



Dated : 11th August, 2026

Message

On this day, as we honour the legacy of Prof. S. R. Ranganathan, we have the opportunity to acknowledge the vital role libraries play in our Society. Libraries are a powerful engine of our knowledge-based economy. It helps preserve the collective wisdom of generations, encourages learning and research, and bridges societal gaps. In doing so, they contribute meaningfully to lifelong learning and national development. Over the years, technology and digitization have transformed traditional libraries into dynamic e-libraries, overcoming geographical barriers and enabling students and researchers to access a wide range of digital resources.

The Government of India has consistently supported the transformative digital and scientific initiatives to strengthen access to knowledge across the country. With this vision, One Nation, One Subscription (ONOS) has been operationalised. It provides centralized access to premier scholarly journals to government higher educational institutions across India. At present, ONOS covers more than 6,000 institutions, benefiting nearly one crore students, faculty members, and researchers. It provides access to more than 13,000 journals from 30 international publishers across disciplines, including STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine), as well as Social Sciences, Finance and Accounts, and other areas. This step was taken to democratize access to knowledge and strengthen the research capabilities of our students and researchers. It is designed with the vision for a vibrant research and development ecosystem in India, as outlined in the National Education Policy 2020. It recognizes research as an important driver of educational excellence and national progress.

The I-STEM (Indian Science, Technology and Engineering Facilities Map) portal is another important initiative in this direction. It gives students and researchers across the country access to high-end scientific equipment and research facilities. The initiative is being led by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India. The above initiatives help improve access to academic knowledge and scientific infrastructure. It also ensures that access to quality scholarly resources and scientific facilities is within reach of aspiring researchers.

We wish to recognize and appreciate all library and information professionals who work tirelessly to promote equitable access to knowledge for everyone.

As we know, this year's theme is "Libraries: Connecting People, Preserving Knowledge, Empowering the Future." On this day we wish that everyone should reaffirm their commitment to strengthening libraries as dynamic centres of knowledge, innovation, learning and discovery.


(Parvinder Maini)