

Soon, people in Raj to get free access to research papers

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Jaipur: To make scientific research articles free and accessible to the public, the department of science and technology along with National Law University, Delhi, has framed a policy 'Open Science and Open Innovation Policy'.

Under the policy, if a person from Rajasthan government-run universities publishes an article or research paper in any journal, then he/she has to make it available for the public.

This has been globally accepted by most of the Ivy League universities to publish the research articles in open platform that would help the future researchers and also to know about the standard of the published article. Arul George Scaria, associate professor at NLU, Delhi who headed the entire policy framework said that this is will be a revolutionary step. "Rajasthan will be the first state to implement it in the country. There is a need of such policy so that the person with the help of money from public institutions should be made responsible to publish the article that would be helpful for the future generation of researchers. Moreover, this will also help to curb fraud that is going on in the name of research by a few academicians."

Calling it a welcoming step, professor Gyan Singh Shekhawat from Jay Narayan Vyas University, said that it

costs people thousands of dollars to read an article in reputed journals. "There are journals that would cost 1,000 to 1,500 dollars per article. Universities in Rajasthan do not subscribe to the journals, so we have to call up friends in other state varsities to get access research article. I think this will leave a positive impact," said Shekhawat.

Secretary of department of science and technology Mugdha Sinha said that they have completed the policy framework and now waiting to complete the administrative work for its implementation. "If the policy is implemented, then it would help common people to get access to these prestigious articles who are at present just read by scientists. This policy will outreach benefits of science by making it open to people," said Sinha.