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- **INFLIBNET Centre mean: (Information and Library Network Centre)**

- It is an autonomous Inter-University Centre (IUC) of the University Grants Commission (UGC) of India located in the campus of Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.

- The centre was initially started as a national project in March 1991 with its Head Quarters at Gujarat University Campus, Ahmedabad.

- It became an independent Inter-University Centre in June 1996.

- The Centre has implemented several projects for the development of library services in Indian Universities.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

1. To promote and establish communication facilities to improve capability in information transfer and access, that provide support to scholarship, learning, research and academic pursuit through cooperation and involvement of agencies concerned.
2. To establish INFLIBNET: Information and Library Network a computer communication network for linking libraries and information centres in universities, deemed to be universities, colleges, UGC information centres, institutions of national importance and R & D institutions, etc. avoiding duplication of efforts.
3. To facilitate academic communication amongst scientist, engineers, social scientists, academics, faculties, researchers and students through electronic mail, file transfer, computer/audio/video conferencing, etc
4. To undertake system design and studies in the field of communications, computer networking, information handling and data management;
5. To establish appropriate control and monitoring system.
6. To collaborate with institutions.

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7. To promote R&D and develop necessary facilities.
8. To generate revenue by providing consultancies and information services.
9. To promote and implement computerization.
10. To evolve standards and uniform guidelines.
11. To provide reliable access to document collection of libraries
12. To provide access to bibliographic information sources
13. To develop new methods and techniques for archival
14. To optimize information resource utilization
15. To create databases of projects, institutions, specialists, etc.
16. To encourage co-operation among libraries, documentation centres and information centres in the country.
17. To do all other such things as may be necessary, incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the above mentioned objectives.

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The INFLIBNET Centre has moved in January 2013 from its premises in Gujarat University Campus to its new Institute Building constructed at Infocity, Gandhinagar on the land measuring 10,000 Sq.Mtrs. allotted to the Centre by the Government of Gujarat, free-of-cost. The new building is located in the Infocity, Gandhinagar amidst reputed institutions such as NID, DAIICT and NIFT. The building of the Centre is designed by internationally acclaimed architect and renowned academician Dr Balkrishna V Doshi of Vastu-Shilpa in consultation with other experts in the field of sustainable, eco-friendly and energy efficient building.

FUNCTIONS

1. To facilitate academic communication.
2. To undertake system design and studies in the field of communications, computer networking, information handling and data management.
3. To establish appropriate control and monitoring system for the communication network and organize maintenance.
4. To collaborate with institutions, libraries, information centres and other organizations.
5. To generate revenue.

GOALS

1. Achieve complete automation of libraries in educational institutions
2. Create union catalogues of documents available in libraries in online and real-time environment.
3. Promote digitization of legacy documents and creation of content in e-format in universities.
4. Promote setting-up of open access digital repositories in universities.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

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— Financial support for the automation of University Libraries

- Development of a comprehensive database of the resources in various libraries in India

- Development of an integrated library management software called SOUL (Software for University Libraries)

- UGC-Infonet Internet Connectivity Programme

- Creation of R&D facilities and working groups to study and contribute to the open source movement

- Maintenance of a database of scientists, researchers and other faculty members working at leading academic institutions and other R&D organizations involved in teaching and research in India

- Bibliometric and scientometric studies

- e-PG Pathshala: A Gateway to All Post Graduate Courses

- The centre has taken several open access initiatives like:

  - *OJAS, a platform to faculty and researchers* in Universities to host their open-access journals

  - *Shodhganga, a digital repository for theses and* dissertations by research scholars in universities in India

  - *Shodhgangotri, a digital repository of synopsis* of research topic submitted to the universities in India by research scholars

  - *An institutional repository called* IR@INFLBNET for papers published in the proceedings of the CALIBER and PLANNER.

- **Publications**

  The INFLIBNET Centre brings out two publications, namely,

  - Quarterly Newsletter and

  - Annual Report

  which are distributed to the academic community across the country
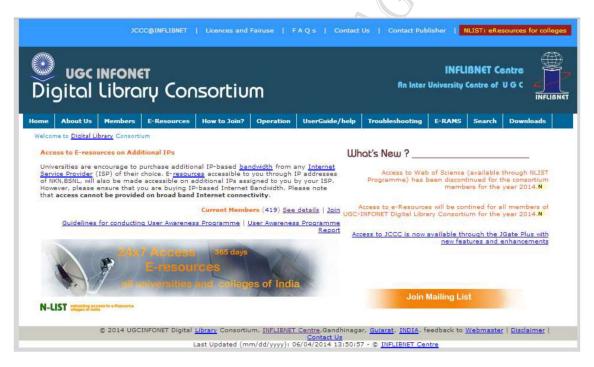
FEW IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

1. e-consortium
   i. UGC-INFONET DLC
   ii. N-LIST program
2. e-PGPathshala
3. IndCat Union Database
4. Open Access Initiative
   i. OJAS

    ii.   Shodhganga
   iii.   Shodhgangotri
   iv.   IR@INFLIBNET
    v.   INFOPORT
5. Research Project
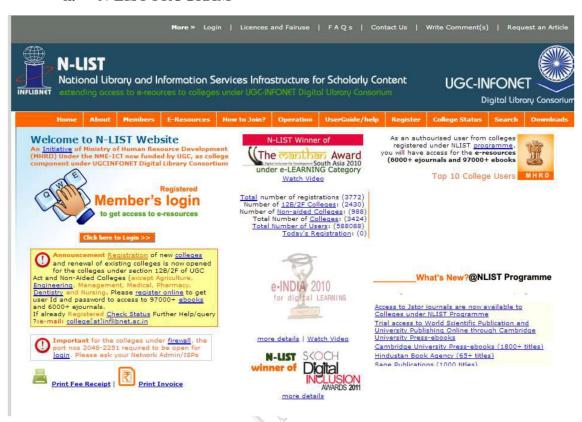6. SOUL
7. Vidwan Database

1. E- CONSORTIUM

The INFLIBNET Centre has set-up two separate consortia, namely UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium and N-LIST to extend access to e-resources to universities and colleges respectively.

i. UGC-INFONET DLC

- Provides current as well as archival access to 7500+ core and peer reviewed journals.
- From 26 publishers
- These e-resouces covers almost all subject.
- 209 University registered.

ii.   N-LIST PROGRAM

- Provides access to e-resources to students, researchers and faculty from colleges and other beneficiary institutions.
- With the help of UGC
- 3772 registered colleges.

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2. **e-PGPathshala**

- The MHRD, under its National Mission on Education through ICT (NME-ICT), has assigned work to the UGC for development of e-content.

- 77 Subjects at postgraduate level.

- Content in different subjects across all disciplines of social sciences, arts, fine arts & humanities, natural & mathematical sciences, linguistics and languages

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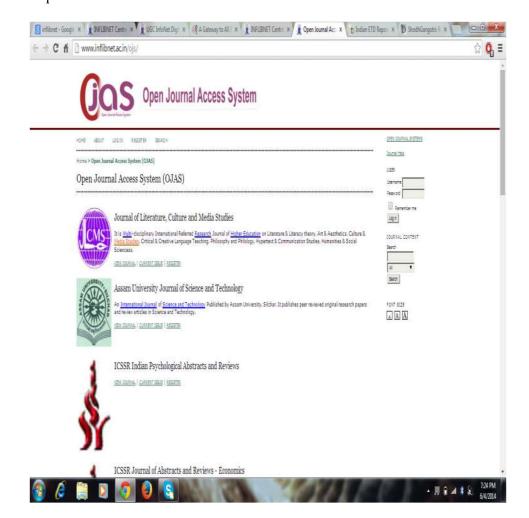
3. Indcat Union Database

- Online Union Catalogue of Indian Universities
- Online Library Catalogues of books, theses and journals available in major university libraries in India.
- The union database contains bibliographic description, location and holdings information for books, journals and theses in all subject areas

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4. OPEN ACCESS INITIATIVE

The centre has taken several open access initiatives like:

i. *OJAS, a platform to faculty and researchers* in Universities to host their open-access journals. The Open Journal Access System (OJAS) at INFLIBNET Centre uses Open Journal System (OJS), an open source solution developed by the Public Knowledge Project through its federally funded efforts to expand and improve access to research.

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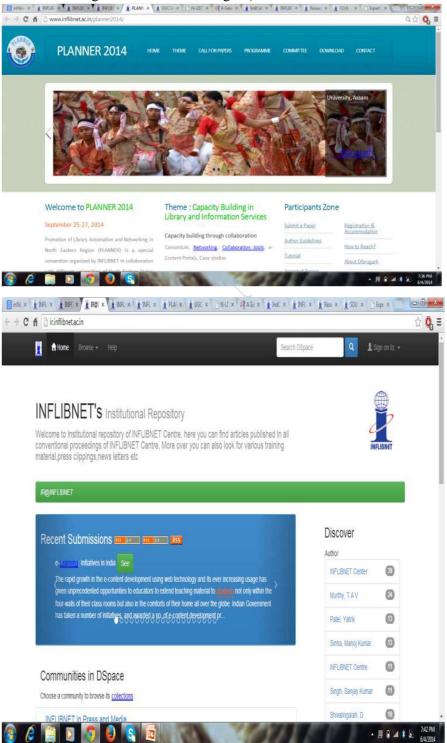ii. *Shodhganga, a digital repository for theses and* dissertations by research scholars in universities in India

iii. *Shodhgangotri, a digital repository of synopsis* of research topic submitted to the universities in India by research scholars
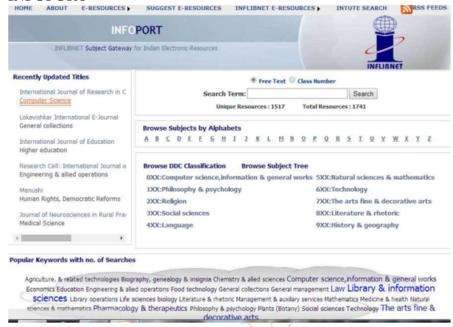
iv. *An institutional repository called* IR@INFLBNET for papers published in the proceedings of the CALIBER (Convention on Automation of Libraries in Education and Research) and PLANNER (Promotion of Library Automation and Networking in North Eastern Region)

v.   **INFOPORT**

5. RESEARCH PROJECT

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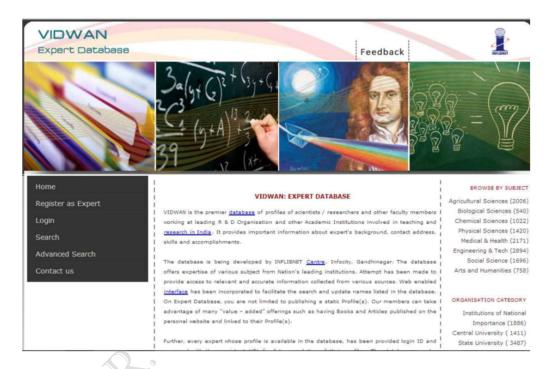## 6. SOUL (Software for University Libraries)

The SOUL 2.0 (Software for University Libraries) is state-of-the-art integrated library management software designed and developed by the INFLIBNET Centre with experience gained by the Centre over the years based on requirements of colleges, universities and other academic libraries. While the first version of the SOUL Software was released in Chennai at the CALIBER 2000, the 2nd version of SOUL Software named "SOUL 2.0" was released by Prof. S. K. Thorat, the then Chairman, UGC in January 2009. SOUL 2.0 is user-friendly Window-based software developed to work under client-server environment.

7. VIDVAN DATABASE

VIDWAN is the premier database of profiles of scientists / researchers and other faculty members working at leading academic institutions and other R & D organisation involved in teaching and research in India. It provides important information about expert's background, contact address, experience, scholarly publications, skills and

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accomplishments, researcher identity, etc. The database developed and maintained by Information and Library Network Centre (INFLIBNET) with financial support from the National Mission on Education through ICT (NME-ICT). The database would be instrumental in selection of panels of experts for various committees, taskforce, established by the Ministries / Govt. establishments for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

Objectives of VIDVAN database

1. Quickly and conveniently provide information about expert to peers, prospective collaborators, funding agencies policy makers and research scholar in the country
2. Identify peer reviewers for articles and research proposal
3. Discover prospective collaborators for on-going research projects
4. Establish communication directly with the experts who possess the expertise needed by users
5. To create information exchanges and networking opportunities among scientists