

Open access repositories for research publications

758. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is mandatory for institutions performing research in our country to set up open access repositories for research publications done in their institutions;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has any monitoring mechanism to watch over these institutions; and
- (c) if not, whether the Ministry has any proposal to create such open access to research materials?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) and (b) No Sir.

(c) The Ministry has no proposal under consideration to make mandatory for institutions to set up open access system and repositories for research publications. The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) under the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) of the Ministry has been promoting open access by motivating its scientists to archive the pre-prints of publications in open access repositories maintained at each of its constituent laboratories and at a central harvester, while encouraging its scientists to publish in the best journals, including in the open access journals.

Open access to research papers

759. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), the Indian Council for Agriculture Research (ICAR) and the Indian Council for Medical (ICMR) adopt the policy of publishing the research papers conducted under their funding for free access to scientists;
- (b) whether any of Government agencies, carrying out research in its own laboratories or funding research carried out by other organizations such as universities and colleges, adopt such an open access policy; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) has been promoting open access by motivating its scientists to archive the pre-prints of publications in

open access repositories maintained at each lab and at a central harvester, while encouraging its scientists to publish in the best journals, including in the open access journals. Indian Council for Agriculture Research (ICAR) does not put any restrictions on scientists in this regard and allows scientists to submit their research papers for publication in different national and international journals. Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) does not have any policy on publishing the research papers conducted under the funding for free access to scientists. The ICMR only asks that the research papers based on the results of research projects funded by the ICMR should acknowledge assistance by the ICMR.

(b) Towards promoting open access of research articles, all the CSIR journals published by CSIR-NISCAIR are now available on-line in an open access mode. ICAR publishes two research journals in Open Access mode since March, 2010.

(c) Journals have their own policy regarding Open Access and Copyright, and generally scientists are given the freedom to publish their research work in the journals of their choice, based on the relevance to their field of research and citation index/impact factor.

Activities of NISCAIR

760. SHRI P. RAJEEVE : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (NISCAIR) had formed a section *viz.* Climate Change Informatics (CCI) during 2011;

(b) if so, the details conferences and trainings planned and conducted in NISCAIR during the last four years, alongwith the title of programme, sponsors, title of books edited, and published/printed category-wise; and

(c) the status of the project “Vulnerability Assessment and Development of Adaptation Strategies” for Climate Change Impact with special reference to coasts and island ecosystem of India (VACCIN) submitted by CCI along with the details of number of scientists and associated organizations in the project?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) No Sir, the CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (CSIR-NISCAIR) is only pursuing Climate Change Informatics (CCI) as one of the activities of the institute.