

3rd MANLIBNET National Convention on

Business Librarianship and Information Services: From Independence to Interdependence from March 12-14, 2001 at IIM, Lucknow

The Convention held at the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow (IIML) during 12-14 March 2001 was attended by more than 175 delegates from business libraries and information centres (BLICs) of prestigious academic and R& D institutions as well as industrial set-ups from all over the country.

Shri Vishnu Kant Shastri , HE, the Governor of Uttar Pradesh while inaugurating the Convention on March 12, by lighting the ceremonial lamp, exhorted the professionals to be responsive to the challenges posed by IT on the one hand and the ever-increasing demands of scholarship on the other. He emphasized on the role of library and information managers (LIMs) in the context of social development and encouraged the development of traits like self-dependence, mutual interdependence and competence to meet the challenges posed by the market forces in today's global era.

Welcoming the chief guest and the delegates on the occasion, Dr Pritam Singh, Director, IIML characterized the 21st century as a century of wisdom and knowledge. In the era of boundary-less organizations, he emphasized on the need to develop co-partnerships and asked the LIMs to face the challenges posed to them by the IT revolution with synergised efforts.

Prof S Chakraborty, Dean, IIML while introducing the theme of the Convention, highlighted the need of not just acquiring new and emerging technologies but the ability to learn , unlearn and relearn the usage of the same. He spoke on complexity of the information world and the advances in the IT sector which necessitated anticipatory change and anticipatory learning as the inevitable challenges and requirements of time.

Mr Ashok Jambhekar, President, MANLIBNET outlined the objectives of the MANLIBNET and requested the Chief Guest to release the Inaugural Issue of the *MANLIBNET Newsletter*. This was followed by the release of the Souvenir by Dr Pritam Sing, Director, IIML and the volume containing the Convention Papers by Prof S Chakraborty, Dean, IIML.

Prof Roshan Lal Raina, Organizing Secretary of the Convention, while thanking the dignitaries, delegates and the invitees , hoped that the Convention would provide the professionals a forum for sharing information and skills necessary to augment and provide quality library and information support services to their clientele.

This was followed by the inauguration of an exhibition of latest learning resources (print and electronic) in the field of management and related areas as well as library-related automation software, etc by the Chief Guest. A group photograph with the Chief Guest was taken and the technical sessions started at 12:00 noon after the inaugural tea.

The Convention met in 11 sessions in three days in which two sessions were devoted to presentations by vendors from the trade. In all 37 papers were discussed in the technical sessions

Draft resolutions were put up for discussion and adoption in the concluding session, which was chaired by the Rapporteur General, Prof M L Wali.

In the Valedictory Session, 2nd and 3rd best paper presentation awards were given to Mr Chikkamalliah (IIMB) and Dr Harish Chandra (IITM), by Swami Muktinathananda of the Ramakrishna Mission, who also gave away the certificates to the delegates as well as delivered the valedictory address. Swamiji in his valedictory address, described LICs as storehouses of knowledge and highlighted their role in the economic, social and cultural development of a nation. Following Swamiji's address, a hearty vote of thanks was proposed by the Convention Director and the Organizing Secretary, Prof R L Raina. The session ended with thanks by Shri M M L Goyal, Vice President, MANLIBNET on behalf of the delegates as well as the MANLIBNET.