

Abstract- 54

GWI Galgodawatta

FGS/L/MSSc/2007/07

2014

A historical and analytical study on library and information science education in Sri Lanka

The systematic study of Sri Lankan Library Science commenced in 1961. It encountered difficulties from the beginning. The main aim of this research is to study the issues and challenges that Library and Information Science faces. The aims of the research are to conduct a study on Library Science education in Sri Lanka and other countries, how the issues and challenges in library science education impact on professional tasks, the need to create Library and Information Science courses according to SLQF and to identify the factors and strategies to improve library curriculum. The study was based on structured questionnaires, observation and the primary and secondary data was collected from the Literature Review. Primary data was collected from Library and Information Science students and librarians. Books, newspapers journal articles, reports, seminar reports, web sites are used as secondary sources. The issues related to library courses, teaching staff, distance learning, financial grants, infrastructure, social recognition for profession, teaching medium, Colombo centered education, library sources for subjects, professional qualifications were identified in the study. The present issues of the library education can be solved with the strategies such as formalizing of teaching and learning process, implement training courses with a proper plan, developing infrastructure, focusing more on subjects which need practical knowledge and introducing new subjects, conducting courses in English medium, organizing course and curriculum according to SLQF, joining permanent staff for talented lecturers and increasing male participants in courses.

Keywords: Library science education, Library science education issues, Sri Lanka, Training and improvement
