

Newsletter

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration

August 2024



Story of SLIDA

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA), a body incorporated under the Ministry in charge of the subject of Public Administration, was established in May 1982, by Act No. 9 of 1982. It is the premier institute vested with the responsibility of competency enhancement and professional development of executives in the public sector. Pursuing its core value of refolding public interest, SLIDA's key functional areas are providing trainings for public sector officials, management consultancy for public sector organizations and encouraging research culture.

Inauguration of the Induction Training Program for Sri Lanka Scientific Service Officers – 2021 (Limited & Open)

The Induction Training Program for the 2021 cohort of Sri Lanka Scientific Service Officers (Limited and Open) was launched with great enthusiasm. The event was graced by Mr. Pradeep Yasarathna, Secretary to the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils, and Local Government, alongside Mr. Aloka Bandara, Director General of Combined Services at the same ministry. Mr. Nalaka Kaluwewe, Director General of SLIDA, and other distinguished guests also attended. Prof. Deepthi Wickramasinghe from the Department of Zoology and Environment Sciences, University of Colombo, delivered a special guest lecture, offering valuable insights to the participants. The program was coordinated by Mr. K.R. Gangadhara (Senior Consultant) and Ms. Sanoji Perera (Senior Consultant), marking a significant milestone in the professional journey of the new scientific officers.

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Editorial: Fostering Excellence and Well-being at SLIDA

August 2024 has been a month of transformative experiences at SLIDA. Our commitment to enhancing the skills, knowledge and attitudes of public service officers has been evident through a series of impactful events, setting a sound foundation for future endeavors.

One of the standout moments this month was the Inauguration of the Induction Training Program for Sri Lanka Scientific Service Officers (2021 - Limited & Open). This program was launched with great enthusiasm. The presence of esteemed guest, Mr. Pradeep Yasarathna, Secretary to the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils, and Local Government, with Mr. Aloka Bandara, Director General of Combined Services, added prestige to the occasion. Their insights, coupled with a thought-provoking guest lecture by Prof. Deepthi Wickramasinghe of the University of Colombo, provided a rich learning experience for the participants. This program exemplifies SLIDA's dedication to nurturing the next generation of scientific service professionals. The Induction Training Program for Administrative Grama Niladhari was also inaugurated with great interest. The program's objective is to impart an understanding of the principles and practices of public service applicable to the role of Administrative Grama Niladhari.

Our efforts to enhance the capabilities of public officers were further highlighted through the Capacity Development Programme for Class I Officers of the Inland Revenue Service) - Group 07. This program focused on equipping officers with skills in service delivery, leadership, and decision-making. A field visit to Colombo Port City was a key feature of the program, offering participants firsthand experience of modern development projects. The program concluded with a certificate awarding ceremony. Another highlight of the month was the Capacity Building Program for Grade I Officers of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (2009/2010 Batch), which featured an insightful panel discussion on integrating HR strategies with leadership practices. This event brought together experts from various fields, providing a rich exchange of ideas and best practices. Third workshop of the "Beyond the Horizon" workshop series tailored for Special Grade Officers, focused on the theme of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), commenced on August 28, 2024. The sessions featured with distinguished guest, Mr. M M Nayeemudeen, Secretary to the Ministry of Investment Promotion, and Mr. Thilan Wijesinghe, Chairman of TWC Holdings and TWC Capital.

In addition to these initiatives, SLIDA strengthened a further step forward by launching Management Consultancy Services, starting with the preparation of the SOR for Mahaweli Consultancy Bureau (Pvt) Ltd. This service represents our expansion into consultancy, offering expert guidance to external organizations. The inaugural workshop was a resounding success, setting the stage for a fruitful partnership and impactful results.

Parallel to our academic and professional development initiatives, we also recognize the importance of physical well-being in the workplace. This month, we celebrated the Reopening of the SLIDA Gym, a re-energized space designed to promote health and fitness among our staff and participating officers. The reopening was marked by a special event attended by top officials, including Mr. Pradeep Yasarathna, Secretary to the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils, and Local Government, Mrs. Thilaka Jayasundara, Secretary to the Ministry of Education and Mr. Nalaka Kaluwewe, Director General of SLIDA. This initiative underscores our holistic approach to capacity development, where physical health is as important as professional growth.

As we reflect on these achievements, we are reminded of SLIDA's ongoing mission to cultivate excellence in public administration. Through our diverse programs and initiatives, we continue to empower public service officers, ensuring they are well-prepared to meet the challenges of tomorrow. August 2024 has been a testament to our enduring commitment to this cause, and we look forward to continuing this journey of development and innovation, as this Newsletter has also gone "ONLINE" since July 2024!

KR Gangadhara

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SLIDA Gym Reopening: Empowering Health and Well-being

We are excited to announce the reopening of SLIDA's gym, now revitalized to better serve our executive community. The reopening was celebrated with the presence of Mr. Pradeep Yasarathna, Secretary to the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils, and Local Government, Mrs. Thilaka Jayasundara, Secretary to the Ministry of Education and Mr. Nalaka Kaluwewa, Director General of SLIDA, along with distinguished governing council members and SLIDA officials. This initiative reaffirms our commitment to promoting a healthier and more vibrant environment for everyone.



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To Take The
Action

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Capacity Development Programme for Class I Officers of the Inland Revenue Service (Group 07)

The Capacity Development Programme for Class I Officers of the Inland Revenue Service focused on enhancing professional growth through advanced training in service delivery, leadership, collaboration, and decision-making. As part of the program, participants visited Colombo Port City, gaining firsthand insights into modern development projects. The program concluded with a certificate awarding ceremony, recognizing the participants' successful completion. The ceremony was attended by Mr. Nalaka Kaluwewa, Director General of SLIDA, Mrs. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning & Development), and other officials, marking an important milestone in the officers' pursuit of excellence.



SLIDA Launches Management Consultancy Services with Inaugural SOR Preparation Workshop

SLIDA is pleased to announce the launch another Management Consultancy, beginning with the preparation of the SOR for Mahaweli Consultancy Bureau (Pvt) Ltd. The inaugural workshop took place on August 12, 2024, at SLIDA's premises, with Eng. Chandana Edirisooriya, CEO of Mahaweli Consultancy Bureau, and other key officials in attendance. The workshop was effectively coordinated by Ms. Manel Kularathne, Senior Consultant at SLIDA, Ms. Vidharshi Abeyrathne, Consultant at SLIDA, and Mr. Prasanna Chandith, Additional Secretary at the Office of the Leader of the House of Parliament. We look forward to a successful partnership and impactful outcomes.



Capacity Building Program for Grade I Officers of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (2009/2010 Batch)

The Capacity Building Training Programme for SLAS Grade I Officers – 2009/2010 (Group A) featured an engaging panel discussion on integrating HR strategies and leadership practices. The discussion was led by distinguished speakers including Mr. M.N. Ranasinghe, Secretary, Ministry of Justice; Mr. Rohitha Amarapala, Deputy General Manager Human Resources, Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation Ltd; and Ms. Chathani Uduwana, Vice President People Country Head at Typefi Systems, Ambassador, Women in Tech Sri Lanka, and Doctoral Researcher at the University of Colombo. The session was moderated by Ms. Vidarshi Abeyrathna, Consultant at SLIDA.



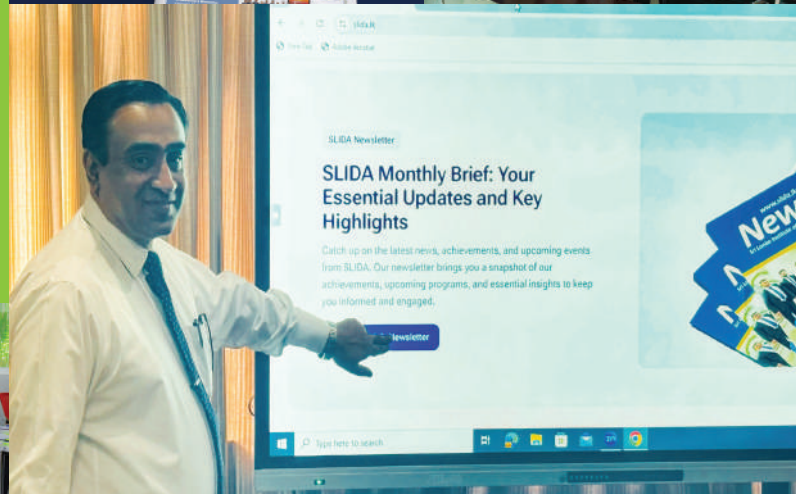
Certificate Awarding Ceremony

We are delighted to share highlights from the certificate awarding ceremony, which marked the completion of the Workshop on General Conduct and Disciplinary Procedure. The event was marked by the presence of Mrs. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning & Development) at SLIDA, along with Mr. R.S. Rubasinghe, Assistant Secretary/Public Service Commission, and Vinasiththamby Papakaran, Associate Consultant at SLIDA. The program was coordinated by Ms. Nilmini Daladawatha, Consultant at SLIDA.



Exciting News!

We launched the latest issue of the SLIDA Newsletter! This is Online. Stay informed with the most recent news, achievements, and upcoming events from SLIDA. Our newsletter provides a quick and insightful overview of our latest accomplishments, upcoming programs, and essential updates to keep you engaged and informed.



Highlights from the HN DIPCA 2023/24 Batch Field Visit

Our "Higher National Diploma in Procurement and Contract Administration (HN-DIPCA) 2023/24" batch had an enriching field visit filled with learning, exploration, and hands-on experiences to Kurunegala-Kandy Highway Project, Tea Research Institute, Thalawakele. The discussion was led by speakers including Dr. Lakmal Thennakoon, Director, Ampara Hospital and Ms. Manel Kularathne, Senior Consultant at SLIDA. The program was coordinated by Mr. Lasantha Gamage, Senior Consultant at SLIDA.



"Beyond the Horizon" Special Grade Officers' Workshop Series

Third workshop of the "Beyond the Horizon" workshop series tailored for Special Grade Officers focused on the theme of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) started August 28, 2024. The sessions featured with distinguished guests, including Mr. M. M. Nayeemudeen, Secretary to the Ministry of Investment Promotion, Mr. Nalaka Kaluwewe, Director General of SLIDA, Mr. Thilan Wijesinghe, Chairman of TWC Holdings & TWC Capital and along with other esteemed officials. This workshop provided valuable learning and practical exposure to PPPs in Sri Lanka, resulting in enhanced infrastructure, improved public services, effective risk management, sustainable development, strengthened public-private collaboration, increased transparency and accountability. The program was coordinated by Mr. Lasantha Gamage, Senior Consultant at SLIDA.



Induction Training Program for Administrative Grama Niladhari

The Induction Training Program for Administrative Grama Niladhari was inaugurated with great interest. The session featured distinguished guests, including Mr. Nalaka Kaluwewe, Director General of SLIDA, along with other officials. The program's objective is to impart an understanding of the principles and practices of public service applicable to the role of Administrative Grama Niladhari. The module coordinator is Ms. K.L.M.C. Kularathne, Senior Consultant at SLIDA.





The co-founder, chief executive, and chairman of Apple famously dropped out of college to spend a year in India. He spent months meditating in the mountains and learning how to tap into what was important to him, before returning home and revolutionizing the world of technology with the invention of the Mac. Interestingly, the only class he ended up taking in his short time at college was a calligraphy class – and it did end up being useful to him later, as he describes:

“Because I had dropped out and didn’t have to take the “normal” classes, I decided to take a calligraphy class ... It was beautiful, historical, artistically subtle in a way that science can’t capture, and I found it fascinating.

None of this had even a hope of any practical application in my life, but ten years later, when we were designing the first Macintosh computer, it all came back to me—and we designed it all into the Mac.

If I had never dropped out, I would have never dropped in on that calligraphy class and personal computers might not have the wonderful typography that they do.”

– Steve Jobs - 1955 - 2011 –
2005 Stanford Commencement Address

TIMELESS THOUGHTS