

Newsletter

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration

February 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.

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Strengthening Bilateral Ties: SLIDA & NCGG Collaborate on Capacity Building for Sri Lankan Civil Servants



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SLIDA recently hosted a high-level delegation from India's National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), led by Dr. Surendrakumar Bagde, IAS, Director General, and Dr. Ashutosh Pal Singh, Associate Professor, to strengthen governance partnerships. The visit focused on implementing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed during President Anura Kumara Dissanayake's state visit to India in December 2024. The MoU aims to train 1,500 Sri Lankan civil service officers over five years through eight annual training modules covering themes such as e-governance, sustainable development goals, and public-private partnerships. The delegation met with senior Sri Lankan officials, including the Prime Minister and representatives from the Ministry of Public Administration, to finalize modalities and enhance collaboration. This initiative underscores the shared commitment of SLIDA and NCGG to advancing capacity-building and governance excellence in Sri Lanka.



Editorial Note: Fostering a Research Culture and Strengthening Bilateral Ties with India

This edition of the newsletter highlights significant milestones and transformative initiatives undertaken by SLIDA, reinforcing its role as a premier institution shaping Sri Lanka's administrative landscape.

One of the key highlights this month is the strengthened bilateral collaboration between SLIDA and India's National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG). The recent visit of the high-level NCGG delegation marks a pivotal moment in our ongoing efforts to enhance the capabilities of Sri Lankan civil servants. Through a structured training program, this initiative will contribute immensely to fostering good governance and public sector efficiency.

Equally commendable is the success of the SLIDA Research Symposium 2024/25, which brought together thought leaders, policymakers, and academics to deliberate on critical aspects of governance, sustainability, and digital transformation. The event underscored the pivotal role of research in influencing public policy and governance frameworks.

Our continuous focus on capacity building is evident in the diverse training programs conducted this month. From personality development and legal literacy for public administrators to ethical laboratory management and combatting human trafficking, SLIDA remains at the forefront of equipping Sri Lanka's public servants with the knowledge and skills necessary for contemporary challenges. The induction programs for the Sri Lanka ICT Service and the Sri Lanka Planning Service further reflect our dedication to preparing professionals for the evolving landscape of digital governance and development planning.

Moreover, SLIDA's commitment to holistic well-being is exemplified through initiatives such as the Healthy Cafeteria Project and the spiritual enrichment activities organized for our staff. These efforts highlight the institution's dedication to fostering a nurturing and supportive environment for both professional and personal growth.

As we move forward, SLIDA remains steadfast in its mission to drive excellence, innovation, and integrity in public administration.

Editorial by
Nilmini Daladawaththa,
Consultant

**SLIDA Research Symposium 2024/25:
Resilience and Innovation in Public Administration**

SLIDA proudly conducted impactful research showcased at the SLIDA Research Symposium 2024/25, which highlighted advancements in key areas of public administration and governance. The symposium was under 04 themes: Social Equity, Welfare, and Public Health, Public Sector Performance and Governance, Economics and Sustainable Development, and Digital Transformation and E-Governance. The symposium concluded with a vibrant closing ceremony, emphasizing research's role in shaping public policy, guided by Symposium Chair Professor W. Indralal De Silva and attended by key dignitaries, including Mr. Pradeep Saputhanthri, Secretary to the Prime Minister, and Mr. Sumana Alokabandara, Secretary of the Ministry of Public Administration. The success of the SLIDA Research Symposium 2024/25 was made possible under the exemplary leadership of Mr. A.V. Janadara, Director General; Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (L&D) and Research Division; and Dr. Mayura Arandara, Head of Research Division.



**Healthy Cafeteria Project -
Promoting Wellness**

SLIDA is delighted to announce the successful implementation of the Healthy Cafeteria Project, an initiative under the Ministry of Health's Healthy City Program aimed at promoting wellness within the Colombo Municipal Council area. Supported by a financial grant, the project facilitated the procurement of modern cafeteria equipment and the introduction of healthier food options, fostering a nutritious and supportive work environment for SLIDA staff.



Chapter on Personal and Personality Development for Service Excellence

SLIDA conducted the Personal and Personality Development for Service Excellence module as part of the Induction Training Program for the Sri Lanka Planning Service (Limited) - 2021 (2023). This program featured interactive sessions designed to enhance leadership and team collaboration skills, fostering service excellence among participants. The training included a field visit to the Rajawaka Agriculture In-Service Training Institute and a morning hike to Limestone, Hunugal Pokuna, Balangoda, offering practical experiences to complement theoretical learning and coordinated by Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development) at SLIDA.



Chapter on Law for Public Administrators

The Induction Training Program for the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (Limited) – Intake 2021 (2023) included a specialized session on Introduction to Law for Public Administrators, conducted by Mr. M.L. Dashitha Niroshana, Senior Consultant at SLIDA. This session provided participants with essential knowledge of Fundamental Rights and their practical applications, equipping them with a strong legal foundation to enhance public service delivery.





Chapter on Personal Mastery

SLIDA recently conducted a Capacity Development Program for Grade I Officers of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (SLAS) Group C & E, featuring a specialized Personal Mastery module. This program included an insightful field visit to Nature's Beauty Creations Ltd., where participants gained valuable knowledge on professional grooming, wellness, and industry best practices. Coordinated by Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development) at SLIDA.



Chapter on Ethics in Laboratory Management



SLIDA conducted a significant module on Ethics in Laboratory Management, featuring a field visit to the Seethawaka Botanical Garden as a part of the Induction Training Program for the Sri Lanka Scientific Service (Open Batch – 2021). The visit provided participants with practical insights into responsible scientific practices, reinforcing the importance of ethical standards in scientific research and laboratory management. This module was coordinated by Ms. Y.T. Thushanga, Senior Consultant of SLIDA.





Combating Human Trafficking - Training for Administrative Grama Niladaris

SLIDA recently conducted its fourth specialized training session for Administrative Grama Niladaris, focusing on combating human trafficking at the grassroots level. Organized in collaboration with the National Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force (NAHTTF), Ministry of Defence, and International Organization for Migration (IOM), the program provided participants with critical knowledge and strategies to identify, prevent, and address human trafficking within their communities. Coordinated by Mrs. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning & Development).



Induction Training Program for Sri Lanka ICT Service



The Induction Training Program for Sri Lanka ICT Service (Class II Grade II) was inaugurated with the presence of distinguished guests, including Mr. A.V. Janadara, Director General, and Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning & Development). This program aims to equip ICT Officers with critical skills to navigate the rapidly evolving ICT landscape, with a strong focus on cybersecurity, technical specifications, and citizen-centric services.



SLIDA Hosts Alms Giving to the Sanga and Pirith chanting ceremony

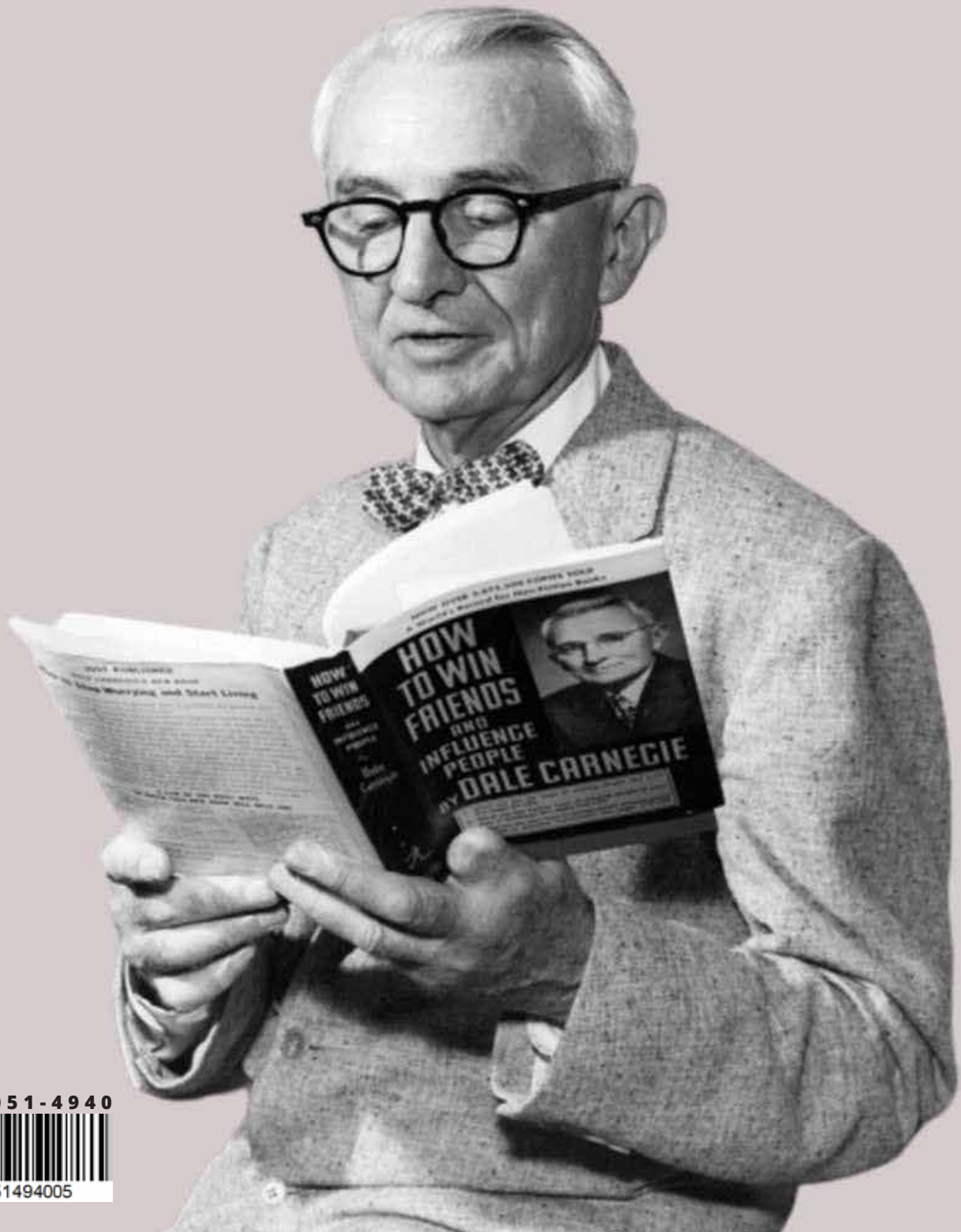
SLIDA organized a meaningful religious event, the alms giving and a pirith chanting ceremony, under the auspices of the SLIDA Employees' Welfare Association. This special occasion honored both current and former staff members for their invaluable contributions to the institution's success. The event served as a platform for reflection and blessings, fostering spiritual and moral development among all attendees and reinforcing SLIDA's commitment to holistic well-being within its community.



TIMELESS THOUGHTS

Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all."

Dale Carnegie



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