

News

World Digital Libraries 7(2): 159–162 (2014)

A Move towards Digital India: Gujarat Libraries to Convert Over 70,000 Books into 'e-books'

Keeping pace with changing reading habits in the wake of the digital revolution, the Gujarat Director of Libraries (DoL) has decided to convert over 70,000 books into 'e-books' to make them available to readers online. These books will be available for the members through 'e-Library Reader' software for computers as well as through Android App for mobile phones. Under this project, around 1.95 crore pages of more than 70,000 books will be converted into e-book format and will be made available for their members within a time of 2–3 months. The collection belongs to two state-owned central libraries and a state repository centre, including State Central Library in Gandhinagar, Central Library in Vadodara, and State Book Repository Centre in Mehsana town.

Source: <http://news.oneindia.in/india/a-move-towards-digital-india-gujarat-libraries-convert-books-into-ebooks-1556969.html>

E-libraries to be Ready Soon

The prime minister of India is set to change the way students study. Soon, students will be able to access study material from universities and other educational institutes through their laptops, computers, tablets, or smartphones, through

National e-library project, which aims to create an e-library besides designing an audio-visual interactive platform for students and academic fraternity in the country. This system is set to become operational by next academic year. The project aims to provide academic content through the Internet and is part of government's initiative to promote education.

Several nations like Norway, the UK, and Israel have shown keenness to participate in the project with international partnership also likely to be worked out with UNESCO.

Source: <http://www.asianage.com>

Enabling the Blind to Access Printed Content: Optical Character Recognition Technology Converts Printed Books into Braille Books in Minutes

The Internet along with other technological innovations is changing the way people access content. Some organizations are using these technologies to help disabled or handicapped people get access to education that would have been too costly or impractical otherwise.

The Gift of New Abilities project, started by A G Ramakrishnan, has built a technological tool that enables any blind person to access content that is printed. His Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology can convert any

printed book into a Braille book in a matter of minutes. According to the former BPL executive, its current accuracy rate is 94–98 per cent.

Source: Mint—The Wall Street Journal, October 27, 2014

Google Launches Alliance to Promote Local Indian Languages

Content on Google will soon be available in multiple Indian languages as Google launched speech recognition tool for Hindi (major Indian languages such as Bengali, Tamil, and Marathi to be covered in 15 months). To expand the reach of the Internet to the 60 per cent non-English speaking people in the country, Google India has initiated an Indian Language Internet Alliance (ILIA), a group of stakeholders in this domain who will help push language content online. The first set of partners of this alliance includes media firms such as ABP News, *Amar Ujala*, Jagran Prakashan, NDTV, Network 18, Times Internet Limited, and others, apart from technology companies and the government-run Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).

Currently, there are around 200 million Internet users in India and the target is to reach 500 million in the next three years. This initiative is expected to help meet that target as only 400 million people in the country speak English. The majority of the content is in English at

present. The government is also working on a project to promote local language use across the entire technology eco-system. The project, called e-basha, is a critical part of the ambitious Digital India programme.

Source: Business Line, November 4, 2014

4th IEEE International Symposium on Emerging Trends and Technologies in Libraries and Information Services

Sustaining further its now well-established brand equity, the Emerging Trends and Technologies in Libraries and Information Services (ETTLIS) 2015 opened on January 6–8, 2015 at Jaypee Institute of Information Technology (JIIT), Noida and was marked by a power-packed inauguration at serene and sprawling campus of JIIT, Noida. Attended by a large fraternity of library professionals from across the country, the inaugural session opened with the ceremonial lighting of lamp by Dr Mark Hedges of Kings College, London, Dr S C Saxena, Vice Chancellor-JIIT, Noida, and other dignitaries.

Delivering the welcome address, Dr D K Rai, professor Jaypee Institute of Information Technology, informed that more than 200 participants from most of the states of India and 70 speakers from 20 countries attended the event and symposium, in its yet another first, has followed IEEE guidelines for peer reviewing



of the papers for maintaining the academic rigour and quality. The session took off with an impressive and knowledge-based talk by Dr Mark Hedges who dwelt upon the benefits of sharing data and new research from existing data. He tried to differentiate on big vs small science and how data has been scattered across institutions with limited facilities for data curation. Major topics discussed at the event included: emerging technologies in libraries and information services; global best practice in libraries and information services; changing dimensions of libraries in Internet era and user expectation, experience in virtual library system: case studies.

Austrian National Library Releases Collection through Europeana

A historic book collection from the Austrian National Library (Österreichische Nationalbibliothek) will be made freely available to the public via Europeana.eu, thanks to the library's digitization programme and Europeana's introduction of a new rights statement. The collection includes landmarks in the history of modern thought, such as texts by Martin Luther, as well as insights into more everyday life—from historic cookbooks to children's spelling books. The Austrian National

Library is the first library in Europe to share a collection that has been digitized as part of the Google Books project under the new rights statement. It is the first step towards creating a truly pan-European collection of books digitized in partnership with leading libraries and Google, available to the public via Europeana.eu.

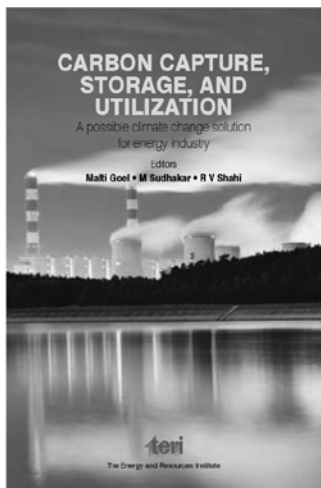
Source: <http://pro.europeana.eu>

CrossRef and DataCite Collaborate on DOIs

CrossRef and DataCite have launched an initiative to accelerate the adoption of digital object identifiers (DOIs) for data publication and citation.

Together, the two organizations have registered almost 75 million DOIs. Data is essential building blocks of scholarship and research in the sciences, medicine, technology, social sciences, and humanities. DataCite and CrossRef say they will work together to ensure that researchers can seamlessly navigate among all research results, including articles and data—and to make data a “first-class, identifiable, referenceable, and citable element in the scholarly record”.

Source: <http://www.researchinformation.info/>



CARBON CAPTURE, STORAGE, AND UTILIZATION

A possible climate change solution for
energy industry

Editors

Malti Goel, M Sudhakar, and R V Shahi

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Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) is among the advanced energy technologies suggested to make the conventional fossil fuel sources environmentally sustainable. It is of particular importance to coal-based economies.

Carbon Capture, Storage, and Utilization deals at length with the various aspects of carbon dioxide capture, its utilization and takes a closer look at the earth processes in carbon dioxide storage. It discusses potential of carbon capture, storage, and utilization as innovative energy technology towards a sustainable energy future. Various techniques of carbon dioxide recovery from power plants by physical, chemical, and biological means as well as challenges and prospects in biomimetic carbon sequestration are described. Carbon fixation potential in coal mines and in saline aquifers is also discussed.

Key Features

- Analyses how current research on carbon capture, storage, and utilization is being pursued throughout the world.
- Presents details of earth process in carbon sequestration such as saline aquifers, minerals, rocks, and coal mines.
- Describes the new cost-effective processes being developed in carbon dioxide utilization for value-added products.

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