

# Modernized Library Information System of IASRI

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The Library of IASRI is a special library and it is well known for its specialized strong resources base in both print as well as electronic format in the field of Agricultural Statistics, Computer Applications, Agricultural Economics and allied sciences. It is the nerve center of educational, research, trainings, consultancy etc. of the Institute. Recently it has been recognized as one of the Regional Libraries of NARS (National Agricultural Research System) and best IT Agricultural Library under National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP).

Library of Institute was established in 1968 in small compact room with limited number of books in the Sample Survey Block. It kept on building up its resource base while serving its users to its best. Later in the year 1977, it was shifted to second floor of newly constructed Computer Centre Building. It was designed with openly wide Stack Rooms, Committee Room and Staff Rooms. The Period 2002-2005 was the golden period in the history of IASRI library. During this period, the library took ocean of change as it was renovated with separate computer lab. for staff with 10 Internet nodes, one user's computer lab for faculty and students, issue and return counter with Internet facility, separate air conditioned reading hall, new arrivals section etc. It was reorganized, into the following separate sections:

**Map of Library** has been signaged at the entrance of the library to direct the reader for various Sections.

**Issue and Return Counter (Circulation Counter):** It is the face of the library and it was modernized with granite platform and glass fitted cabin as per library architectural specification. This counter is equipped with a latest computer, internet facility and barcode scanner to scan the borrowers' card and bar-coded documents.

**Reference Counter:** It is a help desk to assist the users in getting information through long and short range. Reference Assistant at the desk guides the users to locate the information from different print resources as well as electronic databases. It is equipped with a computer and internet connection.

**OPAC (On-line Public Access Catalogue):** Just adjacent to the entry gate of library there is a separate wing allocated for on-line catalogue. As soon as a reader enters the library, he/she can search and retrieve the details of documents of his/her interest available in library through this OPAC. In addition to the



Entrance View of Library

above facility, user can also locate the position of the document on different shelves where all racks & shelves are signaged in bilingual.

**Reading Halls:** Apart from separate sitting arrangements on each corner of the wing, library is having three general reading halls. One is the books and back volumes stack area where readers are intended to read the English books, Hindi books, reference books, thesis, official reference publications, old reports (prior to 1995), reprints and back volumes of journals, etc. Another reading hall is located at the adjacent to the periodical wing where Indian, Foreign Periodicals and IASRI publications are displayed. The third reading hall is at the reports section where newspapers and magazines are displayed. The second and third central reading halls are air-conditioned and are covered with vanishing blinds to avoid glare of the sun light to the users. These reading halls are signaged for the convenience of the users.



Reading Room of Periodical Section

**Periodical Sections:** Both Indian and Foreign periodicals of currently subscribed journals are displayed here alphabetically. All the titles of periodicals are signaged with removable strips.

**Reports Sections:** Reports of National and International Institutes are displayed here chronologically. Publications of FAO, SAARC, NSSO, CSO, DES, Ministry of Agriculture, ICAR, etc. are arranged in separate shelves and classified chronologically. Each shelf has been signaged with name of the organization with multi strips in desktop frames. Reports of all Institutes of ICAR, State Agriculture Universities are arranged Institute wise and classified chronologically in different boxes. Current reports of different organizations are displayed here for awareness of users.

**Book Stack Sections:** Books on different area of specialization are placed as per UDC (Universal Decimal Classification) scheme. Name of subject arranged in each rack has been signaged in the form of shelf panel (shelf list) and fixed on front view of each rack. All shelves of each rack have been signaged with serial number. Number of the shelf where particular subject (Call No.) books are placed in the shelf has been indicated against the subject list in the shelf panel, so that user can see the shelf number of particular subject and can directly go to that particular shelf.



Stack Room

**Journals (back volumes) Sections:** Journals subscribed prior to 2008 are bounded and organized alphabetically in this wing. Shelves of the rack has been signaged with serial number, number of the shelf where title of the Journal placed in the shelf has been indicated against the title of that Journal signaged in shelf panel so that user finds very easy to locate that particular journal he wants.

**Current Books Display Section:** Currently purchased books are displayed in this wing after completion of technical processing, dressing up and bar-coding for the period of one month for the awareness of users on recent arrivals. This wing is located at the right side of the entrance of the library.

**Reference Section:** Located at the adjacent to the circulation counter and OPAC Section. Publications of reference nature like Encyclopedia, Dictionaries, Directories, Handbooks, Data Books, Year Books, Maps and Atlases, etc. are arranged in classified order and this section is also signaged and all shelves with title of the resource. These publications are only for reference purpose and not for issue.

**Thesis Section:** Dissertations of Diploma in Agricultural Statistics of IASRI, M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Agricultural Statistics and M.Sc. in Computer Application of PG School, IARI are arranged in classified order in this wing. All bibliographical details of these theses are entered in computerized catalogue and full text of Ph.D. thesis are digitized and given access to use through library web site for research and academic purposes.

**Hindi Publication Section:** Books and reports in Hindi are arranged and displayed in this wing in classified order in different subject areas.

**Official Reference Publications Sections:** Administrative and financial rules books published by Govt. of India etc. are arranged in this section for reference purpose of users.

Apart from above sections, library has got following facilities.

**Library Information System Lab.:** This lab is meant for data entry, updation of data base services, website and resources on regular basis by the staff of library. It is equipped with server and internet connectivity, CD hybrid mirroring technology server, one workstation, four computers, all-in-one printer-cum-scanner-cum-photocopier, barcode printer and flatbed scanner, etc.

**Users Computer lab:** This lab. is meant for users of library for utilizing electronic services and resources being provided by library. This lab is equipped with three computers and a printer.

**Photocopy Room:** Library extends photocopy facility to the users subject to the provision of copy-rights. Provides library literature on free of cost to the scientists of IASRI and charging nominal fee for students as well as users of NARS.

**Committee Room:** Library has got 20 seated committee room with air-conditioning facility and internet for presentation to the committee.

NATP played a vital role in modernization of Institute's library. It funded for strengthening



Computer Lab



of library in terms of hardware, Alice for Windows Library Management Software, ISM Multilingual Software, Retro conversion of library catalogues, automation of library house keeping activities, digitization of Ph.D. thesis right from beginning and old and valuable journals, networking of library under its Sub-Project “**Strengthening of Library Improvement and Networking**”. It has also taken care of empowerment of library professional by imparting 15 days training at INFLIBNET Centre at Ahmedabad. Under NATP, automation of library was taken up. Bibliographical details/Cataloguing information of Books, Reports, Journal, Grey literature, Thesis, M.Sc. Dissertation etc., were entered in LMS. These are continuously being updated and made available to its users through LAN and WAN i.e. Web OPAC (On-line Catalogue). The Bar-coding of publications completed, database of profile of library bona-fide members developed with photographs and issued bar-coded membership cards to all the members. The circulation section of library has also been computerized and bar-coded. The digitization of library in respect of all Ph.D. thesis right from 1970’s and M.Sc. Dissertation both in Agricultural Statistics and M. Sc. Computer Application from 2005 were completed and made available to the users through LAN.

### Resources and Services

**Collection:** Over the past four decades of its existence, the library has built up its collection of 26,182 number of subject books, 3086 Hindi books, 8561 back volumes of journals, 9324 gray literature and reports, 967 number of thesis and dissertation, 629 number of CD-ROMs etc. Currently library is subscribing 65 Indian and 63 Foreign Periodicals and 60 On-line Journals and also it is having 09 On-line Portals, 25 CD-ROM Databases, 3000+ e-Journals under CeRA Consortium (Consortium for electronic Resources of Agriculture).

**Services:** Following on-line services are provided through the home page of the library (<http://lib.iasri.res.in>)

- **Bibliographical Database:** Conventional catalogue of books, journals, Ph.D. thesis, M.Sc. and Diploma dissertations, some of Grey literature (Reports), CD-ROMS available in library have been computerized and given access (WEB- OPAC ) through Library website (<http://lib.iasri.res.in>) not only to IASRI users but also NARS. Any user on web can retrieve the details of documents of his interest by simple search and can see its physical availability in library and also can reserve the document if it is under loan after logging into his/her account (only for IASRI users).



Home Page of Library

- **Archival Database:** Ph.D. thesis of IASRI Students as well as some of old, fragile, rare and valuable publications of the library have been converted into PDF (full text ) and posted on library

website for users of IASRI. User can search and retrieve the full text of thesis/rare journals by simple search. It is retrievable only within the LAN.

- **Off-line Searches (CD-ROM Database)** 35 CD-ROM Databases were procured by library and made available to users for reference. Some of these are stand alone and some are network versioned.
- **Current Content Service (JCC):** On-line weekly contents with abstracts from currently subscribed journals in library are being provided to the users through this service.
- **Reservation of Document:** Through this service users can make on-line enquires about the availability of a documents in library and also can make reservation of a document if it is under loan and user is intimated by e-mail after the book is received back in the library.
- **Patron Search:** User can know the history of his/her issue account by logging into his/her account.
- **Journals:** 60 journals subscribed by library are made available through library web site with links to full text.
- **Current Awareness Service (New Arrivals) plus Alert Service:** User is updated with monthly list of new additions of books, journals, reports through this service.
- **On-line Portals:** MATHSCINET, INGENTA, INDIASTAT, INDIAN HARVEST, Economic Intelligence Service, State Analysis System, DELNET

### Concluding Remarks

In the above, the development of modern library information services at the institute has been reviewed. This work is continuing and these efforts will help in strengthening the agricultural research, management and development under the National Agricultural Research System as well as providing the much needed information support to the stake holders.

