

Best Library User Award

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Best Practice

1. **Title of the Practice:** Best Library User Award

2. **Objectives of the Practice:** To encourage the students for maximum & efficient use of the library resources, services and facilities, 'Best Library User Award' has been started from 2014.

During the day of conferment of the award some users including faculty Principal, HoD and Research Supervisor(s) are invited to appreciate the users' community.

To focus the utility and value of library in the academic arena, the opinion of the best users has been placed in the e-Newsletter of the month of the conferment of the award. From this the users' community may have some idea about the role and contribution of the library. This indirectly helps to transform the potential users into active users.

3. **The Context:** Library is seen as an integral part of an institution as it contains books, publications and journals, which foster a deep inbuilt desire in students to do extra reading and research on the topics discussed in the class. However, with the digital invasion, many modern students are giving library books a short shrift while they flaunt their online tutors and check their smartphones for quick updates. Before it is too late, students should discern the disadvantages of imbibing knowledge through sources that search engines provide. Hence, to encourage reading of books, Visva-Bharati Library Network has started the annual 'Best Library User Award'

4. **The Practice:** To encourage the users to use the library resources, services & facilities to the extent

possible, library has the provision to confer "Annual Best User Award" which is being selected as his/her regular visit to the library, behavior & interaction with the library staff, suggestion for betterment and library usage. The award has been given in a special day (Librarians' Day, Library Day, National Book Day) in presence of Ph.D. guide(s), HOD of the Concern Department, Principal of the Concerned Bhavana. Candidate and all the guests have been requested to express on the library and the remarks of the candidate are being published in the library monthly e-Newsletter. This initiative has positive impact on disciplined library use, free interaction with the library staff & authority and transforms potential users into active users. The name of the Best Library User since 2015 may be mentioned as below;

2015 – Md. Azazil Ali Mondal, Research Scholar, Dept. of Bengali, Bhasha Bhavana, VB

2016 – Ms. Firdaus Begum, Research Scholar, Dept. of Physical Education, Vinaya Bhavana, VB

2017 – Ms. Sangeeta Roy, Research Scholar, Dept. of Zoology, Siksha Bhavana, VB

2018 – Mr. Sumedh R Kashiwar, Research Scholar, Dept. of Agronomy, Palli Siksha Bhavana, VB

2019 – Ms. Averi Sarkar, Research Scholar, Dept. of Rabindra Sangeet Dance & Drama, Sangit Bhavana, VB

5. **Evidence of Success:**


Actually, this effort is a kind of festive of the library where concerned scholar along with the research guide, concern HoD, Principal/Dean and other faculty members attend the small ceremony. It is observed this will not

encourage student/scholar community to use library resources rather the faculty members too.


activities this initiative may be introduced by any library/institution which will help to increase the library users, as experience.

> Observation of "Best Library Users":

Ms. Firdaus Tabassum (UGC-MANF, SRF) Best Library Users – 2016: By mentioning the Deputy Librarian's quote "Where we go Library goes with us", I personally feel that due to the facilities of the Library, we can enhance our knowledge not only while studying in the Library but also beyond the library. As a regular researcher of Visva-Bharati we have to visit different places for data collection, for conferences and workshops at that moment the remote access facility of the VB central library facilitates us. The library is just like a paradise for me as it provides lots of facilities to enhance our research skill. To foster critical thinking, providing students with the skills they need to analyze, form, and communicate ideas in compelling ways Central Library conducts various seminars and workshops periodically. If we want to be a big tree with lots of fruits (knowledge) then this is the time for feeding and nurturing our roots (by utilizing various facilities of the Library and by spending our precious time in the Library). All the Library staff always readily help us. So, this is the time to extend the facilities of Library by increasing our response towards it.



Ms. Sangeta Roy (JRF) Best Library Users – 2017: As a research scholar and library user of Visva-Bharati University, it is my pleasure to have an opportunity to share my experience about facilities provided by Central library to enhance the quality of research as well as knowledge by using our own library resources. In this digital era, everyone needs faster, reliable and precise information and our central library network is providing us with that support online as well as offline. The remote access facility which I am using, the article delivery services, text books, e-books, digitized books, number of subscribed good journals etc. are available from library. But the fact is that we are unaware of many of these potential services. For that very reason, the library faculties have been organizing workshops, special sessions, seminars, E-demo programs only to enrich us with its versatile resources. Being a participant, I feel that the programs are knowledge enhancing. All the participants are allowed to interact with their inquisitives during the lecturer sessions. The monthly library e-Newsletter updates us about library activities and upcoming events. The beauty of our library is not only the resources; the resource persons of library are also very enthusiastic and co-operative. Hope to have such beautiful educational environment in future.



6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required: Conferment of Best User Award is not problem free to a big university like Visva-Bharati. Some basic problems may be noted as below;

- So far, Best User Award has been given to the Research Scholars only. As a result, the outcome of motivation to common students was not satisfactory.
- It is difficult to select one scholar out of all more than 1500 scholars and Question is becoming on the selection process.

7. Notes (Optional): To address the current problems following actions may be taken-up;

- From this year, instead of one at least three users award has to be given one each from UG students, PG student and Research Scholar to encourage the wider section of the users' community.
- As a marketing strategy of the library resources, services and