

Role of the OPA Journal during National Issues

Welcome to the inaugural online version of the OPA journal! The OPA Journal provides a platform of scientific communication for professionals in Sri Lanka. It caters for a total membership of over 60,000 under 52 member associations representing catering to 32 disciplines. The journal welcomes articles from OPA membership, addressing national issues based on their expertise and professional experience.

The lead article of this inaugural OPA online journal is on “**The Advocacy Role of Professional Organizations on National Issues.** “. The perspective articles to follow will discuss important issues regarding a wide range of areas such as economy, health, environment, logistics and agriculture, based on expert opinion and professional perspective. Original research articles will provide evidence-based solutions for national issues. The “Out-of-the-Box” section will feature the innovations and the “Speaker’s Corner” will be an opportunity the voice the concerns and opinions.

Advocacy role is the cornerstone for any professional organization. This advocacy, motivated by moral and ethical principles, attempts to influence policies by interaction with political, professional, economic and social systems, and institutions. Such advocacy needs to be timely and properly communicated. There need to be very clear understanding of the dynamics of economical, socio-cultural situation and political complexities. We as OPA need to play a major role in political advocacy while avoiding any political biases.

In order to fulfill the advocacy role during the current crisis situation, OPA need to be an authority recognized by society, an authority sanctioned by the broader community and general public. The OPA Journal will strive to be an unbiased voice for scientific approach, equity and social justice. We are in the process towards achieving the status of a peer reviewed, indexed national journal.

The OPA Journal, with the online availability and higher visibility, can be a main platform in promoting and disseminating the advocacy role of OPA during national issues.

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The Organisation Of Professionals Associations Of Sri Lanka (OPA)