



# INDIAN LIBRARY CONGRESS

2026 February 16-17  
Chennai, Tamilnadu



In Collaboration with  
**Government of Tamil Nadu &  
Anna Centenary Library**  
Kotturpuram Chennai



The Indian Library Congress seeks to strengthen the movement to establish libraries that serve the marginalized and deprived sections and regions of society. It works towards the larger goal of making libraries free, inclusive, and accessible to all. In an era marked by rapid technological advancement, libraries must respond creatively to disruption and function as innovators and leaders by making technologies accessible to the common people.

The Chennai edition of the Indian Library Congress will assess multifaceted developments in the knowledge ecosystem, learn from emerging experiences, and collectively formulate strategies for creating libraries as engaging, democratic, and emancipatory spaces. The Indian Library Congress is a collective endeavour of several public institutions and organisations committed to the idea of libraries as vital public spaces.

As a platform for deliberation on democratic alternatives, the Indian Library Congress invites participation from people across all walks of life—library professionals, teachers, librarians, students, researchers, people's representatives, writers, artists, activists, and all those interested from across the country and beyond—as delegates.

**The Fourth Indian Library Congress will be held at Anna Centenary Library, Chennai, on 16th and 17th February 2026.**

The Congress will witness the coming together of a wide spectrum of activists, academics, institutions, and organisations united in the shared effort to uphold and expand the right to public space and access to knowledge for every individual.

Your esteemed presence as a delegate will be crucial to the success of this Congress. We warmly invite you to register and be part of this collective effort.

Chairman | Convenor  
Indian Library Congress.

Registration Details

**Registration for the Fourth Indian Library Congress, to be held on 16th and 17th February 2026 at Anna Centenary Library, Chennai, is now open. For registration support and related queries, interested persons may contact Mr. V. Vijayakumar at +91 99463 60081 or Dr. R. V. Bindu at +91 94425 49618.**

(Prospective delegates are requested to register in advance, as the number of seats is limited and participants will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.)

# Call For Papers

**Fourth Indian Library Congress, Chennai**

**16–17 February 2026 | Anna Centenary Library, Chennai**

The Fourth Indian Library Congress is scheduled to be held at Anna Centenary Library, Chennai, on 16th and 17th February 2026. The Congress aims at a critical scholarly assessment of local, national, and global experiences in the functioning of libraries. It focuses on developing active strategies to examine future possibilities and address the persistent challenges faced by public libraries in India.

Scholars, library professionals, researchers, activists, and practitioners are invited to submit papers under the following broad themes.

## **Themes of the Indian Library Congress**

### **1. History and evolution of libraries**

Changing concepts of libraries across time; regional, national, and international experiences; libraries in community building; functional integration of public libraries with academic and institutional libraries.

### **2. The politics of public libraries**

Critical appraisal of the Indian experience; evolution, growth, and contemporary challenges; public policy and allocation of resources by State and Union governments; the need for people's alternatives; debates around centralisation, federalism, and library policies.

### **3. Libraries and society**

Social justice and the lived experiences of the marginalised—caste, class, gender, and culture; libraries and literature; literacy movements; community libraries; sports and public libraries; child development and social welfare; grassroots library movements; libraries as spaces within feminist movements; librarians and their changing roles in contemporary society.

### **4. Library movement in India: challenges and prospects**

India's developmental trajectory and the library movement; experiences of public library development across States and regions; narratives of struggles and successes; strengths and weaknesses; inter-State learning and sharing of experiences.

### **5. Libraries and spatial transformation**

Libraries and the role of science and technology; architectural design and construction; preservation and expansion of democratic spaces; libraries as inclusive and green public spaces.

### **6. Imagining the future of libraries**

New possibilities, emerging challenges, and alternative visions for libraries in a rapidly changing world.

# Public Space is Our Right Build Libraries Break the Walls

Scan this code for Regn.



The Fourth Indian Library Congress will be held on 16th and 17th February 2026 at Anna Centenary Library, Chennai.

Prospective participants are requested to fill in the online registration form using the QR code / link provided. Papers or abstracts should be emailed to:

**[indianlibrarycongress@gmail.com](mailto:indianlibrarycongress@gmail.com)**