledge sharing platforms. She highlighted the potential of a unified subscription model in bridging the knowledge gap across the nation. The second invited talk on **"The Evolving Role of Libraries in Research Data Management"** by **Mr. Manish Sharma**: Mr. Sharma discussed the emerging role of libraries in research data management. He explored the opportunities and challenges that libraries face in supporting researchers and highlighted the need for libraries to develop expertise in data management. The conference reached its pinnacle with a **remarkable guest talk** delivered by **Dr. Mukesh Pathak** on the **Concept of Research and Data Management**.

**Rapporteur, General Dr. Seema Sharma**, extend her deepest appreciation and extend her heartfelt gratitude to the honorable Chairpersons, esteemed dignitaries, speakers for sharing their profound expertise, organizers, participants and paper presenters for their invaluable contributions to the grand success of the National Conference.

***Libraries are not just repositories of books; they are temples of wisdom, bridges connecting the past, present, and future of knowledge.*** The insights shared over these two days reaffirm our collective commitment to preserving and evolving information literacy in India. This conference has provided valuable insights into the role of Libraries in preserving knowledge systems and the librarian's perspective.

The discussions on digital transformation and information literacy have set the foundation for future developments in the field.