

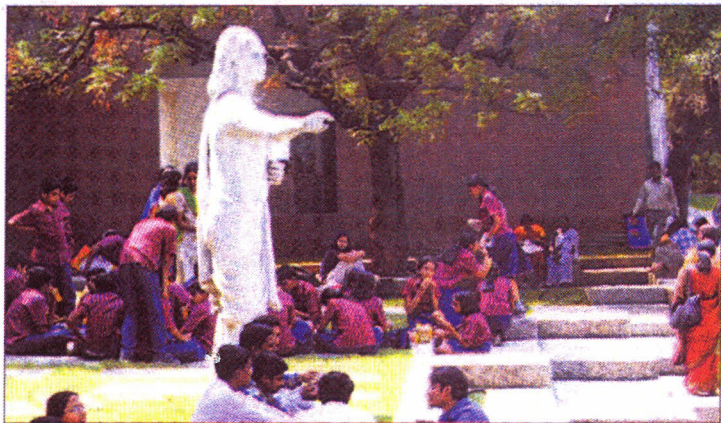
Library conference gets under way

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

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THE sixth Library and Information Services in Astronomy (LISA) conference was inaugurated at the Inter-university Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) on Sunday. This is the first LISA conference to be held in India.

In his keynote address Prof Jayant Narlikar who inaugurated the LISA conference talked about his experience as a long-time user of libraries across the globe and the challenges ahead in the 21st century. "Talking about digitised literature, he mentioned how many universities benefited when journals like 'Physics Review' were made available in the electronic format, as the cost of the



printed version of the same was prohibitively high. He said that it was the efforts of IUCAA director Prof Ajit Kembhavi that brought in this change for the Indian Universities," IUCAA spokesperson Arvind

Paranjape said.

The conference was inaugurated on February 15 and will go on till February 17. It will discuss issues concerning the future of librarianship, web 2.0/3.0 use, access and

metrics, resource management and intellectual property, preservation and archiving and the virtual observatory.

Narlikar said that they should also look into procedures to safeguard the original document to prevent their tampering by hackers.

Prof Ajit Kembhavi inaugurated the conference. Sunita Barve, library in-charge of NCRA, which is co-organising the conference, said, "Close to 90 participants will be attending the conference out of which over 50 participants are from abroad and represent 18 countries namely Argentina, Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy, Mexico, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, U.K. and USA."