



5TH INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SRI LANKA 2026 (ICNATLIB 2026)

8th September 2026



National Library & Documentation Services Board, Sri Lanka

5th International Research Conference of National Library of Sri Lanka 2026

(ICNATLIB 2026)

The International Research Conference of the National Library of Sri Lanka (ICNATLIB 2026) is an annual symposium that provides a platform for emerging scholars, professionals, researchers, academics, and students to share their experiences and research findings in the fields of Library and Information Science, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Science & Technology. The conference also serves as a platform for local and international networking, promoting collaborative engagement toward advancing the vision of global knowledge, cultural memory, and digital futures.

We warmly invite local and international scholars to contribute their insights and research findings under the theme

Conference Theme

“Libraries: Global Knowledge, Cultural Memory, and Digital Futures”

Conference Tracks & Sub-Themes

Potential sub-themes include, but are not limited to:

▪ Access to Knowledge

- Open Access and Knowledge Society
- Libraries of role in education and knowledge & training
- Organizing knowledge in libraries
- Data management and data repositories
- Bibliometrics and scientometrics research
- Scholarly publication and ethics
- Outreach programmes for communities
- Green Libraries and Sustainable Infrastructure
- Information literacy
- Libraries in online, hybrid, and lifelong learning environments
- Collection Development and Access
- Libraries and SDGs
- Leadership and Strategic Management in Libraries
- Promoting scholarly research and publication in LIS

- **Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies in Libraries**

- AI Applications in Library Services
- Data Analytics and Decision-Making in Libraries
- Smart Libraries and Internet of Things (IoT)
- Skills, training, and capacity building for AI-enabled libraries
- AI in Scholarly Communication and Research Support
- Digital twins and next-generation library platforms
- Promoting Digital Inclusion and Equity
- Innovations and Technology for Sustainable Libraries
- Digital Learning and e-Libraries
- Information and Media Literacy in Education

- **Cultural Memory, Heritage, and Preservation**

- Digitization of Cultural and Documentary Heritage
- Libraries, archives, and museums (LAM) collaboration
- Indigenous Knowledge and Community Memory
- Intellectual property and cultural rights
- Innovative Technologies for Heritage Preservation
- Tangible and intangible cultural heritage
- Cultural and Heritage education

Call for Papers

The Organizing Committee of **ICNATLIB 2026** invites local and international scholars, professionals, researchers, academics, and students to submit abstracts for presentation at the scientific sessions of the conference, which will be held on **8th September 2026**.

Submission Guidelines

- All accepted abstracts will be published in the **ICNATLIB 2026 Conference Proceedings**.
- Presenters based in Sri Lanka are required to present on-site, while overseas presenters will have the option of online presentations.
- Each author may submit one abstract as a single author and up to three abstracts as a co-author.
- No author may submit more than four abstracts in total.
- Submission Deadline: **30th April, 2025**
- Abstract Submission Email: icnatlib2026@mail.natlib.lk

Mode of the Conference

The conference will be conducted in hybrid mode

Contributors

Library professionals, library scientists, documentation officers, archivists, academics, LIS research scholars, and students are encouraged to contribute by submission of research papers.

AUTHOR GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS - ICNATLIB 2026

Submission Specifications and Instructions for Preparing Abstracts

Please follow the guidelines below when preparing your abstract for the conference:

- The abstract must be written in **English**. The committee will only accept submissions in this language. However, if your abstract is accepted, you may submit the extended abstract in **Sinhala, English, or Tamil**.
- The submission must be **original** and not previously presented or published elsewhere. Abstracts that are identical or substantially similar to work already published or under review for another conference or publication will not be considered.
- If your abstract is accepted by the conference committee, at least one author must register for the conference and present the paper.
- Guidelines for preparing abstracts are provided in Annexure I. Please note that abstracts not prepared according to the given guidelines or submitted after the deadline will not be considered for review.
- The Editorial Committee reserves the right to make modifications to the abstract to enhance its clarity and quality.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Abstracts Submission Deadline	30th April 2026
Notification of Acceptance	29th May 2026
Extended Abstracts Submission Deadline	15th June 2026
Early Bird Registration	up to 20th August 2026
Final Date for Registration	3rd September 2026
Conference Date	8th September 2026

REGISTRATION CATEGORIES AND FEES

CATEGORY	EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION	LATE REGISTRATION
PAPER PRESENTERS	Until 1st September 2026	
Local Authors and Co-authors	LKR 4,000	N/A
Overseas Authors & Co -authors	USD 15 (for Online Presenters) USD 50 (for Physically Presenters)	N/A
PARTICIPANTS	up to 20th August 2026	
Local Participants	LKR 1500 LKR 3000	LKR 2000 LKR 3500
▪ Undergraduate Students/Diploma holders (with a valid Student ID)		
▪ Other Academics, Librarians & Researchers		
Foreign Participants	USD 50	USD 75

Please Note:

- Paper Presenters/Authors and Co-authors of the research papers should register individually in order to get a copy of the proceedings and be eligible to present at ICNATLIB 2026.
- Certificates, Refreshments & Lunch will be provided to the registered presenters and participants on the conference day.
- Overseas author/s participants must find their accommodation, food and other necessities on their own.

For further information, please contact conference organizers by,

Organizing Committee

ICNATLIB 2026

National Library & Documentation Services Board

No.14, Independence Avenue

Colombo 07

Sri Lanka

Tel : +94 112698847

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Mobile : +94 703535764 | +94 719569470

Web : www.natlib.lk/icnatlib2026

Annexure I

GUIDELINES AND TEMPLATE FOR ABSTRACT

Title of the Paper

(Times New Roman, 14 Font Size, Bold, Centered)

A Author¹, CD Author², and EFG Author³

(Times New Roman 12, centered, underline corresponding author)

¹Affiliation (Times New Roman 12, centered)

²Affiliation

³Affiliation

Email : correspondingauthor@gmail.com (Times New Roman 12, centered)

Abstract - The language of the abstract is English and it should be written in Times New Roman, with a 12-size font and the document should be 1.15 lines spaced. The word limit should not exceed the number of words 300. The fonts, sizes and styles for the title, names of authors, and affiliations, should be as shown in the header of the paper. The name of the corresponding author should be underlined. Abstracts should be submitted in Microsoft Word format. The abstract should state the Background and purpose of the study, objectives, methodology, main findings and their principal conclusions. Do not include section headings in the abstract. Citations, References, Figures and Tables should not be included in the abstract.

Keywords: Please add a minimum of 4-5 words separated by commas.

Annexure II

GUIDELINES AND TEMPLATE FOR EXTENDED ABSTRACT

Title of the Paper

(English - Times New Roman / Sinhala - FMAbhaya / Tamil - Kalaham, 14 Font size,
Centered, Bold)

A Author¹, CD Author², and EFG Author³

(Times New Roman 12, centered, underline corresponding author)

¹**Affiliation** (Times New Roman 12, centered)

²**Affiliation**

³**Affiliation**

Email : correspondingauthor@gmail.com (Times New Roman 12, centered)

Introduction : The introduction of your extended abstract should state the nature of the research gaps you are addressing and why you are studying it. It should provide background information about the work and its significance while highlighting other relevant literature and specifying how it relates to or differs from your work. You should also discuss the scope and limitations of your study in the introduction.

Objectives : Objectives of the study should be clearly defined

Methodology: Provide a full description of your general research design, as well as the specific methods and procedures used in your research study. Describe your theoretical approach or type of analysis, and discuss the types of sources (primary or secondary texts, interviews, surveys, personal notes, etc.) and analysis tools (including statistical method/s) used.

Results: Describe the results in a logical framework providing diagrams, charts, and illustrations as appropriate for your discipline.

Discussion: The purpose of the discussion is to interpret and describe the significance of your findings in light of what was already known about the research problem being investigated, and to explain any new understanding or fresh insights about the problem after you've taken the findings into consideration.

Conclusion: The conclusion is intended to help the reader understand why your research should matter to them and provide a synthesis of arguments presented in the paper to show how these converge to address the research problem and the overall objectives of your study. Also state your conclusions in clear, simple language.

References: References should be cited within your extended abstract using **APA 7th edition** (American Psychological Association). Examples of reference formats are given

here. For additional information on formatting references, refer to the 7th edition of the publication manual of the American Psychological Association.

- Ranaweera, M. P. (2018). Stupas of Sri Lanka: A technological study. S. Godage.
- Chapin, P. H. (2012). Into Afghanistan: The transformation of Canada's international security policy since 9/11. In E. Henderson (Ed.), *The active reader: Strategies for academic reading and writing*. (2nd ed., pp. 223-232). Oxford University Press.
- Cleveland, L., Bonguli, R., & McGlothen, K. S. (2016). The mothering experiences of women with substance use disorders. *Advances in Nursing Science*, 39(2), 119-129.
- National Institute of Mental Health. (2018, July). Anxiety disorders. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/anxiety-disorders/index.shtml>.

Extended Abstract Length: Extended abstracts should be at least three pages, but not more than five pages in length including the references. Word limit is 1,300 – 1,500 words.

Tables & Figures: Tables & figures must be created using the Microsoft Word or Word Perfect table functions and included as part of the text immediately after the first point of reference. DO NOT place them at the end of your extended abstract. For improved readability, keep your tables as simple as possible.

All the tables, images and figures should be centered. Figures and images should be numbered and figure legends should be placed under the figure or image; as for the tables, they should also be numbered and the table header should be placed at the top. If the data were extracted from other sources please denote the source courtesy immediately below the table.

Table 1 : Preferences of students on different modes of obtaining reading materials

Decision	Agree	Disagree

Source : Ministry of Education

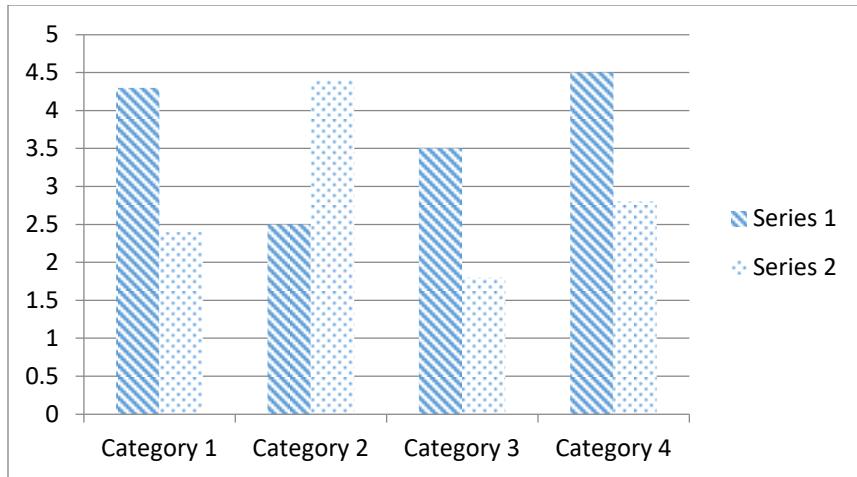


Figure 2 : Preferences of students on different modes of obtaining reading materials

Source: Ministry of Education, 2024

**The extended abstract will be read by a panel of anonymous reviewers as the basis for acceptance of the paper for presentation.*