

## **Use of CDS/ISIS for windows (WINISIS) in Sri Lanka**

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CDS/ISIS for Windows (WINISIS), Free Software developed by UNESCO, is widely being used through out the world for handling and control of bibliographic records. In Sri Lanka, this is the only software which is mostly being used in Libraries and Information centers. Use of the Software was started in Sri Lanka in 2000. Since then it has been widely used through out the Sri Lanka. The number of licensed users increased from 2000 to the end of 2008.

WINISIS is a package that has been developed of bibliographic Information. Cataloguing books and Indexing of Periodicals are the major areas of use. User's opinions about various features of the software are given. The Software is available, from non- profit organizations, free of cost direct from UNESCO and regional and national distributors. UNESCO has appointed National Science Foundation (NSF) as national distributor of WINISIS Software.

The purpose of this study was to find out current status of the use of WINISIS in Sri Lanka; which functions have been automated with the help of WINISIS. Scope of the study covers all Libraries, Information Centers, Training Centers and Information related Organization that are using WINISIS package for any purpose. It has been tried to cover institutions from all over the country.

The methodology of the research is the survey method and data gathering was mainly done by using questionnaire and Interviews.

Survey findings: WINISIS mostly being used in Public, School and Special libraries. It is a bare fact that WINISIS is the only software that is mostly used in Sri Lankan Libraries and Information Centers. Although, in this survey, most of the users are satisfied with the software the problems are there to be solved out. The package should be improved to cater for all the needs of Libraries and Information centers.

**Key words:** WINISIS, Library software, Library automation, CDS/ISIS

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