



Newsletter

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration

February 2026



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.

For More Info



011-5980200

info@slida.gov.lk

Address



No: 28/10, Malalasekara Mawatha,
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.

Facebook



<https://www.facebook.com/SLIDAofficial1982>

Diploma Awarding Ceremony for Sri Lanka Administrative Service - 2017 Intake & Sri Lanka Accountants' Service - 2016 / 2017 Intake

The Diploma Certificate Awarding Ceremony for the Capacity Building Programmes of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (2017 Intake) and the Sri Lanka Accountants' Service (2016/2017 Intake) was successfully held on 24 February 2026 at the Sanhinda Auditorium of the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration. A total of 149 officers who successfully completed the programme were awarded their diplomas on this significant occasion.



Editorial Board / Newsletter Committee

ADVISOR

Mr. A. V. Janadara, Director General (Acting), SLIDA

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Ms. M. M. Halida, Senior Consultant, SLIDA

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

Ms. Mayurika Weerakoon, Computer Technical Assistant, SLIDA

Ms. Roshani Karunaratne, Management Assistant, SLIDA

DESIGNER

Mr. Damith Thushan Ranathunga

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EDITORIAL OFFICE

SLIDA Newsletter – “Sandharani” Research Centre
Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA)
No. 28/10, Malalasekara Mawatha Colombo 07, Sri Lanka
+94 11 598 0280 sandharani@slida.gov.lk

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This milestone ceremony marked the first batch of officers to receive diplomas under SLIDA’s Credit-Based Qualification System (CBQS), introduced in alignment with the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework. The CBQS represents a progressive shift from traditional training models to a structured, outcome-oriented framework that recognizes accumulated learning and competencies. It provides a flexible, competency-based pathway for continuous professional development, enabling public officers to enhance their knowledge, skills, and professional values while fostering lifelong learning.

The event was graced by Mr. A. V. Janadara, Director General of SLIDA, Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development), faculty members, and the SLIDA management team. SLIDA warmly congratulates all diploma recipients on this pioneering achievement and wishes them continued success in advancing a professional, responsive, and citizen-centred public service in Sri Lanka.



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Editorial Note – SLIDA Newsletter - February Edition

February has been a landmark month at the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration, highlighted by a historic milestone in the evolution of public service training. We were honored to host the Diploma Certificate Awarding Ceremony for the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (2017 Intake) and the Sri Lanka Accountants' Service (2016/2017 Intake). In a proud milestone, 149 officers became the first cohort to receive diplomas under SLIDA's new Credit-Based Qualification System (CBQS), marking a significant shift toward a structured, outcome-oriented framework aligned with the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework and promoting lifelong professional development.

The month marked new beginnings with the launch of induction training for the Sri Lanka Scientific Service (Intake 2026) under the theme "Science in Service of the Nation," alongside new capacity-building programmes for SLAS Grade III (2021 Intake) and SLPS Grade I (2008 & 2009 Batches), aimed at strengthening resilient leadership and strategic governance skills. Inter-agency collaboration also advanced with the completion of the Advanced IT Training Programme for the 16th NAOSL batch and the commencement of the 17th, equipping auditors with AI-driven analytics to align Sri Lanka's audit practices with international standards.

Experiential learning remained a cornerstone of our programmes this month. Induction batches for SLAS, SLPS, and the Sri Lanka Accountants' Service undertook field visits to organizations such as Microsoft Sri Lanka and local enterprises, including Vinco Products. These visits, alongside a team-building hike in the Sinharaja Forest, provided invaluable practical insights into digital governance, entrepreneurship, and collaborative leadership. We also focused on honing the essential soft skills and ethical foundations of public service, as the Speechcraft Programme – Batch 02 concluded successfully, showcasing growth in public speaking, while sessions on integrity tools reinforced our commitment to ethical public service.

Rounding out a month of significant achievement, SLIDA officially handed over the Strategic Corporate Plan (2026–2030) for the National Health Development Fund (NHDF) to the Ministry of Health, a project that exemplifies our role in guiding strategic development across the public sector. As we move forward, SLIDA remains steadfast in its mission to develop competent, ethical, and future-ready public servants, fostering a culture of excellence and innovation for a stronger nation.

Editor
M.M.Halida
Senior Consultant

Preparation of Strategic Corporate Plan 2026–2030 for the National Health Development Fund, Ministry of Health and Mass Media

The Strategic Corporate Plan (2026–2030) for the National Health Development Fund of the Ministry of Health and Mass Media, prepared by the SLIDA, was formally presented by Mr. A. V. Janadara, Director General of SLIDA, to Dr. Anil Jasinghe, Secretary to the Ministry, in the presence of senior officials representing the Ministry of Health, NHDF, and SLIIDA including Dr. Sepalika Sudasinghe, Additional Director General - Organisational Development, SLIDA.

The Corporate Plan was developed under the consultancy guidance of Ms. Manel Kularatne, Mr. Sampath Mallawaarachchi, and Mr. V. Papakaran.

SLIDA warmly congratulates NHDF on this significant milestone and extends its best wishes for continued



Capacity Building Programme for SLPS Grade I (2008 Intake)

The SLPS Capacity Building Programme for Grade I – 2008 Batch has officially commenced, focusing on Strategic Human Resource Management and Personal Development. The programme aims to strengthen the strategic HRM and leadership capabilities of senior planning officers, enabling them to effectively lead development initiatives, enhance institutional performance, and promote a culture of collaboration.

As part of the programme, participants engaged in a hike in the Sinharaja Forest Reserve, gaining first-hand experience in leadership and resilience within a natural setting. The activity encouraged participants to manage pace, foster inclusivity, and support one another while overcoming physical challenges.

The module is coordinated by Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development) at SLIDA.



Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Scientific Service 2026 (Open Intake)



The Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Scientific Service (Intake 2026 – Open) was ceremonially inaugurated at SLIDA, marking an important milestone in strengthening scientific capacity for national development.

The inauguration was graced by Ms. Deepika Jayasekara, Additional Secretary (Public Administration), as the Chief Guest.

The event was also attended by Mr. Vimukthi Janadara, Director General of SLIDA, Additional Director Generals Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Ms. Sujeewa Tissera, and Dr. Sepalika Sudasinghe together with the Director and Assistant Director of the Scientific Service Board, members of the SLIDA faculty, and the management team.

Aligned with SLIDA's digital learning initiatives and sustainability goals, the programme handbook was distributed in flash drives containing soft copies, reflecting a move towards innovative and environmentally conscious training practices. The induction programme is scheduled to be conducted over 70 days, comprising 18 comprehensive modules and carrying a total of 25 credits, designed to equip newly recruited Scientific Service officers with a strong understanding of the public sector, national development priorities, and their role in creating public value for Sri Lanka. This induction marks the beginning of a transformative journey for the new cohort of Scientific Service officers, reaffirming SLIDA's commitment to developing competent, ethical, and future-ready public servants. The programme is coordinated by Dr. Mayura Arandara.

Advanced IT Training for National Audit Office Officers – Group 16 & 17

SLIDA conducted the Advanced IT Training Programme for the 16th and 17th batches of officers from the National Audit Office of Sri Lanka.

This initiative aims to strengthen public sector audit practices by empowering participants with cutting-edge IT competencies. The programme emphasizes advanced data processing, automation tools, and AI-driven analytics, enabling officers to enhance the accuracy, efficiency and effectiveness of their audit functions. It also fosters a culture of data-driven decision-making, aligning national audit practices with international standards.

The programme is led and coordinated by Mr. C. W. K. Kuruppu Arachchi, Senior Consultant at SLIDA.



Field Visit to Microsoft Sri Lanka - SLAS Open Intake 2021 (2024) – 2025 Group C

As part of the Induction Training Programme, a team of SLAS inductees from the 2021 (2024–2025) Open Intake visited the Microsoft Sri Lanka office under the module on E-Government Architecture Standards.

The session focused on the application of modern digital solutions and AI tools in public service delivery. It was highly engaging and informative, offering practical insights into how emerging technologies can enhance efficiency, transparency, and citizen-centric governance in the public sector.

The module is coordinated by Senior Consultant Dr. Mayura Arandara of the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration.



The Inauguration of the Capacity Building Programme for the Sri Lanka Administrative Service - Grade III (2021 Intake)

The inauguration of the Capacity Building Programme for the Sri Lanka Administrative Service - Grade III (2021 Intake) was ceremonially held on 10 February 2026 at the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration under the theme “Resilient Leadership and Service Excellence for the Nation.”

The event was graced by Ms. Deepika Jayasekara, Additional Secretary and Ms. Sajeewani Athapaththu, Director (SLAS) representing the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government. The occasion was also attended by Mr. Vimukthi Janadara, Director General of the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration, Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development); Ms. Sujeewa Tissera, Additional Director General (Administration and Finance), and Dr. Sepalika Sudasinghe, Additional Director General (Organizational Development), together with members of the SLIDA faculty and management.

The programme is coordinated by Mr. N. M. N. Ruwan Bandara Navarathna, Senior Consultant of SLIDA. Aligned with the Credit-Based Qualification System (CBQS), it will be delivered in hybrid mode and comprises 12 modules designed to enhance participants’ knowledge, skills, attitudes, and mindset, preparing them to effectively meet challenges as middle-level managers in both local and global contexts.



Capacity Building Programme for SLPS Grade I (2009 Intake) – Group A



The Capacity Building Programme for Grade I officers of the Sri Lanka Planning Service (2009 Intake) has officially commenced, with a focus on Strategic Human Resource Management and Personal Development. The programme aims to strengthen the strategic HRM and leadership capabilities of senior planning officers, enabling them to lead development initiatives effectively, enhance institutional performance, and foster a culture of collaboration.

As part of the programme, participants engaged in a leadership hike at the Sinharaja Forest Reserve, where they gained practical insights into teamwork and leadership in a natural environment. The activity encouraged participants to manage pace, promote inclusivity, and support one another while overcoming physical challenges.

The module is coordinated by Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development) at the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration.

Induction Training Programme for SLAS Open Intake 2021 (2024) – 2025 Group C

As part of the ongoing Induction Training Programme for the SLAS – Open Batch 2021 (2024–2025), Group C, a key session under the module on “Media, Public Relations and Customer Care Management” was conducted by Mr. M. L. Dashitha Niroshana, Senior Consultant at the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration.

The session, titled “Lawfully Speaking: The Public Officer’s Role in Media, Free Speech and Privacy,” provided participants with valuable insights to strengthen their capacity to engage responsibly and effectively with both the media and the public. It focused on equipping officers with essential legal knowledge, ethical standards, and communication skills required for professional public engagement.



Induction Training Program for SLPS – 2021 (2024) Open Intake- Group C



As part of the SLPS Induction Training Programme, Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration, in collaboration with the Small Enterprises Development Division, organized a field visit to Goldes Green Products, owned by Mr. Shamin, on 11 February 2026. The visit was led by Mr. N. Gowrithasan, Consultant at SLIDA, with facilitation and guidance provided by Mr. Dhanuka Abethunge, Enterprise Development Officer of SEDD.

The field visit provided participants with practical insights, helping to translate theoretical and conceptual knowledge into concrete, actionable initiatives.

The Speechcraft Programme – Batch 02



The Speechcraft Programme – Batch 02 Grand Finale was successfully held on 10th February 2026 at the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration.

The event was graced by Mr. A. V. Janadara, Director General of SLIDA, Dr. Sepali Sudasinghe, Additional Director General – Organizational Development and Ms. Anusha Batawalagamage, Additional Director General – Learning and Development.

Batch 02 participants demonstrated steady growth in public speaking, persuasive communication, and leadership presence, reflecting the Speechcraft Programme’s continued commitment to nurturing confident and effective communicators in the public service.

The programme was coordinated by Ms. Sachithra Jayavindi, Associate Consultant at SLIDA.

Strengthening Professional Responsibility in Public Service



An insightful session on “Responsibilities and Accountabilities of Public Officers” was successfully conducted by the Director General of the Samurdhi Development Department, Mr. Dhammika Muthugala, for the internal staff of Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration.

The session highlighted the importance of integrity, transparency, and dedication in public service, inspiring participants to uphold the highest standards of professionalism in their roles.

Induction Training Program for SLPS 2021 (2024) Open Intake – Group A

As part of the induction training programme conducted for the SLPS 2021 (2024) Open Intake, the SLIDA organized an industry visit under the module Entrepreneurship and Development on 17th February 2026.

The visit was hosted at Vinco Products (PVT) Ltd. in Kolonnawa and featured an insightful session with Ms. Roshani Perera, a successful entrepreneur leading the firm.

The session was led by Ms. M. M. Halida, Senior Consultant of SLIDA, while Ms. Nirosha Nanayakkara, Enterprise Development Training Officer of the Small Enterprises Development Division (SEDD), facilitated practical guidance on entrepreneurship and enterprise development.



Induction Training Programme for Sri Lanka Accountant's Service - 2021 (2024)- Open Intake (Group C)

As part of the ongoing Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Accountants' Service -2021 (2024) open intake, Group C, a comprehensive session was held on "Guardians of the People's Property" under the Module on "Anti-Corruption Integrity Tools."

The session was conducted by Ms. Ruwanadini Kuruppu, Assistant Secretary- Ministry of Justice and National Integration, providing valuable insights to the participants to enhance the capacity of public sector officers to understand, identify and apply anti-corruption and integrity tools effectively.



Induction Training for the SLAS 2025 (Open) intake



As part of the induction training for the SLAS 2025 (Open) intake, a comprehensive training program was conducted at the Sri Lanka Police College, Kalutara, from 22nd February to 28th February.

The program included firearm training, swimming session and physical exercise, along with sessions designed to provide an overall understanding of police duties and criminal prosecution procedures. A moot court practice was also conducted as part of the training to enhance practical knowledge.

This program was coordinated by Senior Consultant Mr. Dashitha Niroshana under the guidance of the Director General of SLIDA and the ADG (Learning & Development).

TIMELESS THOUGHT

The only thing worse than training your employees and having them
leave is not training them and having them stay.

- Henry Ford

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