

**Report on
MANLIBNET Gujarat Chapter's Round-Table Conference on
'Management Librarians and Their Role in Promoting Research'**

The first round-table conference of MANLIBNET was held on 17th May 2008 (Saturday) at EDI Campus from 0900 hours to 1330 hours. Over 95 library professionals from across the Gujarat participated in the conference.

Prof. Sunil Shukla, Chief Faculty and Chairperson (PGP) of the Institute, welcomed the guests and participants and briefed them on EDII and its activities with a focus on the EDI Library and Information Centre.

Mr. H. Anil Kumar, Vice-President, MANLIBNET, the recipient of 'Best Librarian Award-2007' by MANLIBNET and instrumental in formation of Gujarat Chapter, introduced the Chief Guest Prof. Omprakash K. Gupta, Professor Prairie View A & M University, USA and Former Director, Nirma Institute of Management.

The highlight of the round-table conference was keynote address by Prof. Omprakash Gupta. His mesmerizing speech did achieve its desired impact on the audience by applying 4P of Marketing Management formula to library services. He stressed on:

- Purge (destroy) the outdated material in the library and provide latest information.
- Preserve/Protect the knowledge through proper documentation.
- Produce (Publish) or create the knowledge
- Promote Research: Librarian should publish the papers and should act as catalyst to the faculty. Prof. Gupta agreed to work with librarians for research and publishing the papers.

Mr. Ganapathi, Librarian, EDI proposed vote of thanks for the distinguished guests, invitees, delegates and sponsors.

After high tea, Mr. Ganapathi made presentation about EDI Library and Information Centre and its activities to the delegates.

Followed next, Mr. H Anil Kumar and Mr. Satish Deshpande, Librarian, British Library initiated the discussion on the activities of MANLIBNET Gujarat Chapters. During it is resolved the following:

1. Research and publication by Library staff. Dr. Gupta will assist in this project. Mrs. Rhodha Bharucha will identify the topics. Collaborative Research should be encouraged.
2. Conduct a needs assessment study of librarians by focus group in the research front and organize training programmes in research methodology.
3. Initiate exchange of library staff among various libraries.
4. Exposure to practical librarianship for the library science faculty.
5. Creation of Databank of Problems faced by Library professionals with Practical Solutions or practices desired along with specific help that could be extended.
6. Conducting Training Programmes to Librarians for inculcating entrepreneurial competencies, qualities and creating corporate culture to them.
7. Programmes adopted by Institutions for increasing the reading habits by the users.
8. Develop a policy for Weeding out Books.
9. Initiate Institutional Repository programmes by various libraries
10. Training programme on Dspace
11. Resource Sharing activities to be strengthened.

The event ended with a gala lunch where in all the delegates interacted with each other.