

Libraries must innovate to give users the edge: Experts

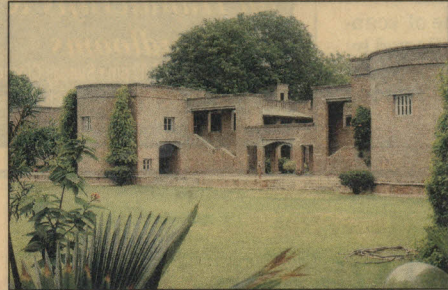
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: The 15th edition of the 'International Conference on Entrepreneurial Approaches to Librarianship' is currently being held in the city at the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDI). EDI and Management Libraries Network (MANLIBNET), in partnership with Knowledge Consortium of Gujarat (KCG), are organizing the conference from December 26 to 28.

Inaugurated by Sunil Parekh, founding curator, World Economy Forum – GS Initiative, the conference has 200 delegates participating from IIMs, IITs among others. The pre-conference proceedings containing 88 papers, published by Bookwell, New Delhi will also be released during the conference.

Parekh in his address emphasized on the important function that libraries can perform in today's growing economy. He stressed on the need to keep a continuous focus on innovations and research in order to be ahead and added that it is significant to create knowledge and disseminate it to maintain a competitive edge.

Dr Dinesh Awasthi, EDI, highlighted the entrepreneurial approach that libraries could adopt today in making learning feasible and relevant. Discussing the fundamental features of entrepreneurship, Dr Jagdish Arora, director, IN-FLIBNET, talked about 'innovation' and



Conference on entrepreneurial approaches to librarianship is currently being held at EDI

'research' and urged the libraries to adopt these traits to function in a manner that helps them redefine their role to turn challenges into opportunities.

Dr H Anil Kumar, president, MANLIBNET and librarian, IIM-Ahmedabad, Dr Akhtar Parvez, general secretary, MANLIBNET and librarian, IIM-Indore and B Ganapathy, organizing secretary, MANLIBNET 2013 and librarian, EDI, are also attending the two-day event.

The conference aims at documenting the current state of entrepreneurship in libraries, inspiring future entrepreneurial pursuits among the librarians and providing a roadmap and inspiration for future endeavours.