REPORT OF THE TWO DAYS NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SCHOOL LIBRARIES IN DIGITAL AGE (COSCOLIDIA) 2016

Brief report and recommendations of the 2-Day National Conference on School Libraries in Digital Age (COSCOLIDIA) organized by Bharatesh Education Trust's Global Business School, Belagavi; Jain Heritage School (JGI), Belagavi; and, Journal of Library Development (JLD) during May 12 & 13, 2016 at Jain Heritage School, Udyambag, Belagavi.

The 2-Day conference was inaugurated on May 12, 2016 at Auditorium of Jain Heritage School. Prof. S.B. Hosamani, Honorable Vice Chancellor, Rani Channamma University, Belgavi was the Chief Guest and inaugurated the conference. In his inaugural address Prof.Hosamani shared his experience with library and said that the zeal to read and know new things is the essential element rather than infrastructure and other pre-requisites to be good reader or library user. He discussed on need of information and said 'Knowledge grow like sapling; and, knowledge is power in digital economy not the money. Dr. Mrs. MadhuBhargav, Dean of Libraries, G.D. Goenka World School Sohna, Gugaon; Director of International Schools, International Association of School Librarianship, USA; Regional Standing Committee Member, Asia Oceania – IFLA (UN); delivered the keynote address. In her address Dr.MadhuBhargav said 'librarians should lead the collaborative learning practices in the schools to make the young minds equipped with the skills to face the ever changing digital world. Further, she called upon the librarians being Digital Migrantsto develop the skills required to serve the Digital Native. Shri Doddanavar, Chairman, Bharatesh Education Trust, Belagavi presided over the inaugural session. Shri Doddanavar in his Presidential address emphasized on need of such academic gathering to discuss, deliberate and help the decision makers to make the library services more effective. Guest of Honor Mrs Shraddha K., Director, Jain Heritage School, Belagavi, in her speech emphasized on need of horning the reading skills among teachers, parents and trainers, who are the motivators and initiators of reading habits in Young Minds. The inaugural address concluded with Vote of Thanks by Mr. BharathAlasandi, Organizing Secretary of the Conference and Librarians of Global Business School, Belagavi.

The first Technical Session commenced with the brief introduction to the theme and sub-theme of the conference; and expectations from the deliberation during the conference by the Conference Director Dr. P.G. Tadasad, Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, KSWU, Vijaypur.

The session was chaired by Dr. S.K. Savanur, Former Librarian British Council and Mr. Sandesh Desai, Librarian, Goa College of Engineering and Technology was the Rapporteur.

Smt. Usha Mukunda, Founder Member, Center for Learning (CFL) and Member of Karnataka Knowledge Commission presented the paper on 'A life-long relationship with reading: the school library as catalyst'. Skill, joy, privilege and life-long relationship with reading was discussed in this

paper. The Six Es – Environment, Exposure, Ease of Access, Encouragement, Enhancement and Enrichment – are presented and discussed how they can be made interoperable with the library activities to enhance the reading culture.

The two paper presentation were the part of this session. Ms. Sheetal Hiremath presented the paper on 'Impact of Digital Learning in Schools of Dharward: A Study' and, Mr. Hanumantappa presented his paper on 'Android applications to develop learning abilities of school libraries'.

After a delicious lunch, the Technical Session 2 was chaired by Dr. A.D. Krishna Raghavendra, Former Manager British Library and Former Librarian, Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) and Dr. Maranna O, Assistant Professor, Rani Channamma University was the rapporteur.

Dr. Sunil M.V. presented the invited paper 'Measuring up to standards: a case study of adoption of a school library'. In his presentation Dr. Sunil shared the experience in implementing standards, protocols, and best practices in Arivu Library Automation Project.

There were 3 paper presenters in this session – Mr. Anandagoud presented the paper on 'Development of reading skills of students having difficulty in reading: a study'; Mr. RajuGadad shared the success story of Good Shepherd Central School Library; Mr. Jagadish C. Patil, presented the paper 'Role of school libraries in inculcating human values in children'.

The product presentations by Tata Class Edge was the part of this session.

The last session of Day 1 i.e. Technical Session 3 was chaired by Dr. Sunil M.V., Librarian, SDM Institute for Management Development (SDMIMD), Mysuru and Mr. Nagaraja, Librarian, Regional Institute of Education (RIE), Mysuru was the rapporteur.

Mr. S.L. Faizal, Librarian, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Pattom, Kerala was the invited speaker for the session.

Mr. Faizal presented the paper on 'School library as a social space to collaborate, create and share: a social media perspective'. He shared the implementation of Web 2.0 technologies and Social Media tools to reach out the users in a school library.

Dr. S.K. Savanur, Former Librarian, RIT Mumbai, presented another invited paper on 'School Libraries and Children's Libraries' a Middle Ground' sharing the need for development of common information gateway to reach out e-Books, open access resources and other information resources.

The third invited paper in this session was by Shri. Madhwesh Kulkarni on 'Enabling Digital Education' presenting the model of digital learning to the current teaching-learning methodology.

There were 2 paper presentations was the part of this session. Mr. Peter Dunoon presented the paper on 'Information Literacy and Today's School Library'; and the paper 'Web search behaviour of school children: a study of school children of Vijayapura City, Karnataka' was presented by Ms. Shobha Patil and Ms. Deepthi.

Day-1 ended with this session and outside a beautiful rain with cool breeze say good bye for the day and asked to reassemble for Day – 2.

The Day-2 started with Technical Session 4 with Dr. A.R. Rotti as Chairman and Mr. BasavarajKumbar as rapporteur.

Mr. Nagaraja, S., Librarian, Regional Institute of Education (RIE), Mysuru, presented the invited talk on 'Online resources and tools for librarians to manage the school library in digital age'. Mr. Nagaraja shared Open Access tools and resources for effective management of School Library.

There were 3 paper presentations in this session. Mr. RanjanaUpashi presented the paper on 'Student assessment programme: a case study of Bharatesh English Medium School, Belgaum'; 'Reading habit: a key for a successful lifelong learning' by Dr. Sunil M.V.; and, SurajBankapur's paper presented by Dr.VinayakBhankapur on 'Reading: a weapon for a strong mind'; were the part of this paper presentation.

The product presentations by Prism Books was the part of this session.

After a tea break the gathering assemble for Technical Session 5 with Mrs. Asha Rajput, Principal, Angadi International School, Belgavi as Chairperson and Mr. Ravi Shivanaikar, Librarian, Jain Medical College, Belgavi as rapporteur.

Dr. Sunil M.V., Librarian, SDM Institute for Management Development, Mysuru, presented the paper 'New avatar of Information Literacy' emphasizing on need of Information Literacy and how it can be integrated with library hour plan. The tools to design the library hours from Class I to 12 was the part of the presentation.

There were 4 paper presentation - Ms. Sunita S. Patil on 'Developing reading skills in school children'; Ms. Vijayalaxmi presented the paper on 'Inculcating reading habits among children of different age groups'; Mr. Vijalaxmi presented the paper on IFLA standards; Dr. Vinayak Bankapur presented the paper on 'Library Culture in Schools'.

The product presentations by Scholastic Books and DIMDIMA was the part of this session.

The post-lunch we have interactive and informative panel discussion on the theme 'School World of Reading, Leaning and Growing' with Shri Vinod Doddanavar, Smt. Usha Mukunda, Shri. S.L. Faizal, Prof. P. G. Tadasad, Prof. Vinayak Bankapur and Prof. Govind Welling, as panel experts and Smt. Swatee Jog as Moderator.

The expert panel discussed on the skills requirement for school librarians; facilities in school libraries; responsibilities of authorities and administrators for effective functioning of school libraries; paper on school librarianship in B.L.I.Sc. and M.L.I.Sc., program; and, discrimination in salary, status and service recognitions among librarians to teaching community; were the topic of discussion.

This 2-Day Conference witnessed 7 invited papers, 14 paper presentation, 4 product presentations and 1 panel discussion on different dimensions of School Library.

A detailed recommendation pertaining to - need of awareness and exposure program for school librarians; plan of action to have effective collection policy; minimum space requirement and effective use of school library space; planning for interactive library hour; policies & procedure to manage loss of books and withdrawing of unused books; development of school library manual;minimum pay scale for school librarians; and, appointment of librarians at Government Secondary Education Department, Government of Karnataka; is attempted. The recommendations will be submitted to the organizer for further action.

I thank the organizers and authorities of the conference for giving me an opportunity to present this report and to be a part of this conference. On behalf of all the participants I request the organizers to continue your support to school libraries and make it more vibrant and visible.

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