All the sub-themes were divided into five interactive sessions. The sub-themes were library 2.0, library 3.0, web 2.0, web 3.0, library portals, semantic web, role of aggregators and consortia in the collection development, digital right management, digital library and IPR, copyright management; international efforts, IPR and copyright issues in collection development, open source software, open access and journals and digital content management, free access to law movement, open access and copyright infringement and role, relevancy and research, and online legal databases.

The first session was chaired Dr. U.M. Thakur, Head, Department of Library & Information Science, Nalanda Open University and co-chaired by Dr. A.P. Singh, Former Head, DLIS, BHU, Varansi. The other sessions were chaired by Prof. N. Laxman Rao, Head, DLIS, Osmania University, Hyderabad; Prof. U.C. Sharma, Head, DLIS, Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar University, Agra; Dr. R. Srivastava, Director, Library of Supreme Court of India, New Delhi; Dr. Y. Modi, Scientist, DESIDOC, New Delhi; Dr. Rochana Srivastava, Head, DLIS, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi; Prof. V. Vishalakshi, National Law University, Lucknow; Prof. B.N. Pandey, BHU, Varansi and Dr. A.K. Tiwari, Head, Department of Legal Studies, National Law University, Lucknow.

On the occasion Dr. U.M. Thakur, Governing Body Member of IASLIC and former Director, Department of Library and Information Science, Patna University felicitated and presented mementoes in honour of his long enthusiastic and committed service to the Library and Information Science Profession.

National Conference on Next Generation Library Services

A two-day National Conference on ‘Next Generation Library Services’ was jointly organized by the Central Library of Justice Basheer Ahmed Sayeed College for Women (JBASCW), Chennai and the Society for the Advancement of Library and Information Science (SALIS) at JBASCW, Chennai recently. 294 delegates from all parts of India participated in the Conference. In the inaugural function, Dr. Naushen Dawood, Principal, JBASCW and Chair Person of the Organizing Committee of the Conference delivered the Welcome address. Dr. S. Surianarayanan, President, SALIS explained the Role of SALIS in Professional Development by explaining the structure and chapters of SALIS and the various activities of SALIS in promoting LIS profession by conducting conferences, awards, scholarships and its information services to the members through e-group. Dr. J. Dominic, Chief Librarian, Karunya University, Coimbatore and Conference Director briefed about the Conference. Sri Muosa Raza, Chairman, SIET and Former Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir and Secretary to Government of India released the Conference CD and delivered the presidential address. He focused on the need for the libraries to be attractive enough for the readers to spend more time there.

Prof. Jalees Ahmed Khan Tareen, Vice Chancellor, B. S. Abdur Rahman University, Chennai delivered the Inaugural address. He expressed his deep concern about the present status of Indian universities and drew notice to their shortcomings in comparison with the foreign Universities. He appreciated the practice of passing resolutions in every conference of SALIS and insisted to convey the resolutions to the notice of policy makers for relevant implementation. Prof. Subbah Arunchalam, Information Scientist, Society for Internet and Public, Bangalore delivered the Keynote address on ‘Open Access for Scholarly Communication’. He expressed his anxiety about the publication of STM (Science, Technology and Medical) journals with direct or indirect support of government through funding etc but the non-availability of the same for free access to public. He also insisted the policy makers to support more open access movement in addition to NISCAIR, INSA, ICAR, ICMR and IASc etc in India. Mr. Faizur Rahman Sayeed, Correspondent, JBASCW graced the inaugural function with his presence. Ms. M. Jannah Najeemunnisa Begum, Librarian, JBASCW and Organizing Secretary of the Conference proposed the vote of thanks.

The first technical session on the theme ‘Next Generation Library Services’ was chaired by Dr S. Surianarayanan. Mr. Ashutosh G. Joshi, Manager, KRC, KM, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, Chennai presented the Keynote address on ‘Knowledge Management Initiatives in Libraries by Librarians as a Next Generation Library Service’ and Ms. C. Hema, Librarian, Madura College, Madurai presented the Keynote address on ‘Next Generation Library Services for the Users in Academic Institutions’. The second technical session on ‘Social Networking Tools for Next Generation library services’ was chaired by Dr. S. Swaminathan, Librarian, SRMV College of Education, Coimbatore. Mr. Virupakshan Krishnamoorthi, Manager, Products, Platforms and Solutions, Infosys,
Chennai presented the Keynote address on ‘Social Networking Tools for Next Generation Library Service’. The third technical session on ‘Collection Development for Next Generation Libraries’ was chaired by Dr. A. Thirumagal, Librarian, M.S. University, Tirunelveli. Dr. Jesudas Manalan, Librarian, Bishop Heber College, Trichy presented the Keynote address on ‘Impact/ benefits of library liaison in resource sharing and partnership’.

The fourth technical session on ‘Content Development and E-Learning’ was chaired by Dr. A. Sokkalingam, Librarian, Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya Polytechnic College, Coimbatore Dr. Christina Birdi, Senior Librarian cum Archivist, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru presented his Keynote address on ‘E-content Management’. The fifth technical session on ‘Digital library Initiatives’ was chaired by Dr. M. Tamizhchelvan Deputy Librarian, Gandhigram Rural Institute University. Dr. R. Sevukan, Reader, DLIS, Pondicherry University, Puducherry presented the Keynote address on ‘LIS Professional in Digital Ages: Issues and Challenges’.

The sixth technical session on Applications of ‘IT for Next Generation library’ was chaired by Dr. K. Nithyanandam, Chief Librarian, Hindustan University, Chennai. Mr. B. Narayan, Senior Product Line Manager, Infosys, Chennai presented the Keynote address on Next Generation Technology for Innovative Library Services. The seventh technical session on ‘Library Studies, Research and Issues’ was chaired by Dr. S. Gopalakrishnan, Retired Assistant Librarian, Anna University, MIT Campus, Chennai. Ms B Jyothi, Head, Information Resource Centre, TCS, Chennai presented her Keynote address on ‘Corporate Library / Information Services and Products for the Next Generation Library Users’ and Dr. K. Elavazhagan, Librarian and Chief Knowledge Officer, IIM Trichy presented the Keynote address on ‘IPR and Copyright Issues. Altogether 66 presentations were made, besides keynote presentation, during the two-day Conference in seven technical sessions.

In the valedictory function Dr. S. Surianarayanan, delivered the Welcome address. Dr. M. Mandhirasalam, Rapporteur General presented a report of the proceedings of the Conference. Mr. Faizur Rahman Sayeed delivered the Presidential address. Dr. M. Nagarajan, Professor and Head, DLIS and Librarian, Annamalai University, Chidambaram delivered the Valedictory address. He expressed his concern about the quality of recent doctoral research trend in LIS and insisted the LIS community to promote the LIS courses among the students to take up this noble profession. Mr. R. Selvam, Financial Consultant, SIE Trust and Ms. M. Jabeen, Vice Principal, JBASCW, Chennai graced the valedictory function with their presence. Dr S Swaminathan, General Secretary, SALIS proposed the vote of thanks.

Symposium on Understanding and Eradicating Poverty in South Asia: Lessons and Options

A one-day Brainstorming Symposium on ‘Understanding and Eradicating Poverty in South Asia: Lessons and Options’ is being organized by South Asia Studies Centre, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur on the Occasion of 21st International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, October 17, 2013 at its University Campus.

Poverty is neither natural order of things nor a divine curse but it is a social construct which emerges from human activities (institutions and policies) and attitudes (culture) and inherently a humanitarian issue as two way process. Certain human activities and attitudes make the people poor. In turn, the poverty makes the people disable to live a dignified life. However, the poverty discourse in the past has remained very limited to the material component with minor changes. It has often been defined as an aggregation of material impoverishment, political oppression, social exclusion, educational deprivation and denial of rights/opportunities irrespective of the fact that poor are culturally enriched.

South Asian Countries ostensibly paid sufficient attention to both the understanding and eradicating poverty but in reality this region is very slow in poverty eradication while comparing with other such regions of the world. In fact, the proportion of the global poor has increased in this region and the countries of the region are at different stages of poverty eradication. However, some common trends are identified through the understanding and evaluation of the poverty situation, prevalent poverty alleviation programmes, methods/techniques and aims/objectives of poverty research:

- The understanding of poverty has followed rather than preceded the policies and programmes for poverty eradication,
- The understanding is highly fragmented in terms of methods, contents and focus,
- The understanding correspond with the overall changes in the social science disciplines,