Guest Editorial

In the March 1995 issue of DBIT, we had published four papers dealing with the subject of library automation in general. This issue deals with software for library automation available in the Indian market.

Patel and Bhargava in their paper on Comparative Study of Software available in the Indian Market for Library Automation give a brief outline of various modules and sub-modules of a few prominently used library software packages.

Prasad in his paper emphasizes the importance of retrospective conversion of *bibliographic data from CD-ROM databases* in building a local database of the library collection. He describes a software called Ida, developed at the Documentation Research and Training Centre and sponsored by the National Information System for Science and Technology (NISSAT).

Patel and Joshipura present a case study discussing various efforts for Periodical Management System developed and designed for implementation in SAC Library.

Seth and Dalai in their paper on Library Automation in India discuss the different software available in India and also the various problems faced while using Indian packages and have suggested some measures for success of library autoamtion in India.

These two special issues of *DESIDOC Bulletin of Information Technology* have fairly covered on what is happening in India as far as Library Automation is concerned. However, the papers do not cover any aspects concerning the efforts regarding *library networks and attempts* to use CDS/ISIS for IRS at local levels. Perhaps, another special issue may be brought out on the various aspects of library networks and information retrieval systems.

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