



**Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka**

**Invitation for research proposals from the State Universities and Research Institutions to undertake Research Studies in the Field of Telecommunication under the Financial Grant for Research & Development for the year 2024.**

**Introduction:**

In adherence to the Sri Lanka Telecommunications Act No. 25 of 1991, as amended, the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL) is mandated to promote, in cooperation with operators or otherwise, research and development in telecommunication at state universities and research institutes in Sri Lanka. Thus, TRCSL invites research proposals from State Universities and Research Institutions to conduct studies in the field of telecommunications for the year 2024.

The program aims to achieve the following objectives:

To enhance research endeavours within the telecommunications sector.

To inspire faculty and students of state universities to engage in research about telecommunications.

To effectively utilize the outcomes of research studies for the advancement of the telecommunications sector in Sri Lanka.

Areas of research interest include:

- Telecom Regulation
- Human exposure to radiofrequency radiation
- Broadband, Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data, and Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Quality of Service (QoS) of telecommunication services
- Radio Spectrum demand and pricing studies
- Radio Spectrum monitoring/planning

- Cellular Mobile applications
- Information Communications Technology
- Consumer protection
- Telecommunications industry problems and issues
- Software for improving the quality of life of differently-abled persons
- Social Impact on the advancement of the Telecommunication sector.
- Affordability, value and quality of telecom services offered to consumers.
- International Communication Services
- Key objectives of the Universal Service Obligation defined by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- Legal reform in the ICT sector.
- Current tax structure on telecoms and its impact on macro-economy
- Any other topic relevant to the telecommunications sector

### **Research proposals:**

Research proposals should encompass the following elements:

- **Objectives:** Clearly state the goals of the proposed research.
- **Scope:** Define the boundaries and extent of the research project.
- **Research Components:** Detail the methodologies and approaches to be employed in conducting the research.
- **Time Plan:** Provide a schedule outlining the timeline for each phase of the project.
- **Budget:** Present a breakdown of expenses related to the proposed research activities. Ensure that the total budget does not surpass the allocated financial grant. If the proposed budget exceeds the grant amount, include a letter confirming that the excess amount will be covered by your organization.
- **Research Team:** Include information about the individuals involved in the research, including their qualifications and roles.
- **Outcome of the Project:** Describe the anticipated results and impact of the research.

The duration of the project should be one year.

### **Important Guidelines:**

- (i) Research components must be detailed, and the expected outcomes of the research proposal should be explicitly stated.**
- (ii) Budget components should be directly related to the proposed research activities. The total budget should not exceed the financial grant. If it does, a letter must be submitted confirming that the excess amount will be covered by your organization.**
- (iii) Submit the Curriculum Vitae of the Research Team.**
- (iv) The Research Proposal should be accompanied by a cover letter from the institution, along with an extract of the research proposal.**
- (v) Only complete research proposals containing all the components mentioned above will be considered for the selection process.**

### **Financial assistance:**

The research grants up to Rs. 500,000/= per selected research study will be provided, with the exact amount determined by the Research Committee of TRCSL on a case-by-case basis. This grant would be paid in four instalments. An initial payment of Rs. 20,000/= will be made upon presentation of the project proposal. The remaining balance will be paid in three equal instalments upon submission of the first, second and final reports together with presentations at each stage respectively. Cheques will be drawn and issued directly in favour of the Vice Chancellor/the Dean of the University or the Head of the Research Institution.

It is important to note that the outcome of the research should not be utilized for commercial purposes without prior approval from TRCSL.

Payments will not be made for the project proposals that are not selected by the Research Committee.

### **Submission of proposal:**

- The research proposal shall be submitted by registered post  
on or **before 2.00 p.m. 28/06/2024 (The deadline is extended till  
2.00 p.m. on 31/07/2024)** addressed to

**Director General,  
Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka,  
No 276, Elvitigala Mawatha,  
Colombo 8.**

Or email to [dgtsl@trc.gov.lk](mailto:dgtsl@trc.gov.lk) on or **before 2.00 p.m. 28/06/2024 (The  
deadline is extended till 2.00 p.m. on 31/07/2024)**

### **Research proposal presentation:**

- The selected research proposals should be presented to the Research Committee of TRCSL and the industry representatives.

### **The research agreement:**

- An agreement executed shall be signed between the TRCSL and the Vice Chancellor / the Dean of the University or the Head of Research Institution. If the researcher signs the agreement on behalf of the institution, a letter of authority from the Vice Chancellor/ the Dean or the Head of the Research Institution is necessary.

For further details please contact

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Director (Policy & International Relations)

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**Director General**

**Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka**

**27/05/2024.**