

Implementing the E-Granthalaya Software in Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT: *E-Granthalaya is a library automation software developed by NIC Library and Information Systems Division. The software has been designed keeping in view the requirements of government libraries. The software contains various modules like Administration, Acquisition of Books, Cataloguing of Books, Circulation, Serials Control, Articles Indexing, Budgets Controls, OPAC etc. Implemented at: State Central Library Andhra Pradesh and other District Libraries in Andhra Pradesh.*

Keywords: E-Granthalaya, ICT, Public Libraries, Automation, Modules

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1. Introduction

We are living in the Cyber age where everything is being converted to e Farmers are getting e-Khatoni, people are making e-Friends, and friends are sending e-Greetings, passengers are purchasing e-tickets, so and so forth. In this age, ICT is being used in all spheres of our life; libraries are not the exceptions of this change. ICT provides both opportunities as well as challenges to the LIS Professionals. This is the high time to start using the ICT in libraries for better management of library activities, resources and services. ICT can provide better opportunity to the LIS professionals to show their capabilities by modernizing the libraries and providing various online library services. There are over lakhs of libraries in India, there are about 54000 public libraries ranging from Village library to District and State Central Library, 1200 Universities and College Libraries, 800 Government libraries and several thousand school libraries. All these libraries are in the bad condition in terms of infrastructure, manpower, funding and modernization. These libraries are not getting due attention of Central as well as State Governments. Therefore the cost of application software is still increasing. There are number of commercial software in the market which is very costly and small / medium sized libraries cannot afford them. However, now days a number of free software's are also available, some are open-source software like KOHA which is a complete application for automation and networking of libraries. National Informatics Centre has also come-up with a Library Automation Software called as e-Granthalaya which is being given at zero cost to the libraries in India. The software is useful for automation of in - house activities in a library as well as user services. (Mahajan, 2005).

The public libraries in India in various phases using the e-Granthalaya software developed by the NIC. In the first phase, all the State Central Libraries (SCL) which are 28 in numbers scattered in various states capitals in India will be computerized. In the

second phase, all the Regional Libraries (RL) and District Libraries (DL) will be covered while in the third phase all the rest of the public libraries of various levels in the respective states in India will be automated using the e-Granthalaya software.

2. Department of Public Libraries

Public Libraries Department is administered under the Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act, 1960. The Zilla Parishad shall function under the general supervision and control of Government separate Directorate is created for administering the Libraries in the state. It promotes Library services in the state.

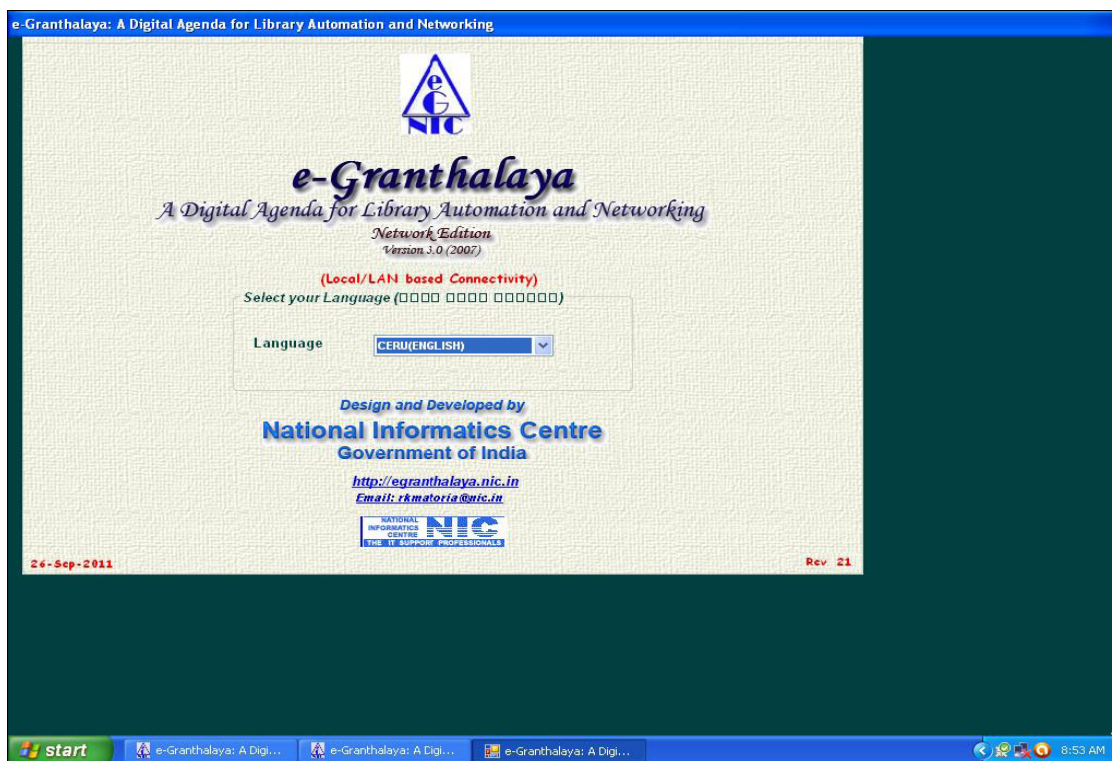
The National Informatics Centre, New Delhi was consulted to adopt the E-Granthalaya .The main motto of Andhra Pradesh Public libraries is to enhance the quality of services in the digital environment. The electronic era has impacted lot of changes on the behavior of the user of present day library. Since last two decade there has been enormous change in library and information services and electronic era has helped to facilitate rapid development. Such changes continuous in future too. Libraries required large amount of money on library management systems and on manpower to maintain them. Systems and technical issues are major challenges. The fundamental challenges being integrated and bring the different components of the library together. In this stage the E Granthalaya has solved such problem without much investment.

Why E-Granthalaya ?

It is a reliable and all time access for search and manages databases on a simple computer configuration. The services are free and quality oriented alternative. All that the site requires are Computers with Internet browsers enabled. National Informatics Centre (NIC), New Delhi will provide absolutely free database. One can make the best use of E-Granthalaya, the world-class bibliographic search & retrieval software that provides access to databases through Internet search service, that presents sophisticated online searching like auto-indexes, varied record display, automatic searching of singular/plural forms, and compound words It will help in housekeeping databases by handling error free format. Data errors, missing fields and null records are rectified immediately after receiving the messages from user end.

The E-Granthalaya Software

It is a digital agenda for library automation and networking developed by National Informatics Centre, New Delhi. The software is running on the platform of Windows Server 2000 or higher and MY SQL Server 2005.



Features at Glance

LAN / WAN based data entry solution Automate In-house Activities Automate User Services Duplicate Checking Automate purchasing process with Indian workflow.

Member registration with specific entitlement due days and fine system Well integrated database Output in user friendly style Complaint with international standards.

3. E-Granthalaya Consists of Various Modules Such as:

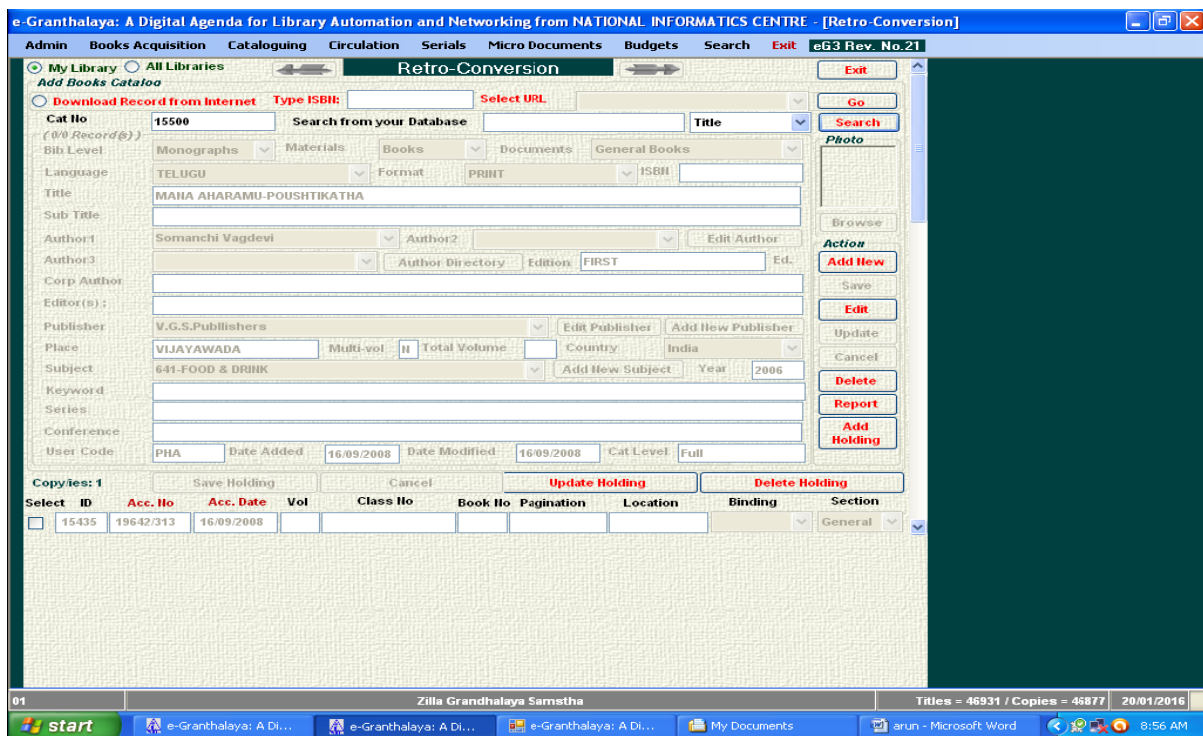
Admin Module

Admin module is used for making users, setting their permissions, making entry of the default values in the master tables and then using such values in the subsequent modules. This module contains the following menu and sub menu. System data Master data.

It Provides space for adding/editing/deleting Users who will operate software Bibliographic level/document type Acquisition modes / Copy Status Countries / Types of binding Currency Codes Publishers Details / Vendor Details Journal Frequencies / Languages Messages and Text for reports/letter Sections/Subjects/Library committees.

Acquisition Module

This module is used for acquiring / purchasing documents (books and monographs, standards, Manuals, patents, etc.) in the library.



The process of purchasing starts from checking the Duplicate documents (if any) to the following Steps:

Checking duplicate

Author Directory

Adding New Title

Generating Acquisition Record

Generating Approval List (Sending the list of books to approval authority)

Updating the Approval List (Selected / Rejected)

Add Order Info

Generating Order

Receive Documents

Accessioning of the received documents

Adding Billing Information

Adding Payment Information

Then the documents so acquired become available for the CATALOGING process. During the

Acquisition process, the STATUS (Called as PROCESS STATUS) of the acquisition gets

Changed automatically in the following order:

Requested

Sent for Approval

Approved / Rejected

Ordered

Received / Partially Received

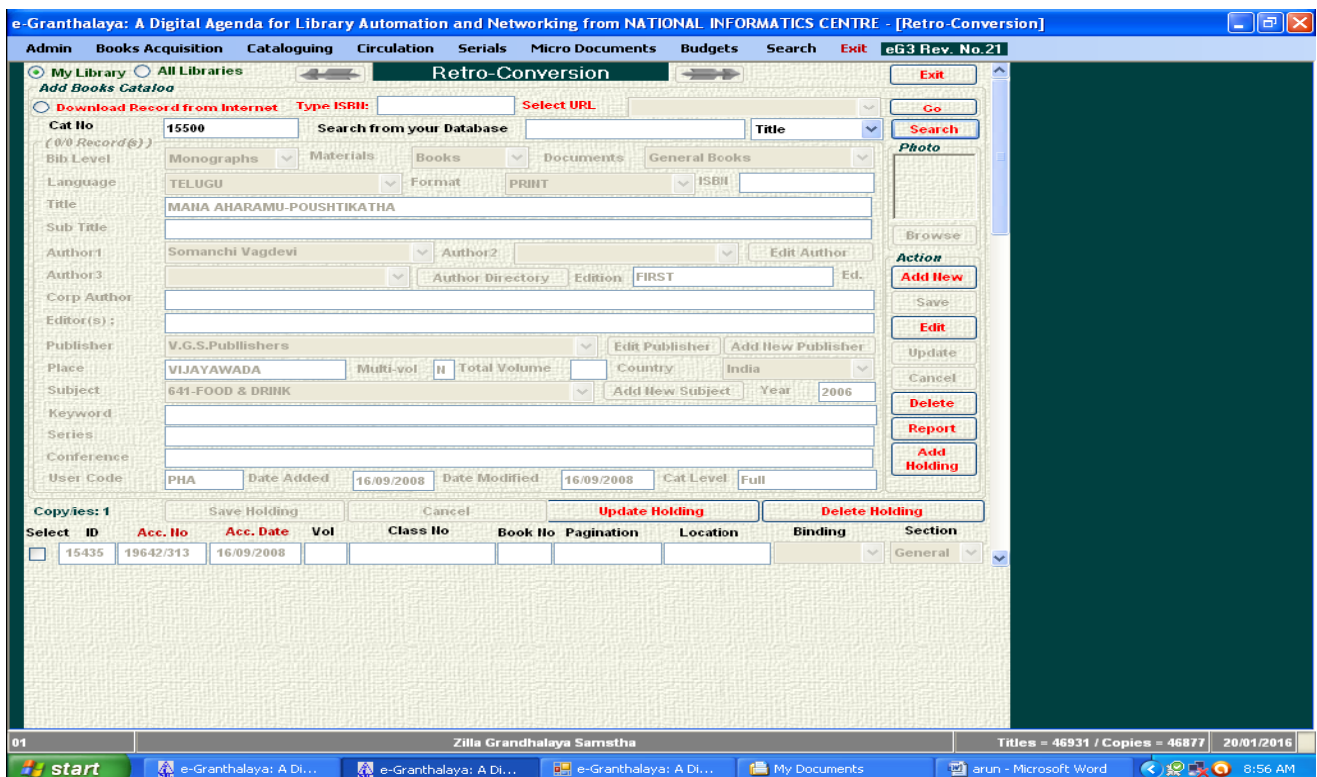
Accessioned / Partially Accessioned

Cataloguing Module

This module consists of the following menu:

Full Catalog - Used to add additional data elements in the records

Change Status - Used to change the status of the Copy of a title



Update Holding Info- Used to update/modify the Holding Records

Retro Conversion - Used to enter the data of existing collection of the library

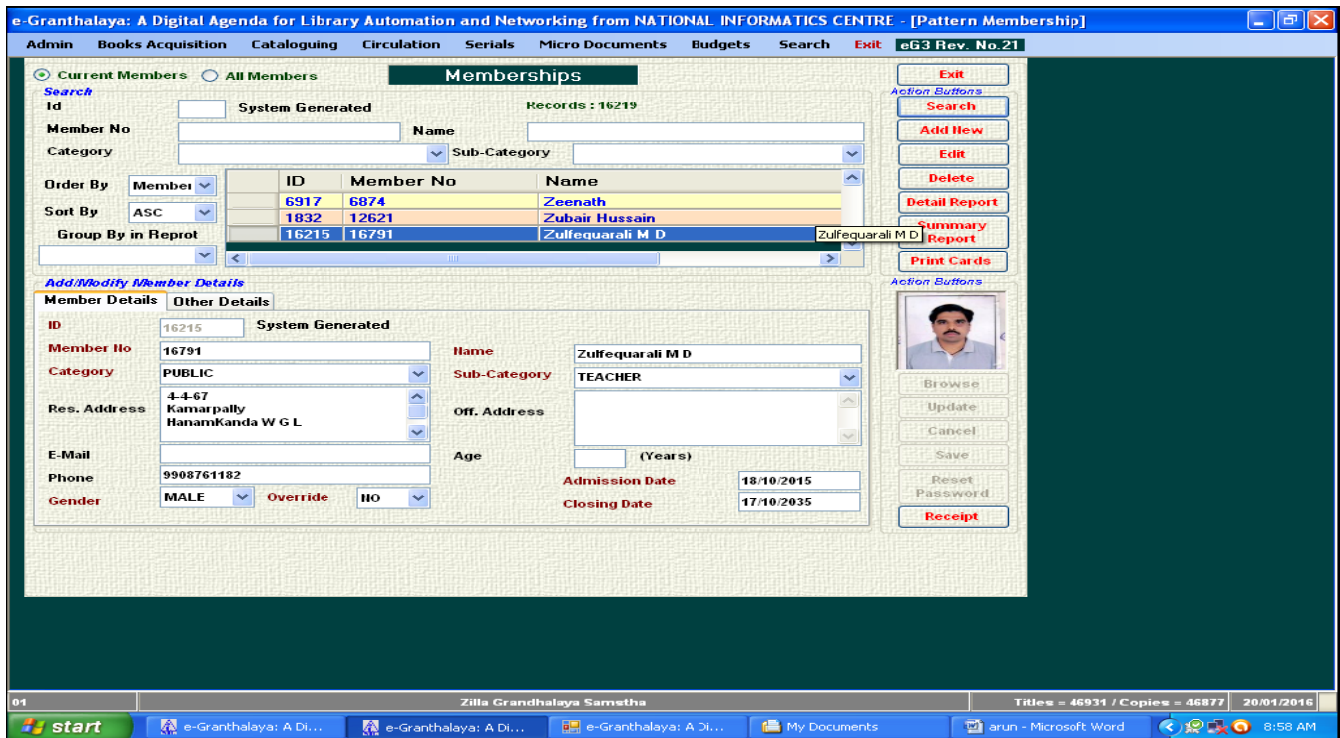
Status Wise Collection- Used to view the status wise collection of the library

Retro Conversion

In this module many other utilities have been provided to update / refine / complete the three main types of records namely Cataloguing Record, Acquisition Record and Holding Record.

Circulation Module

This module is used to automate the Circulation Desk activities and services such as making membership, issue and return of the documents, generating overdue reminders, etc. The module permission can be set using the USER form under ADMIN module.



Issue

There are various menus under this module which are given below:

Add Groups/Faculties/Division of the Parent organization

Add Designations / Categories

Add Membership

Issue / Reserve

Return / Renew

View Circulation Transactions

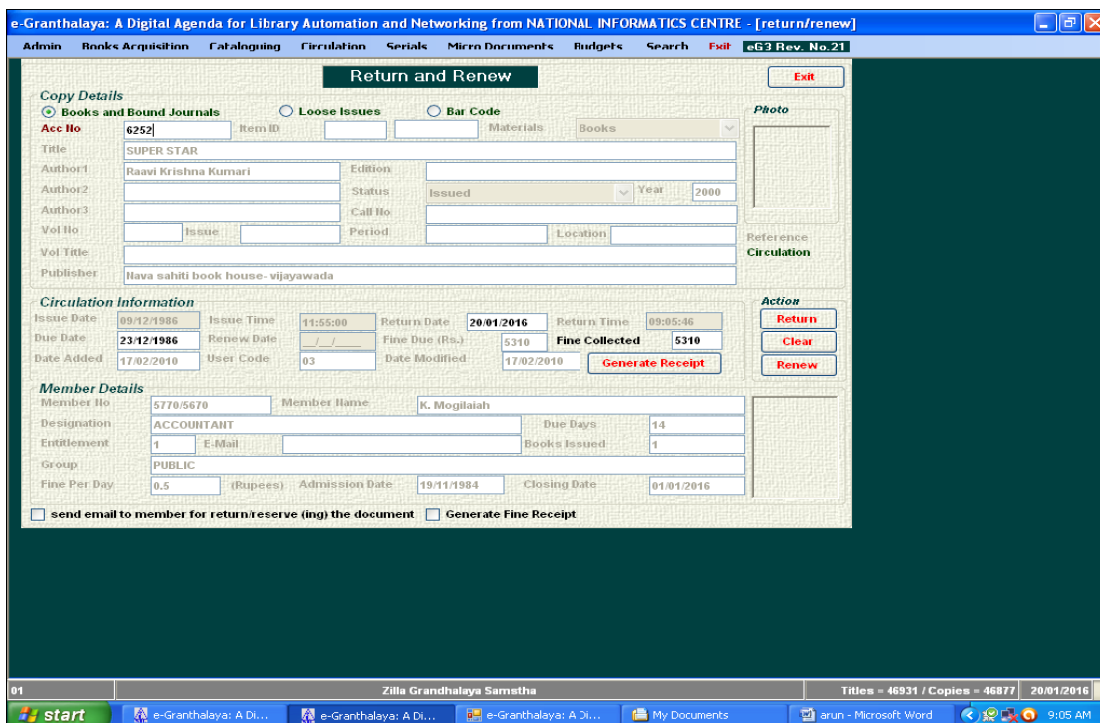
Generate Overdue notice

Issue of books can be done by just scanning the user ID card and then scanning the Acc. No. of the book. once the acc. No is scanned the Issue date and the Due date field will be activated along with the activation of the Issue Button which is shown in the following screen:



Return: A book can be reserved by the user only when the book is issued out to some other user.

In this case the reserve button will be activated. Once the reserved book is returned a message will be popped out giving the information about the user who has reserved that particular book.



4. Web Opac Search Interface

The powerful Web OPAC search provides internet search services, which involves full text, audio, video and given links to various e-journals. The reports, research articles and technical reports are made available in the search. The transaction information will retrieve with full address and photo of the borrower.

Internet / Intranet Based Interface

Search Library Catalog

Basic / Advance Search

Use Boolean Operators

Search Member Dues

Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Home Page (www.publiclibraries.ap.nic.in)

This page introduce information about the Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries and Library along with the book search mechanisms and modules.



Basic Book Search

OPAC search is a Boolean search. User can search by Author, Title, Publisher, Keywords etc. We have an Advanced search in which complex search can be done. The books can also be searched by browsing the Titles, Subject-wise, Accession No., Year-Wise, Publisher-Wise. There is another option of "District wise" where the list of the district wise available books to the library will be displayed.

Result of Book search

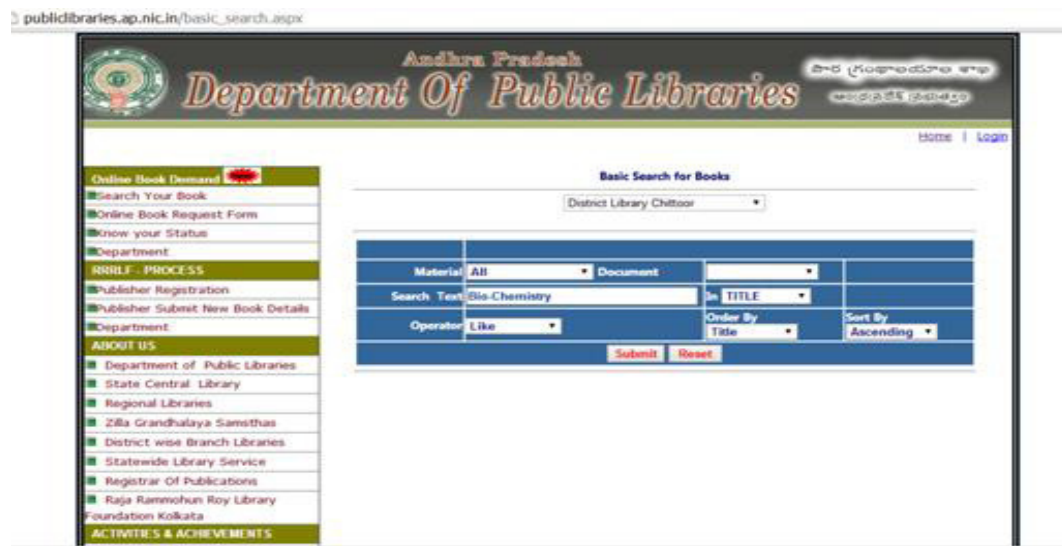
Once the required book is selected it displays all the details of the book as shown in the screenshot above. The user can check the Status, location and Call No. of the book which helps the user to know the status of the book.

Special Feature

e-Granthalaya Software is free

Support / Training free to Government and Public Libraries

Hosting on Web (Web OPAC) free to Ministries/Departmental libraries



Training conducted at various centers of NIC in India

5. Conclusion

The E-Granthalaya Library Software presents an easy to use, customizable architecture to build and manage the Automation of Library. The E-Granthalaya fulfills the technical requirements of Public Libraries. The E-Granthalaya Automation Software is the most suitable and convenient for Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries. The Present study can be used by the Librarians for understanding E-Granthalaya Features.

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