

# THE ROLE OF CENTRE FOR INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION SERVICE (CITIS)

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Industrial information plays an important role in the industrial development strategy in any country. The information generated in the industrial sector could be broadly categorised as technical know-how, machinery & equipment, entrepreneurship and trade.

In this context there are many government and non-government organizations and institutions in Sri Lanka which acquire and generate and disseminate information to decision makers, researchers, students, entrepreneurs etc. Lack of related information, inability to access technical information and unawareness of available information services are the main constraints to development. Industrial Development Board (IDB) is one of the key institutions established in 1969 to promote small and medium scale industries in Sri Lanka. Centre for Industrial and Technology Information Services (CITIS) is an agency of IDB and was established in 1989 with the view of upgrading the services of the library. CITIS functions under an Advisory Panel comprising representatives from eminent R & D institutions.

## **Resources**

CITIS has a valuable collection of library material consisting of 12877 books and subscribes to 46 foreign periodicals, 26 local periodicals, 2780 research reports, 40 video tapes, 04 CD-roms, 06 floppy disks and 834 microfiche. It covers the subject areas such as: Agro Based Industries, Chemical Industries, Designs, Essential Oils, Food Industries, Energy, Rubber & Plastics, Pulp & Paper, Textiles, Wood & Wood Products, Construction Materials, Leather, Marketing, Management, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Packaging and Machinery & Equipment.

The CITIS is facilitated with a comprehensive catalogue, computerised data bases, laser printer, microfiche reader and 313 baby off-set machine.

The CITIS is enriched with a collection of reference sources consisting of encyclopedias, directories, formula books, hand books, indexes, catalogues, guide books and videos. This service is provided to the public free of charges from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. on weekdays. Generally lending services is restricted only for IDB staff, but other libraries can obtain through inter-library-loan services.

A range of information services are provided by CITIS. Any client can contact the CITIS either by post, telephone, fax or by visiting. The queries are handled by experienced professional staff. We may pass on your inquiry to another organization if we judge that it would give you a more useful reply. The regular information services could be obtained by getting registered as a member. This services are provided on requests of specific members.

Documentation services such as preparation of information packages, information services, preparation of reading lists are also based on requests to specific clientele and a nominal fee will be charged.

The CITIS also computerized information based on the following:-

- \* Bibliographic data base
- \* Industrialists data base
- \* Technology data base
- \* Industrial development organizations

Extension services of CITIS are generally based on organization of exhibitions, mobile information desks and lectures.

The industrialists are provided with graphic designs and printing services too.

CITIS also undertakes printing of in-house publications and makes available to the clientele through the sales centre at Head Office of IDB as well as at Regional Offices of IDB.