

National Science Library and Resources Center Assures Global S&T Literacy

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National Science Foundation (NSF) is the focal point for sharing information on Science and Technology in Sri Lanka. The communication of Science and Technology paves the way for the dissemination of scientific knowledge to the general public. In our country numerous ways are available to take knowledge of science to the people. In order to share knowledge, information is circulated through many kinds of printed media, such as via periodicals, textbooks, journals, newspapers and monographs. Some of the popular techniques of communication of science applied today include the organization of “Science Days” for school children, science exhibitions, workshops and seminars on science which enable the enhancement of knowledge among the Scientific Community. In addition, NSF’s National Science Library and Resource Center can be made use of by the general public to gain knowledge on science by accessing its various online services and physical materials on science and technology.

The provision of information on science, technology and

infrastructure on social, political, economic and natural development of the country are some of the foremost objectives of the NSF.

Sri Lanka Scientific and Technology Information Center (SLSTIC) which provides service and assistance to the National Science Foundation, was established in 1970, thus becoming the first science and technology publication repository in the country. This contains locally published and unpublished science documentations, articles published in magazines throughout the world, conference papers, research information, monographs, research papers and technical reports. The National Science Library and Resource Center strives to achieve these objectives by providing a 24 hour science based information service to the general public to help find literature on S&T through literature searches, awareness programmes, supplying of documents and training library professionals.

NSLRC depicts importance of S&T

National Science Library and Resources Center (NSLRC) is

the premier focal point for the exchange and sharing of science and technology information in the country. A key objective of NSLRC is the exchanging of information among scientists in Sri Lanka and other countries and expanding and strengthening of the information network. In addition, it transfers information and communication technology to the science community which includes school children, university students, researchers and science academics – functions which rate as important services of the NSLRC. Sharing of such information relevant to science and technology with people may ultimately provide the basis for economic development of the country.

Recognizing the importance in the enhancing of knowledge in relation to educational and professionalism in S&T resulted in the setting up of the SLSTINET. Its objective is to broaden scientific and technological knowledge of library related professionals, researchers, academics and scientists. Its services include the introduction of library software giving support services for data entering, hosting of library databased training programs and arranging of



NSLRC Onsite services

seminars. SLISTINET currently provides its services to 119 libraries. And to benefit from such services, research, science, technology and non technical institutes have enrolled as members of the SLSTINET.

Other than these services, NSLRC is in the possession of a large collection of local and international research publications, technical reports, publications on science policy, reports on innovations which deal with new concepts and creations as well as a collection of periodicals, local and international electronic magazines and conference papers.

Besides, its large collection of NSF funded research reports, the series of NSF Monographs, Vidurava publications, past volumes of Sri Lanka Journal of Social Science and Journals of the NSF disseminate scientific information among the science community. Even to refer these locally published scientific publications from the NSLRC you can access the digital repository on www.dl.nsf.ac.lk

NSLRC website serves as a central gateway

NSLRC web page is a significant information sharing center on local and international scientific publications. It works as a hub for

scientific information and aims easy access for scientific information followers from school to research level. The scientific community besides can access articles in local magazines and publications by clicking nslrc.nsf.gov.lk/new

Digital library for easy online access

In order to improve knowledge of S&T in all who seek its knowledge, NSF identified the importance of a national repository network of digitized information which stores articles and publications of relevance to the Scientific and Technology institutions. Towards this objective, in 2009, the first digital repository was established to store science publications of local scientists for circulation, data protection with open access to enable sharing within the scientific community. The National Digitization Project (NDP) program of the NSF was initiated in 2011 to digitize literature of local Science and Technology currently available in research and academic libraries in the country. The full texts of these could be accessed online easily and fast on National Network of Institutional Repositories operated across academic, research and related institutes. Therefore, the NDP paved the way to open doors to support and promote productive research and innovation in order to contribute to the social and economic development in Sri Lanka. Further, NSF provides on site hosting facilities for other libraries which request further assistance to develop digital repositories. The Digital Repository is run through the DSpace software and currently it contains 5,500 full

text articles for reviewing purpose through the dl.nsf.ac.lk web page.

Vital services of NSLRC through local databases Sri Lanka Science Index (SLSID)

Science community has now the capacity to acquire more knowledge by referring SLSID which is a monopolized storage of reviewed local researchers. It contains more than 40,000 science and technology researched articles. Reviewers can refer these as complete texts of articles or, if necessary, purchase through the internet articles of any journal, conference papers, research reports, technical reports, researches, and unpublished articles. Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS) NSLRC subscribed to SLAAS with the aim of sharing information on progress of science as given in SLAAS annual reports. It has maintained 8,367 published papers from 1976 to 2016.

Research Grant Database (RGRA)

NSF provides payment to enhance the capability to do new research and maintain productivity. RGRA maintains 2,110 summarized information of research projects of the National Science Foundation and research of University graduates. More information can be obtained by visiting <http://www.viduketha.nsf.ac.lk>

Sri Lanka Journal Online (SLJOL)

SLJOL has information on science published in local journals which can be obtained online. It has 1,005 issues of 75 Sri Lankan scholarly

journals with 9,056 articles in the areas of Agriculture, Engineering, Medicine and Social Science as well as analysis of information. The online platform offers the provision of practical and technical solutions to those who lack information. These in digital format, are available in full text as published in journals. Workshops and training sessions besides are conducted to motivate editors of local journals. Those interested can visit SLJOL through its web page: <http://www.sljol.info> web page.

NSLRC sleeves up International Science and Technology SCOPUS Abstract & Citation Database

NSLRC has subscribed to Scopus which provides solutions to global scientific studies through the most efficient knowledge/ Information analysis tools. This is in order to assist researchers, to help track products in institutions which cover more than 27 million patent records, e-prints, thesis, dissertations and websites. The service covers 360 trade publications, over 530 on-line book series and over 7.2 million conference papers. Being an international database, it offers access to over 21,500 peer reviewed journals from over 5,000 publishers. Scopus is a fast, user-friendly and comprehensive on-line database that supports research needs in the field of Science, Technology, Medicine, Social Science, Arts and Humanities. Details of these are available on <https://www.scopus.com>



NSLRC Digital library services

Health Inter Network Access to Research Initiatives (HINARI)

Hinari is a programme which has been set up to help access one of the world's largest collections of biomedical and health literature. It contains up to 13,500 journals in 45 languages and up to 60,000 e-books as well as 110 other information resources to health institutions in more than 115 countries, areas and territories which should benefit thousands of health workers and researchers, a facility that contribute to improve world's health.

Access to Global Online Research Information in Agriculture (AGORA)

In order to fill the vacuum in

agricultural knowledge, AGORA shares digitized agricultural journals covering areas of food, agro, environmental science and related fields. This facility of AGORA covers 21000 journals. Access to Research for Development and Innovation (ARDI)

This contains scholarly literature for free online access to scientists in diverse fields covering information of publications relating to science and technology in 10,000 journals and books. The National Science Library shares information with scientists, undergraduates, students and the general public and the required information

can be obtained through journals, photographs and the internet. NSLRC services are available from 8.30am – 4.15pm on working days. Enquiries can be made on the telephone number 0112696771-3 or by visiting www.nsf.ac.lk.



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