

NACLIN 2010 held at BITS – Pilani K. K. Birla Goa Campus
during 15 – 18, June 2010.

The 13th National Convention on Knowledge, Library and Information Networking (NACLIN 2010) was jointly organized by Developing Library Network, DELNET, New Delhi and BITS – Pilani K. K. Birla Goa Campus during 15 – 18 June 2010. This National Convention was attended by about 260 professional librarians and information specialists from India and abroad. The BITS – Pilani, K. K. Birla Goa Campus hosted the event. Smt Anuradha. V, Librarian of the BITS – Pilani K. K. Birla Goa Campus was the Organizing Secretary for the convention. Theme of the convention was : Revitalizing Libraries in a Global Village : High end technologies and resource management.

The Convention was inaugurated by Dr S. S. Mantha, Chairman AICTE, NewDelhi in an august function presided over by Prof. L.K. Maheshwari, Vice Chancellor, BITS Pilani. Prof. S.S. Mantha said that information is a power and t we need to develop systems in order to share knowledge by means of intranet. Emphasizing on the networking of libraries for sharing knowledge and information in this knowledge-based society, Prof . Mantha said, “we need to develop expert systems not merely for accessing the resources but also to capture the knowledge.” Prof L K Maheshwari, in his presidential address, called for revitalization of libraries. “India had excellent information resources in ancient universities like Taxila and Nalanda” said Prof Maheshwari. Citing a recent example of Saraswati Mahal Library, Tanjore, he said that information available in palm leaves have been archived and preserved for future generations by using digital technology. Prof. K. E. Raman, Director, BITS – Pilani K. K. Birla Goa Campus, said that libraries need to be provided in every new campus. “Faculty members need to be more informed about knowledge resources so that they can guide the students” said Prof Raman. Dr H. K. Kaul, Director DELNET (Developing Library Network) spoke on the theme of the conference. Dr Sangeetha Kaul (Network Manager, DELNET) and Mrs Anuradha welcomed the gathering in the beginning. As a part of the inaguration, Prof K E Raman opened the Exhibition which

consisted of 15 vendors and database providers. Dr M. Ishwara Bhat , Librarian BITS – Pilani conveyed the vote of thanks. Inauguration was very well covered by the media.

The first two days of the convention were devoted to tutorial sessions on (i) KOHA Library Automation System by Dr Sangeetha Kaul of Delnet and (ii) Digitization and Institutional Repositories by Dr Surinder Kumar of National Informatics Center, Delhi. The tutorials covered various aspects of KOHA, the Open Source software for library management and various aspects of digitalization.

There were four technical sessions on the third day and three on the fourth day of the convention. Besides papers by delegates, the technical sessions had keynote papers by Dr M P Tapaswi, Dr S N Singh, Dr H K Kaul, Dr I V Malhan, Dr Vivek Patkar, Dr M G Sreekumar, Dr Uma Kanjilal and Dr M Ishwara Bhat. On the fourth day of the conference, there was a panel discussion on “Revitalizing libraries in a global village: High end technologies and resource management”. Panelists included Prof. I V Malhan, Dr M. G. Sreekumar, Dr H. K. Kaul, Dr. Arjun Singh and Dr.Uma Kanjilal and Prof. Suresh Ramaswamy,

Vice Chancellor Prof L K Maheshwari hosted a dinner in honour of the delegates on 15th night. Besides, Government of Goa presented a spectacular cultural evening at the Institute auditorium on 16th night. Prof K E Raman, Director, gave a talk on BITS Pattern of Education on 15th afternoon for the information of the delegates. Participants had a see-view dinner on 17th at Hotel Bugmalo Beach Resort.

The valedictory session was addressed by Dr Vivek Patkar, Independent Researcher, Mumbai. Participants expressed their views about the conference and every one expressed sincere gratitude to the facilities provided by the BITS – Pilani K. K. Birla Goa Campus. It was a grand occasion of the gathering of librarians and information professionals from all over India and abroad.