

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

### Celebrating the Golden Jubilee of JLIS (1976–2026)

It is a matter of immense pride and gratitude to present **Volume 51, Issue 1 (June 2026)** of the *Journal of Library and Information Science (JLIS)* as we celebrate fifty years of uninterrupted scholarly publishing. This Golden Jubilee marks a significant milestone in our journey and reflects JLIS's enduring commitment to advancing research, professional practice, and intellectual discourse in Library and Information Science.

Since its establishment in 1976, JLIS has served as a distinguished platform for scholars, librarians, educators, researchers, and information professionals worldwide. Over five decades, the journal has chronicled the transformation of the discipline—from traditional library systems to the digital, data-driven, and AI-enabled information landscape of today.

This special issue showcases diverse and impactful research on artificial intelligence, digital libraries, scholarly communication, information accessibility, research productivity, bibliometrics, and ICT-enabled library services. The contributions highlight emerging opportunities, evolving challenges, and the continuing role of libraries in fostering inclusive, equitable, and knowledge-driven societies.

As we commemorate this landmark achievement, we reaffirm our commitment to publishing high-quality research, encouraging innovation, and supporting interdisciplinary scholarship. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our authors, reviewers, Editorial Board members, advisors, past editors, readers, and well-wishers whose dedication has sustained the journal's excellence and reputation over the last fifty years.

I am also pleased to announce that the **JLIS International Conference 2026**, planned for the final quarter of the year, will provide a global forum for discussing the future of libraries, information systems, and knowledge societies. We warmly invite contributions to our forthcoming Golden Jubilee Special Issue and encourage the active participation of all members of the academic and professional community.

As we step into the next chapter of our journey, let us continue to advance knowledge, inspire innovation, and strengthen the global information community. Together, we celebrate a rich legacy and embrace a future where libraries remain central to learning, research, and societal progress.

**Professor K. P. Singh**

*Editor-in-Chief*

*Journal of Library and Information Science (JLIS)*

## Editorial

The publication of **Volume 51, Issue 1** marks a historic milestone for the *Journal of Library and Information Science (JLIS)* as we celebrate its Golden Jubilee Year. Over the past five decades, JLIS has served as a distinguished platform for scholarly communication, advancing research and professional discourse in Library and Information Science (LIS). This commemorative issue reflects both the journal's rich legacy and the transformative developments shaping contemporary libraries, information systems, and knowledge societies.

The contributions in this issue collectively demonstrate how libraries and information institutions continue to evolve in response to technological innovation, changing user expectations, and emerging academic and societal needs. A prominent theme running through several articles is the growing influence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in research and library environments. Studies on AI and robotics in libraries, AI-assisted research practices among doctoral scholars, and the adoption of ChatGPT by LIS research scholars highlight the opportunities, challenges, and ethical considerations associated with integrating intelligent technologies into academic work. These contributions underscore the increasing importance of AI literacy, responsible use, and institutional frameworks that support ethical and effective adoption.

Another major focus of this issue is scholarly communication and research visibility. Articles examining research productivity through Google Scholar metrics and how digital platforms are reshaping research dissemination, collaboration, and scholarly impact. The findings emphasize the growing significance of visibility, connectivity, and digital engagement within contemporary research ecosystems.

The issue further explores the digital transformation of libraries through studies on digital library initiatives, scholarly writing support systems, information access programmes, and patterns of electronic resource utilization. These investigations illustrate how technology is expanding access to knowledge and strengthening academic support services, while also drawing attention to challenges related to digital literacy, awareness, infrastructure, and capacity-building. Research on students' educational use of social networking sites similarly demonstrates the expanding role of digital platforms in learning, collaboration, and knowledge sharing.

Several bibliometric and evaluative studies included in this volume contribute valuable evidence for library planning and decision-making. Analyses of citation patterns, information-use behaviour, and doctoral research trends provide useful insights for collection development, research support services, and information resource management. Additional studies focusing on library collections, ICT-enabled services, and digital resource access reaffirm the continuing importance of user-centred services and strategic resource development in academic libraries.

A noteworthy contribution in this issue examines the adoption of ChatGPT among LIS research scholars at the University of Delhi and Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow. The study reveals growing acceptance of AI-assisted tools for academic research owing to their accessibility and efficiency, while also highlighting concerns regarding overreliance and the absence of institutional guidance. The findings reinforce the need for clear policies and ethical frameworks to support the responsible integration of AI in higher education and research.

This issue also includes a review of *Silver Linings: Shaping Minds and Institutions*, a Festschrift honouring Professor K P Singh for his distinguished contributions to LIS education, research, leadership, and institution-building. The review appropriately recognizes his enduring influence on the development of the profession in India.

The papers in this issue reflect a profession that continues to balance technological innovation with its core values of equitable access, intellectual freedom, knowledge preservation, and public service. As JLIS enters its sixth decade, we hope these contributions will encourage further research and meaningful professional discourse on the evolving information landscape.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, I sincerely thank our authors, reviewers, editorial advisers, and Delhi University Publishing authorities for their invaluable support. We trust that readers will find this Golden Jubilee issue informative, relevant, and inspiring.

**Professor Margam Madhusudhan**  
**Editor, Journal of Library and Information Science (JLIS)**