

Newsletter

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration

March 2025



Story of SLIDA

The Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration is a cornerstone in Public Administration and Management education, serving as the premier public sector training hub in Sri Lanka. We are committed to fostering leadership and innovation, offering programs that blend knowledge with practical skills. Our faculty consists of industry veterans, guiding students to become future change-makers. SLIDA alumni contribute significantly across various sectors, embodying our mission to advance governance and public service standards.

From e-Government to Smart Government: Shaping the Future of Public Sector Digitalization



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The Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) hosted the inauguration of the Capacity Building Program for officers recruited in 2008 and 2009 to the Sri Lanka Planning Service (SLPS). The highlight of the event was the Keynote Address by Dr. Hans Wijayasuriya, Chief Advisor to His Excellency the President on Digital Economy. Dr. Wijayasuriya outlined the government's vision for a digital economy, focusing on the transition from e-Government to Smart Government. His speech emphasized how digital transformation will enhance public service delivery, foster innovation, and improve transparency. The event also featured Mr. A. V. Janadara, Director General of SLIDA, and Mrs. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development), who contributed to the program's success. This training program is coordinated by Mr. Sampath Mallawarachchi, Senior Consultant of SLIDA.



Editorial Note

Welcome to this month's edition of our newsletter, where we bring you a glimpse of the latest initiatives and training programs that are shaping the future of public service in Sri Lanka. As we move towards a more digitally integrated public sector, the highlight of this issue is the thought-keynote address by Dr. Hans Wijayasuriya, Chief Advisor to the President on Digital Economy, on the government's vision for transitioning from e-Government to Smart Government. His insights are a powerful reminder of how digital transformation is not just a technical shift but a strategic move towards enhancing transparency, efficiency, and innovation in public service.

This month's coverage also includes a series of enriching training programs, workshops, and field visits, designed to empower public sector professionals with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in leadership, ethics, procurement, and more. From the immersive HR Management training at Ritigala to the thought-provoking session on sustainable procurement, each initiative reflects a commitment to fostering excellence across all sectors.

Additionally, our feature on the empowering initiatives at SLIDA—from IT skills development for audit professionals to leadership modules for the Sri Lanka Agriculture Service—highlights the ongoing efforts to equip our officers with the tools they need to lead in an ever-evolving landscape. As we continue to strengthen our public sector capabilities, we hope these stories inspire greater collaboration and dedication to public service excellence. We look forward to sharing more progress and insights with you in the coming months.

Nilmini Daladawaththa
Editor, SLIDA Newsletter

HR Management & Leadership Development

The In-Service Training Programme for SLPS Grade II officers continues with the HR Management in Development & Planning module, featuring an insightful field visit to Ritigala Strict Nature Reserve. This journey includes an overnight stay, providing an immersive learning experience focused on team building, conflict resolution, and leadership skills. The Module was coordinated by Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development), SLIDA.



IESL Toastmasters Club Successfully Hosts 37th Spechcraft Program

The IESL Toastmasters Club recently held its 37th Speech craft Program, bringing together members for a series of engaging speeches and activities. Special guests included Mr. Nalaka Kaluwewa, Secretary to the Ministry of Education, and other distinguished guests. The event also featured DTM Ganga Fernando, District Director of District 82 of Toastmasters International, who was invited as a Guest of Honor and Keynote Speaker.



Panel Discussion on Sustainable Procurement

We successfully hosted an insightful Panel Discussion on Sustainable Procurement as part of the Higher National Diploma in Public Procurement and Contract Administration. The session brought together industry experts, policymakers, and professionals to explore how sustainable procurement can drive environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and economic efficiency in the public sector.



TRAINING PROGRAMS



Chapter on Leadership and Team Management

The Grade III Officers of the Sri Lanka Agriculture Service recently participated in an enriching Study Visit to Kithulgala as part of their Leadership and Team Management training. This exciting initiative is part of the Capacity Development Training Programme, aimed at enhancing leadership skills and team management capabilities. The session was coordinated by Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development) at SLIDA.

Empowering Audit Professionals with IT Skills at NAOSL

SLIDA launched a groundbreaking Training Consultancy on Development of IT Skills for Audit Officials, aimed at enhancing the efficiency, accuracy, and effectiveness of public sector audits. This initiative focuses on empowering audit professionals with advanced IT competencies, integrating modern data processing, automation, and AI-driven analytics into audit practices. The event was graced by distinguished guests, including Mr. E.K.K.S. Edirisingha, Deputy Auditor General (Road Construction, Housing, and Urban Development), Mr. A.V. Janadara, Director General, and Mr. H.M.U.S.A. Wijekoon, Deputy Auditor General (Health, Welfare, and Social Security), along with other senior officials. The course was coordinated by Mr. C.W.K. Kuruppu Arachchi, Senior Consultant at SLIDA.

Chapter on Ethics and Integrity in Public Service

A session on Ethics and Integrity in Public Service session was held as part of the Strategic Leadership and Governance Excellence program for SLAS Grade I officers. The session was facilitated by Mr. Sarath Chandrasiri Mayadunne, the former Auditor General, who brought a wealth of knowledge and experience in the field of public governance. It was a valuable opportunity to learn from one of the leading voices in promoting ethical standards and integrity within public service. The module was coordinated by Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development) at SLIDA.

Institutional Responsibilities in Implementing the Clean Sri Lanka Program for Sustainable Economic Growth

Aspecial session on Economics for Development was conducted for Sri Lanka Planning Service Grade II officers. The session, focused on Institutional Responsibilities in Implementing the Clean Sri Lanka Program for Sustainable Economic Growth, was conducted by Prof. N.S Cooray, Professor of Economics at International University of Japan. The session was coordinated by Dr. A.M.P Arandara, Senior Consultant at SLIDA. The event offered valuable insights and meaningful discussions, aimed at fostering sustainable economic growth in Sri Lanka.

Inauguration Ceremony of the Induction Training Programme – Sri Lanka Engineering Service

The Induction Training Programme for Sri Lanka Engineering Service was ceremoniously inaugurated at SLIDA with the participation of distinguished officials. Ms. Eng. P.A.T.N. Ponnampereuma, Director (Engineering Services) from the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government. The program is coordinated by Dr. A. M. P. Arandara, Senior Consultant at SLIDA, and aims to equip newly appointed engineers with the knowledge and competencies required to excel in public service.



Chapter on Digital Landscape

A module focusing on Role of ICT Officer in the evolving digital landscape for the ICT Service Grade II officers was conducted. Mr. Sanjeewa Bandara Ekanayaka, Assistant Director - ICT, Department of Inland Revenue shared his expertise and provided valuable insights on the vital contribution's ICT Officers make to public service.



Workshops on Case Study Analysis for Document Assistants of the Department of Pensions

SLIDA commenced the Workshop on Case Study Analysis today for the Document Assistants of the Department of Pensions, focusing on enhancing their analytical and decision-making skills.

The event was honored by the presence of Mr. Chaminda Hettiarachchi, Director General of the Department of Pensions, Mr. A. V. Janadara, Director General of SLIDA, and Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development) of SLIDA, along with esteemed officials. This program was coordinated by Mr. Ruwan Nawarathne, Senior Consultant, SLIDA.



Chapter on Public Administration for Practitioners

The recent Capacity Development Program for Grade III Officers of SLAS featured an insightful module on Public Administration for Practitioners with a special focus on Disciplinary Procedure. The session was coordinated by Ms. K.L.M.C. Kularathne, Senior Consultant at SLIDA, ensuring a valuable and impactful experience for all participants.



Chapter on Dining and Grooming Etiquette

This session was facilitated by Ms. Aruni Wickramage, an International Trainer from the Olanway Institute of Language and Training Development for the Grade II officers of Sri Lanka ICT Service.. The module was coordinated by Mr. Wasantha Kuruppu Arachchi, Senior Consultant at SLIDA. Participants gained valuable insights into professional grooming standards and the proper dining etiquette essential for success in public sector roles.

Chapter on Legal Framework and Regulations for Condominium Property Development

A session focused on the Legal Framework and Regulations for Condominium Property Development for the inductees of Sri Lanka Architectural Service delivered by Mr. Nalin Gankande, Deputy General Manager (Regulatory) of the Condominium Management Authority. This module was coordinated by Mr. M.L. Dashitha Niroshana, Senior Consultant at SLIDA. This training served as an excellent opportunity for architects to enhance their understanding of public sector compliance and sustainable design in the context of property development.



Chapter on Procurement Management

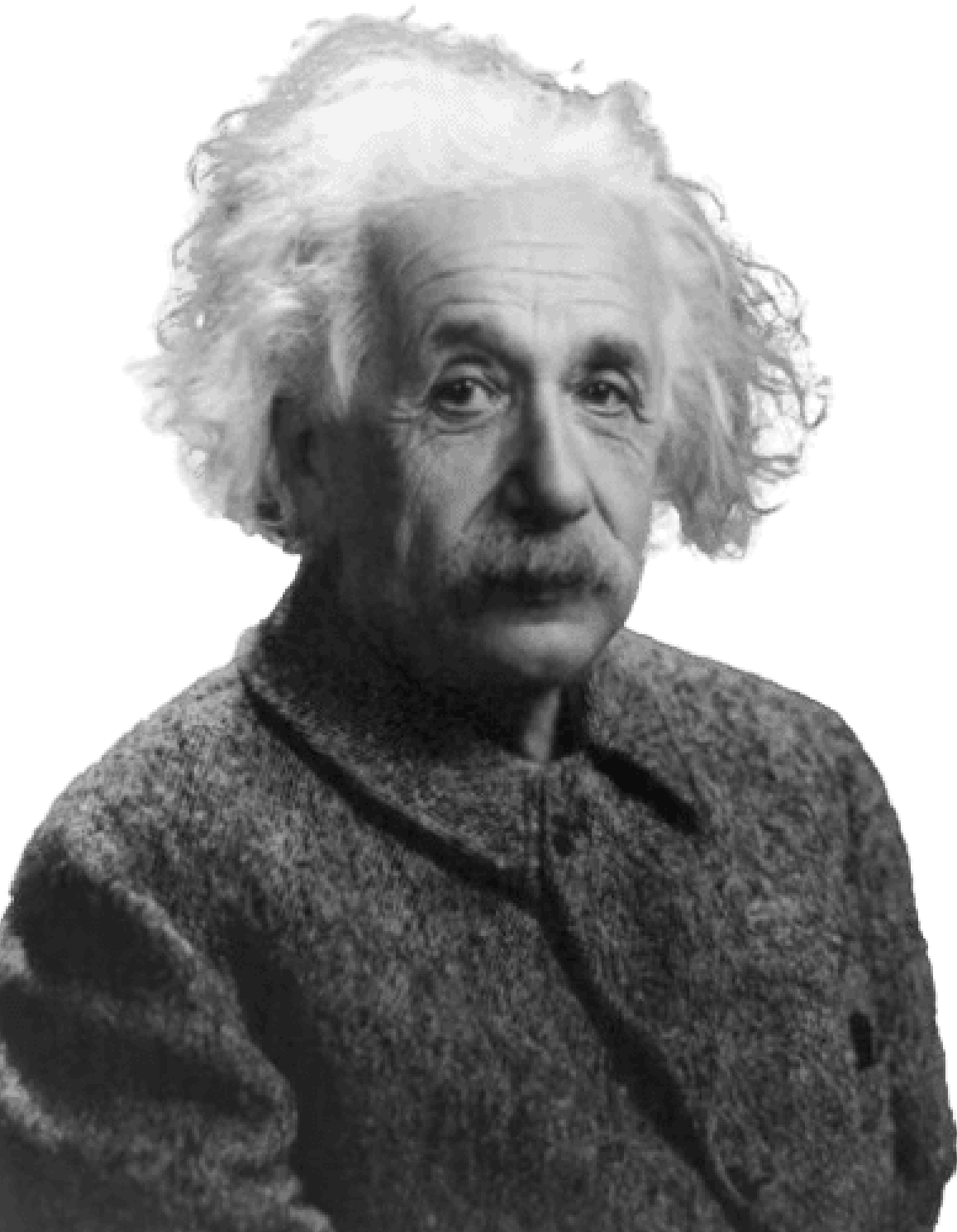
The Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (Limited) recently featured an insightful session on Procurement Management, conducted by Mr. Tharindu Suresh Peiris, Accountant (Loan and Advance)/Special Task Force. The session, aimed at equipping participants with the knowledge and skills to effectively manage and implement public procurement processes, focused on ensuring compliance and maximizing Value for Money (VFM).



TIMELESS THOUGHTS

"We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them."

-Albert Einstein-



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