



**Department of Bioprocess Technology
Faculty of Technology
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka**

Vacancy for Graduate Research Assistant (Ph.D.) and Field Assistant (full/part-time basis)

We are looking for enthusiastic candidates for the following vacancies for the Leishmaniasis research project.

1. **Research area:** Leishmaniasis vector control
2. **About the project:**

The Department of Bioprocess Technology, Faculty of Technology is seeking to control the sandfly vectors transmitting the *Leishmania* parasite by using a novel biotechnological approach for the first time in Sri Lanka. The project is implemented within the endemic regions in Anuradhapura District, Sri Lanka under the funding support received through the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD), Trieste, Italy.

3. Vacancy for Graduate Research Assistant (Ph.D.) (1 post, Full-time/Part-time)

We are looking for a motivated and ambitious research assistant with experience in the field of medical entomology to perform a research project on sandfly control through a novel biotechnological approach.

Main responsibilities

- Supporting project management activities
- Maintaining sandfly colonies, genetic manipulation of sandfly vectors, carrying out laboratory and fieldwork, and collecting, recording, and analyzing the experimental data.
- Participating in research outcome dissemination activities.
- Supporting the production of research outputs including; preparing and contributing to presentations, videos, workshops, seminars, and peer-reviewed papers.
- Producing summary reports for stakeholders and funders (with guidance).

Education Qualification and Experience

- A special degree in Zoology or Biology with Medical Entomology as a subject obtained from a recognized university with 1st or 2nd class upper division

And

- More than 2 years of working experience in vector surveillance and control activities on vector-borne diseases.
- Postgraduate qualifications in life sciences **OR** willingness to register Ph.D. would be advantageous.
- Effective verbal and written communication skills in English.

The appointment is on a contractual basis for 3 years and the monthly salary is Rs. 50,000.

4. Vacancy for Field Assistant (1 post, Full-time/Part-time)

We are looking for a male/female field assistant to assist with field research work on the sandfly.

Main responsibilities

- Collection of sand flies from the field using different techniques.
- Supporting the rearing of female sandflies up to oviposition and maintaining the sandfly colony by monitoring the required environmental condition for the different life stages of the sandflies.
- Knowledge of handling medical entomology/ molecular entomology laboratory equipment will be an advantage.

Education Qualification and Experience

- Pass G.C.E. O/L or above
- Previous work experience in insect colony maintenance will be an advantage (Preferably retired Health Entomological Officer (HEO), Public Health Field Assistant (PHFA), or entomological field attendant or similar experience of at least one year).

The appointment is on a contractual basis for 3 years and the salary is Rs. 25,000.

Work locations: Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (Mihintale) and field site within Anuradhapura District.

How to apply: Eligible interested persons are encouraged to apply for the above-mentioned posts with a detailed CV together with covering letter **on or before 16.00 hours of 19.05.2023 by post to the following address** (please write a post of apply at the top left-hand corner of the envelope) **or by email to awijegun@tec.rjt.ac.lk**. Late applications will be rejected without notification and only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview.



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