

The first knowledge based system in Sri Lanka

Students information system of the Open University act as the principle media in sending academic and administrative delivers to the students. Thus, an advanced information processing system is an important key requirement in improving the quality of distance education.

The use of conventional systems which are based on structured and rigid information are not satisfactory enough to cover the total requirement. Amongst other intelligent techniques, knowledge Based System (KBS) is exceptionally good in providing the intelligent characteristics similar to a human cognitive model for an institution maintaining dynamic information. Architecturally in KBS domain Knowledge and the exploring mechanism are maintained separately.

This architecture is extremely helpful building the system by incorporating number of intelligent characteristics. Amongst other intelligent features developed, explaining the answers in terms of how and why, handling incomplete information, handling the dynamic information and analyzing usage of rules are vital. All the other general output given by normal system are expected with this system since the KBS is developed on top of the database system without replacing the current system.

The aim of this paper is to briefly describe the KBS developed for handling an university information system for the first time in Sri Lanka.