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Tata Sons chairman Ratan Tata getting a traditional welcome from the Indian Institute of Science director, Prof Padmanabhan (extreme left) on the occasion of the inauguration of the digital library.

Anytime, anywhere library at IISc

Our Bangalore Bureau

12 MARCH

STUDENTS of over 10,000 colleges in the country will soon have the facility to access scientific data by logging on to the digital library inaugurated at the Indian Institute of Science here today by Tata Sons chairman, Mr Ratan Tata, here today.

The JRD Tata Memorial Library and the National Centre for Science Information (NCSI) at

IISc will now provide information through the Compuswide network. The NCSI offers current awareness service, bibliographic searches of current and retrospective nature, numeric and non-numeric data base searches, full text services and document delivery services for users across India.

The digital library will act as a role model for many future digital libraries in India. The library will have a digital information services centre (DISC) which will host a

grand collection of CD-ROMs that will include chemical abstracts, current contents, science citation index, full text of many journal articles, a collection of Indian music, encyclopedia, etc.

The library will use IBM's digital library software donated by Tata-IBM. Shortly, IISc hopes to offer education on demand services. This facility will offer quality education to many students anywhere, any time and any place in the country.