

Digital Library News

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Delhi University Takes Paperless Route, Aims to Make Printing Redundant

Delhi University has digitised the majority of its operations in an effort to go completely paperless. The varsity's administrative and accounts departments have gone completely paperless, having been linked to its E-Samarth portal. The varsity has successfully made most processes such as admission and examination online.

Source: Details available at <<https://www.financialexpress.com/education-2/delhi-university-paperless-e-samarth-portal/2552537/>>

India's Leading Online School—21K School Is Delivering the Future of Education

21K School is a tech-driven School in India where students between the ages of 3 years to 18 years can choose to study from three curriculums—Indian, American, and British. 21K School's disruptive K-12 education model has created a new category with personalised, affordable, and flexible schooling for students regardless of their location or time zone. With over 6,000 students enrolled from over 500 cities across India and 54 countries, 21K School aims to offer high-quality education that is boundary-less and removes the need for families

to migrate to urban cities to give their children access to schools. 21K School's digital-first learning environment integrates leading learning platforms like Century Tech, Code Monkey, Virtual Labs and Digital Library for real-world personalised and flexible learning.

Source: Details available at <<https://www.livemint.com/brand-stories/indias-leading-online-school-21k-school-is-delivering-the-future-of-education-11654524293651.html>>

E-library at UAS a Big Draw Among Students and Faculty

In a world tending increasingly towards digital education, the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Dharwad appears to be eager to keep step with the times. To that end, the varsity has recast its library as a high-tech digital knowledge hub, which will provide students access to an exhaustive list of sources on the internet. The UAS library houses nearly 1.3 lakh books, in addition to 244 journals in print, while students can also access 200 Indian journals online, in addition to 25 foreign ones. So far, the varsity has uploaded 5,860 dissertations on the 'Krishikosh' database of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The varsity's e-library counts more than 2,500 teachers, students and scientists among its members.

Source: Details available at <<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hubbali/e-library-at-uas-a-big-draw-among-students-and-faculty/articleshowprint/91569854.cms>>

Mobile Book Shop-cum-library Parks in Eco Park

Eco Park now has a book shop-cum-library. It is open to air and mobile. In place of a brick and mortar structure, the library is housed in a 22-foot-long van that stands parked in the Gate 4 parking lot of Eco Park. The initiative, called Book Traveller, was flagged off on 10 May 2022 by Logolepsy Publishing Group. The company had started in 2016 as a book distributor. The van is self-powered with an inbuilt inverter. It has racks fitted end to end on both sides for display of books, making it an open-shelf store. There are LED screens fitted in between the racks that display relevant information. One can step inside the van also to browse the books kept there.

Source: Details available at <<https://www.telegraphindia.com/my-kolkata/news/mobile-book-shop-cum-library-parks-in-eco-park/cid/1864821>>

Uttar Pradesh to Boost Higher Education with E-learning Parks

In a new initiative in higher educational institutions, the Uttar Pradesh government is soon going to start the newly set up e-learning parks in 120 degree colleges of the state. The state government has been emphasising on transforming the education sector at a rapid pace, with focus on primary, higher and medical education. Officials said the Higher Education Department has already completed the work of setting up of 87 e-learning parks in the state and in the next hundred days, the department will complete the work of remaining. Education activities will also get a boost with the facility of e-learning park, as well as it will be easy to disseminate government schemes in remote and backward areas of the village. These e-learning parks will be equipped with computer, internet connection, and Wi-Fi facilities along with a Digital Library.

Source: Details available at <<https://www.uniindia.com/story/UP-to-boost-higher-edu-with-e-Learning-parks>>

State Government to Implement Digital TN Strategy to Ensure Smart Administration

Information Technology Minister, Mr T Mano Thangaraj, on 4 May 2022 announced that the Tamil Nadu government would implement Digital Tamil Nadu Strategy (DiTN), a new scheme which would help all government departments reach their key performance indicators and outcomes. The minister also said the Information Technology Department would be renamed as Information Technology cum Digital Services Department. The www.tamildigitallibrary.in, which has over 50,000 digital books on Tamil language, culture, history, manuscripts, etc., would be converted as a multimedia digital library at a cost of INR 1 crore.

Source: Details available at <<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2022/may/05/state-govt-to-implement-digital-tn-strategy-to-ensure-smart-administration-2449881.html>>

Library Opens Digital Collection to Teens, Young Adults Nationwide to Combat Censorship

The Brooklyn Public Library is challenging censorship and book bans head-on by opening its collection to readers nationwide. The BPL launched a new initiative called 'Books UnBanned', library officials announced in April 2022. Teens and young adults, no matter where they live in the US, can apply for a free eCard from the Brooklyn Public Library to access its collection of e-books. Normally, an eCard comes with a \$50 charge for out-of-state applicants. That fee will be waived. Several books will be available with no holds or wait times for cardholders.

Source: Details available at <<https://www.kiro7.com/news/trending/library-opens-digital-collection-teens-young-adults-nationwide-combat-censorship/3AG6WUSBRZAGZM3T7RIPPHS6YY/>>

MAP Encyclopaedia: India's rich art history is just a click away now

The Museum of Art and Photography (MAP), a private museum based in Bengaluru founded by art collector, Mr Abhishek Poddar has launched the Encyclopaedia of Indian Art, an open source repository that allows anyone to view and read about an enormous collection of Indian paintings, photographs, living traditions, architecture, and textiles. The website which is the brainchild of the Museum's latest educational project, the MAP Academy, currently has 2,000 entries that were written from scratch by a team of young Indian academics and art historians and peer-reviewed by prominent experts. The material spans an exhaustive timeline, ranging from 10,000-year-old cave drawings to the biggest contemporary names from the last decade. It also includes several artists who haven't received mainstream recognition.

Source: Details available at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-india-61147097?at_medium=RSS&at_campaign=KARANGA&msclkid=1eb70ee2cf8711ecbfe03a779435aa96>

World Book Day: love for libraries grow during pandemic

In a heartening development, 15 lakh children have enrolled in 5623 rural libraries across the state since the pandemic in 2020. A network of 5623 Gram Panchayat libraries were transferred to the RDPRD (Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department) from the education department in 2019. In 2020, as the pandemic hit the education of school children, the department began renovating and refurbishing these libraries to help children return to the fold of education.

Source: Details available at <<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/world-book-day-love-for-libraries-grow-during-pandemic/articleshow/91034290.cms>>

India's Soft Power Aims to Take Traditional Medicines Global

India has committed \$250 million to build the Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM)

in Jamnagar that will conduct research, with the spirit of India's vision of 'One Earth, One Health'. It will be all-inclusive, making use of traditional medicines including Chinese, Korean, Japanese and African systems. PM Mr Modi said that the Centre will create a database of traditional knowledge system using technology. It will create international standards for testing and certification of traditional medical system so that confidence in these medicines improves. It will be a global platform for the experts of traditional medicines, and will also mobilise funding for research. With holistic approach of treatment for specific diseases, patients could benefit from both traditional and modern medicine.

Source: Details available at <<https://gulfnews.com/opinion/op-eds/indias-soft-power-aims-to-take-traditional-medicines-global-1.87343110>>

E-Kitab Kosh, an E-library Initiative Launched

The Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta launched the E-Kitab Kosh, an E-library initiative of the Information Technology Department. The E-Kitab Kosh can be accessed at www.elibrary.jk.gov.in. The E-Kitab Kosh is envisioned as an online library for providing access to a virtual repository of learning resources in five languages, namely, English, Hindi, Urdu, Dogri, and Kashmiri. The Chief Secretary directed the Department to make available all E-books of JK BOSE and NCERT on the website for assisting students with easy access to the learning material in the spirit of Digital India Mission. The E-Library is easily accessible on 'anytime-anywhere' basis through both computer and mobile devices. The interface is user-friendly and allows the readers to easily surf through its content.

Source: Details available at <<http://www.knskashmir.com/e-kitab-kosh-an-e-library-initiative-launched-132063>>

Panchayat Department to Set Up 1,000 Digital Libraries in Rural Areas of Haryana

The State Panchayat Department will be setting up 1,000 libraries, equipped with digital facilities, in villages with aim to provide better playing field for competitive examination to youths in rural areas. Inaugurating first such digital library in Dult village of Fatehabad district on 14 April 2022, the Development and Panchayat Minister Mr Devender Singh Babli said the work to establish such libraries has started in the first phase in the state. He said 3,200 buildings have been identified across the state and all of them will house digital libraries. In subsequent phases all 6,225 villages will be covered under the project.

Source: Details available at <<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/haryana/panchayat-dept-to-set-up-1-000-digital-libraries-in-rural-areas-386439>>

Giving Wings to Digital Dreams of Underprivileged Children

Aimed at giving wings to the digital dreams of underprivileged children, Appario Retail Private Limited collaborated with two NGOs to distribute digital devices like laptops, desktops, and tablets in Bengaluru. This digital literacy drive aimed at transforming the lives of the city's underprivileged children saw the company distribute electronic devices worth approximately INR 1.19 crore. Through the distribution of these devices, the company believes that it will help not only reduce the digital divide in India but also digitally empower the less privileged and give wings to their dreams through digital literacy.

Source: Details available at <<https://www.thehansindia.com/karnataka/giving-wings-to-digital-dreams-of-underprivileged-children-737614>>