

**KFRI Research Report No**

## **Digitisation of Selected Books in KFRI Library Phase II**

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## **Project Summary**

1. **Project No.** KFR I RP 669/2013
2. **Title** Digitisation of selected books in KFR I library. Phase II
3. **Objective** To digitize selected books in KFR I library and host it on the KFR I library portal for in-house use
4. **Project Period** July 2013 to June 2016
5. **Investigators** K. F. George and N. Sarojam

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## INTRODUCTION

For a long time, we have been using printed information sources which are made available to us by the efficient efforts of publishers, booksellers, librarians and information scientists. But, with the introduction of information technology many steps have been taken to reduce the efforts in accessing the information in a short span of time. One of the significant application of IT is the digitization of knowledge i.e., to convert the printed information to digital form and make it available for use with the help of computer networks. This has changed the whole scenario of information world.

Right information to the right user at the right time has been the aim of information professionals. Recent developments in the information and communication technologies, especially the Internet and the Web based technologies have brought significant changes in the ways the information to generated, distributed, accessed and used. These technologies play an important role to minimize the problems in using information at its earliest. Digital technology provides means and mechanism for quick search, quick accessing and simultaneous use of information by many people. Because of these advantages, the print form of information is getting increasingly converted to digital form. The digital revolution has brought dramatic changes to information storage, access and retrieving processes. The creation of digital libraries has made a radical impact on the teaching and learning process. Digital libraries facilitate information services for users independent of time and place. In modern times, as people are overwhelmed by the information explosion users prefer electronic media as they are quicker to access and provide more relevant information. In KFRI, all the available Research Reports, Scientific Papers published by KFRI Scientists, Information Bulletins, Indian Forest Records and Indian Forest Bulletins have been digitized and hosted on the library portal. Expanding the forestry literature in the digital platform implies reducing the information access time of the Scientists. In many discussions on the subject, scientists have opined that the digital literature in the KFRI portal be expanded by including digital copies of frequently used or basic books in different disciplines of forestry. As a first step towards this issue, 92 books have been digitized and made available in the KFRI library portal. This is second phase of the project to digitise more frequently used books in KFRI

library. In the second phase, 473 books have been digitized and made available in the library portal. The phase I archives and phase II archives are merged together and made available in KFRI library portal.

## **PURPOSE OF DIGITISATION**

According to the National Science Foundation, "A digital library ought to serve as an intellectual commons, where diverse members of the community may share their knowledge and practices". In this perception, a digital library has to be considered as not accessing resources from a single source but also from other partner institutions and libraries. There are number of reasons for considering digitisation as an alternative to traditional library activities. The term digital library in a broad sense is a computerized system that allows a coherent means to access an organized, electronically stored repository of information and data. With the information explosion, libraries are facing space and monetary constraints. In modern times due to information explosion, traditional libraries find it increasingly difficult to cater to the demands of users. Therefore an increasing need is felt for the establishment of digital libraries. Nowadays users demand more accurate and to the point information retrieval, which is easier in the case of digital libraries. Hence librarians are increasingly under pressure to digitize their collections. Every document published is to be acquired and stored under one roof and so evolve the concept of resource sharing and network. Automation has helped libraries in improving library activities and has accelerated their working. It saves the effort, time and manpower in libraries. In an automated system the information can be altered and updated without the repetitive work involved in the manual system. With the development of computer, any information can be turned into sequences. So, any user can access into the sequence without any trouble and delay. It saves time of the users and staff and increases overall productivity and reliability.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Target of the work is to digitize books (see Appendix I) and make available in KFRI library portal. Each book is scanned using a scanner and saved as PDF. The books can be searched by author, title, key words etc.

## **SOFTWARES USED**

### **CDS/ISIS and WINISIS**

**CDS/ISIS** is a software package for generalised *Information Storage and Retrieval Systems* developed, maintained and disseminated by UNESCO. It was first released in 1985. CDS/ISIS is an acronym which stands for Computerised Documentation Service/ Integrated Set of Information Systems. CDS/ISIS is a menu-driven generalized information storage and retrieval system designed specifically for the computerized management of structured non-numerical databases. One of the major advantages of CDS/ISIS is that it is able to manipulate an unlimited number of databases each of which may consist of completely different data elements. It is also possible to handle variable length records, fields, sub fields and repeatable fields, thus saving disk space and making it possible to store greater amounts of information.

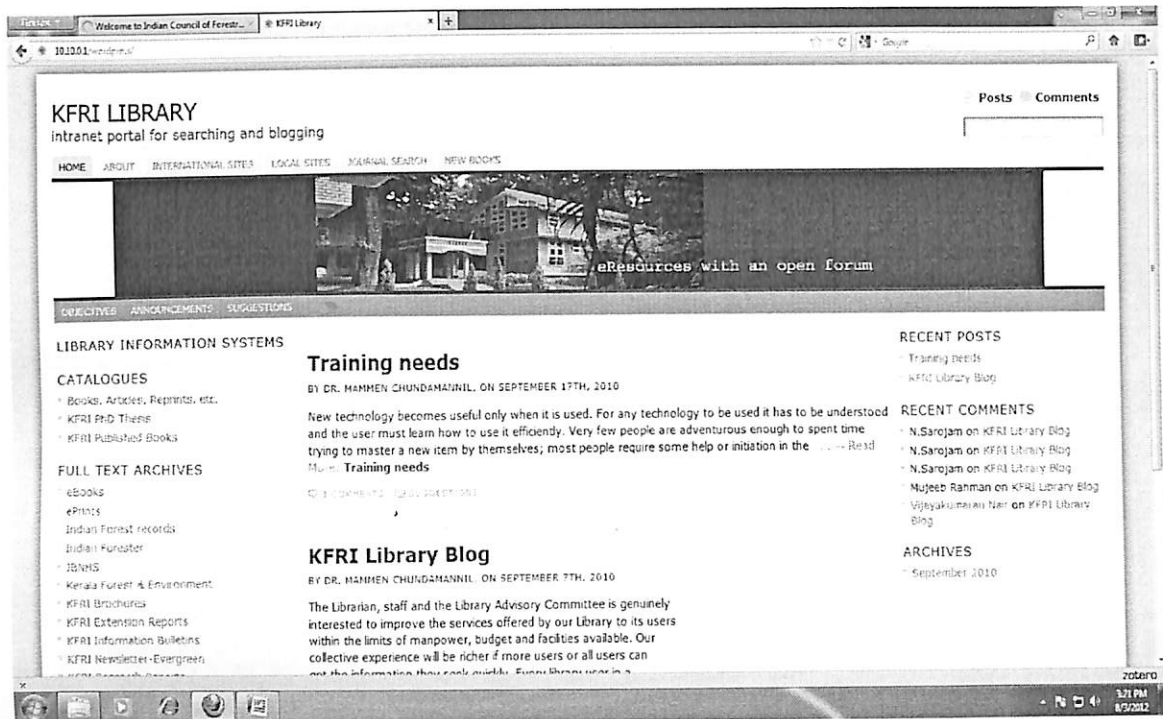
CDS ISIS has been modified to suit MS Windows, known as WINISIS. The development of the Windows version was the result of strategic development policy decision aiming at maintaining the leading role CDS/ISIS has played and is still playing on the international scene. WINISIS is used for creating the database. A text file is generated from the database to serve as list for searching.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **SEARCH STRATEGY**

All the digitized books are made available in KFRI Library Portal (Fig.1). The search can be done by giving the title, name of the author, keywords or year. We can do search by single word or multiple words. Single author search and combination of authors also can be searched. For example, for searching books of Troup just type Troup and press the enter key (Fig. 2). To find out books on flora just type the word flora and press the enter key (Fig. 3) and to find out books on forest in India type forest India and press enter key (Fig. 4). It is also possible to know how many articles are there by an author. One has to click to PDF shown at the bottom of each search output to go full text. The screen shot of KFRI Library Intranet Portal and search example is also given.

**KFRI Library Portal Fig 1:**



**Fig 2**

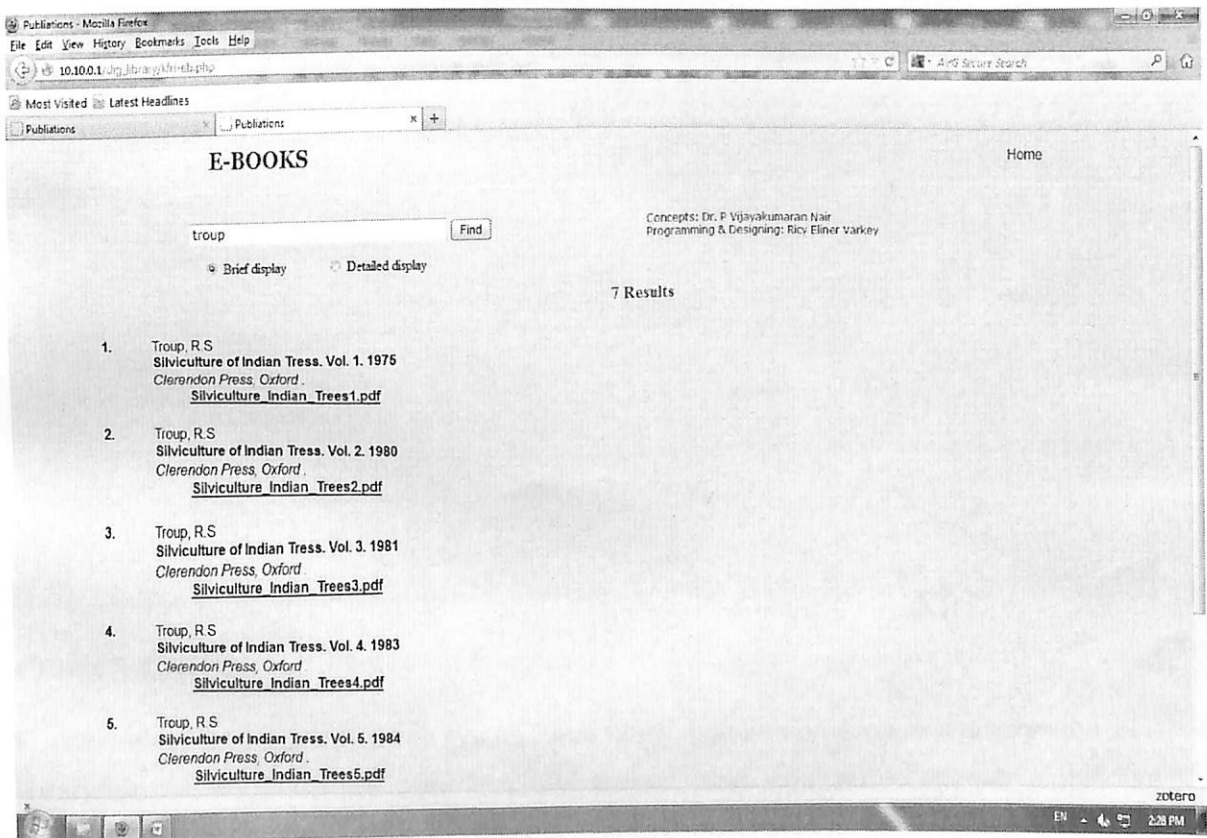


Fig. 3

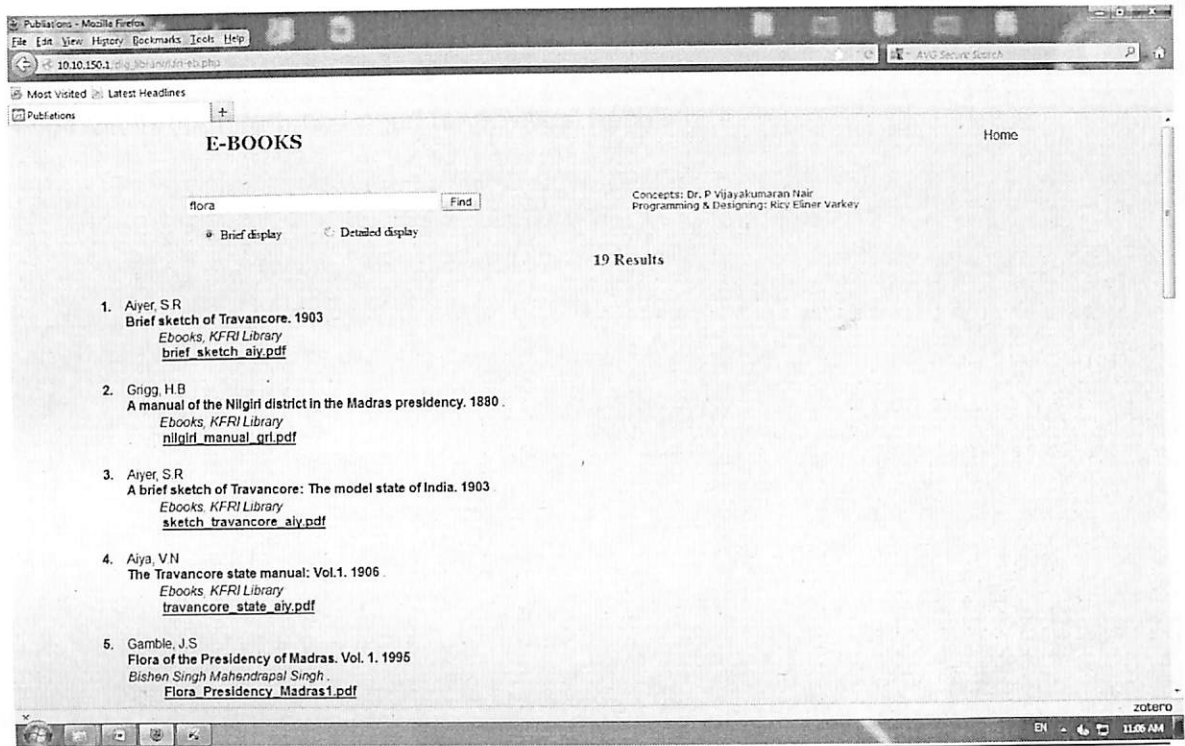
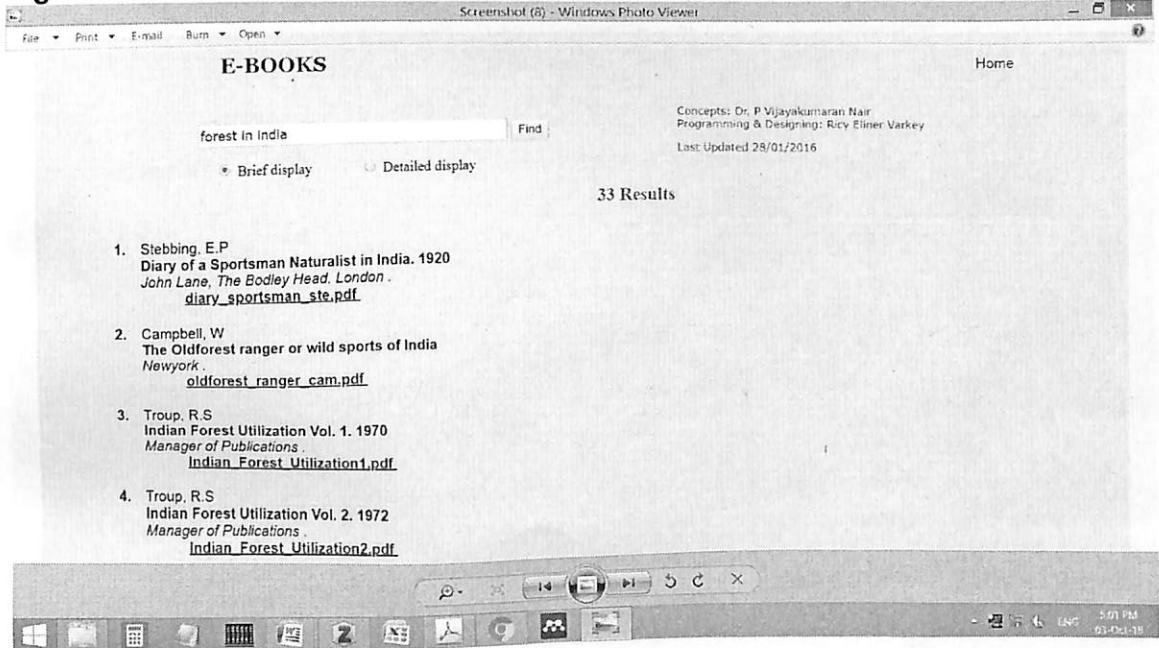


Fig. 4



## CONCLUSION

Four hundred and seventy three books have been digitized and made available in KFRI library portal and can be searched by author, title and subjects. A significant advantage of digitizing older document is to make them accessible and searchable for future use. Once a document has been properly digitized, it becomes immortal and can



remain accessible long after the original has ceased to exist. The same resources can be used at the same time by a number of users. Information can be accessed from anywhere at any time. The option of digital access further aids in preservation of originals through reduced need for physical handling.

## Appendix I

### List of Digitised Books

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27. Balasubramanyan, K; Chandrasekhara, U.M; Easa, P.S. 1999. **People's Campaign for Ninth Plan: District Level Planning-Forest and Biodiversity-Kollam District.** KFRI, Peechi.
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31. Balasubramanyan, K; Chandrasekhara, U.M; Easa, P.S. 1999. **People's Campaign for Ninth Plan: District Level Planning-Forest and Biodiversity-Kottayam District.** KFRI, Peechi.
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