



Founded 1933

INDIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

(Registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)

Tel: 011-27651743

A-40-41 Flat No. 201
Ansal Buildings, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi-110009 (India)

The Chairman,
University Grants Commission,
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg
New Delhi 110002

D.No. ILA/MU 742
Dated: 16th March 2017

Reminded 13-6-17

Subject: Need of Accreditation of 'Library and Information Sc. Courses' (LIS) in India on the pattern of 'American Library Association' (A.L.A.), MCI, NCTE, AICTE etc

Sir,

Indian Library Association (ILA) established since 1933, is the oldest all-India organization with a membership of about 10,000. The Association works for the betterment of the Library and Information Sc. profession and professionals in the country.

We at ILA highly appreciate the UGC's notification no. F.5-1/13(CPP-II), dated 21st August 2014, and Gazette Notification, dated 5th July 2014, specifying the courses in Library and Information Science (LIS), their duration and nomenclatures to be followed by the universities in the country.

Unfortunately, the said **notification is not being followed uniformly** by different library schools in the country. As such the following patterns of library sciences courses are discernable:

- (i) **One year B.L.I.Sc. + one year M.L.I.Sc. courses**
- (ii) **Two years integrated M.L.I.Sc courses**
- (iii) **Five-year integrated course of M. Lib. I. Sc. (on the pattern of B.A. LLB) with entry qualification being 10+2 e.g. University of Calcutta, Annamalai University and Guru Ghasidas University**
- (iv) **Three years course of B.A. Hons. (Library Science), followed by two years M. Lib. & I. Sc. with entry qualification being 10+2.**

Variety of LIS courses offered in a few Universities in Bengal with different durations and nomenclatures may be seen in the following Table *:-

h



Founded 1933

Tel. 011-27651743

INDIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

(Registered under the Societies Registration Act - 1860)

A/40-41, Flat No. 201
Ansal Buildings, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi-110009 (India)

Name of the University	Courses offered	Course duration
University of Calcutta →	B.L.I.Sc	1 yr (Evening)
	M.L.I.Sc	2 yrs
	Integrated M.L.I.Sc	3 yrs
	M.Phil	1 yrs
	Ph.D	As per UGC norms
Jadavpur University →	Post Doctoral	
	B.L.I.Sc	1 yr
	M.L.I.Sc	1yr
	M.L.I.Sc (D.L)	2 yr (part time)
	M. Phil	2 yrs
University of Burdwan →	Ph.D	As per UGC norms
	Integrated M.L.I.Sc	2 yrs
	M.Phil	2 yrs
Vidyasagar University	Ph.D	As per UGC norms
	B.L.I.Sc	1 yr
	M.L.I.Sc	1 yr
Rabindra Bharati University	Ph.D	As per UGC norms
	B.L.I.Sc	1 yr
Kalyani University	M.L.I.Sc	1 yr
	M.L.I.Sc	2 yr integrated
North Bengal University	Ph.D	
	B.L.I.Sc	1 yr
	M.L.I.Sc	1 yr
	Ph.D	As per UGC norms

In the same context, the following two shocking examples may be cited:

- (i) A notification from Calcutta University's CSR (D. No. CSR/29/13 dated 30.9.2013) prescribes that 'after successful completion of 6th semester, all candidates will be awarded the degree in the nomenclature of "BLIS (Hons)" and after completion of 8th semester the "Advanced BLIS" degree'.
- (ii) **The advertisement** for the post of Assistant Librarian II in Diamond Harbour Women's University as per Employment Notification No DHWU/D1/NT/2015 dated 7th March, 2015, prescribes **Essential Qualifications** as :

3 years Bachelor's Degree in library and information science with at least 50% marks etc.

Desirable: M.Lib.Sc. from a recognised University etc.

*Mrs. Snigdha Naskar: Duration of LIS Education: Suffering International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention ISSN (Online): 2319 – 7722, ISSN (Print): 2319 – 7714 www.ijhssi.org ||Volume 5 Issue 12||December, 2016 || PP.15-19
www.ijhssi.org



Founded 1933

Tel 011-27651743

INDIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

(Registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860)

A/40-41, Flat No. 201
Ansal Buildings Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi-110009 (India)

Such practices are being followed not only against the recommendations of UGC's CDC(2001)and UGC's Library Committee (1957) report, headed by the **father of Library and Information Science** late **S. R. Ranganathan**, which stressed that LIS courses were post-graduate professional courses , but also the UGC's notification that **"Universities awarding unspecified degrees will attract appropriate stringent action."**

The present situation exists because of the fact that there is no Accreditation Agency/Body regulating the Nomenclature, Course Contents and duration of Library and Information Courses such as **American Library Association (A.L.A.) for USA & Canada (since 1876); Library Association (L.A.), London (now called CILIP) for United Kingdom (since 1877), Australian Library & Information Association for Australia (since 1937) etc.** Even in India, we have Accreditation Agency/Body regulating Courses in Engineering (AICTE), Medicine (MCI) and Education (NCTE) etc.

It is, therefore, humbly submitted that:

- A. **An accrediting body** may be set up by the Government of India for LIS institutions/courses, like any other professional institution/course.
- B. **A new Curriculum Development Committee (CDC)** may be set up in the subject urgently as the model syllabi recommended by the last CDC in 2001 have become outdated.

We strongly feel that these steps will help maintain quality and uniformity in LIS education under the present leadership. It may be added that ILA will happily accept any professional responsibility given to it.

With best regards and expecting an early positive action in the matter,

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Shabahat Husain

President

Indian Library Association