



# ACADEMIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Reg. No. TSR/TC/267/2014; Office: 16/1875, Penta Street, Pananchakom

Mannuthy Post, Thrissur – 680 651, Kerala, India

e-mail: alakerala@gmail.com; Phone: 9496839409; 9995087645

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## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACDEMIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 2014 – FEBRUARY 2015

Annual Report of the Academic Library Association (ALA) for the period **2014 – 2015** is given below:

Though the Academic Library Association (ALA) has started its functioning during 2013, it became an official entity on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 as registered according to the Travancore-Cochin, Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Registration Act 1955.

**New Office Bearers:-** The General Body meeting of the Academic Library Association held on 08/04/2014 at Central Library, Kerala Agricultural University, Vellanikkara, Thrissur elected the following professionals as new office bearers for the period 2014-2015:

- 1) Dr. A.T. Francis, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur - President
- 2) Sri. P.A. Pradeep, Dairy Science College, Thrissur - General Secretary
- 3) Smt. V.S. Swapna, Horticulture College, Thrissur - Treasurer
- 4) Sri. E. K Mohanlal, Veterinary College, Mannuthy, Thrissur-Vice President
- 5) Sri. K. Rajendran, Kerala Sahitya Akademy, Thrissur - Vice President
- 6) Smt. K.V. Alphonsa, KAU Library, Thrissur - Joint Secretary
- 7) Sri. Baiju Joy, Adoor, Alapuzha - Joint Secretary
- 8) Smt. Saritha R, MG University, Kottayam - Exe.Com.Member
- 9) Sri. S. Sreekumaran, College of Agriculture, Trivandrum - Exe.Com.Member
- 10) Smt. Priya T.K, Kannur University, Kannur - Exe.Com.Member
- 11) Smt. Surekha, DIET, Palakkad - Exe.Com.Member
- 12) Sri. Sameer R., Veterinary University, Wayanad - Exe.Com.Member
- 13) Sri. Jabir, Malappuram - Exe.Com.Member
- 14) Sri. Cherian George, UC College, Aluva - Exe.Com.Member
- 15) Smt. Remya A.V., College of Agriculture, Kasaragode - Exe.Com.Member
- 16) Sri. Biju P.M, Sankaryacharya University Centre, Quilandy-Special Invitee
- 17) Sri. Harris K., KCAET, Thavanur, Malappuram - Special Invitee
- 18) Dr. Vijayakumar, DB College, Kollam - Special Invitee
- 19) Sri. M. Jayapradeep, Fisheries University, Ernakulam - Special Invitee
- 20) Sri. Kunjumammed, Fisheries University, Ernakulam - Special Invitee
- 21) Sri. Nithin Roy, Govt. Secretariat, Trivandrum - Special Invitee
- 22) Sri. Naveen S., Idukki - Special Invitee

During the period 2014-2015 the ALA conducted the following major programmes:

1. **Free Coaching for NET in Thrissur:-** The ALA has conducted a Four Month long Free NET Coaching in Library and Information Science during March – June 2014 in collaboration with the KLA Thrissur Region and St. Thomas' College, Thrissur. The classes were conducted in St. Thomas' College, Thrissur during Sundays and public holidays. Twenty selected students from different parts of Kerala were attended. Support and guidance for NET was also provided by e-mail and also over telephone for more than 40 students all over the country. Dr. A.T. Francis, Head, Library, College of Horticulture & President KLA Thrissur Region was the master trainer who lead the classes of the coaching supported by other experts like Sri. Abdul Razak, Smt. V.S. Swapna, Sri. P.A. Pradeep, Prof. M.I. Saju, Smt. K.V. Alphonsa etc. **2<sup>nd</sup> batch coaching was conducted for December 2014 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch is going on for June 2015 Examination.**
2. **Reading Week Celebrations 2014:-** The Reading Week Celebrations 2014 was conducted in the Kerala Agricultural University's College of Horticulture, Vellanikkara in collaboration with the ALA and KLA on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Sri. C.N. Jayadevan, Member of Parliament Thrissur inaugurated the Reading Week Celebrations. Dr. P. Rajendran, Vice Chancellor, KAU Presided. Sri. K.P. Sathian, University Librarian, KAU, Sri. P.A. Pradeep, General Secretary, ALA etc. felicitated.
3. **Released the Book, "Library and Web Tools for E-Learning and Teaching":-** A book, "Library and Web Tools for E-Learning and Teaching" edited by Dr. A.T. Francis (KAU) and Dr. Susan Mathew (CUSAT) published by Authors Press, New Delhi, 286p., Rs. 1,200/-, containing selected papers presented in the National Seminar conducted by KAU during 2012 in collaboration with the Academic Library Association has been released by Sri. Kamal, the famous film director. Sri. K. Rajendran, Secretary, KLA Thrissur Region introduced the book and Sri. C. Abdul Razak, Former University Librarian, KAU received the book.
4. **Seminar on Reading and Use of Library for Personal and Professional Excellence:-** A Seminar on Reading and Use of Library for Personal and Professional Excellence was conducted in the Kerala Agricultural University's College of Horticulture, in collaboration with ALA and KLA on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Dr. Rosy Thampy, eminent writer, poet and HoD, Dept. of Malayalam, Sacred Heart College, Chalakkudy presented theme paper. About 250 participants including library professionals, research students and university teachers were attended the seminar.
5. **Radio Talk on School Libraries and Reading Culture:-** A Radio Talk on School Libraries and Reading Culture by Dr. A.T. Francis, Head, Library, College of Horticulture & President ALA was telecasted by all stations of the All India Radio (AIR) on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2014 9.16 to 9.30pm. Letters on this programme telecasted by AIR on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2014 8.15 to 8.30pm revealed the overwhelming response on this issue. Persons in quarters of life have shown interest in this area and they have urged to establish libraries in schools.
6. **Sri. P.N. Panicker Remembered:-** The ALA in collaboration with the KLA Thrissur Region remembered Sri. P.N. Panicker, the father of Library and Literacy Movement in Kerala in a function organised in the St. Thomas' College, Thrissur on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2014. The function was inaugurated by Dr. A.T. Francis, President ALA. Sri. Panicker was a great revolutionist who led the common man to the world of knowledge and democratic values, Dr. Francis remembered. In order to sustain and strengthen the public Libraries, which are known as public universities, reading and use of library should be

started from the early childhood, at least from the primary school level. Sri. K. Rajendran, Secretary, KLA Thrissur Region presided. Dr. B. Shaji, Librarian, S.N. College, Shornur, Palakkad, done Key Note address remembering Sri. P.N. Panicker. Fr. Ditto Thomas, K.D. Anto, K.P. Misha, M.N. Seetha, Jini Joy, Manju Shaju, T.T. Biji, K. Meera, Cris Thomas and T.V. Jency spoke. P.A. Pradeep welcomed and V.S. Swapna delivered vote thanks.

The meeting urged the government to establish central libraries in Grama Panchayaths, Municipal and City Corporations and strengthen libraries under the Kerala State Library Council for providing free public library service to all people in Kerala.

7. **ALA Celebrated Librarian's Day** on 12/08/14 at Central Library, KAU, Vellanikkara and K.P. Sathian, Librarian, KAU delivered key address of the meeting.
8. **Kerala State Pay Revision:-** ALA submitted a detailed representation to the Kerala State Pay Revision Commission recommending the strengthening of school, college, university and public libraries. It also suggested our members and other professionals for submitting individual representations to the commission.
9. **National Seminar on Technology Management in Libraries on 29-30 August 2014:-** The College of Horticulture, Kerala Agricultural University has conducted a National Seminar on Technology Management in Libraries on 29-30 August 2014 for organizing in Thrissur in collaboration with ALA and KLA.
10. **General Body Meeting** of ALA has conducted at St. Mary's College on 02/01/2015. Different issues were discussed and committee felt the need for the strengthening all types of libraries. Committee decided to extend various library extension programs and Reading Week Programmes for schools, colleges and other libraries to encourage the library services and profession.
11. **Membership Campaign:-** The ALA Committee and members done continuous efforts to enroll more library professionals as members of the association. During this period, 129 professionals took ALA membership.

P.A. Pradeep  
GENERAL SECRETARY

Dr. A.T. Francis  
PRESIDENT