

Workshop on Optimal Use of e-Resources : Report

A two-days “Workshop on Optimal Use of e-Resources” was organized by the Central Library, IIT Bombay on 27-28 May 2004 which was attended by 51 participants from Engineering & Technology institutions, NITs and other organizations. The workshop was aimed at imparting training to the librarians and others to ensure optimum utilization of electronic resources for the benefits of the users. It also provided participants with an opportunity to discuss their concerns and difficulties directly with database producers/vendors. The workshop was inaugurated by Prof Ashok Misra, the Director IIT Bombay. In his inaugural address, Prof Misra underlined the need for a modern and well maintained library to acquire, organize and disseminate knowledge. Describing the Central Library as one of the best libraries in technical education, he highlighted the leading role played by the library in modernizing its activities and arranging access to electronic resources much before the INDEST Consortium was set up. He appreciated the initiative of Central Library in organizing the workshop as it focuses on the optimal use which is as important as to ensure the availability of resources. The users must know how to use the resources in best possible manner to save their time and efforts. Prof S C Lakkad, Deputy Director and Prof D K Sharma, Convener Library Committee also addressed the gathering. Mr D Jotwani, Librarian and Coordinator of the workshop welcomed the participants.

The technical sessions included an overview on INDEST and live demonstrations of all important full text and bibliographic databases, viz. Science Direct, IEL Online, ACM Digital Library, Emerald Full text, Sci-Finder Scholar, Springer Link, Web of Science, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, Indian Standards, J-Gate/JCCC etc. Dr Jun P Hong, Asia Pacific Library Services Executive, OCLC, USA made a lively presentation on e-books. Faculty members and Research Scholars from IIT Bombay also attended sessions of their interest. The participants took keen interest and actively interacted with the Database producers and vendors. They were quite impressed with the activities and services of the Central Library which they visited during the workshop. They also expressed their appreciation for the arrangements made by the Central Library, IIT Bombay. The INDEST Consortium provided the financial support to organize the workshop which is gratefully acknowledged.