

**SURVEY ON ONLINE LIBRARY SERVICES PROVIDED
DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC SITUATION: WITH SPECIAL
REFERENCE TO ACADEMIC LIBRARIES OF SRI LANKA.**

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The COVID-19 pandemic can be considered as a turning point of the usual civil life of many people. It has also challenged the conventional teaching and learning methods at all levels of education. The university education system too was affected drastically by the pandemic. This has resulted a move towards the adoption of online teaching and learning methods to continue education programmes in universities. Being a main information service provider, the academic library has a significant role in providing support for online teaching and learning activities of a university. Present study aimed to investigate about the online library services provided by the 15 state university libraries coming under the purview of the University Grants Commission in Sri Lanka, as a response to the “new normal” condition. An online survey was conducted to investigate the online services provided through the websites of the 15 state university libraries under similar conditions and at the same time. Results revealed that almost all libraries provided OPACs, institutional repositories, online databases with off-campus access together with other conventional online services. Further, provision of article indexes, digital document delivery services, government publications, library tours, LMS links, open access books, recommended reading downloads, subject liaison services, voice libraries, and laptop lending services emerged as new services. It could be concluded that the present period of time is the best time period to venture into new services and taking steps to meet the requirements of the changing society.

***Keywords:** COVID-19 pandemic; Online library services; Academic libraries; Enhancement of library services.*

Challenges and opportunities for libraries in the new normal: book of abstracts

Proceedings of the NILIS Research Symposium 2020 held on 23rd January 2021 in Colombo, as a Webinar.

Publisher

National Institute of Library and Information Sciences
University of Colombo, Colombo 03. 10300.
Sri Lanka.

Editors

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ISBN: 978-624-5657-00-1

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Cataloguing-in-Publication Data Approved by the
National Library and Documentation Services Board

Proceedings of the NILIS Research Symposium (23rd Jan. , 2021 : Colombo)
Challenges and opportunities for libraries in the new normal : book of abstracts. -
Colombo : National Institute of Library and Information Science, 2021
xvii,55 p. ; 30 cm.

ISBN 978-624-5657-00-1

1. 020 DDC23

1. Library science - Congresses
2. Information science - Congresses

Challenges and Opportunities for Libraries in the New Normal



National Institute of Library and Information Sciences
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

2021



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*The technical services were provided by the
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