

Digital repository for theses

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Staff Reporter

KOCHI: Cochin University of Science and Technology is exploring the digital route to make available its research theses online.

It will soon join the 'Shodhganga@INFLIBNET (information library network) programme aimed at developing the digital repository of electronic theses and dissertation that would be accessible to all institutions and universities in the country.

Shodhganga @ INFLIBNET has been set up using DSpace, an open source digital repository software developed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology in partnership with Hewlett Packard. DSpace uses internationally recognised protocols and interoperability

standards. Shodhganga@INFLIBNET provides a platform for research students to deposit their PhD theses online and make it available to the academic community in open access.

Multiple abilities

The repository has the ability to capture, index, store, disseminate and preserve electronic theses and dissertations submitted by the researchers.

Shodhganga repository at INFLIBNET replicates academic structure of each university by allowing research scholars to deposit their theses in the respective department/centre.

According to the University Grants Commission (UGC), the availability of electronic theses through

digital repositories will help in maintaining the standards and quality of research. Easy access of the theses makes them more viable and it would help in checking duplication and poor quality of the research work.

Cochin University has started digitising the theses through various funded projects including the support from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the UGC. Cochin University authorities will sign an agreement with INFLIBNET representatives on October 28.

The university officials hope that the partnership will help in promoting the open access to scholarly publications besides making local and regional literature available on worldwide web.