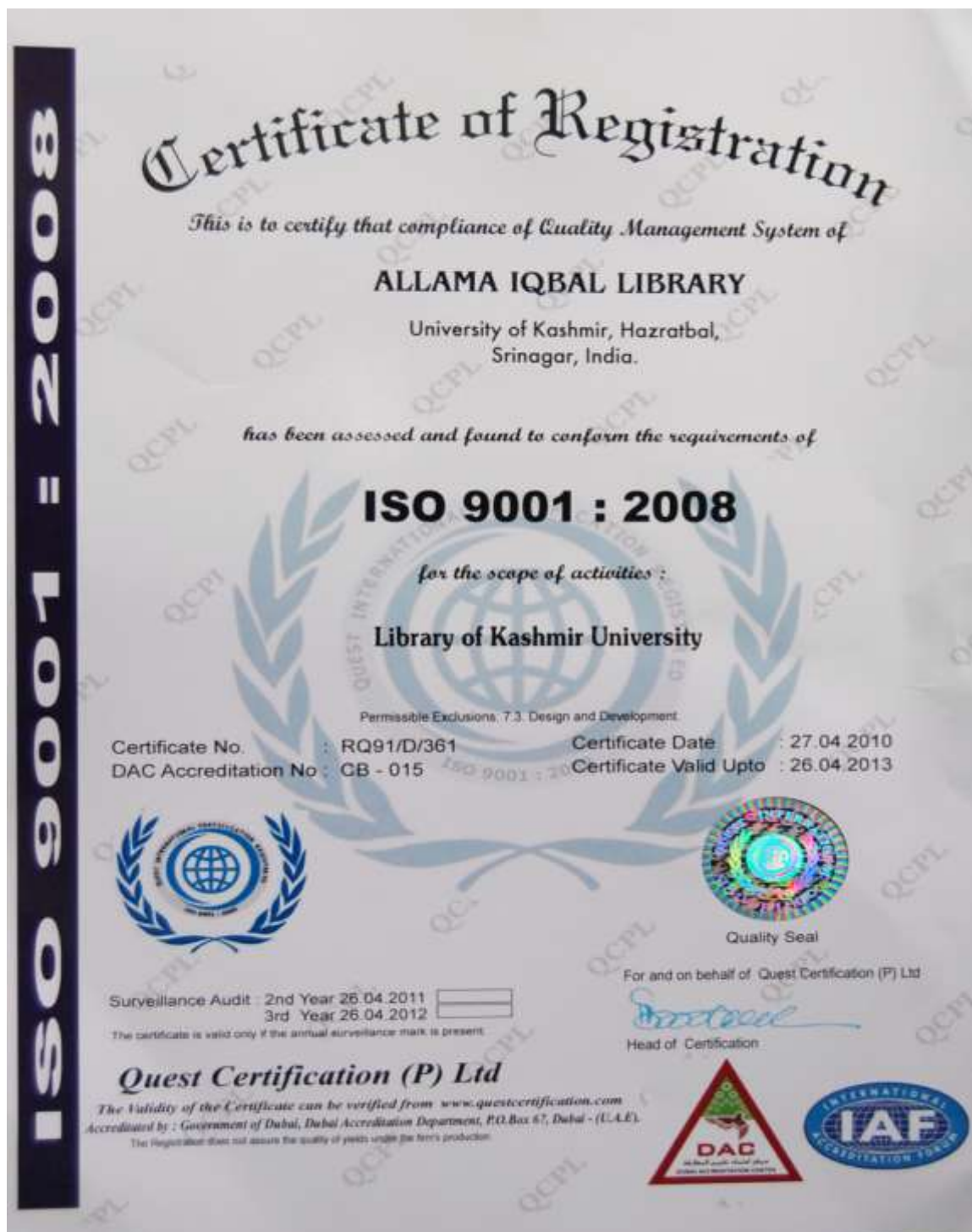


KU has India's first ISO Certified Library

Srinagar, May 23: Allama Iqbal Library (AIL) of University of Kashmir has become the first University library in India to be registered and certified with ISO 9001:2008 standards for Quality Management System by Dubai Accreditation Centre for its services.

Vice Chancellor University of Kashmir, Prof Riyaz Punjabi while congratulating Librarian and his team for the certification said, "This is perhaps an acknowledgement of our high



standards by international quality assessment agencies and an appreciation of the fact that we are utilizing our resources to the best possible extent”.

Speaking on the certification, Chief Librarian, AIL, Prof Riyaz Rufai said, “We are all pleased to have been regarded at par with International standards. This certainly proves our users get maximum benefit from resources available with us”. While explaining purpose of going for the certification, Prof Rufai said that it was to get University’s library services recognized at international level. “ISO standard 9001 is one of a set of management tools that

libraries around the world have adopted in recent years. Our Library is the first University Library in India to get this certification” he remarked.

Registered under certificate number RQ91/D/361, the certificate was conferred to the Library after the certifying authority audited its services and found them in compliance with rigorous standards and requirements of the certification authority.

Pertinently, efforts to get library services of University certified was initiated after a mention of the idea was put forth by former President of India, A P J Abdul Kalam during his address to the Joint Session of J & K State Legislature at Srinagar in 2007 wherein he had said, “All universities and affiliated colleges of the state must progressively get themselves ISO certified”. This prompted University officials to prepare a proposal to implement standards that have now resulted in the library receiving this globally recognized certification.

Other libraries in India certified with this standard include libraries of IIT Madras and IIM Ahmadabad. Over 2000 certificates have been issued to Institutions and businesses across India for meeting international quality standards. This certification to AIL is for 2010 and shall be renewed every year till 2013.