

ADINET (Advanced Information Network of Libraries in Gujarat) **e-News Digest**

No. 131

Aug – 2026

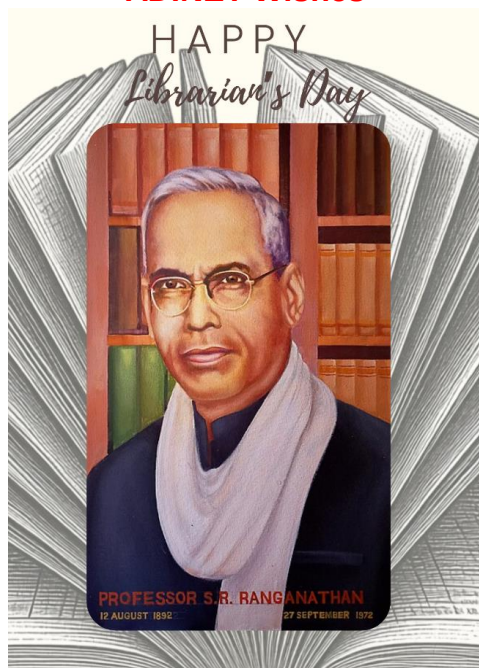
CONTENTS	Page No.
Pause & Ponder	2
ADINET Librarian's Day 2026	2
Gujarat University recognises Inflibnet as research centre for PhD programmes	2
Emerging library leaders explore leadership at UH Mānoa	3
Susan Orlean on the Many Uses of Libraries	3
Michigan libraries expand beyond books — and walls — by going outdoors	4
Public libraries can help tackle misinformation and disinformation, research shows	4
Amit Shah launches 'Gramin Gyan Setu' app to connect village libraries in Gandhinagar	5
AI agents are checking the scientific literature — and spotting decades-old errors	5
Walk-in mental health centres to open in banks and libraries across England	5
A.I. should be free at public libraries	6

Pause & Ponder

“The most important asset of any library goes home at night – the library staff.”

– Timothy Healy

ADINET Wishes



12 August 2026

ADINET Librarian's Day 2026



ADINET Librarian's Day Seminar 2026

In Collaboration with
National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar

**Secure Knowledge
Networks:
Libraries in the Era of
Cyber Security and Digital
Collaboration**



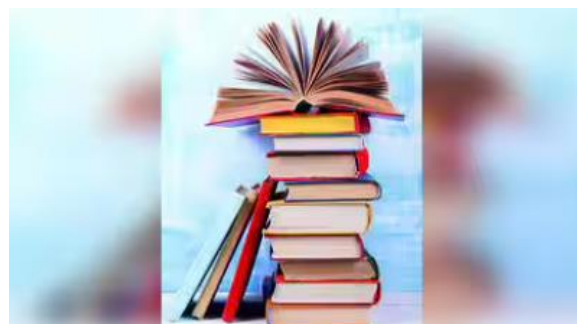
 **August 22, 2026 | NFSU, Gandhinagar, Gujarat**

Click the image for details

****Readers Please Note****

Tap the Title to read the full article

**Gujarat University recognises
Inflibnet as research centre for PhD
programmes**



Ahmedabad: Gujarat University and UGC's Information and Library Network (Inflibnet) Centre in Gandhinagar signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on Tuesday, enabling PhD candidates to conduct research under the mentorship of scientists at UGC's inter-university centre.

Under the seven-year agreement, GU has formally recognised Inflibnet as an official research centre. Qualified researchers can now pursue full-time or part-time PhD programmes under Inflibnet scientists, with degrees conferred by GU.

Aligned with National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 to foster inter-institutional cooperation, the partnership initially covers library and information science alongside computer science and information technology. Key focus areas include digital libraries, data science, research analytics, knowledge management, scientometrics, and network technologies, with scope for expanding into other disciplines.

Enrolled scholars will gain direct access to Inflibnet's cloud infrastructure, data analytics tools and national digital platforms such as One Nation One Subscription (ONOS), Shodhganga,

ShodhChakra and Vidwan database. Admissions will cover Inflibnet staff, candidates selected through GU's standard entrance process and scholars under joint supervision.

GU will retain full oversight of admissions, coursework, registration and degree awards in compliance with UGC PhD Regulations 2022. A joint steering committee led by GU vice-chancellor and Inflibnet director will conduct annual reviews of the collaboration...

Source: [The Times of India, 19 Aug 2026](#)

Emerging library leaders explore leadership at UH Mānoa



The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Hamilton Library welcomed participants in the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Leadership Fellows Program for a four-day site visit July 28–31, giving emerging research library leaders an opportunity to engage with UH leaders and explore the role of libraries in advancing higher education.

The fellows met with UH President Wendy Hensel and UH Mānoa Chancellor Vassilis Syrmos, along with other university leaders, library faculty and staff. Discussions focused on institutional priorities, academic affairs, research, student success and leadership in higher education.

"We were honored to host the Leadership Fellows and to showcase the outstanding work happening at UH Mānoa in general, and at Hamilton Library in particular," said University Librarian Clem Guthro...

Source: [University of Hawaii News, 18 Aug 2026](#)

Susan Orlean on the Many Uses of Libraries

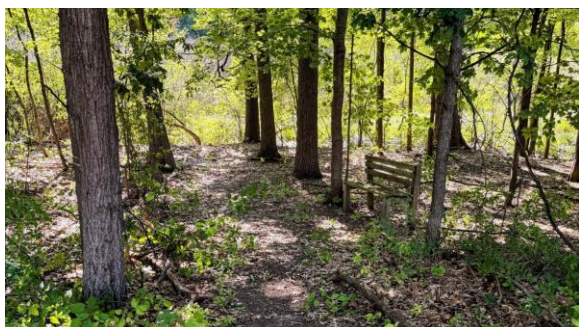
Susan Orlean explores how libraries have become central community resources, offering much more than books.



In this California Book Club clip, Susan Orlean explains how libraries serve purposes far beyond lending books. Libraries provide internet access, voter registration information, technology, and storytime for children. Orlean describes libraries as central meeting places that are crucial for people to support one another and help their communities prosper. •

Source: [Altaonline.com, 18 Aug 2026](#)

Michigan libraries expand beyond books — and walls — by going outdoors



Libraries aren't just places to check out books anymore.

Across Michigan, they're expanding into community hubs, offering outdoor spaces, programs, tools and other services designed to meet the changing needs of the people who use them — and are reading less.

One trend: StoryWalks, outdoor paths designed for young children and families to read while enjoying nature in a fun and engaging way.

The organization, which also operates in western New York, is investing \$1.5 million over three years in eight libraries across southeast Michigan to improve spaces and services, including outdoor learning and gathering areas, youth and teen programming and career exploration.

"One of the goals that we wanted to work on is increasing the use of the outdoor space and (utilizing) our local trails and parks," said Chase McMunn, Orion Township's library director. "We wanted to give people something to do outdoors here.

McMunn said the library's new StoryWalk will be open year-round and will rotate the books seasonally...

Source: [Bridge Michigan, 18 Aug 2026](#)

Public libraries can help tackle misinformation and disinformation, research shows



Public libraries could play a key role in helping communities in the UK tackle misinformation and disinformation, but coordinated national action is needed to unlock their full potential, according to new research led by the University of Stirling.

Arts Council England commissioned the study — the first of its kind in the UK — to assess how public libraries are responding to misinformation and disinformation.

The report authored by the University of Stirling's Professor Steven Buchanan in collaboration with Professor David McMenemy of the University of Glasgow sets out an action plan to strengthen the role of libraries in tackling the problem.

Misinformation — inaccurate or incomplete information shared without the intention to deceive — and disinformation — inaccurate or incomplete information deliberately created or shared to mislead — are increasingly widespread, and pose significant challenges for society, affecting public trust, democratic participation, public health and people's ability to make informed decisions.

The report argues that public libraries are uniquely placed to help address the challenges. As trusted, community-based civic institutions, they already play an important role in helping people

access, understand and evaluate information through everyday services such as digital support, information literacy and community learning...

Source: [University of Stirling, 14 Aug 2026](#)

Amit Shah launches 'Gramin Gyan Setu' app to connect village libraries in Gandhinagar



Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday launched the 'Gramin Gyan Setu' app, an initiative aimed at interconnecting libraries across the Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency of Gujarat and promoting a culture of reading among children and young people.

Launched through video conferencing on the occasion of National Library Day, the initiative seeks to establish a library in every village, preferably at a central location near schools, and provide rural readers access to a much larger pool of books through a technology-enabled hub-and-spoke model.

HM Shah noted that 752 libraries have already been connected to the Gramin Gyan Setu app, while the process of establishing 63 village libraries has begun across the Gandhinagar, Kalol and Sanand assembly constituencies. Each of these libraries is planned to have around 5,000 to 6,000 books...

Source: [DD India, 12 Aug 2026](#)

AI agents are checking the scientific literature — and spotting decades-old errors



For decades, chemists have relied on handbook values for a molecule's boiling point to identify substances and plan processes such as distillation. But an artificial-intelligence model has revealed that some trusted numbers in one reference database have been wrong all along.

Sebastian Pios, a theoretical chemist at Zhejiang Lab in Hangzhou, China, was using an AI system to predict the boiling points of several molecules when it began producing values that clashed with long-accepted entries in a 75-year-old reference database. At first, he thought the model was wrong. But when he manually checked the original literature, he found that the reference data were wrong, not the AI model...

Source: [Nature, 06 Aug 2026](#)

Walk-in mental health centres to open in banks and libraries across England



People in England needing immediate care for mental health problems will be able to access specialist walk-in hubs close to their home, the government is promising.

Ministers have set out plans to create a network of nearly 200 community mental health centres and mental health A&Es by 2029.

The aim is to give those experiencing a mental health crisis or significant distress somewhere to go to get help when they need it - with plans to open dozens of the hubs in high street locations like banks and libraries.

One in five people struggle with their mental health and thousands of people turn up at A&E when they get to crisis point because they cannot find help elsewhere.

The government believes its plans, which build on pilots that have been run over recent years, will help tackle this issue and ensure people receive expert care when they need it...

Source: [BBC, 06 Aug 2026](#)

A.I. should be free at public libraries



The most powerful artificial intelligence companies in the world have made a sweeping public promise: Their technology will benefit all of humanity. Both Anthropic and OpenAI are now incorporated as public benefit

corporations; according to Anthropic, this means that their directors are supposed to “balance the financial interests of the stockholders with...the responsible development and maintenance of advanced AI for the long-term benefit of humanity.” OpenAI has also committed to “making intelligence a tool that everyone can benefit from.” The third major competitor in the A.I. space, Google, remains a full for-profit corporation, but its A.I. division, DeepMind, has similarly published principles foregrounding social benefit and fairness.

When A.I. companies commit themselves to “the long-term benefit of humanity,” they are setting a goal that Catholic social teaching has stressed for over a century: that the goods produced by human labor and ingenuity carry social obligations, and that those with power bear responsibility for ensuring that the benefit of those goods reaches everyone. As Pope Leo XIV’s encyclical “Magnifica Humanitas” reminds us, the principle of the universal destination of goods means that “the earth’s good...

Source: [America Magazine, 28 Jul 2026](#)

Connect with ADINET



**Advance Information Network of
Libraries in Gujarat**

alibnet@gmail.com

**This issue has been compiled by the
Institute for Plasma Research (IPR)
Library, Gandhinagar**