ADINET e-News Digest

No. 24   September 2016

Coming Next Feb: `World's largest' student tracker @ Shala Asmita Yojna (SAY), a ready database of 25 crore school-going children

Come February 2017 and the government will launch probably the world's largest student-tracking programme, Shala Asmita Yojna (SAY), that will have a ready database of 25 crore school-going children. ASMITA is the acronym for All School Monitoring, Individual Tracing Analysis.

The prime minister's office has given the go-ahead for SAY, which intends to use Aadhaar numbers to track the educational development of students, be it their attendance, enrolment, dropping out, mid-day meals, toilets and other related parameters like teacher transfers and learning assessment of children. The initiative will cover 15 lakh schools and 77 lakh teachers of government and government-aided schools.

 "Having common data will help deal with the huge loss to the exchequer," the official said. The software to evaluate the data will be developed by National Informatics Centre on the basis of a matrix provided by the Human Resource Development ministry .
Source | Times of India | 25 May 2016

Elsevier denies it will force SSRN users on to other services

Purchase of research repository has horrified open access advocates who fear acquisition marks attempt to maintain control over publishing

The publishing giant Elsevier has insisted that it will not force academics to sign up to its other services in order to use the newly acquired Social Science Research Network (SSRN) repository.

But Elsevier's purchase of SSRN earlier this week, which has dismayed open access advocates, could be the first of many as the publisher looks to build up an online network of scholars as an alternative to its publishing business.

The company did not disclose on what financial terms it had bought SSRN, which acts as a repository largely for pre-publication papers in social sciences and humanities and has more than 2 million members.

Link| http://pralhadfyilibrarian.blogspot.in/2016/05/elsevier-denies-it-will-force-ssrn.html

Mumbai police diary: In love with books — the other side of men in khaki

With the presence of Amar Jawan Jyot, the first floor of the commissioner's building in Crawford Market has a special library only for the use of policemen.

AS he removed a book from the shelf, constable-cum-librarian Satish Kamble proudly said police officials found time from their routine work to bother him to look for a particular book.

With the presence of Amar Jawan Jyot, the first floor of the commissioner's building in Crawford Market has a special library only for the use of policemen. IPS officer Arun Patnaik, who integrated the entire small books cluster into a library for police officials in 2011-12, added a new dimension to the life of several cops with love for books.

From Sherlock Holmes to history of western philosophy, the library has books from several genres such as law and order, management, economics, politics, international terrorism, photography, art and culture, spiritual, short stories, self-help and Marathi literature.

Link | http://pralhad-fyilibrarian.blogspot.in/2016/05/in-love-with-books-other-side-of-men-in.html

Online Courses to count towards college degree, but only up to 20%

SWAYAM Platform | UGC to factor in online scores towards total marks and transfer credits for them

NEW DELHI: The Narendra Modi government is set to make online courses count towards the college degree

University Grants Commission, the apex higher education regulator, sources said, has agreed to factor in scores achieved in official online courses towards total marks scored and transfer credits for them — a move that will mainstream online courses and increase their acceptability and credibility in the Indian higher education system.

It will also allow students across institutions in India to take up courses which may not be available at their institute and also win credit for them. One condition is that the online courses must be one of the 400 plus courses on offer through the government-backed massive open online course (MOOC) platform SWAYAM   .

Link | http://pralhad-fyilibrarian.blogspot.in/2016/05/online-courses-to-count-towards-college.html

Inform Others! – Career in Knowledge Management

If you think there's a necessity to store information in a systematic and presentable matter in the digital age, consider a career in knowledge management

Telecom has not been cheaper than it is today in India, considering all factors. In fact, our country offers cheaper rates for telecommunication compared to most of the world, and with that, smart phones have become a necessity. One effect of that is that information is available to

any person with a smart phone and internet connectivity at the push of a button.

Did you know, however, that there are people who work hard behind the scenes so that you can retrieve accurate information in very little time? That is the crux of knowledge management. With the power of knowledge an individual and even a country can go places, and when knowledge is worked upon to make it relevant, up-to-date and convenient, several opportunities can be created for it.

With the onset of the digital age, corporations and other small companies soon realised the necessity of managing knowledge effectively, and so transform the physical hard bound knowledge into its more accessible electronic counterpart. For that, professionals are needed to create secure systems to not only store the knowledge, but also to retrieve it and make it available as easily as possible. This is necessary because creation of multiple copies has become very easy in this age, and therefore security becomes an important issue. Whether one talks of collecting information for storing and disseminating it, effective strategies are necessary for knowledge management.

The sector in which a company operates does not matter – whether finance or science and engineering or health and medicine to education and beyond, all organisations need knowledge managers who are equipped with the expertise to handle the volumes of knowledge – both, the existing and the newly generated. With this theme in mind, education institutions and other corporations are focussing on digital libraries, and thus enhancing a career option that is essential to today's world.

If you are remotely interested in this field, you should know that working with technology will be a huge part of your work profile, since most knowledge is managed digitally. Even if there are hard bound volumes of information which may not be digitised for some reason, their storage and location and retrieval will be managed on the computer.

Source| http://www.freepres sjournal.in/

Rare Indian Recordings From 1900s Made Available by British Library

The British Library has made available over 1500 rare Indian recordings dating from 1900 – 1940 on its website. Now, we can listen to the first recordings made by artists like Abdul Karim Khan, Bai Sundarabai, and Omkarnath Thakur. "Khan Saheb" of the Kirana gharana trained singers who went on to become legendary in their own right, like Sawai Gandharva and Roshanara Begum.

In this recording, he sings the thumri still famous today, *"jamuna ke teer."* His

student, Roshanara Begum, <u>sings the hori</u> *"khelut nandkumar."*

The recordings are a part of the Odeon Collection, a series that has been digitised by Mumbai record collector <u>Suresh Chandvankar</u> with funding from the British Library. They are also available at other institutions including the Sangeet Natak Akademy, the National Film Archive and the American Institute of Indian Studies.

Link | http://pralhad-fyilibrarian.blogspot.in/2016/05/rare-indian-recordings-from-1900s-made.html

India is finally on the path of a truly digital nation

I believe it may take many more years before India becomes a truly digital nation like Singapore, but we definitely seem to be getting there

The government appears to have got its Digital India approach right. It's imperative that it does so, given that the Rs.1.3 trillion programme envisages a plethora of e-governance services across sectors like healthcare, education and banking, and promises to introduce transparency in the system, reduce corruption and achieve inclusive growth.

I remain optimistic that this will happen. Here are some reasons. To begin with, building on the National e-Governance Plan that was approved in 2006 under the Congress regime, the current Narendra Modi-led National

Democratic Alliance government is using technologies like mobility, analytics, cloud and the Internet of Things to implement the Digital India programme that dovetails with its other initiatives like [Smart Cities](#) and [Make in India](#).

On the surface, we get to see tangibles like the government's Digital Locker that allows you to store important files and lets you authenticate them online with your Aadhaar number, e-bastas ('*basta'* is Hindi for satchel), and the linking of Aadhaar to bank accounts and availing of subsidies.

Link | http://pralhad-fyilibrarian.blogspot.in/2016/05/india-is-finally-on-path-of-truly.html

'With thousands of manuscripts left to be rewritten, it is a race against time'

'Shrutganga', the centre of rewriting Jain manuscripts, nestles on the third floor of Shrut Ganga Mandir, situated amidst the hustle and bustle of the commercial hub of Kalbadevi.
Time itself seems to slow down as a dozen men, seated in an organised sequence on the floor, work themselves into oblivion. These are no ordinary men, and their work, perhaps, is worth a million dollars, for these skilled artists, in this age of 'one-touch' and 'single clicks', are rewriting ancient manuscripts using the

methodology of a long-established religious faith.

Thousands of manuscripts, are brought here from the libraries of the old town of Patan in Gujarat. Interestingly, these men, wearing traditional white robes and colourful turbans are either Maharashtrian or North Indian Brahmins, and not Jains.

Link | http://pralhad-fyilibrarian.blogspot.in/2016/05/with-thousands-of-manuscripts-left-to.html

Now, talk to a doctor online

Medical consultation app Lybrate crosses 3 million downloads. It relies on all forms of communication—text, voice and video—to allow seamless interaction between doctors and patients

This is one simple idea which has the potential to have lasting consequences. We are talking about Lybrate, one of India's earliest and fast-growing online doctor consultation platform. Its founder & CEO, Saurabh Arora, is striving to make healthcare accessible in the country and bridge the demand-supply gap of healthcare experts by seamlessly connecting doctors and patients with the help of technology and letting them communicate using mobile phones. The health app has been downloaded over 3 million times on mobile devices since the company launched the platform in January 2015. The platform now also has more than

100,000 healthcare experts from varied branches of medicine from across India.

Investors have been quick to take note of this innovative startup. Lybrate raised $10.2m from Tiger Global, Nexus Venture Partners and Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons Ratan Tata in Series A funding in July 2015. It received $1.23 m in seed funding in August 2014. Lybrate is also Indian Medical Association's digital partner and it has launched its service on Facebook Messenger's bot platform. In addition, it recently debuted its integrated healthcare solution Lybrate Lab+, enabling users to consult doctors online, get suggested lab tests done and continue consultation upon automatic sharing of reports with healthcare experts, without breaking the loop.

"Our medical app allows users to discuss any health issue with doctors through text, video and voice chat while keeping their identity anonymous," Saurabh tells FE. "More than 100,000 doctors and health experts from varied branches of medicine from across India are connected to millions of patients through the technology-driven platform. With such a strong network, Lybrate acts as the world's largest OPD."

Link | http://pralhad-fyilibrarian.blogspot.in/2016/05/now-talk-to-doctor-online.html

Wearable keyboard lets users Tap to type

The decline of desktop computing and the proliferation of other devices that require text input mean that alternatives to the traditional keyboard are now needed. The Tap Strap wearable keyboard is one such alternative that works with Bluetooth devices and lets users tap on any surface to type.

Worn on the hand, the device is similar in concept to the AirMouse wearable mouse and the Gest gesture control glove. It is designed to produce more outputs than the former, though, and is more tailored for purpose than the latter. The startup manufacturer behind the device, Tap Systems, says it provides "fast, accurate and eyes-free" typing for iOS and Android phones and tablets, Mac and Windows PCs and smart TVs.

Users pull the Tap Strap onto the hand like a glove, with holes for each finger and for the thumb. It can be worn on either the right or left hand, or one can be worn on each hand for two-handed typing. Three taps of the thumb will switch on the Tap Strap and three taps of the ring finger will switch it off.

Link | http://pralhad-fyilibrarian.blogspot.in/2016/05/wearable-keyboard-lets-users-tap-to-type.html

Study Shows Link Between School Librarians and Higher Test Scores

The members of the South Carolina Association of School Librarians (SCASL) have always known how important school librarians and library programs are to student achievement in their state; however, they needed a way to prove it to administrators, teachers, parents, and legislators who were yet to be convinced.

More Information | Click Here

Should All Research Papers Be Free?

"Realistically only scientists at really big, well-funded universities in the developed world have full access to published research," said Michael Eisen, a professor of genetics, genomics and development at the University of California, Berkeley, and a longtime champion of open access. "The current system slows science by slowing communication of work, slows it by limiting the number of people who can access information and quashes the ability to do the kind of data analysis" that is possible when articles aren't "sitting on various siloed databases."

Journal publishers collectively earned $10 billion last year, much of it from research libraries, which pay annual subscription fees ranging from $2,000 to $35,000 per title if they don't buy

subscriptions of bundled titles, which cost millions. The largest companies, like <u>Elsevier</u>, <u>Taylor & Francis</u>, <u>Springer</u> and <u>Wiley</u>, typically have profit margins of over <u>30 percent</u>, which they say is justified because they are curators of research, selecting only the most worthy papers for publication. Moreover, they orchestrate the vetting, editing and archiving of articles.

"The prices have been rising twice as fast as the price of health care over the past 20 years, so there's a real scandal there to be exposed," said Peter Suber, Harvard's director of the office of scholarly communication. "It's important that Harvard is suffering when it has the largest budget of any academic library in the world."
Mr. Suber was quick to add, however, that he didn't condone Ms. Elbaykan's guerrilla tactics: "Unlawful access gives open access a bad name."

Until the system changes, Ms. Elbakyan said she would continue to distribute journal articles to whoever wants them. Paraphrasing <u>part</u> of the United Nations Charter, she said, "Everyone has the right to freely share in scientific advancement and its benefits."

E Link | <u>Click Here</u>

Web 4.0 is coming – electronic agents will have an answer to everything

Web 4.0 is the impending state at which all the information converges into a great ball of benevolent self-aware light, and solves every problem from world peace to will Jon Snow be alive in the next season of Game of Thrones?

NB This is a viewpoint by Mohnish Bahal, digital marketing manager for <u>Vista Rooms</u>.

Digital marketers, futurists, radicals – everyone is talking about this new coming wave. Before we get into Web 4.0, it is useful to look back at all the iterations of the internet:

Web 1.0: Read-Only Web

Web 1.0 lasted from 1989 to 2005. At its inception Tim Berners-Lee considered the web as read-only. The defining aspect of web 1.0 is search, think about Yahoo in the late 1990s! At this stage the web's role was very passive in nature.

Web 2.0: Social Community Explosion

2.0 is the second generation of web. This generation was considered as "read-write web". It encouraged community, social interaction and user-generated content. This generation also gave birth to brilliant digital platforms. Social media, blogs, Reddit, Wikipedia and Twitter all emerged during this phase.

Web 3.0: Immersive and virtual web

Web 3.0 is a recent phenomenon and we are at the very end of this generation. Futurists and digital pioneers call this phenomenon as "3D Web or Semantic Web". In this phase, everything has a digital footprint, including your house thermostat! 3.0 built a pathway for brilliant inovations such as VR, 360 Videos, real time video streaming and Snapchat!

Web 4.0: Ultra Intelligent Electronic Agents

Interaction between humans and machines is the driving force behind 4.0. We might still well be in Web 3.0 but 4.0 is coming and it's coming fast. Facebook recently launched Agent M, an artificial agent on chat. And we are all aware about Siri.

[David Burrus](#), a futurist, says that you will be able to give your agent a personality of your choice. It will say to you things like this:

"Good morning. You're flying to Boston today. Take a raincoat, it's raining. By the way, that fight you were taking, it's already been cancelled. Don't worry about it. There was a mechanical. I've already booked you on a new one. I'll tell you about it on the way to the airport. But remember you're going to exercise every day and I'm here to remind you that you're going to exercise." And you might say, "I don't know if I want to exercise today," and It'll show you a nude profile of yourself. And you'll say, "You know what, I think I'm going to exercise today."

The 4.0 wave will not just bring disruption in the way we communicate with the web, but also change how we perceive the web. The only thing certain is that exciting times lie ahead. Are you prepared for it?

E Link | [Click Here](#)

The Wonderful World of Wiki

Wikipedia has become our "go to" place on the internet for information on practically anything. Savio D'Souza and Ashutosh Desai tell you about some fantastic tools that can further improve your wiki experience. Welcome to the...

Concise Wikis

Wikipedia entries can be quite exhaustive, often running into thousands of words, and filled with details that might not always be relevant, or sometimes even too complex for most users. In such cases, in the browser address bar, just replace the "en" in the link with "simple" for a shorter version of the entry that carries only the most important parts.

Videos in Wiki

If you use Google's Chrome browser, go to the Chrome Web Store and install the WikiTube extension. After this, whenever you visit a Wikipedia page, the plugin automatically extracts videos that are related to the topic you are reading and displays them right on the same page for quick access.

Multiple Wiki Pages in a Single Tab

Need to reference multiple Wikipedia pages at the same time? Go to en.wikunia.de. The website lets you open more than one wiki entry within a single browser window.
Also, when reading through a Wikipedia entry , we tend to click on links within the text, which takes us to new tabs.Wikunia simply splits the page and opens the new link so you can see both at once. It allows you to open a maximum of four pages at the same time.

Better Presentation

Wikiwand.com is an internet service that overhauls the boring pages of Wikipedia to present it to you in a way that's beautiful to look at, and convenient to use. Click on the magnifying glass icon on the page to search for a Wikipedia article, and Wikiwand will display it with a cover photo from the article, and a table of contents on the left-side of your screen that stays put even when you scroll. You also get quick previews of text when you hover over links, built-in multilanguage search, and you can customize colour themes, font and layout. Besides the website, you can also find the Wikiwand app on iOS (Android app coming soon) and browser extensions for Chrome, Firefox and Safari. Once you start using Wikiwand, you won't feel like going back to the boring old interface of Wikipedia.
Source | Times of India | 12 March 2016

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"**When things go wrong as they sometimes will,**
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.
Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a failure turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it out;
Don't give up though the pace seems slow--
You may succeed with another blow,
Success is failure turned inside out-
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems so far;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit--
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit."
~ Unknown