

17 IARI Library- The National Agricultural Library

Introduction

The IARI Library was established at Pusa (Bihar) in 1905 with a small collection of 5,000 publications donated by the Department of Agriculture, Government of India. After the devastating earthquake in 1934, the Institute was shifted along with the Library to its present premises in New Delhi; where it was inaugurated in 1936 by Lord Linlithgow, the then Viceroy and Governor of India, and the Library was named after him as Linlithgow Library.

The Library has been keeping pace for the last 105 years with the ever-growing needs of the scientific and student community at National and International level. It has been regarded as one of the 10 best agro-biological libraries of the world and assumed the de-facto status of National Agricultural Library of India

There is no library parallel to IARI library in the country so far as rare and classical literature is concerned. The oldest English journal available in the Library dates back to 1665-66 named Philosophical Transactions of Royal Society of London, and the oldest book available is of 1597 Herbal General History of Plants by Gerald. Several other old books are available which give an account of agriculture in ancient India. The Library functions as the depository of FAO and CGIAR Institutes' publications.

National and International Linkages

Library is the member of DELNET (Developing library Network) and contributing in the databases of DELNET. Library is also participating in resource sharing within member libraries.

Library is member of AGLINET (Agricultural Library Network) of FAO Rome. Library is contributing in document delivery service.

Currently Library is also participating in Worldcat through OCLC (On-line Computer Library Centre). A network of 71,000 libraries of 212 countries of the world to share cataloguing and resources.

Collection

It has 6 lakh publications including 1 lakh books/monographs, 3,50,000 journal volumes, 45,000 bulletins, 15,000 post-graduate thesis, 10,000 pamphlets, 30,000 news clippings, 30,000 reports, and other reference materials. The Library has 10,500 journals/serials through subscription, gifts and exchanges. Exchange relations have been maintained with 185 institutions/parties globally and nationally by sending annual reports/ Indian journals and society publications.

Library is procuring 7 International Agricultural Databases, on-line journals and have links with publisher's databases.

Timings

The library services of the Institute are available throughout the year (except three National holidays and Holi festival). The timings of the Library services are as under:

Working days: 08:30 A.M. to 08.30 PM.

Gazetted holidays/ 2nd Saturdays/ Sunday : 09:00 A.M. to 01.00 P.M.

Normal Working Days and Hours

- The Library remains open on all working days from 8.30 AM to 8.30 PM. Stack rooms are

closed one hour before the closing time of the Library.

- On Sundays, second Saturdays and other gazetted holidays, the reading rooms alone shall be kept open from 9 AM to 1.00 PM in summer as well as in winter.
- Issue counter for loan and return of books and serials shall remain open only from 8.30 AM to 8.00 PM in winter and from 8.30 AM to 8.00 PM in summer on all working days. Overnight loan of text books to students shall be issued only from 7 PM till 15 minutes before closing time of the library on working days and from 12.30 PM to 1 PM on holidays.
- The Library remains completely closed on 26th January (Republic Day), 15th August (Independence Day), 2nd October (Mahatma Gandhi's birthday) and on the day of 'Holi' festival.

Do's and Don'ts of the Library

- Publications taken out on loan are subject to check by the person on duty at the entrance gate.
- All personal belongings, such as umbrellas, hats, walking sticks, books and files, briefcase and hand bags etc., shall be kept near the counter at a place provided for the purpose. Only loose sheets, cards and note books shall be allowed to be brought inside the library.
- Smoking is strictly prohibited in the reading rooms and in the stack rooms.
- No one shall remove any publication outside the library except in accordance with the rules regulating the issues of publications on loan.
- No other object, belongings to the library shall be removed out of its premises except with the written permission of the Head Library Services.
- No one shall, whether for the purpose of correcting an error or otherwise, make any markings whatsoever in publications belonging to the library, underline words and sentences therein, dog-ear pages or otherwise damage or mutilate them in any manner.

Loss and Damage of Publications

- If any publication is lost or disfigured or if any page and picture is removed by the reader,

he/she must replace it by a new copy or by a photocopy on the discretion of library authorities. If he/she fails to do so, he/she shall be required to pay the cost plus any fine that may be levied by the authorities.

- The borrowers shall examine the books and periodicals at the time of receiving them. When detected, the last borrower shall be held responsible for any damage.

Members and Users of the Library

- All bonafide research workers and regular students of this Institute shall be eligible to become members of the library.
- All the research workers and technical staff (from the level of T-I) shall be eligible to get books on loan.
- Honorary research workers, research fellows and students shall be eligible to get books on loan either on their making the prescribed deposit and fulfilling other formalities with the cashier of the Institute or the recommending Head of the Division shall take the responsibility for obtaining 'no due certificate' from the library at the time of his/her leaving the Institute.
- All bonafide members of the library shall be provided with the prescribed library tickets for borrowing publications.
- The Library ticket holders shall be exclusively responsible for loss of the ticket and for its misuse by others. In case of loss of the ticket, the holders shall report the matter to the library and apply for its replacement after depositing ₹ 5.00 per ticket.
- Research staff, students and research fellows shall be issued 5 readers ticket, and technical staff in category-III, II and I will get five, three and one readers tickets, respectively.
- Bonafide research workers belonging to other organisations shall be given only consultation facilities on their applying through the Head of the respective organizations.
- Bonafide scientists and research workers of other Institutes/ Organizations shall be enrolled as special members of the library for getting books on loan subject to the

conditions that: (i) the membership application is forwarded by the Head of the respective Institution/Organization, (ii) deposit ₹ 500/- as security money with the cashier of the Institute, and (iii) two permanent staff members of IARI equivalent to gazetted rank shall stand surety for the applicant. The person thus enrolled shall be entitled for loan of only one publication at a time.

Loan and Late Fee

- Publications shall be issued only against the library card issued to members.
 - Faculty members shall get one book on loan for teaching purpose and from “Text Books Section” books are given on loan for three months for consultation and overnight loan from reference collection.
 - Books taken out on loan shall be retained for a maximum period of 14 days only but the books are liable to be recalled at any time. After due date, a late fee as prescribed shall be charged per day per book.
 - Serials (periodicals, annual reports and bulletins) taken out on loan shall be retained for a maximum of two days only but these are liable to be recalled at any time. After the due date, a late fee of Re. 1/- shall be charged per day per publication.
 - The late fee amount in cash shall be collected at the counter. A borrower shall not be allowed to borrow books again unless late fee assessed has been paid.
 - Text books reserved for Post Graduate Students for overnight loan shall be issued after 7 PM on working days and 12.30 PM on holidays. These must be returned the following day within the first hour of opening the library. Failure to return the book taken on loan within the time prescribed above shall subject the students to a fine as prescribed. This rule shall be rigidly enforced. Persistent abuse of these privileges will attract disciplinary action.
 - Faculty members shall be entitled to borrow one book at a time from Text Book Section for three months for teaching purposes
- provided more than one copy of the book is available in this section. Books kept in any other section shall be available for 14 days and serials for 2 days at a time.
- All loan requisitions for books and serials shall be addressed to the Head, Library Services.
 - Transfer of books is strictly prohibited.
 - Local borrowers shall not be permitted to take books out of station except with the prior permission of the Director.
 - Books from the divisional libraries shall not ordinarily be available for loan to those outside the division except with the special permission of the Head of the Division concerned.
 - Publications under the following categories shall not be issued on loan: (i) Reference publications, such as dictionaries, encyclopedias, hand books, yearbooks, atlases, maps and gazetteers, abstracting and indexing journals, manuals and thesis and publications stamped as ‘Reference’, (ii) Publications in damaged and dilapidated condition, (iii) Loose issues of serials, and (iv) Publications kept in closed sequence and such other books as have gone out of print or are not easily replaceable.
 - Publications more than 20 years old and unbound issues of periodicals shall not be issued on loan except at the discretion of the Head, Library Services under special circumstances.
 - Subject to the rule as above, publications excepting those issued by the Institute and Indian Council of Agricultural Research, with the permission of the Head, Library Services may be loaned to the bonafide research workers under the central and state governments, universities and other institutions on their sending requisitions through respective librarians Head of Offices. All such requisitions shall be addressed to the Head, Library Services, IARI, New Delhi.
 - Outside borrowers shall have to bear the transit and packing charges both ways. The borrower shall have to remit postal and

packing charges in advance. The packing charges shall be calculated @ 12% of the cost of postage.

- An infringement of the above rules shall render the defaulter liable to be deprived of the privileges of using the library or to such other disciplinary measures as may be determined by the Director, IARI.

Library Automation

The library started its computerization activities in 1993. The Library has crossed the threshold of automation by creating database of 1,61,931 books, 6,730 serial titles and 14,202 theses in electronic form using library automation software “Libsys” which is accessible on LAN. Computerized circulation system is started from 2004. The Library is providing literature search from CD-Rom since 1990 from International Agricultural databases. 27 Rare Books and 43,00,000 pages of 6,250 publications published before 1950 which are not covered under Copyright Act were scanned and can be accessed on the C-DAC website.

Student’s Facility Unit

The Library has Student Facility Unit with 10 Pentium IV terminals having internet connectivity to access internet, e-mail and literature search.

Wi-Fi Connectivity in Reading Halls

Reading halls have Wi-Fi connectivity with 10 Pentium IV terminals. Students can also bring their Laptop for research work.

Scientist Facility Wing

The scientists of the Institute can use the terminals of training cell for accessing Internet and other services of the Library.

Training Cell

The Library has training cell with a provision of 24 computers with internet connectivity and one LCD Projector to organize training, examinations of IARI and practicals of AIS Course.

AGRIS Project

AGRIS (International Information System of Agricultural Science and Technology) is a database of FAO, in which, Library was declared as one of the input centre for National Agricultural Research Database (NARD) under AGRIS Project. The Library was assigned the job of indexing articles with abstract from 10 most important Indian journals.

Services

Inter-Library Loan: Library provides Inter Library Loan services to different institutions on demand by the post-graduate students, research scholars and scientists. The publications, which are not available in the collection of the Library are arranged under Inter-Library Loan Facility.

Reference Service: Library is giving reference services through phone, e-mail and personally.

Document Delivery: Document Delivery Service is given under CeRA and Inter-Library Loan through e-mail by scanning the articles or through post by sending the photocopy of the articles.

Bibliographic services: On demand, library is compiling subject bibliographies.

Documentation services: The Library has unique collection on Indian Agriculture by Indian authors entitled as “Bibliography of Indian Agriculture from 1944-2000” in card format and CDs.

CD-ROM database Searches: This service was started in 1990 from 7 International Agricultural Databases on LAN.

Reprographic Services: The Library has well equipped reprographic Unit with latest equipments. The scientists have been given the facility of getting photocopy 200 pages free of cost. Private photocopying facility is also available from 9.30 AM to 7.00 PM at the rate of 40 paisa per page on all working days.

Current Awareness Services: List of additions, New Arrivals, Current Contents are provided through IARI Intranet page.

CD-Rom Workstation

The Library has CD-Rom Workstation with 10 terminals Pentium IV which are attached with