



KLA Newsletter

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Prof. K. A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture, 2009



**Shri. P. Jayarajan, former Country Head, British Council Libraries, India delivers
Prof. K. A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture, 2009
at the Lecture Hall, Dept. of Library and Info. Science, University of Kerala**

**Seated in the dais are (from L to R) Shri. P. K Suresh Kumar, General Secretary,
KLA, Shri. K. P. Sadasivan, President, KLA and Dr. A. Gopikuttan, Head,
Department of Library and Information Science**

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Vinar

From the President's Desk

Greetings from Kerala Library Association!

It gives me great pleasure to share with you the fact that KLA has indeed matured as a professional society, which is amply reflected through the democratic election process, resulting in the smooth change-over of its governance to a new team of office-bearers. On behalf of the Regional Committees and the Central Committee, I express my gratitude to all our members and well-wishers for the trust and confidence bestowed upon us and I seek your sustained support and co-operation to further strengthen our Association for the ultimate upliftment of our profession.

There are quite a few issues to be debated. One of the areas warranting priority is Quality in Professionalism.

Quality assurance in professionalism in LIS is a matter of serious concern of our times. The mis-match in the demand-supply equation in the job market is, of course, not confined to our profession alone. The matter of convergence of employment opportunities and employability standards are widely debated in all professional sectors. Several factors contributed to the gradual deterioration of the situation. An off-the-shelf solution is an impossibility. At the same time, allowing the situation to undergo the natural course of development (or deterioration?) is disastrous!

There is no dearth of opportunities for challenging jobs.... There is a growing misconception in our society about our capabilities..... We are sitting in the knowledge market with a 'basket of apples and oranges' mixed! There is an

imbalance in our perception on performance and perks. Added to the crisis is the pervasive damp squib message of mediocrity breeds mediocrity. The best talents are rarely attracted to our profession.

These are some of the conflicting issues creating chaos. But we need to steer clear the foggy zone. We have to sit back and factorize the issues, identify the causative factors and frame up effective solutions in order to salvage our profession. We need to invest our efforts in real earnestness to help build a stronger new generation.

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Well, this is precisely the philosophy behind our decision to create a platform for capacity building in their professional pursuit. Launching of the UGC NET Exam Coaching Programme is just one example of putting our ideas to practice. We believe that the overwhelming response to this programme, launched by a professional society like KLA is perhaps the maiden attempt of its kind in India. A few more wide ranging programmes aimed at the sustained growth of our professionals in their knowledge and skill development are also planned. We solicit your support and patronage for the venture.

No doubt, we continue with our proactive initiatives and interventions with the Government machinery on a host of issues related to School Libraries, Common Pool Librarians, implementation of UGC Scheme, recommendations to the Tenth Pay Revision Commission of Kerala , etc. We believe that wisdom will prevail in the decision-making process by the agencies concerned. They have to decide whether quality or quantity at the cost of quality is more important for the betterment of academic and research areas in our education system in the long run.

Professional excellence should have an osmotic effect leading to distributed capabilities and consequential benefits. KLA has been striving to spread this message among our professionals. I wish to remind our fraternity that we can achieve excellence and get recognition only by performance, and it primarily depends on your own inertial strength and proactive role. We must realize that getting higher grades or scales of pay shall not be the sole purpose of acquiring higher academic qualifications.

Let me conclude with a plea to other professional societies in LIS across our country to initiate collective efforts to improve the plight of our profession sector-wise, in the respective States. An action plan for School Libraries could perhaps be undertaken first, in the backdrop of the drastic changes in our School Education System initiated by the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India.

Let us realize the fact that the elixir of empowerment is within us. Let this realization help us win the wars!

With warm regards,

Sadasivan, K. P.
President, KLA

General Secretary Speaks

Dear Professional Colleagues,

It is my pleasure and proud privilege to thank the members of the Kerala Library Association for electing me as General Secretary for the period 2009-11. I am very much aware of the enormous task and great responsibility of the General Secretary of a premiere and prestigious Association of the library and information professionals in Kerala and even outside Kerala. I take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to every one of you and solicit the cooperation and support from all LIS professionals for the successful and smooth functioning of the Association.

Within the span of one year we could do something meaningful in convincingly transmitting the message for a qualitative change in the LIS domain, particularly to the officials of the Government and allied

agencies. Let us hope that the representations submitted to the authorities concerned and the follow up discussions undertaken will bring the desired benefits to the library profession as well as the professionals in the coming days.

In response to the Notification issued by the Pay Revision Commission Kerala-2010, calling for inputs from various institutions, associations, agencies and individuals, KLA worked out a thoroughly studied comprehensive document and submitted to the Commission. The Memorandum stressed the need for revising the scale of pay of various posts of librarians working in different categories under the Government including Common Pool Libraries, State Central Library, Legislature Secretariat Library, University Libraries, Municipal Libraries and Panchayat Libraries. We are keeping our fingers crossed for the call from the Pay Revision Commission for a detailed discussion.

KLA vehemently opposed the move of the Government to induct semi-professionals and non-professionals as Librarians in Schools by making drastic amendments to the provisions contained in GO(P) No.331/01/GE dated 09/11/01 as SRO No.1009/01 dated 12/11/2001. Our representatives met the Minister for Education and submitted a Memorandum, expressed our concern and requested him to retract from the move and ensure appointment of qualified Librarians in the Government and Aided Higher Secondary Schools and in High Schools too. The Minister had agreed to examine the issue. The same issue was concurrently brought to the attention of the Leader of the Opposition too. We are closely monitoring the developments.

The UGC NET Coaching Programme initiated as a venture aiming at capacity building in our professional domain, is indeed a landmark in the history of activities of Kerala Library Association. I am very happy to inform you that the second batch of the coaching programme for the UGC NET examination for December 2010 will be started from the second week of September 2010. Those who are interested may contact the General Secretary or the President through e-mail or phone. The details are available in our website www.keralalibraryassociation.org

With the rapid changes in the Information Communication Technology, the library profession and the Library and Information Centres are passing through a period of transition. In many forums a major topic of debate is the attitude of the library professionals in rendering the services to the user community. The general opinion that has evolved in these forums is that it is time to do some soul-searching and introspection by all the professionals as to whether we are treading on the right path. The need for soft skill development has also been highlighted. Hence, on behalf of the Kerala Library Association, I humbly request all the library professionals and new entrants to the profession to adopt a professional approach and maintain ethical standards of behaviour to fellow workers, to other members of the library profession and to the society in general.

With warm regards,

P. K. Suresh Kumar
General Secretary, KLA

The New Central Committee 2009 – 2011

KLA Annual General Body Meeting and Election of Office Bearers

The 37th Annual General Body Meeting of the Kerala Library Association was held at 3 pm on 19th July 2009 at the Head Office of the Association. Sri. N. Sukumaran Nair, President presided. Dr. K. P. Vijayakumar, General Secretary, presented the Annual Report of the Association for the year 2008 – 09. Sri P. K. Suresh Kumar, Treasurer, presented the audited statement of accounts of KLA and the audited statement of accounts of C. A. Augustine-Holy Cross Endowment for the year 2008 – 09 and the Assets and Liabilities of the Association as on 30 – 06 – 2009. He also presented the budget for 2009 – 10. The Annual Report, Accounts and Budget were approved by the General Body. The President nominated Sri. Sukumaran, Librarian, Asianet as the Returning Officer for the conduct of election of Office Bearers of the Association for 2009 – 11. Since there were two panels, election was conducted and the following members were declared as Office Bearers of the Association for 2009 – 11.

President	: Shri. K. P. Sadasivan KVRA-40, Vadayakkad, Vanchiyoor.P. O, Trivandrum- 695 035
Vice President	: Dr. A. Gopikuttan Reader, DLIS, University of Kerala
General Secretary	: Shri. P. K. Sureshkumar Reference Assistant, Kerala University Library, Trivandrum
Treasurer	: Shri. G. S Harikumar Librarian Gr. I., Govt. Ayurveda College, Trivandrum
Office Secretary	: Shri. M. Mohammed Shanavaskhan Librarian, Legislature Secretariat Library, Trivandrum
Organizing Secretary	: Dr. M. Lalitha Librarian, SCERT, Trivandrum – 695 012
Public Relations Secretary	: Shri E. Hashim Reference Assistant, Kerala University Library, Trivandrum

Executive Committee Members:

1. Shri A. Abdunnasar, Librarian, Centre for Earth Science Studies, Trivandrum
2. Shri. Anilkumar, Ref. Asst, Kerala University Campus Library, Kariavattom
3. Shri M. Chandrakumaran Nair, Senior Librarian, Regional Cancer Centre, Trivandrum
4. Dr. Hemachandran Nair, Asst. Librarian, Kerala University Library, Trivandrum
5. Shri. N. Parameswaran, Librarian, Asian School of Business, Technopark, Trivandrum.
6. Shri. P. Sainul Abideen, Librarian, IITMK, Trivandrum
7. Shri. N. Sukumaran Nair, Deepanjali, T. C. 9/1796 Sasthamangalam, Trivandrum
8. Dr. Vijayakumar, K. P. Reader, DLIS, University of Kerala

Auditor

: Shri S. Arumugham
Asst. Librarian, Kerala University Library (Retd),
“Kurinchi”, T.C. 21/ 859 (25), Killipalam, Trivandrum - 695 002

Regional Committees Reconstituted

On behalf of the Central Committee Shri. K. P. Sadasivan, President, KLA and Shri.P. K. Suresh Kumar, General Secretary attended the meetings at Ernakulam on 7th October 2009, at Kozhikode on 8th October 2009, at Kottayam on 10th December 2009 and at Thrissur on 17th December 2009. All the four Regional Committees have been reconstituted on the corresponding dates through the democratic election process as envisaged in the Bye-laws of KLA. The functionaries are given below:

Kottayam

President: Fr. Jose Viruppel
Librarian, S. B. College, Changanacherry
Secretary: Shri S. Unnikrishnan
Assistant Librarian, M G University,
Kottayam

Executive Committee members

1. Shri J. Suku, Assistant Librarian, M G University
2. Shri. Johny John Nidhiri
Librarian, Deva Matha College,
Kuravilangad
3. Sr. Mercy, Librarian, Assumption
College, Changanacherry
4. Smt. Annu George, Assistant
Librarian, M G University Library
5. Shri. Justin, Librarian, St Joseph's
College of Engineering, Pala

Special Invitees

1. Dr. R. Raman Nair, University
Librarian, M G University
2. Dr K. P. Somanathan Nair, Head,
DLIS, M G University
3. Sri A. J. Philip, Former Librarian,
St Stephen's College, Uzhavoor
4. Smt Laila T. Abraham, Deputy
Librarian, M G University

Ernakulam Region

President: Shri. K. Balachandran
Assistant. Librarian, Dept. of Applied
Economics, CUSAT
Secretary: Shri Anoop Varma
Junior Librarian, University Library,
CUSAT

Executive Committee Members

1. Shri S Shibu Ray, Asst. Librarian,
University Library, CUSAT
2. Shri Joe Joseph, Junior Librarian,
Dept. of Computer Science,
CUSAT
3. Shri P J Manuel, Asst. Librarian,
School of Marine Sciences,
CUSAT
4. Shri Cherian K. George, Librarian,
UC College, Aluva
5. Sr. Asritha, Librarian, St. Teresa's
College, Ernakulam

Sectional Committee Members

1. Shri B.S. Shaji, Librarian, S.N.M. Training College, Moothakunnam
2. Dr. C. Beena, Assistant Librarian, CUSAT
3. Shri Sajeev Kumar, Librarian, Hindustan Organic Chemicals, Cochin
4. Shri Thampi, K. E., Librarian, NIO Regional Centre, Cochin
5. Shri Sivan Kutty, Professional Assistant Gr. I, CUSAT

Special Invitees

1. Mrs. Baby Valsala, University Librarian- in -Charge, CUSAT
2. Shri C. Wilson, Librarian, NPOL, Cochin
3. Shri Mathew Varghese, Former Librarian, Mar Athanasius College, Kothamangalam

Thrissur Region

President:Shri.S.Azhagiri
Librarian, Govt. Sanskrit College, Pattambi
Secretary :Shri. E. K. Mohanlal
Assistant Librarian, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur

Executive Committee Members:

1. Shri. Humayoon Kabeer, Librarian, Govt. Medical College, Thrissur

2. Shri. K. Rajendran, Librarian, Kerala Sahithya Academy, Thrissur
3. Smt. K.N. Vijayalekshmi, Librarian, Govt. Engineering College, Thrissur
4. Shri K.D. Anto, Librarian, Prajyothi Nikethan Collge, Puthukkad
5. Shri K.R. Nagarajan, Librarian, IASE, Thrissur
6. Shri. V.C. John, Librarian, St. Thomas College, Thrissur

Special Invitees

1. Smt. K. K. Lalitha Bai , Former Reader & Head, DLIS, University of Kerala
2. Shri. K. Rajasekharan, Librarian, KILA, Thrissur
3. Sri. K. P. Sathian, Librarian i/c, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur

Kozhikode Region

President : Dr. M. G. Sreekumar,
Librarian & Head, Centre for
Development of Digital Libraries,
IIM Kozhikode

Secretary: Dr. Dineshan Koovakkai
Assistant Librarian, University of Calicut

Executive Committee Members

1. Shri. T. M. Vasudevan, Selection Grade Lecturer, DLIS, University of Calicut
2. Shri. M. V. Shantakumar, Prof. Asst. Gr. I, Dept. of Statistics, University of Calicut
3. Shri. V. Shaji, Prof. Asst. Gr. I, Dept. of Malayalam, University of Calicut
4. Ms. K. Minimol, Prof. Asst. Gr. I, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Calicut

5. Shri. P. K. Sasi, Research Scholar, DLIS, University of Calicut

Special Invitees

1. Dr. V. Jalaja, Head, DLIS, University of Calicut
2. Dr. T. A Abdul Azeez., Deputy Librarian I/C, CHMK Library, University of Calicut
3. Dr. K. Muhamed Haneefa, Lecturer, DLIS, University of Calicut
4. Prof. M. Parameswaran, Former Head, DLIS, University of Calicut
5. Shri. P. Jayarajan , Former Country Head, British Council Libraries in India

Information Technology Group

1. Shri. A. J. Tomson, Librarian, St. Thomas College, Devagiri, Kozhikode
2. Shri. K.M. Musthafa, Librarian, AWH Engineering College, Kozhikode
3. Ms. K.G. Shyni, Professional Asst. Gr. I, CHMK Library, University of Calicut

Programmes

Prof. K. A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture - 2009

Kerala Library Association organized the Professor K. A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture-2009 on 21.10.2009 at 3.30 pm at the Department of Library and Information Science Hall, University of Kerala. The fifth lecture in the series was delivered by Shri. P. Jayarajan, Former Head of British

Libraries in India. The topic was “**Library and Information System in India: Future Prospects**”.

The meeting started with the Invocation by Miss. Abhila. The function was presided over by Shri K. P. Sadasivan, President, KLA. Shri.P. K. Suresh Kumar, General Secretary, welcomed the gathering. Shri Sadasivan in his introductory remarks stated that we are fortunate and delighted to have Shri. Jayarajan as our Guest of Honour of the Day as he happened to be the trusted disciple of both Professor Isaac and Dr. S. R. Ranganathan.

Shri. Jayarajan in his Talk recollected the fond memories of yester years when he was a student of the department in the same Hall/Class Room where he is delivering the lecture on this day. His inimitable style of speech interspersing the core subject of the Lecture and his personalized recollections of his experiences in the DLIS of Kerala University and in DRTC, Bangalore under the two great leaders of our profession was indeed a rare experience for the 70 plus people gathered in the Hall, who included both senior professionals and young students. The atmosphere was charged with a kind of strong nostalgic effects to many.

He touched upon the overall development of Library system from 1930 to 1970 and then from 1970 to the stage of the Recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission. He presented his views about libraries in India in 2020. The Library Science education should have three facets such as Library Skills, Management Skills and Technological Skills. Also the next generation libraries should be smaller in size with a lot of ambience. It should be a Knowledge Centre. 6000 villages in India should have

at least one Public Library for every 10 villages.

Dr. A. Gopikuttan, Vice President, KLA, in his speech that followed, narrated the biographical sketch of Prof. Isaac. He recollected quite a few of his memorable experiences associated with Prof. Isaac. He said that the demise of Prof. Isaac was a great loss to the library professionals in India, especially for the Department of Library & Information Science of the University of Kerala.

Dr. M. Lalitha, Organizing Secretary KLA, offered Vote of Thanks.

UGC-NET Exam Coaching Programme for June 2010

In view of the growing demand for NET qualified personal in LIS profession, and as part of the Association's mission to complement the capacity building in LIS for future, KLA decided to initiate a Training Programme to coach the aspiring candidates for the UGC NET Exam in Library and Information Science. It was the first ever initiative of this nature by a professional Association in the State to train the LIS professionals. Our initial feelers indicated a very encouraging response. After meticulous planning and scheduling the coaching programme targeting the UGC NET Exam for June 2010 was launched.

The programme was formally inaugurated at 10.00 am on 21.02.2010 by Dr. Balamohan Thampi, President of the Kerala State Library Council & Former Vice-Chancellor of Kerala University. The brief inaugural function was presided over by the President KLA and the same was held at the KLA Hq., Karamana. This was followed by an interactive session with the participating students by a Panel consisting of Dr. KP

Vijayakumar, Shri N. Sukumaran Nair, Shri PK Sureshkumar and Shri KP Sadasivan. The classes were held on Sundays and other public holidays from 10a.m to 5 p.m with four sessions of 90 minutes each day. Fifteen Faculty Members taught various subjects covering Papers I, II & III spanning 106 Sessions. The nature of coaching included Lectures, Discussions, regular Test Papers and Model Examinations on all the three Papers. The classes were handled by a team of well qualified and experienced professionals with rich experience in teaching/ practicing librarianship.

The Members of Faculty were the following:

1. Dr. A. Gopikuttan, HOD, DLIS, University of Kerala
2. Dr. K. P. Vijayakumar, Reader, DLIS, University of Kerala
3. Dr. S. Humayoon Kabir, Reader, DLIS, University of Kerala
4. Dr. K. G. Sudhier, Lecturer, DLIS, University of Kerala
5. Prof. C.A. Augustine, Former Professor, DLIS, University of Kerala
6. Dr. C. V. Rajan Pillai, Former University Librarian, CUSAT
7. Shri K. Ravindran Asari, Former University Librarian, M G University
8. Shri N. Sukumaran Nair, Former State Librarian, Kerala
9. Dr. M. Lalitha, Librarian, SCERT Trivandrum
10. Shri Abdunnasar, Librarian, CESS, Trivandrum
11. Shri. P. K Sureshkumar, Kerala University Library, Trivandrum
12. Dr. Bindu, Faculty Member, Department of Education, University of Kerala

13. Dr. Bindu, Faculty Member, Govt. Brennen College, Thalassery

Shri K. P. Sadasivan, Former Head, Library & Informatics, RRL (CSIR) Trivandrum and President, KLA was the Course Coordinator.

Classes ended on 21.06.2010 with a Model Exam. A total of 30 participants initially registered out of which, 20 continued till the closure of the programme. The students were from far away places too, including the adjoining district of Tamil Nadu. There were no free periods during the entire duration of the Course!

It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction to learn that a fairly good number of questions in the UGC NET Exam held on 27th June 2010 were the same or identical with what had been taught in our coaching classes. The good feedback from the participants revealed their general acceptance of the Training programme.

Far more than the monetary factor, the objective of KLA was to do something useful in moulding the new generation of knowledgeable leaders in our profession vis-a-vis empowering them in their career advancement. A critical review and assessment of the entire programme just completed has given us more strength and confidence in conducting such programmes still better and more effectively.

Get-together with Prof. Subbiah Arunachalam

KLA decided to facilitate opportunities for the professionals, especially our Members,

to have informal interactions with the peers in the profession during their visits to Trivandrum. As part of this initiative, KLA organized a get-together with Prof. Subbiah Arunachalam, the veteran information scientist of world repute and the strongest votary of open access movement in the country at Hotel Swagath, Trivandrum on 16th January 2010. Fifteen professionals, some of them with their family members, participated in the discussion followed by Dinner. Regional Committees can also think of organizing such get-togethers.

Financial Help to Regional Committees

In response to the specific requests made by some of the Regional Committees, an amount of Rs.1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) each was sent to Kozhikode, Thrissur, Ernakulam and Kottayam Regional Committees from KLA funds as seed money to rejuvenate their activities.

Activities of the Regional Committees

Kottayam

General Body Meeting

The Annual General Body Meeting of the Kerala Library Association - Kottayam Region was held on 10th December, 2009 at 3 pm in the Seminar Hall of M G University Library. The President and the General Secretary of KLA represented the Central Committee. The meeting commenced with a silent prayer followed by respectful homage to Sr. Bibiana, who passed away on 04.12.2009. She was the

Former Librarian, BCM College, Kottayam and a long time active member of KLA Kottayam Region. Sri A J Philip, who was present in the meeting, had represented the Regional Committee at the funeral. A Condolence Resolution was passed in memory of her sad demise.

Smt Laila T Abraham, Deputy Librarian, M G University welcomed the meeting. Fr Jose Viruppel, Regional President delivered the Presidential address in which he said that the Association can flourish only when the members are active. He lamented at the poor attendance for the meeting despite communications sent to all members of the Region. He requested all members to work together to organize various programs and enhance the strength and visibility of the Region.

The Report and Audited Statement of Accounts of the Region for the period 16-01-2008 to 09-12-2009 was presented by Sri. J. Suku, Regional Secretary. After discussion, the Report was unanimously passed.

Following were the recommendations of the meeting:

- a. To conduct a three day Workshop on KOHA at SB College, Changanassery during the second week of May 2010
- b. To strengthen the Membership campaign
- c. To give Farewell to Retiring Librarians who are KLA members of the Region.
- d. To felicitate Librarians who get special recognitions or awards

The election of the Office bearers of the Regional Committee for the period 2009 – 11 ensued.

Ernakulam

General Body Meeting

The General body meeting of the Kerala Library Association, Ernakulam Region was held on the 7th of October 2009 at the Seminar Hall of the Department of Computer Science, CUSAT. The meeting started at 2.30 pm. Shri . K.P. Sadasivan, President KLA, presided over the function and Shri P K. Suresh Kumar, General Secretary, KLA attended the meeting. A total of 38 Library Professionals from various University Departments, Research institutions and Colleges of the region attended the function.

The meeting started with a silent prayer. Shri Shibu Ray S., President, KLA Ernakulam Region welcomed the gathering. It was followed by the presidential address by Shri K.P. Sadasivan. In his talk he evaluated the programmes organized by the KLA Ernakulam Region during the last two years and presented his vision for the next two years. Mrs. Baby Valsala, the University Librarian -in -Charge and Mr. P. K. Suresh Kumar gave felicitations. Shri Joe Joseph, Regional Secretary, KLA, presented the Annual Report and the Statement of Accounts for discussion and approval by the General Body. It was followed by election of office-bearers for the coming two years.

Lecture on Web 3.0 - What comes after 2.0

Mrs. Mini, University Faculty and Fulbright Scholar, Dept. of Computer Science, CUSAT delivered a Special Lecture on **Web 3.0 - What comes after 2.0.** on 7th October 2009.

Thrissur

General Body Meeting

The KLA, Thrissur Regional Committee held its General Body Meeting on 17th December 2009 at 2 pm, at the Seminar Hall, Central Library, Kerala Agricultural University. Shri. S. Azhagiri, President KLA, Thrissur Regional Committee welcomed the gathering and Sri. K.P. Sadasivan, President KLA inaugurated the meeting. Shri. E.K. Mohanlal Secretary, KLA Thrissur Regional Committee presented the Annual Report. Felicitations speeches were made by Shri. P.K. Suresh Kumar, General Secretary, KLA, Shri. Humayoon Kabeer, Shri. K. Rajendran, Shri. K.R Nagarajan and Shri. K.D. Anto. Dr. A.T. Francis, Assistant Librarian, College of Horticulture, Kerala Agricultural University was felicitated for securing PhD degree in Library & Information Science and a memento was presented to him by Mrs. K.K. Lalithabai, Former Reader & Head, DLIS, University of Kerala. Then the General Body unanimously elected the office bearers for the period 2009-11.

Kozhikode

General Body Meeting

The General Body Meeting of the KLA Kozhikode Regional Committee was held on 8th October 2009 in the Library & Information Science Hall, University of Calicut. The main agenda was the election of the new office bearers for the period 2009-2011. The members present at the meeting actively participated in the discussion. Shri. K.P.Sadasivan, President, KLA and Shri PK Sureshkumar, Secretary, KLA attended the meeting as Central Committee observers. Shri. Sadasivan was very critical about the working of the Regional Committee and he expressed concern over the low rate of membership in KLA in the Kozhikode

Region. He also urged the Regional Committee to organize more programmes in the Region.

Dr. Jalaja V., Head, DLIS, Prof. M. Parameswaran, Former Head, DLIS Shri P.Jayarajan, Former Country Head, British Libraries in India, Dr. M. G. Sreekumar, Librarian, IIM Kozhikode and Shri. T.M. Vasudevan, Lecturer, DLIS, University of Calicut also spoke on the occasion. Dr. Dineshan Koovakkai, Secretary, Regional Committee presented the Report. The Regional Secretary explained why many programmes could not be organised during 2007-2009. Financial problems and lack of interest on the part of professionals were the main reasons. However, in comparison with the other Regional Committees, the Kozhikode Regional Committee could perform better by organising training programmes and the National Library Week Celebration, he added. The Secretary reported that the low rate of membership is an outcome of the general negligence of the professionals. He claimed that even the existing membership strength is the result of the hard work done by the Regional Committee during the last few years.

The General Body unanimously decided to strengthen the Regional Committee with a view to improve the activities. The election of the Regional Committee was ensued.

Seminar on Best Practices in Libraries

KLA Kozhikode Region, in association with the DLIS and the DELISAA of the University of Calicut, organized a *One Day Seminar on Best Practices in Libraries* on 16th January 2010 at the University of Calicut. The Seminar was a grand success with good participation and presence of expert speakers. More than 80

professionals from various Colleges and Universities including students participated in the Seminar.

Dr. Anil Chelembra, Lecturer, Department of Malayalam, University of Calicut presented his views on *User Interfacing*, Shri. P. Jayarajan (Former Country Head, British Council, India) spoke on *Best Practices in Library and Information Marketing*, Dr. Chandrasekhara, Reader, DLIS, University of Mysore spoke on *Best Practices in Information Literacy Missions* and Dr. M. G. Sreekumar, Librarian, IIMK and

UNESCO expert on Greenstone spoke on *Best Practices in ICT Applications*. The participants actively involved in the discussion too.

The seminar started at 9 am. Dr. V. Jalaja, Head, DLIS inaugurated the seminar. Shri. T. M. Vasudevan, Former President, KLA Kozhikode Region presided over the function and Dr. Dineshan Koovakkai, Secretary, KLA Kozhikode Region proposed the Vote of Thanks.

Memoranda Submitted by KLA

Memorandum to Minister for Education, Govt. of Kerala to initiate steps to fill up vacancies of University Librarians in various Universities in Kerala

KLA / UL/MOE

Dated: 16 Dec. 2009

Hon. Minister for Education
Government of Kerala
Trivandrum

Sub: FILLING UP OF VACANCIES OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS IN VARIOUS UNIVERSITIES IN KERALA

Sir,

1. We are sure, you will certainly agree with the globally accepted fact that University Libraries play a significant and unique role in the higher education sector. Reputed Universities / Centres of Excellence of academic learning & research across the world, including India, duly realize that their libraries are the nerve centres of their learning programmes. They ensure creation, development and management of excellent libraries to achieve their goals. They ensure placement of highly competent and professionally qualified Librarians to accomplish the mission.

2. The plight of the Universities in Kerala in the backdrop of the above scenario is indeed lamentable and shocking! We request you to kindly look at the present status as furnished below:

Sl. No. Name of the University

Year from which University Librarian's Post is lying vacant

01.	University of Kerala	1989
02.	Cochin University of Science & Technology	2006
03.	Calicut University	2004
04.	Kannur University	1996
05.	Kerala Agricultural University	2000
06.	Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit	1993
07.	Mahatma Gandhi University	Not Vacant

3. Out of the seven Universities, only one viz., M.G. University, has a regular University Librarian!

4. The problems plaguing all these University Libraries can primarily be attributed to the absence of full time / full-fledged University Librarians. The present practice is to vest the charge of the Library to the senior-most professionals who are mostly at the fag end of their career. This very fact precludes them from implementing innovative programmes/ services in conformity with the changes taking place in the information scenario at the global level. Lack of visionary leadership with empowered responsibilities, is gradually transforming these institutions to mediocrity and breeding a host of other problems too, thereby defeating the very purpose of their role in enhancing the quality and efficiency of our higher education system in our State.

5. Two major factors warranting immediate consideration for filling up of the vacancies are:

- a) Need for gearing up the University Libraries to meet the requirements as envisaged in the Higher Education Council's recommendations and their implementation.
- b) Major technological developments taking place in the information transfer processes and the need for their appropriate adaptation in the library environments. Lest, we are sure to 'miss the bus'!

Equally important issues related to ad hoc appointments are the pitfalls in strategic planning & development, decision-making, HR Management and other functional logistics. Only full-fledged and dynamic CEOs of these Libraries can play the right role in making these changes happen effectively.

6. In view of the afore-said problems, we request you to forcefully intervene and take early action in filling up the vacancies of the University Librarians in all the above Universities in Kerala at the earliest possible.

7. We further submit that the same strategy be adopted right from the inception of the proposed Medical University and Open University in Kerala.

8. As a responsible professional body having deep concern on the educational and cultural developments of our State, the Kerala Library Association is only happy to provide whatever input available at our disposal by way of suggestions / proposals / new ideas / data / information to infuse dynamism in the field of academic libraries.

We look forward to your favourable decisions and early action in the matter.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

P. K. Sureshkumar
General Secretary, KLA

**Memorandum submitted to the Minister for Finance
seeking his intervention to ensure posting of University Librarians in Kerala**

No. KLA / UL / MOF

Dated: 12 March 2010

Hon. Minister for Finance
Government of Kerala
Trivandrum

Sub: SAD PLIGHT OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN KERALA

Sir,

On account of the special interest you are taking for the healthy development of the academic libraries in the higher education sector in Kerala, we thought we should bring to your kind attention on the sad plight of the University Libraries in Kerala.

The data given below is self explanatory.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the University</i>	<i>Year from which University Librarian's post is vacant</i>
01.	University of Kerala	1989
02.	Cochin University of Science & Technology	2006
03.	Calicut University	2004
04.	Kannur University	1996
05.	Kerala Agricultural University	2000
06.	Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit	1993
07.	Mahatma Gandhi University	Not Vacant

Out of the seven Universities, only one has a full-fledged University Librarian in position! The **post of UL in Kerala University is lying vacant for more than 20 years!** Absence of the CEOs in these institutions is breeding inefficiency, lack of direction and vision and overall failure in delivering what is needed for the academic community. It is a disgrace to our academicians and researchers of our State.

Only full time and full-fledged professional Librarians with empowered rights and responsibilities can salvage these great institutions.

We have represented the matter to the Minister for Education and all the Vice Chancellors concerned. But a solution does not appear to be at sight yet!

We request you to ensure compliance of the issue while allocating funds for the development of these libraries.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

K. P. Sadasivan
President, KLA

**Memorandum Submitted to Vice-Chancellor, University of Kerala
to take steps to fill up the vacancy of University Librarian**

No. KLA /12 /2009-10

Dated: 28.01.2010

The Vice Chancellor
University of Kerala
Trivandrum

Sir,

**Sub: FILLING UP THE VACANCY OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN IN
KERALA UNIVERSITY**

The role of University Libraries in Higher Education is a pretty well known fact among the civilized world. All the Education Commissions constituted by the Government of India since independence have unequivocally stressed the importance of Academic Libraries in general and University Libraries in particular, in the teaching-learning process.

The technological developments in the information transfer processes in the present era of knowledge explosion have perhaps the maximum impact in the library systems across the world. Be it in India or abroad, institutional excellence owes a lot to the excellence of its library system.

It is imperative that such a scenario can be achieved only if such libraries are headed by able professionals on regular cadre and with domain knowledge, leadership quality, vision and management capacity. The situation in Kerala is shockingly lamentable! Leave aside efficiency, even the position is vacant almost everywhere.

The gravity of the problem can be understood only if we realize the fact that *the post of University Librarian in six out of the seven Universities in Kerala are lying vacant !* The situation is the worst in Kerala University, the Mother of the Universities in Kerala, where the post is lying vacant since 1989 ! It is indeed a shame for the academic and research community of our University !

The limitations in the performance of University Libraries with ad hoc CEOs (as 'In-Charges'), howsoever competent they are, are very many. Planning, development, decision-making, financial management, resource management, HR management, expected

deliverables to the academic community, accountability, visibility – all of them are dangerously diluted in such an ad hoc arrangement. Apparently, nobody realizes the fact that once regarded as the nerve-centre of the academic community, our University Libraries are gradually shying away from their designated role, for obvious reasons. A University Library without a University Librarian is not different from a University without a Vice Chancellor.

Kerala Library Association (KLA), the premiere professional society for the cause of librarians & libraries of this region, have, in the past, represented to the State Government, on the recruitment of a regular incumbent as the Kerala University Librarian. But the 'procedural wrangles' have left the issue to 'destiny' even after a long period of two decades! The last representation we had submitted to the Minister for Education was on 16th December 2009.

We now request you to kindly examine the issue and take up suitable action for ensuring the appointment of the University Librarian in Kerala University at the earliest possible.

As an academician with rich and varied experience in the leading institutions of Higher Education in India such as IISc Bangalore & IIT Madras, and your feel on the performance of their libraries, we are sure, you will agree with the significance of our plea. We pin our hope in you in rejuvenating the Kerala University Library System by appointing a regular incumbent to head the activity centre.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

K. P. Sadasivan
President, KLA

**Memorandum Submitted to University of Kerala for Granting Facility for
Part time Research leading to Ph. D. to all LIS Professionals**

No. KLA /2009-10

Dated: 28.01.2010

The Vice Chancellor
University of Kerala

**Sub: GRANTING OF FACILITY FOR DOING PART TIME RESEARCH LEADING TO
Ph. D. TO ALL LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS**

- Ref : (1) U.O. No. Ac.EI.B/2007 dated 5.10.2007
(2) Our Letter No. KLA 45/2007-08 dated 18.09.2008
(3) U.O. No. Ac.EI.B3/11376/08 dated 19.05.2009
(4) Our Letter No. KLA 71/2007-08 dated 17.07.2009
(5) Notification No. Ac.E.I.B.I. 16273 /2009 dated 4.12.2009

Sir,

In response to the decision of the University of Kerala to restrict the facility for doing part time research leading to PhD degree to the Teachers of the University Departments and affiliated Colleges of the University, vide U.O. cited at (1) above, Kerala Library Association (KLA) had requested to extend the facility to Librarians working in regular cadre in various departments across the State, vide our representation dated 18.09.2008.

Consequently, the University had reviewed the case and issued the Order dated 19.05 2009, whereby the earlier Order was partially modified to the extend of allowing part time registration for PhD to those who are working as Library Staff in the University of Kerala on regular basis having a minimum of three years experience, and subject to fulfillment of other conditions. Thereupon, KLA vide our representation dated 17.07.2009, had again requested to extend the provision of part time research to the Library professionals beyond the boundary of Kerala University Library, by substantiating the reasons for such a genuine plea. Our justifications included:

- The mandatory requirement of a Ph. D. degree for promotion and selection processes in the cadres of Librarians in the Universities, affiliated Colleges and other departments, as stipulated by UGC, AICTE and other Ministries & Departments
- The academic nature of work to be carried out by the library professionals, both in participatory and supportive roles, in the promotion of main-stream higher education and research.
- The limited facility in carrying out full time research in Kerala (now confined to only Kerala & Calicut Universities), leading to a widening gap between demand and supply of qualified professionals

Further to this, we bring to your kind attention to the Notification dated 4.12.2009 of the University of Kerala cited at (5) above.

We observe that the repeated plea that we have been raising since 2007 is left unresolved, whereas the same provision is seen extended to the Department of Management Studies! The relevant extract of the Notification reads as:

“However, the facility of part-time Ph.D. registration (1) in Library and Information Science is also extended to those who are working as Library Staff in the University of Kerala on regular basis with a minimum of 3 years experience if all other conditions are satisfied and (2) in Management Studies is extended to those persons working in managerial position with a minimum of 3 years experience in Government and Public Sector undertakings provided all other conditions are satisfied..”

In view of the aforesaid reasons, we once again request you to kindly review the status and grant provision for doing part time research in Library & Information Science by all eligible professionals working in all the Universities of Kerala, their affiliated Colleges and in Government & Public Sector Undertakings.

We look forward to your favourable decision in the matter.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

P. K. Suresh Kumar
General Secretary, KLA

**Memorandum submitted to the Minister for Education, Govt. of Kerala
requesting restoration of status quo and speedy recruitment of
Professionally Qualified Librarians in Schools**

No. KLA/SL

Dated: 17th March 2010

The Hon. Minister for Education
Govt. of Kerala
Trivandrum

Sub: AMENDMENT TO G.O. ON SCHOOL LIBRARIANS GRADE III IN GOVT. & AIDED SCHOOLS – REQUEST FOR RESTORATION OF STATUS QUO & SPEEDY RECRUITMENT OF PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED LIBRARIANS IN SCHOOLS

Sir,

We are shocked to learn that the Government is proceeding with the cancellation of the post of Librarian Grade III in the Government & Aided Schools by making drastic amendments to the provisions contained in GO(P) No.331/01/GE dated 09/11/01 as SRO No.1009/01 dated 12/11/2001 (*Enclosure I*).

The contents of the 'G.O. in Waiting' especially the Explanatory Notes (*Enclosure II*) clearly indicates that the post of Librarian Grade III, intended to be filled up with professionally qualified personnel, is being scrapped to facilitate induction of semi-professionals with Certificate in Library Science. This is a retrograde step in all respects!

2. As a responsible professional association dedicated to the scientific development and quality improvement of the Academic Libraries in Kerala spanning from School Level to Higher Education-cum-Research Levels, we request you to desist from this detrimental action, which will ultimately result in inefficiency and chaos in the academic sector in respect of the role of Libraries in particular, and our education system, in general.

3. It was the culmination of several years of discussions, debates, studies, surveys and representations to various Education Commissions and the ruling Governments from time to time, that the then Government led by the LDF outfit, consciously and rightly issued the said GO in 2001, thereby formally approving the post of Librarian Grade III in School Libraries and stipulating the qualification for recruitment as basic Degree *plus* a Degree in Library Science. This was a major step taken by the Government in tune with the guidelines of

Governmental, inter-Governmental & non-Governmental agencies in India and abroad on School Education in the modern world.

4. But sadly, the Government did not accord budgetary provisions so far, for effecting recruitments to the said post in the Government & Aided Schools in our State.

5. All the major School Education Systems in the national stream such as CBSE, ICSE Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangatan and Navodaya have mandatory stipulations on the role of quality libraries and professionally qualified Librarians in their Schools. The details are furnished in *Enclosure III*.

6. The importance given to School Libraries and the significant contributions such Libraries are making in the learning-teaching process from KG Level upwards in the developed countries is pretty well known. A select list of institutions/agencies providing guidelines to be followed by any country or its constituent States, who are seriously concerned about meaningful educational reforms, is furnished below for your kind information:

- The initiatives of UNESCO through their global programmes, the Manifesto on School Libraries
- The strategic programmes of IFLA Section on School Libraries & Resource Centres
- Stipulations of SLA, UK on Planning, Organization, Staffing & Information Skills in School Libraries
- The Primary School Library Guidelines of Chartered Institute of Library & Information Professionals (CILIP)

7. Further, we bring to your kind attention to the “**Expert Committee Report on School Libraries, under the Chairmanship of Shri VP Joy, IAS**”, which was accepted in principle by the Government of Kerala. The Report had unequivocally stated that “ *Without considering the number of books, number of students or the size of the School, a **fully qualified Librarian** should be appointed in all Higher Secondary Schools, from the initial stages and his/her services have to be made available for the whole School*”. Consequent to the approval of this Report by the Government, our Association had submitted a representation to the Hon. Minister for Education on 10/07/2002, requesting creation of posts of School Librarians in the Government & Aided Higher Secondary Schools in Kerala (*Enclosure IV*).

8. Yet another major development process was the National Seminar on School Libraries jointly organized by KLA & SCERT (Govt. of Kerala) in 1998, wherein there was congruence of the same ideas and strong recommendations for their implementation.

9. In the emerging landscape of technology-intensive Libraries & Learning Centres demanding management and administration of wide ranging knowledge resources and extracting and providing customized information to the Students & Teachers, the Librarians should have in-depth domain knowledge and expertise. His/Her strategic role, both as a Teacher imparting User-Education and as an able promoter of teaching-learning process, the roles and responsibilities vested with School Librarians are at par with the Teachers. Their

role in the decision-making process in the planning, development and ensuring proper use of the School Libraries in tandem with the wavelength of the School authorities cannot be accomplished by semi-professionals without even a degree in Library & Information Science. The ramifications of Electronic/Digital Libraries including Content Development, Content Management and their technological interface benefiting the ultimate user community are best understood and applied only by professionally qualified Librarians. Semi-Professionals with Certificate in Library Science lack the required expertise.

10. For the aforesaid reasons, we earnestly plea the Government to desist from the disastrous plan of diluting the School Library recruitment policy. We request you to restore the provision existing in the GO(P) No.331/01/GE dated 09/11/01 as SRO No.1009/01 dated 12/11/2001 in letter and spirit and ensure speedy creation of posts in Grade III and recruit fully qualified professionals with *at least* a degree in Library & Information Science.

We look forward to your favourable and immediate action in the matter.
Thanking you

Yours faithfully

Sadasivan K. P.
President, KLA

Encl: I – IV

**Memorandum submitted to the Leader of the Opposition, Govt. of Kerala
requesting restoration of status quo and speedy recruitment of
Professionally Qualified Librarians in Schools**

No. KLA/SL
Shri Oommen Chandy
Hon'ble Leader of Opposition
Government of Kerala

Dated: 17th March 2010

Sub: AMENDMENT TO G.O. ON SCHOOL LIBRARIANS GRADE III IN GOVT. & AIDED SCHOOLS – REQUEST FOR RESTORATION OF STATUS QUO & SPEEDY RECRUITMENT OF PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED LIBRARIANS IN SCHOOLS

Sir,

We are herewith submitting a Memorandum seeking your intervention on an erratic and unjustifiable move of the Department of Education, Govt. of Kerala, in respect of the drastic amendment of an existing G.O. leading to recruitment of under-qualified personnel to manage the School Libraries, which will ultimately lead to erosion of quality and standards in School Education and drastic deviation from accepted principles & practices at the national and international levels.

We sincerely hope that your action will help restore status quo, thereby preventing an otherwise imminent induction of semi-professionals to the education stream, leading to chaos and mediocrity.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

KP Sadasivan
President, KLA

**Memorandum Submitted to the Minister for Education, Govt. of Kerala
for the implementation of UGC Scheme to the Librarians in Govt. Arts & Science
Colleges, Professional Colleges, Polytechnics and University Libraries in Kerala**

No. KLA/2009-10/07

Date: 07/12/2009

The Hon. Minister for Education
Govt. of Kerala
Trivandrum

Sir,

Sub: IMPLEMENTATION OF UGC SCHEME TO THE LIBRARIANS WORKING
IN GOVT. ARTS & SCIENCE COLLEGES, PROFESSIONAL COLLEGES,
POLYTECHNICS AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN KERALA.

Ref: (1) GO (MS) No. 50/08/H.Edn dated 09.05.2008
(2) GO (MS) No. 87/91/H.Edn dated 09.04.1991

1. The Government of Kerala have issued orders cited as (1) above, prescribing the staff pattern in the Private Aided Colleges and granting UGC Scheme to the Librarians in those colleges. It is rather unfortunate that Professional Librarians with the same statutory qualifications working in Government Arts & Science Colleges, Professional Colleges, Polytechnics and University Libraries are denied the UGC scale of pay and related benefits, in spite of our repeated representations. This is discriminatory and against natural justice.
2. It may be pointed out in this connection that the first order issued cited as (2) above, for implementing UGC scheme in Kerala covered all the Librarians working in Universities, Government Colleges and Private Colleges. But the GO cited as (1), does not include Librarians in Govt. Colleges and Universities.
3. Therefore, Kerala Library Association, once again request you to kindly extend the same stipulations laid down in the first cited GO, to the Library Professionals of

Govt. Arts & Science Colleges, Professional Colleges, Polytechnics in both Government and Private sectors and Universities of Kerala.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

P.K Suresh Kumar
General Secretary, KLA

Memorandum Submitted to Minister for Finance, Govt. of Kerala to enhance the retirement age of LIS Professionals as part of UGC Scheme implementation

No. KLA/2009/10

Dated: 9th Dec. 2009

Hon. Minister for Finance
Government of Kerala
Trivandrum

Sub : 6TH UGC SCHEME IMPLEMENTATION – ENHANCEMENT OF RETIREMENT AGE OF TEACHERS, LIBRARIANS & PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS – REGARDING

Ref : Our representation No. KLA/G/2009-10 dated 19.08.2009 submitted to the Hon. Minister for Education

Sir,

1. We understand from the news media reports that the Government of Kerala is actively considering to enhance the retirement age of Teachers in accordance with the stipulations of the 6th UGC Scheme (2008), which is currently under implementation in our State.

2. In this context, we bring to your kind attention on the discussion with the Hon. Minister for Education by the authorized representatives of Kerala Library Association along with other approved organizations from the Teachers' fraternity, on 19th August 2009. Both, in our written representation (cited above) and oral plea, we had specifically requested *that "the norms of the UGC Guidelines in respect of the implementation of the 6th UGC Scheme on revision of pay scales be adopted in toto for the Librarians in Universities & Colleges"*.

3. In view of the present initiative of the Government to consider enhancement of the retirement age of Teachers, we humbly request that the same be extended *mutatis mutandis* to the Librarians in the Universities & Colleges too, who are covered under the UGC Scheme(2008).

We look forward to your active consideration and favourable decision in the matter.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

P. K. Sureshkumar
General Secretary, KLA

Copy to: Hon. Minister for Education

**Memorandum Submitted to the Vice-Chancellor, Medical University of Kerala
on the Planning of a State-of-the-art Medical Library**

No. KLA/MUL
Dr. K. Mohandas
Vice Chancellor, Medical University of Kerala
Thrissur

28th December 2009

Sub: PLANNING FOR A STATE OF THE ART MEDICAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Kerala Library Association, the premiere professional society in library & information systems of this region, let me extend my hearty congratulations to you for assuming charge as the first Vice Chancellor of the Medical University of Kerala!

Your first media interaction as reported recently in The Hindu Daily gives great hopes on the developmental perspectives of the proposed University. Priority for the initial appointment of the major functionaries and the idea of moulding a small group of performing staff with a technology-intensive mode of operation and consciously avoiding the ritualistic mass migration of the unscreened workforce from the existing Universities is indeed a bold initiative.

Our Association (KLA) join with the scholars across the world on the firm belief that an excellent Library & Information System (LIS) contributes significantly to the development of higher education. Needless to say, creation of a state of the art / technology-intensive LIS facility should be an integral part of the new Medical University.

We feel that, concurrent with the recruitment of Registrar, Finance Officer and Stores & Purchase Officer, search, identification and placement of a highly competent and visionary Library & Information Professional as your University Librarian, should also be initiated.

You are perhaps aware of the lamentable situation prevailing in the Universities across our State. Out of the seven Universities, with the only exception of MG University, all the other six Universities do not have the University Librarians in position! The post of University Librarian in Kerala University is lying vacant *since the last twenty years!!!* Sadly, our

academicians and political managers do not attribute much importance to such issues, despite the fact that it contributes significantly to the erosion of our standards of education vis-à-vis the accepted practices of learning process.

We therefore request you give due consideration for the creation of the post of University Librarian and appointment of a suitable professional right in the beginning, so that the incumbent can develop the system facility fulfilling the aspirations of its planners.

Wish you a very bright and professionally productive New Year!
With warm regards,

Yours sincerely
Sadasivan K. P., President, KLA

Congrats to Winners of Doctorate Degree in LIS!



Sunil Kumar, P., Librarian (UGC), Loyola College of Social Sciences, Sreekariyam, Trivandrum was awarded Ph. D. degree by the University of Kerala for his thesis **An Investigation into the awareness, attitude and use of electronic resources in Postgraduate Colleges in Kerala** Dr. G. Devarajan was his supervising teacher.



Shibu Ray, S. was awarded Ph. D. by Cochin University of Science and Technology for his research work entitled **A study of the information seeking behaviour of science and technology teachers and researchers of Cochin University of Science and Technology and University of Kerala in the changed library environment** carried out under the guidance of Dr. (Mrs.) M. D. Baby. Dr. Shibu Ray, Assistant Librarian, CUSAT was President of the Ernakulam Regional Committee of KLA



T. Francis was awarded Ph. D. by the Cochin University of Science and Technology for his research thesis **Re-engineering and Re-defining University Libraries in the context of Modern ICTs: a study with special reference to the University Libraries in Kerala**. His research guide was Dr. S. Humayoon Kabir.



Bindu P. Nair was awarded Ph. D. degree by the University of Kerala for her research work **Total Quality Management in Kerala University Library: A Case Study** carried out under the guidance of Dr. G. Devarajan. Dr. Bindu is currently serving as Information Services & Liaison Specialist Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Medical University of Bahrain.



Smt. Jainamma, former Librarian of M. A. College of Engineering, Kothamangalam, was awarded Ph. D. on the topic **the Impact of Electronic Revolution in Libraries** by the Open International University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Her guide was Dr. V. Mohan Das. At present Dr. Chinnamma is serving as Librarian, Ilahia College of Engineering and Technology, Muvattupuzha.

NEW MEMBERS OF KLA

Life Members

1. Ajitha Kumari, V. P. (1125)
Library Asst., Kerala Agriculture
University, Thrissur
2. Swapna V. S. (1126)
Library Asst., Horticulture College
Vellanikkara, Thrissur
3. Baiju Joy (1127)
Librarian, Research & Orientation
Centre, Manganam.P.O., Kottayam
4. Sreekala D. (1128)
Librarian, St.Thomas Central
School, Mukkola.P.O, Trivandrum
5. Saleena, M. (1129)
Chief Technical Librarian
College of Engineering
Trivandrum
6. Suresh Chandra Padhy (1132)
Vivekananda Institute of Hotel and
Tourism Mgmt., Rajkot, Gujarat
7. Jayaraj. J.R. (1133)
Palavila Veedu, Thokkadu.P.O.
Vadasserykonam
Trivandrum
8. Kannan, S (1136)
T. C. 27/587(1)
Karunalayam, V.V Road,
Vanchiyoor. Trivandrum- 695 035
9. Resmi Sara Thomas (1143)
Technical Assistant
Kerala University Study Centre
Pandalam.
10. Soudhamini, G. S. (1144)
T.C. 27/496, Anitha Bhavan
St. Antony Lane, Kunnukuzhi
Trivandrum.
11. Riyaz Ahmed, A.V. (1145)
No.18, Syed Shafee Street
Basheerabad, Muslimpur
Vaniyambadi, Vellore Dist.
Tamil Nadu- 635 751
12. Laila T. Abraham (1147)
Deputy Librarian
M.G. University Library
P. D.Hills P.O., Kottayam-686560
13. Sujatha, R. (1148),
Asst. Librarian (Sr. Scale)
M.G. University

- P. D.Hills P.O., Kottayam -686560
14. Thanooja (1149)
Assistant Librarian
School of Legal Studies
CUSAT, Kochi – 682 022
15. Abhilash, R. (1150)
Professional Assistant Grade-2
School of Management Studies
CUSAT, Kochi – 682 022
16. Ashraf.A. K. (1151)
Professional Assistant Grade-2
School of Management studies
CUSAT, Kochi - 682 022
17. Tomson. A. J. (1152)
Librarian Gr.I (Hr. Grade)
St. Joseph's College
Devagiri, Kozhikode-673 008
18. Indira, B. (1153)
Librarian Gr. III
Co-operative Medical College
HMT Colony .P.O.
Kalamassery, Kochi
19. Rajesh K.S.(1154)
Librarian
Rajadhani Institute of Engg. &
Technology
Attingal, Trivandrum
20. Tudymol Johnson (1155)
Librarian, Kerala Institute of
Medical Sciences (KIMS)
Trivandrum- 695 029.
21. Sangeetha Ramachandran (1163)
Kadavupuzha(H), Mundangal P.O.
Kanaththupara, Pala - 686 575
22. Manjusha, K. S. (1164)
Renju Sadanam, Aruvikuzhy P.O.
Kottayam- 686 503
23. Sheela.P (1167)
Librarian
N.V.K.S.D College of Education
Attoor. P. O, Kanyakumai Dist.
Tamil Nadu
24. Santhoshkumar, K. V. (1168)
Professional Assistant Gr.I
Dept. of Zoology,
University of Calicut
25. Nikhil Eyeroor (1169)
'Granma', A-6 Rock Gardens
Manikanteswarasm P.O.
Trivandrum-695 013
26. Saji S. Nair (1174)
Library Assistant Gr. I
Regional Cancer Centre
Trivandrum -- 695 011
27. Vishnu, V. (1175)
Library Assistant, Gr. I
Regional Cancer Centre
Trivandrum- 695 011

28. Niruba Sethukumari, S. (1176)
Assistant Librarian, Kerala
Institute of Tourism & Travel
Studies (KITTS)
Trivandrum – 695 014

Ordinary Members

1. Thara C. Varghese (1123)
Asst.Librarian, KVM College
Kokkothamanagalam P. O.
Cherthala
2. Jhancy M. Chacko (1124)
Asst.Librarian, KVM College
Kokkothamanagalam P. O.
Cherthala.
3. Hifzur Rahman K. (1130)
Librarian
AMES College of Education
Reddy Thoupe, Ambur-635 802
4. Manjula. K.M. (1131)
Librarian, Amritha Vidyalayam
Ottaplam, Palakkad
5. Amritha Raj (1134)
Plavilayil, Thuvayoor North
Manakala.P.O. , Adoor
6. Soumya Rani G. L. (1135)
Kalivilakathu Thekke Puthen
Veedu, Malayinkil P.O.
Trivandrum - 695 511
7. Prabhitha, P. (1137)
Nellullathil House
Thuvakkode. P. O.
Quilandy-673 304

8. Balakrishnan K. K. (1138)
Librarian Gr. II
Govt. Polytechnic College
Kannur
9. Gayathri Madhusudan (1139)
Poornima, Cholapuram
Calicut- 2
10. Rajani,V. P. (1140)
Vattapparambil House
Thozhuvanoor P. O.
Malappuram- 676 557
11. Anish Kumar E. (1141)
Edattummal House
Vellur, Payyanur
Kannur-670 346
12. Krishna Kumar K. (1142)
Librarian Gr.III
Govt. College of Engineering
Parassinikadavu P.O., Kannur
13. Manoharan Pillai P.M. (1146)
Librarian, T.K.M Institute of
Management Musliar Hills
Karuvellil.P. O. Kollam Dist.
14. Smithamol.T.P. (1156)
Elavamparambil
Kallara(S) P.O.
Kottayam-686 611
15. Manju, T. P. (1157)
Library Assistant
M.G. University
Kottayam- 686 560
16. Preeetha K. Gopal (1158)
Library Assistant, M. G. Univ.
Kottayam - 686 560
17. Kochumol K.M. (1159)
Kariyakulam House
Sachivothamapuram P. O.
Kurichy, Kottayam- 686 532

18 Dhanya. G. Nair (1160)
Kalapurakunnel House
Velliappally P. O.
Pala - 686 574

Kodannur P.O.,
Thrissur- 680 574

19. Jyothis D. (1161)
Parappurath House
Memadangu. P. O.
Arakuzha
Muvattupuzha – 686 672

26. Hazeena P.Yuseph (1173)
Puthusserikkudiyil House
Sengulam P. O.

Idukki – 685 565

20. Jisha Thomas (1162)
Nediyakalyail House
Ettumanoor
Kottayam - 686 631

Retirements

21. Jayesh.R (1165)
Vadavamana Illam (West House)
Kidangoor P. O.
Kottayam – 686 572

1. Ushadevi, S. P.
Deputy Librarian-in-charge
Kerala University Library
Trivandrum – 695 034

22. Tomy Varghese (1166)
Admin staff (Library)
Mar Baselios College of
Engineering & Technology
Nalanchira.P. O.
Trivandrum

2. Vimaladevi, P. N.
Deputy Librarian
Kerala University Library
Trivandrum – 695 034

23 Shijudas, C. D. (1170)

3. Antony, E.
Assistant Librarian
Kerala University Library
Trivandrum – 695 034

Chempanal House

Kuttiplangad P. O.

Koottikkal (via), Idukki

Obituaries

24. Binti Joseph (1171)
Orappankel House
Anakulam P.O., Idukki

Dr. D. Kamalavijayan, the Chief Librarian and General Manger, Library & Information Division, Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai passed away on Monday, 17th August 2009 in Mumbai. KLA paid rich tributes and last respects to the departed by laying a Wreath by the President in the presence of a number of KLA members when the body was brought to Trivandrum. He was information consultant to a number of organizations at the national and international level.

25. Sreerasmi.K.B (1172)
Kanjikkai House

Sr. Bibiana, Librarian, BCM College, Kottayam, passed away on 4th December 2009. She was an active member and organizer of the Association. Shri. A. J. Philip attended the funeral function, representing the Association. That apart, KLA Regional Committee Kottayam, in their Annual General Body Meeting held on 10th December 2009 paid rich tributes to the departed by making a special reference and condolence resolution.

truly national by the participation of eminent personalities like Shri P. Y. Rajendrakumar, the most dynamic former Director of Public Libraries, Karnataka State, Dr. Venkamma, Director of Public Libraries, Andhra Pradesh, Shri. Suraj P. Nagpal, Librarian, Central Secretariat Library, Chandigarh, Dr. R. Ponnudurai, Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Annamalai University, Chidambaram, Dr. R. Ramasamy, Field Officer, RRRLF, Chennai and a host of participants from other States.

38th Annual General Body Meeting, July 2009

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Report of the General Secretary at the AGM held on 19th July 2009 at KLA Hq, Kairalie Plaza, Karamana, Trivandrum

ie 38th

My dear professional colleagues,

In the last annual report presented at the 37th Annual General Body Meeting held on 20 July 2008, I concluded with an exhortation to the members to actively participate in the ensuing National Seminar on the theme **Redefining the Role of Public Libraries in India: The Knowledge Society Imperatives** to make it a grand success. I made this appeal at that time because the response from the library professionals from Kerala till then was not at all encouraging. At one stage, we thought that it was going to be a disaster – in terms of professional participation and finances. Kerala Library Association was at the midst of a financial crisis. The only solace was the co-sponsorship of Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation. However, the last minute attempts bore fruit and we could ensure the participation of Smt. Kalpana Dasgupta, the Chairperson of the Working Group on Libraries of the National Knowledge Commission (NKC). The Seminar became

As all of you are aware, the three-day Seminar was held at Priyadarshini Auditorium, PMG Junction, Trivandrum from 6 – 8 August 2008. There were seven business sessions in addition to the Inaugural and Valedictory Sessions. The Seminar was inaugurated by Dr. Thomas Isaac, Minister for Finance, Govt. of Kerala. Dr. G. Balamohanam Thampi, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Kerala and presently, President, Kerala State Library Council presided over the function. In his presidential address, Dr. Thampi made a critical analysis of the public library scene in Kerala. The Minister also touched upon several facets of the public library system. He felt that the public libraries, if effectively play their roles, can transform Kerala to a knowledge society. The best mode of social transformation is synergy between the public and the libraries. He observed that it was a paradox that the Akshaya Project under different stages of its implementation in Kerala is not managed by public libraries. He made an important announcement at the inaugural speech that the Government of Kerala would ensure Internet connectivity in all A & B grade libraries in the state within the next three years.

Shri. K. Jayakumar IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala in his key note address, outlined a series of measures to be adopted for streamlining the public library system for their rejuvenation. Some of them are:

- Ø A time frame for library development programmes

- Ø An effective mechanism of book selection process
- Ø Participatory role in the management and functioning
- Ø A depository of local knowledge – a conscious effort to systematically record and maintain the otherwise unrecorded local information/knowledge about people, events and other resources.

Shri. Jayakumar also formally released the Souvenir brought out on the occasion by handing over a copy to Mrs. Kalpana Dasgupta.

Mrs Kalpana Dasgupta, in her felicitation address briefly described the report of the Working Group on Libraries of the National Knowledge Commission. She cited the example of the beautiful public library system in Singapore which is characterized by innovative approach and functional efficiency and proposed to emulate the example in India. Shri. Palode Ravi, Member, RRRLF and a well wisher of KLA also spoke on the occasion. Shri. N. Sukumaran Nair, President of KLA and General Convener of the Seminar welcomed the gathering and Dr. Vijayakumar, K. P., General Secretary, KLA offered vote of thanks.

This was followed by seven technical sessions on the following themes:

- Session 1: Public Library System in India: A Critical Approach
- Session 2: Public Libraries and Knowledge Society
- Session 3: Impact of Technology/Technology Implications
- Session 4: Resources and Services
- Session 5: Resource Mobilization and Human Resource Development
- Session 6: Vendor Presentations
- Session 7: Special Session: My Perceptions on the Public Library System in Kerala.

Since the details of the transactions of the Seminar are exhaustively covered in the Newsletter, I am not repeating it.

The Seminar adopted 17 Resolutions which are aimed at revamping the public library scenario of the country. Copies of these recommendations were sent the Chairman, National Knowledge Commission, Director, RRRLF, Minister for Human Resources Development, Government of India, Education Minister, Government of Kerala incorporating the relevant recommendations which come under the purview of each.

Blog of the KLA National Seminar

Most of you might have seen the blog covering the entire spirit of the National Seminar on **Redefining the Role of Public Libraries in India: The Knowledge Society Imperatives** organized by KLA. This has been done in the most professional manner by our Executive Committee member Shri. Sainul Abideen and his team at IITMK, Trivandrum. I take this opportunity to congratulate him and offer our sincere thanks.

Rectification of Anomalies in the Recommendations of the UGC Pay Revision Committee

In the Executive Committee held on 20 October 2008, many members pointed out the discrimination towards library professionals in the recommendations of the Chadha Committee appointed for the revision of pay scales of college and university teachers, librarians and Physical Education teachers. The Executive Committee decided to constitute a sub-committee consisting of Shri. N. Parameswaran, former President of KLA, Shri. E. Hashim, Shri. P. K. Sureshkumar and Shri G. S. Harikumar, all Executive Committee members of KLA. Accordingly, the Committee drafted the recommendations in two days and copies of the letter were sent to Prof. G. K. Chadha, Chairman, Pay Review Committee of UGC by e-mail and by post.

The major recommendations made by KLA are the following:

- Ø Extend all benefits given to teachers to librarians also in matters related to:
 - a. leave under Faculty Improvement Programme
 - b. study leave
 - c. sabbatical leave, and
 - d. maternity leave
- Ø permit librarians to go for higher studies such as M. Phil or Ph. D. through FIP
- Ø sanction advance increments to librarians with NET, M. Phil or Ph. D. degree as in the case of teachers
- Ø exempt librarians with M. Phil or Ph. D. degree from NET for appointment to the post of Assistant Librarian
- Ø clarify whether the post of University Librarian will be different from the post of Chief Librarian, and
- Ø extend the recommendation to place the teachers in the scale 14940/ to librarians also and pay the arrears from 1 January 1996.

Follow up of Resolutions moved at the 37th Annual General Body Meeting

As was mentioned while presenting the Minutes of the 37th Annual General Body Meeting, there were two resolutions to be discussed. Since these two dealt with the same issue, an official resolution incorporating the contents of both was moved. The Meeting unanimously adopted the resolution and decided to bring the contents to all the decision makers of the respective fields. The Resolution was about the implementation of the UGC Scheme to Professional Librarians in Govt. Arts and Science Colleges, Professional Colleges, Polytechnic Colleges and all Universities in Kerala by extending the provisions contained in the G O(MS) No. 50./08/H.Edn. dated 9 May 2008 sanctioning the UGC Scheme to librarians of Private Colleges.

As follow up, memoranda were submitted to the Minister for Education, Government of Kerala, the Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, the Director of Collegiate Education, the Director, Technical Education, the Director, Medical Education and Registrars of all Universities in Kerala namely, University of Kerala, Mahatma Gandhi University, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kerala Agricultural University, University of Calicut and Kannur University. The President, General Secretary and Sri. N. Parameswaran met the Education Minister at his residence and discussed the matter. He said that he was only happy to recommend it to the Finance Ministry.

Lifting of the Ban on part-time research facility in University of Kerala

The University of Kerala through a strange move in 2007 (vide U. O No. Ac. E1. B./2007 dated 5 – 10 – 2007) limited the facility for part time research to the teachers of the university and colleges within the purview of the university. This order has adversely affected the scope for research of the LIS professionals also. The predicament was pointed out in the Annual General Body Meeting, 2008. KLA took up the matter immediately and represented to the Registrar of the University and to the Syndicate Members of the Standing Committee on Research. But the Meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Standing Committee on Research was unduly prolonged. Knowing that the Committee was going to meet on a particular day, the Office Bearers of KLA contacted the members and convinced the need for allowing the LIS professionals for part-time research. We could make them understand that librarians working in universities and colleges are included in the UGC scheme and the conditions laid down for career advancement of teachers are equally applicable to them also. In University Libraries, only those who possess doctorate degree alone are designated as Deputy

Librarians as is followed in the case of Readers. We also highlighted the academic nature of work of the LIS professionals working in public and special libraries and requested the authorities to allow part time research for all eligible librarians irrespective of the type of library they are working.

In spite of our diligent efforts the Committee decided to lift the ban on part time research to the professionals working in the Kerala University Library system, that too for persons with a minimum of three years experience, much to the chagrin of others. Undaunted by the move, KLA has again taken up the case with the authorities with the purpose of lifting the ban on library professionals in the State. The Ernakulam Regional Committee of KLA has also moved the case with the University. We have made it clear that while promotion of research is the prime function of the University, it is rather unfortunate that the mother University in the state has taken such a stand stifling the initiatives of many who are eager to do research work. But a united stand is needed to get this demand acceded by the university.

Professor K.A Isaac Commemoration Lecture - 2008

Kerala Library Association regularly organizes Annual Lectures to commemorate the fond memories of Prof. K. A. Isaac, the progenitor of Library Science Education in Kerala and patron of KLA. The fourth lecture in the series was delivered by Dr. A. Amudhavalli, Professor and Head, Department of Information Science, University of Madras on 18 November 2008 at the Lecture Hall of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram. The topic of the Lecture was **Information Architecture in Library and Information Science** which is quite contemporary. Sri. N. Sukumaran Nair, President, KLA, presided over the function. Sri. K Ravindran Asari, former University Librarian, M. G. University and an ardent disciple of Prof. Isaac, shared the reminiscences of the guru with the audience.

Dr. Vijayakumar, K. P., General Secretary. KLA, welcomed the audience and Smt. P. K Sheenakumari, Organizing Secretary, KLA offered vote of thanks.

The Commemoration lectures in the previous years were delivered by Prof. George Onakkoor, eminent educationist and literatateur (2005), Dr. G. Balamohanam Thampi, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Kerala (2006) and Dr. C. R. Karisidhappa, former Professor and Head, Department of Library and Information Science, Karnatak University, Dharwad (2007).

Workshop on KOHA

Kerala Library Association is the first professional body to take up the task of propagating the KOHA Library Management Software in the State. The Calicut Regional Committee of KLA organized an awareness programme followed by a full-fledged training programme. The Kottayam Region also took the initiative of organizing an awareness programme in 2008. Closely on the heels of these, the Central Committee came forward to conduct a three day Workshop on KOHA in collaboration with Christ Nagar School, Thiruvananthapuram during 14 – 16 February 2009.

To our surprise, the response was overwhelming. Though the initial plan was to accommodate only 30 participants, we were forced to accommodate 42. We could provide a computer to every participant for extensive hands on, thanks to the well-equipped computer lab of the Christ Nagar School. The latest version of Linux-based KOHA (Version 3.0) was used for training. Mr. Vimal Joseph and Mr. Thomas Abraham of SPACE, Mr. A. J. Tomson, Librarian of Devagiri College, Kozhikode and Mr. Vimal Kumar, Assistant Librarian, Asian School of Business, Thiruvananthapuram served as Resource Persons. With the idea of forming a KOHA user group KLA has made arrangements to share the experiences of the participants among themselves and with the resource persons. In addition, users can contact Mr

Vimal Kumar (vimal0212@yahoo.com) for getting their doubts cleared.

Enhancement of Membership Fee

It is a long time since the annual and life membership fee of KLA remains at Rs. 50.00 and Rs. 400.00 respectively. In the meanwhile, the cost of living has increased several fold and naturally most of the associations have enhanced the membership fee several times. Therefore, KLA also decided to enhance the membership fee. After much deliberation, the revised rate was fixed at Rs. 100 and Rs. 600 for annual and life membership respectively. The matter has already been placed for consideration by the Extra-ordinary General Body Meeting which has just been concluded.

Distribution of KLA Gold Medals and C. A. Augustine Holy Cross Awards

As all of you know, Kerala Library Association actively involves in the manpower development programmes in the State. I have already mentioned about the continuing education programmes organized by us. Besides, KLA, as a token of encouragement to the budding professionals, regularly distributes gold medals to the first rank holders of the LIS courses of various universities in the State. Since the University of Kerala and University of Calicut have done away with the BLISc course, the first rank holders of MLISc programmes are given the gold medal. But the medal is given to the first rank holder/s of BLISc degree in the case of M G University which continues to offer this course.

The distribution function of KLA Gold Medals and C. A. Augustine Holy Cross Awards was held on 30 April 2009 at the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kerala. The gold medals and awards were given away by Dr. Thomas Isaac, Minister for Finance, Government of Kerala. Shri. James Varghese IAS, Secretary, General Education presided over the function. Dr. K. S. Ravikumar, Academician and Literary Critic and Dr. A.

Gopikuttan, Head, DLIS, University of Kerala, offered felicitations. The medals and awards were distributed to the following professionals:

KLA Gold Medal

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Ms. Nisha, V. P. | MLISc |
| University of Calicut | 2004 – 06 |
| 2. Ms. Rehana Ummer | MLISc |
| University of Calicut | 2005 – 07 |
| 3. Mrs. Mehajabeen Aydeed | MLISc |
| University of Calicut | 2006 – 08 |
| 4. Smt. Anitha, B. | BLISc |
| M. G. University | 2006 – 07 |
| 5. Ms. Amritha Raj | MLISc |
| University of Kerala | 2005 – 07 |
| 6. Mr. Kannan, S. | MLISc |
| University of Kerala | 2006 – 08 |

C. A. Augustine-Holy Cross Endowment Award

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| 1. Ms. Amritha Raj | MLISc |
| University of Kerala | 2005 – 07 |
| 2. Mrs. Soumya Rani | MLISc |
| University of Kerala | 2005 – 07 |
| 3. Mr. Kannan, S. | MLISc |
| University of Kerala | 2006 – 08 |

Sharing of expenditure for the distribution of C. A. Augustine-Holy Cross Awards

The C. A. Augustine-Holy Cross Awards are distributed in the same function organized for the distribution of KLA Gold medal. The question of sharing the expenditure between KLA and the C. A. Augustine Holy Cross Endowment was remaining unsettled in the absence of a clear-cut guideline. The Executive Committee held on 29 May 2009 discussed the matter in detail. After long deliberations, it was decided to meet one-third of the expenditure of the function to be organized for the purpose from C. A. Augustine Holy Cross Endowment Fund. This share does not include the cost of the award (cash award and memento).

Special Rules Amendment to make Grade IV as the Entry Cadre

As soon as KLA came to know that there was a move to amend the Special Rules, 2003 so as to restrict the entry of the Professional Librarians to the Common pool Librarians Post to Grade IV alone, we sprang into action. By that time, the Subject Committee of the Legislature had already approved it and it was waiting for the approval of the Legislature. Immediately, KLA gave a representation to the Minister for Education who was the Chairman of the Subject Committee which took this decision with copy to the Principal Secretary, Higher Education pointing out the dangers involved in this move. We highlighted the point that such a move would only help the limited job potential of qualified library professionals. Moreover, the profession would become less attractive to talented professions leading to quality erosion in the services.

On further enquiry, it became clear that there was no action from the Education Department to change the decision. Therefore, the Association decided to make an all out effort to get the decision modified and approached Shri. Oommen Chandy, the Leader of the Opposition. From there we could understand that there is scope for review of the G O already issued making amendments to the Special Rules 2003 to favour a few who are already in service. We have already approached a few MLAs to write to the Speaker seeking a review of the decision by the Subject Committee. The move is expected to yield desirable results.

Formation of a Separate Directorate for Common Pool Librarians

KLA was also invited for a preliminary meeting convened by the Principal Secretary, Higher Education on 10 July 2009 to discuss issues relating to the formation of a separate Directorate for Common Pool Librarians held at the Durbar hall, Govt. Secretariat. All the representatives welcomed the decision of the Government. KLA also

hailed the decision but demanded that the Department should be headed by qualified LIS professionals in the hierarchy selected based on criteria like experience. The demand was welcomed by the participants of the Meeting.

Activities of the Regional Committees

Kottayam Region

The Kerala Library Association - Kottayam Region organized a One day Workshop on KOHA in association with the Mahatma Gandhi University Library on 1 November 2008 at the Mahatma Gandhi University Library. This Workshop held in connection with the National Library Week celebrations was aimed at providing library professionals and students of Library & Information Science, a general awareness of the software for integrated Library System.

Prof. M. R. Unni, Registrar, Mahatma Gandhi University while inaugurating the Workshop, highlighted the relevance of the open software in the context of the emerging library developments. Fr Jose Viruppel, President of KLA Kottayam Region presided over the function and Dr. R..Raman Nair, University Librarian welcomed the gathering. The chief resource person of the Workshop was Sri. Vimal Kumar, Assistant Librarian, Asian School of Business, Trivandrum, a known expert in the software. Sri. Suku J., Regional Secretary briefed the participants on Koha and its relevance in the present scenario.

The participants were Librarians from the university, various Colleges in and around Kottayam and students from the nearby LIS schools. In all, 43 participants attended the programme. They were provided with the workshop kit and working lunch and tea. There was good feedback from the participants. A few senior professionals who attended the programme shared their views about the software in comparison to other library management softwares used by them. The participants were of the opinion that a

Workshop on Koha using the more stable Linux OS for a longer period is to be conducted along with extensive practicals to get more acquaintance with the software and to implement automation of their libraries using Koha.

Kozhikode Region

KOHA Training Programme

Kerala Library Association, Kozhikode Region organised a one day training programme on KOHA on 12th July 2008 at AWH Engineering College, Kuttikkattoor. Mr. K. M. Musthafa, Librarian, AWH Engineering College was the Co-ordinator and Dr. Dineshan Koovakkai, Secretary, KLA Kozhikode Region acted as the General Convener. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. U. C. Ahamed Kutty, Principal, AWH Engineering College. Mr. K.M. Musthafa welcomed the gathering and Dr. Dineshan Koovakkai proposed the vote of thanks. Sri. T.M. Vasudevan, President, KLA Kozhikode Region presided over the function.

There were 30 participants (The number was limited to 30) from different parts of Kerala. Mr. Tomson A.J., Librarian, St. Joseph's College, Devagiri served as the chief resource person. The participants were given seminar kit including software CD. The feedback of the participants revealed that the programme was a great success. In the valedictory function, Sri. C. P. Muhammed, Secretary, AWH Group of Institutions distributed the certificates to the participants.

Considering the request from the library professionals all over Kerala, the Regional Committee organised training programme on KOHA for another batch on 27th September, 2008. The Committee is planning to organise an advanced training programme for the users of KOHA.

Ernakulam Region

Farewell to Smt. A. K. Sobhana Devi

The Ernakulam Region organized a send off meeting on 19th November 2008 at CUSAT University Library Hall to Smt. Sobhana Devi A. K., former KLA Regional Secretary & Assistant Librarian, CUSAT. The meeting started at 2.30 PM with a silent prayer followed by a welcome speech by Sri. S. Shibu Ray, Regional President, KLA. The Meeting was presided over by Smt. Baby Valsala, University Librarian in-charge. Adv. C. Mohanachandran, Member of Syndicate, CUSAT was the Chief Guest. As a token of gratitude, a memento was handed over by the chief guest to Smt. Sobhana Devi. Sri. P. J. Manuel, Asst. Librarian, CUSAT and Sri. V. S. Sivankutty, Professional Asst., CUSAT offered felicitations. This was followed by the reply speech by Smt. Sobhana Devi and vote of thanks by Sri. Joe Joseph, Secretary, KLA Ernakulam Region.

Talk on Intellectual Property Rights

In connection with National Library Week Celebrations, Cochin University Library along with Kerala Library Association, Ernakulam Region organized a talk on "Intellectual Property Rights from Librarian's Point of View" on 11th December 2008 at Department of Computer Science Auditorium. Mr. Benoy Kadavan, (Advocate, High Court of Kerala and IPR Consultant) was the resource person. The talk started at 10.15 a.m. with a welcome speech by Mr. Joe Joseph, KLA Regional Secretary. Talk was packed with information. Mrs. Baby Valsala, University Librarian in-charge handed over the Memento to the resource person. Participants from different organizations, Universities and academic institutions attended the talk.

Workshop on Ensuring Quality in Research Publications

The one day Workshop on **Ensuring Quality in Research Publications** organized jointly by the School of Marine Sciences,

CUSAT and KLA Ernakulam Region on 7 March 2009 at School of Marine Sciences Auditorium at Lakeside Campus proved to be an epoch-making one in terms of the number of participants and the impact made. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. N. Chandramohanakumar, Registrar, CUSAT.

The resource persons were Dr. K. Mohan Kumar (CUSAT), Dr. Vijayakumar, K. P. (University of Kerala), Dr. Jacob Philip (CUSAT) and Dr. H. S. Ram Mohan (CUSAT). The topics dealt with included *Effective Writing, Tips for Writing Journal Articles, Effective thesis Writing and Impact factor and other quality measurements*. The response from participants was overwhelming. Dr. H. S. Ram Mohan, Director, School of Marine Sciences, CUSAT was the Chairman of the Organizing Committee. Sri. P. J. Manuel and Sri. Shibu Ray, S. served as the Organizing Secretary and Joint Secretary of the Workshop respectively.

Membership

Sixty professionals became members of the Association in the year. They include 41 life members and 19 ordinary members. The number of members from outside the state is constantly increasing, probably the impact of our web site. It is a matter of pride to state at this moment that KLA is one of the few Regional Associations with its own Office and website.

Newsletter

It is a matter of regret that only one edition of the KLA Newsletter could be brought out in the year under review.

Executive Committee Meetings

During the year, the Executive Committee officially met 9 times to discuss issues of professional interest. But, in addition several informal meetings were held to formulate strategies for the organization of the National Seminar and Workshop.

Financial Position

I started my presentation indicating the pathetic financial position of the Association last year this time. But today I am proud to report that KLA is a very comfortable position as far as fiscal position is concerned. This has been made possible by virtue of the sincere and voluntary efforts of the Members. The Executive Committee Members extended whole-hearted support in all the endeavours, especially in the organization of continuing education programmes. The National Seminar and Workshop on Koha helped us very much in attaining this comfortable position. I am not going into the details since you will be getting a clear picture from the report of the Treasurer.

Conclusion

I am not so impudent to claim that the year covered in the Report was the most successful or eventful year in the annals of the Association. But we definitely could do something for the benefit of the profession and professionals. We are proud to say that we could champion the cause of the profession with malice towards none and charity for all without any axe to grind. It is imperative on the part of each and every LIS professional to strengthen the Association by actively participating in its activities.

Finally, I thank all those who have actively participated in the Committee Meetings and shouldered much of my responsibilities.

Once again I thank each and every one of you for your whole-hearted support.

Vijayakumar, K. P.
General Secretary

Attention Job Seekers in LIS!

KLA is currently updating the panel of qualified but unemployed LIS professionals from across the State for engaging them, as and when required, to work under various sponsored projects undertaken by the Association. They will

be suitably remunerated during the tenure of their work. Further, the experience they acquire will be an added advantage for their future placements elsewhere.

If interested, please forward your Biodata to the President/General Secretary, KLA, either by post or by e-mail.

President, KLA
E-mail: kps31147@yahoo.com
General Secretary, KLA
E-mail: pksuresh@yahoo.com

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For details, please contact

President, KLA: 9447903282
kps31147@yahoo.com
OR
General Secretary, KLA: 9495718460
pksuresh@yahoo.com

your address furnished in our website (www.keralalibraryassociation.org) and inform us the corrections / modifications / additions to be incorporated.

We are sure, on account of your transfer, new placements, retirement, relocation of your residence, etc., your address might have changed. We will greatly appreciate receiving your New Address – both official & residential – indicating your full postal address, Telephone/Mobile phone numbers and e-mail address, if available.

Have you communicated your Change of Address to us?

We had sometime back requested all our members to promptly communicate your change of address, if any, to ensure effective communication. But the response was not quite encouraging.

We are in the process of updating the database of our members. Kindly examine

KERALA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, Reg. No. 89/71
36, II Floor, Kairalie Plaza, Karamana. P. O, Thiruvananthapuram-2

AUDITED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FROM 01.07.2008 TO 30.06.2009

	Receipts	Rs.		Payments	Rs.
To				I KLA Website maintenance	
	Opening Balances			By Domain renewal and AMC	2,500.00
	Canara bank 9131	2,902.11			2,500.00
	Sugama 646,KSFE	755.00		II Seminar/Workshop/Lecures	
"	SBT,Kariavattom	1,061.50	4,718.61	By KOHA Workshop	30,109.00
"	Cash in Hand	553.00	553.00	"	2,835.00
"	Admission fee	470.00		Prof. KA Isaac Commemoration Lecture	2,835.00
"	Annual Membership fee	600.00		III KLA Office maintainance	
"	Life Membership fee	15,200.00	16,270.00	By Electricity	2,422.00
"	Bank Interest SB A/C 9131	423.00	423.00	"	3,142.00
"	KSFE Sugama A/C 646 interest	42.00	42.00	Property Tax	5,564.00
"	FD Interest	4,383.00	4,383.00	IV Temporary Advance Refund	
"	Furniture	260.00	260.00	By Refund to EC memebtrs	30,000.00
	National Seminar 2008	129,567.00	129,567.00	Refund to Shri. N.Parameswaran	9,000.00
	Temporary advance refund			V KLA Gold Medal Award and CA Augustine Holy cross endowment award	
	from National Seminar 2008	26,300.00	26,300.00		12,315.00
	KOHA workshop	40,200.00	40,200.00	VI Others	
	CA Augustine Holycross endowment	2,300.00	2,300.00	By DTP, Photocopying	511.00
	Temporary advance from treasurer	1,300.00	1,300.00	"	885.00
	Donation	10.00	10.00	"	6,279.00
	For Bank commision	50.00	50.00	"	10,325.00
				"	928.00
				"	295.00
				Bank Commision out station cheques	111.00
				Prof. V.G Talwar felicitation	250.00
				Miscellaneous	50.00
				19,634.00	19,634.00
				VII Closing Balances	
				Canara bank 9131	28,171.11
				Sugama 646,KSFE, Kesavadasapuram	797.00
				SBT,Kariavattom SB A/C 2236	1,061.50
				SBT ,KUOC SB A/C 67061603692	4,383.00
				FD SBT,KUOC,..Palayam (50,000+30,000)	80,000.00
				Cash in Hand	7.00
				114,419.61	114,419.61
Total				Total	226,386.61

Audit Certificate

Certified that I have audited the accounts of the CA Augustine Holy Cross Endowment for the period from 01.07.2008 to 30.06.2009 with Vouchers, Bills, Receipt Books, Invoices, Bank Pass Books and FD Certificates. I am satisfied to the fact that the accounts show a true picture of the Receipts and Payments of the Association.

Dr. M. Lalitha, Auditor (2007-09)

Trivandrum
07-07-2009

Dr. Vijayakumar K. P.
General Secretary

P.K Suresh Kumar
Treasurer

KERALA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, Reg. No. 89/71
36, II Floor, Kairalie Plaza, Karamana.P.O, Thiruvananthapuram-2

C A Augustine-Holy Cross Endowment Award Accounts for the year 2008 - 09

Receipts		Rs.	Payments		Rs.
To	Opening Balances		By	Payments	
"	FD, KSFE Kesavadasapuram	10,000.00	I	CA Augustine Holy cross	
"	FD,Federal Bank,palayam	7,000.00		Endowment award	
"	Sugama A/C 1647, KSFE,Ksdprm	1,800.00	By	Cash Award 3@Rs.500/-	1500
"	Federal Bank, Palayam,S.B A/C 18774	1,854.31	"	Memento 3@325/-	975
	Receipts		"	Share to KLA for award function	1125
"	Interest on FD,KSFE	900.00		Closing Balances	
"	Sugama A/C Interest,KSFE	106.00		FD, KSFE Kesavadasapuram	10,000.00
"	Interest on FD,Federal bank	664.00		FD,Federal Bank,palayam	7,000.00
"	SB A/C Interest, Federal bank	70.00		Sugama A/C 1647, KSFE,Ksdprm	506.00
"	Temporary Loan from Treasurer	1300.00	"	Federal Bank, Palayam,S.B A/C 18774	2588.31
	Total	23,694.31		Total	23,694.31

Audit Certificate

Certified that I have audited the accounts of the CA Augustine Holy Cross Endowment for the period from 01.07.2008 to 30.06.2009 with Vouchers, Bills, Receipt Books, Invoices, Bank Pass Books and FD Certificates. I am satisfied to the fact that the accounts show a true picture of the Receipts and Payments of the association.

Sd/-
 Dr. M.Lalitha,
 Auditor (2007-09)

Trivandrum
 07/07/2009

Dr. Vijayakumar K.P
 General Secretary

P.K Suresh Kumar
 Treasurer

KERALA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, Reg. No. 89/71

36, II Floor, Kairalie Plaza, Karamana.P.O, Thiruvananthapuram-2

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF KERALA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION UPTO 7th JULY 2009

Assets		Rs.	Liabilities		Rs.
I	Capital Investment		I	Repayment of Temporary advance	
	KLA Office	543,000.00		Advance to Smt. Lalitha	2,000.00 2,000.00
	Furniture	17,906.00		Advance refund to Treasurer	1,300.00 1,300.00
II	Savings Bank A/C		II	Flooring Electrification	13,000.00 13,000.00
	Canara bank 9131	28,171.11			
	Sugama 646,KSFE	797.00			
	SBT,Kariavattom	1,061.50			
	SBT,KUOC A/C 67061603692	4,383.00			
	Cash in Hand	7.00			
III	Fixed Deposit A/C				
	FD, SBT KUOC,Palayam	50,000.00			
	FD, SBT KUOC,Palayam	30,000.00			
III	Amount to be Received from CA Augustine Holy Cross A/C	1,300.00			
	Total	676,625.61		Total	16,300.00

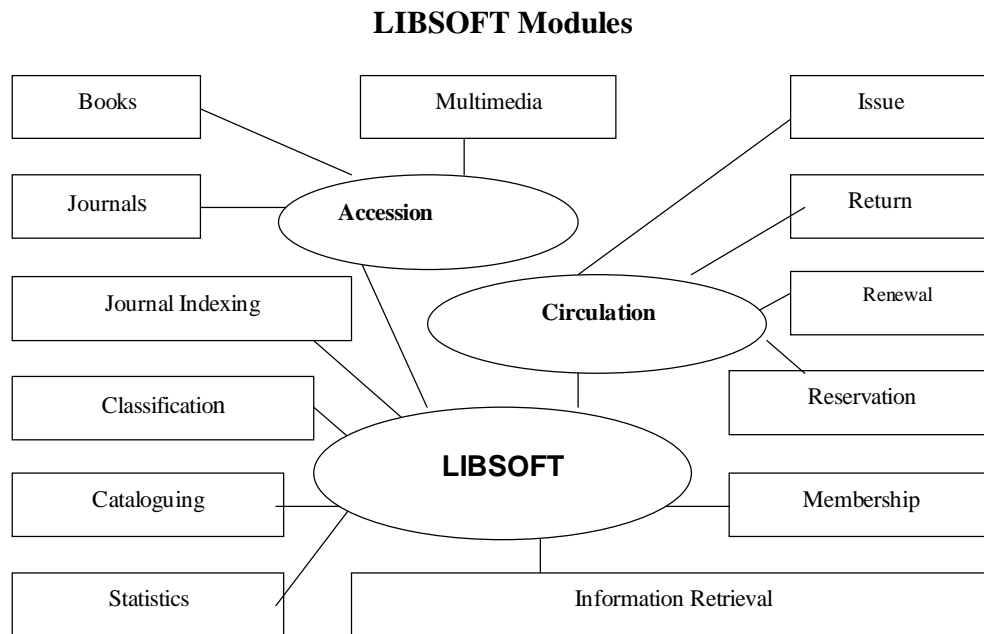
Assets over Liabilities Rs. 6, 60, 325.61 (Rupees Six Lakh Sixty thousand three hundred twenty five and paise sixty one only.)

Sd/-
Dr. M.Lalitha,
Auditor (2007-09)Trivandrum
07/07/2009Dr. Vijayakumar K.P
General SecretaryP.K Suresh Kumar
Treasurer

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