

BITS Pilani Library

A Gateway to Knowledge and Information

The BITS Pilani library is housed in a state-of-the-art building, covering about 65000 sq.ft area and is located close to all academic blocks of the Institute. The library indeed is an architectural marvel with an attractive palatial interiors high ceiling adequate natural lighting and ventilation with several series of courtyards, with each used for different activities. Inside the library, there is layout of natural green plants that are soothing for the eyes a seating capacity for 800 students in one go.

BITS Pilani library aims to support the teaching, learning, scholarship and research activities of the institute with specially designed information services to meet the needs of its users. The library is fully automated with **RFID technology** integrated with **KOHA Library Software** that provides Quick & Efficient Circulation Operations, Enhanced Security for Library Items, Seamless Inventory Management, Exposure to Latest Technology including **Touch Screen** Experience for Library Staff, Students and Patrons. The **Online Public Access Catalogue(OPAC)** with efficient and integrated searching facility (**Discovery Tool**) can be accessed through the library's **interactive portal** from anywhere within the campus through Wifi.

Library a collection of over 2,48, 000, books including rare books and bound volumes of journals since 1920s. Besides core subjects, the stock also covers a good blend of reference material in the form of Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, Handbooks, Year books, Reports, Theses, Standards etc. The library also provides access to millions of E-Books.

Library subscribes to over 205 print National and International journals. It has access to over 39,000 full-text e-journals covering all branches of Science, Technology , Engineering, Management , Humanities and Social Sciences are also made available. These can also be accessed from Hostel rooms as well as from Faculty residences. In addition to books and periodicals, the library has a good collection of non-book material namely Audio CDs, Videos, DVDs, CD ROMs, etc to cater to the educational/academic and research needs of students as well as faculty.

In addition, the Library has implemented two institutional repositories namely **E-Prints** and **D-Space** which provide access to Institute's research and academic output. Currently this contains over 1500 by faculty publications of BITS Pilani published in national and international journals. The Institutional Repository also includes papers presented in national and international Conferences and Seminars by BITS Pilani faculty and theses.

The library provides a conducive environment to users and is equipped with all modern facilities. The endeavor is to create an inspiring learning environment, which enables the students to develop the habit of reading, learning and researching. A new and state of the art **Research Zone** which is a gateway to high quality information relevant to research has been established. to facilitate the research related activities in the campus.

The **G D Birla Rare Books Collection** has a remarkable stock of scholarly rare books, manuscripts, paintings and photographs which are timeless and invaluable. Many of these rare books are published almost about 150 and 200 years ago. The collection consists of such valuable rare books as Pancha Vimshati Sahasrika Prajnaporamita in Bhog Language , Sabda Veda: A Collection of Eleven Samhitas of Four Vedas by K. C. Kulish, Paintings from the collection of Dr. Sukarho, Reichenbachia: Orchids illustrated & described by Henry Frederick Conrad Sander, Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam Translated by Edward Fitz Gerald, Atharva-Veda Samhita by William Dwight Whitney, History of Human Marriage by Edward Wester Marck, Ramayana of Valmiki: India's National Epic by Raghu Vira, Ramayana in China by Raghu Vira & Chikyo Yamamoto, Sankuntala or The lost Ring by Kalidas, Ajanta: Text and Plates by G.Yazdani, Veer Vinod (In Hindi) 4 Vols. Comprehensive History of Mewar by Shayamal Das, Barabudur by Hague, Martinus Nijoff, Mohenjo Daro & the Indus Civilization etc to name a few.

BITS Pilani library has developed an interactive Library portal called **infoBITS** in 2014. This dynamic library portal connects with users and makes library services more relevant, visible and quickly meet their teaching and learning needs as well as for marketing and promotion of library services. The objective is to build relationship with users, get them engaged with the library to recommend, share, suggest, complain, compliment and give feedback in addition to using online resources and services so that it becomes a one stop shop for their information needs.

At BITS Pilani library, to optimize the user experience, we have developed **Library Mobile App** as a new platform for knowledge sharing and learning. It integrates almost everything that the interactive library portal is offering. It is now considered to be one of the advanced "mobile technology based" service offered by the library to connect with the library users instantaneously.

The library provides facilities for collaborative activities of students and faculty members. The **Brainstorm and Group Discussion Rooms** with LED projector, automated screen, Sound system , Cordless and collar Microphones can be used for presentations, webinars, Seminars, video screenings etc.. The library also has Tea/Coffee and Snack vending machines in the central Zone to help users to take study or work breaks to refocus and refuel. It also has Photocopy cum Stationery Counter.