

**Inter-University Partnership of
Competitive Research Grant (STHRDP)
Collaborative Research between Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and Sir John Kotelawala Defence
University**

Vacancy for Graduate Research Assistant (MPhil)

Research area: Natural Products

Research Title: Development of a commercial ointment with insect repellent activity using identified active compounds from plant materials. The student could gain skills in extraction, column purification, isolation of natural products, performing bioassays, scientific writing, data analysis, and presentation.

About the project:

The project is aiming to sustainable development of north central province through establishing a functional framework on selected underutilized wild fruit plants in Sri Lanka. This is competitive research grant funded by ADB to encourage collaborative research partnerships in between the Department of Bioprocess Technology, Faculty of Technology, RUSL and the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, in order to strengthen research collaborations to formulate products, process and services in related commercial applications such as nutraceutical, pharmaceutical and cosmeceutical developments using the advanced bioprocess technology, nanotechnology, polymer technology and engineering technology.

Duration: 2 years

Key responsibilities:

- Collection and processing of identified plant samples.
- Extraction, fractionation, and isolation of bioactive compounds from the processed plant samples.
- Performing required biological assays leading to the discovery of novel insecticides and repellents.
- Dissipation of new knowledge through research articles and conference papers.

Required qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science with a Special degree in Chemistry and Botany/Zoology/Biology as a subject from a recognized university.
- Self-motivated and innovative personality with a strong interest in performing laboratory research.
- Effective verbal and written communication skills in English.

Monthly stipend: 60,000 LKR (MPhil registration fee is covered)

Work locations: Sir John Kotelawala Defence University and Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

How to apply:

Please send your CV with the statement of purpose to Dr. Prasad Jayasooriya (principal investigator) ADBRIJP4@gmail.com on or before **28/07/2022**. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview.

Please mention the subtitle of the project you apply in the covering letter.