



Our Mission

To provide demand driven industrial R&D and internationally competitive technical services to catalyse rapid industrialization for the benefit of the people of Sri Lanka

Inside this issue:

Technology Marketplace	1
National Health Week Commemorations at ITI	2
Mining Information from e-Resources	3
Manufacturing herbal tea bags	4

Technology Marketplace: An Opportunity for Investment

Technology Marketplace, a new concept put into practice by the Ministry of Technology and Research to institutionalize linkages between S&T Institutions of the Ministry and private sector and potential entrepreneurs, was held at the BMICH on 24th and 25th October 2011. All ten research institutions showcased technological processes, machinery *etc.* which were the results of their R&D work at this exhibition.

The Technology Marketplace exhibition was

declared open by the Minister of Economic development, Hon. Basil Rajapakse. At the inauguration ceremony Minister of Technology and Research, Hon. Pavithra Wanniarachchi and other officials stressed the importance of having a dynamic technology transfer platform for the betterment of the country.

During the exhibition, discussions, lectures and presentations under various themes were held. Other than the scientists, CEOs and many other higher officials

from the leading private sector organizations were present for the sessions. New ideas, expectations of the private sector from the R&D institutions, pros and cons of the technology transfers *etc.* were brought into limelight during the discussions. The sessions opened a platform for both R&D organizations and the private sector to work together.

The exhibition stall of the ITI was organized by a team lead by Dr. Jaanaki Gooneratne and it was commended as the best.



Platform for Technology Transfer



Ceremonial opening

Compiled by

Suranee Samarasekera

Thushara Abeysekera

Information Services
Centre
Industrial Technology
Institute
363, Bauddhaloka Mw.
Colombo 07.
Tel. / Fax: 0112379817

E-mail:

suranee@iti.lk

thushara@iti.lk

NATIONAL HEALTH WEEK COMEMORATIONS AT ITI

Ministry of Health declared a National Health Week from 3rd to 9th October 2011 with a view of promoting greater public awareness on health and allied aspects. Ministry of Health recommended the government institutions to align activities such as cleaning premises of the institution, convening lectures on health etc.

Based on the recommendations by



Participants

Ministry of Health, Industrial Technology Institute arranged several lectures to boost employee awareness on various aspects of health and sectional activities such as keeping immediate environment clean.

The first presentation, which was held on 5th October 2011, on Health and Physical wellness was delivered by Dr. Dhammika Senanayake of Ministry of Sports. In his presentation he emphasized on the importance of planned and

routine exercises to prevent obesity, heart diseases etc. A physical trainer from the Sports Ministry demonstrated simple exercise regime.

On 7th October there were four presentations at the ITI main auditorium on nutrition, general health, ITI's commitment in eradicating mosquitoes and demonstration from a health service provider.

On nutrition, ITI's own Senior Research Scientists, Head of Food Technology Section Dr. Jaanaki Gooneratne delivered the speech on the nutrient requirements and selection of food to keep fit.

Then Dr. Dilhara Tillekeratne of the Family

Planning Association did her presentation on "Health First" focusing on reproductive health.

The consultant of Bio Power Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd. Prof. Arun Luxman commended the commitment of ITI through the Bti project in order to keep the environment fit by eradicating mosquitoes. Further he explained the action of Bti on mosquito larvae.



Describing the importance of nutrition

Lanka Hospitals team explained their value added services they offer to the employees.

From all the activities aligned with the National Health Week staff members of ITI gained knowledge on being proactive in keeping fit and on good health habits which in return is an indirect investment for ITI and the country



Simple exercises anyone can do

MINING INFORMATION FROM e-RESOURCES

Most of the researchers as well as information professionals consider searching information on the Internet and other e-resources an easy task. They assume a broad search on a data base or the www will give all the information they need to know. However, this may not be the case. Unless a proper search strategy is used the results will contain a larger percentage of useless information. This lacuna in knowledge on the methods to find information from the Internet and other e-resources lays a weak foundation for their research projects *etc.* In the modern world proper use of these resources has become a 'must' as it gives the researcher an advantage over the others when it comes to competing for grants, publishing their findings *etc.* as most of the e-resources post the most up-to-date information.



With the aim of strengthening the knowledge of researchers and library / information professionals on the use and how to best find information from e- resources, Information Services Centre (ISC) of the ITI organized a one-day workshop on “Mining Information from e-Resources” under the theme of “Knowledge Sharing”.

This one-day workshop was held at the ITI Main Auditorium on 19th October 2011. Four main subject areas were covered, namely Science & Technology, Economics and related subjects, Food and Agricultural Science and Health and Medical Science. Experts in the relevant areas of information delivered lecture during morning session.

Mrs. Chandrani Kuruppu, Deputy Librarian, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo delivered the lecture on Awareness of e-Resources in Health and Medical Science and Access to Information. First she described the theory behind information search and taxonomy of information literacy. Having described that she explained the two main types of databases in medical science, *i.e.* Bibliographic and Evidence based databases and the organizations which host those data bases. Using screen shots, then Mrs. Kuruppu demonstrated how to carry out searches and searching strategies.

Presentation on e-resources on economics and related subjects was done by Dr. Anusha Wijeratne, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Open University of Sri Lanka. Before embarking on her topic she described the Empowering 8 Model and further explained how to carry out a search on the Internet. Then she explained the databases on economics and related subjects.

Dr. Wijeratna's lecture was followed by the presentation of Mrs. Ira Mudannayake, Senior Assistant Librarian, Agriculture Library, University of Peradeniya. Her lecture on e- resources paused a special reference to AGRI-NET which is a very successful network among agriculture libraries in Sri Lanka.

Access and Awareness on e-Resources on Science and Technology was done by Mrs. Suranee Samarasekera, Head of the Information Services Centre of the Industrial Technology Institute. She demonstrated the ScienceDirect and mentioned the other electronic sources available at the ISC.

The final session of the day was dedicated to hands-on in searching information in e-resources. This was conducted by Dr. Ruwan Gamage, Senior Assistant Librarian, university of Moratuwa.

The workshop on “Mining Information from e-Resources” was a very successful and the participants rated it as a worthwhile project carried out by the ISC.

MANUFACTURING HERBAL TEA BAGS



With the view of developing the skills of the entrepreneurs interested in the production of herbal tea bags, Herbal Technology Section (HTS) of the Industrial Technology Institute organized a one-day Training Programme on Manufacturing of Herbal Tea Bags. This was held at the Main Auditorium of the ITI and the practical sessions were conducted at the HTS. The programme, originally, was scheduled for one day. However, the requests to repeat the programme were numerous and the HTS organized two training programmes one month apart. The first programme was held on 28th July and the second was on 25th August 2011.

Key resource personnel were Mr. K. R. Dayananda and Mr. R. M. Dharmadasa, Senior Research Scientists of HTS. They conducted theoretical sessions on “Production of Herbal Teas – The Process and Cultivation Processing and quality control of aspects of herbal plants used in herbal tea production” respectively.

The theoretical sessions were followed by training on the actual process. Mr. Kosala Samarasinga, and Mr. Sisira Perera, assisted in conducting the practical sessions.

For more details please contact Mr. R. M. Dharmadasa, Senior Research Scientists, Herbal Technology Section, ITI. TP. 0112379800, Ext.331, e-mail-dharma@iti.lk

Ref. Images from Internet

