



Newsletter

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration

January 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.

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The New Year Fresh Start

The commencement of the New Year 2026 was celebrated at the premises of the Sri Lanka Development Administration Institute with the participation of all officers, beginning with religious observances.

The event fostered a sense of unity, renewed commitment, and collective responsibility among the staff. It also marked a fresh start, inspiring everyone to work together towards achieving the Institute's goals and objectives in the year ahead.



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SLIDA Guided High-Level Policy Forum Organized by SLAS 2010 Intake: Advancing Leadership Assessment Beyond Conventional Methods

SLIDA successfully hosted the high-level forum “Bridging the Gap: Public Sector Leadership for Inclusive Growth” at Waters Edge, Battaramulla, with the participation of the Secretary to the Prime Minister, Secretaries to Ministries, Senior Public Officials, Academics, and Development Practitioners.

The programme featured a keynote address by Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri and an insightful guest speech by Dr. Sahed, which highlighted the importance of leadership mindset, empathy, and innovation in strengthening inclusive public sector delivery.

The panel discussion brought together Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri, Mr. Kapila Janaka Bandara, Ms. Nadeeka Wataliyadda, and Ms. Chandrika Karunaratna, whose perspectives enriched the dialogue on public sector leadership, human capital development, and inclusive growth.



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Editorial Note – SLIDA Newsletter - January Edition

As we step into a new year filled with renewed purpose and possibility, the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) commenced 2026 with energy, vision, and a steadfast commitment to strengthening Sri Lanka’s public service.

January set a strong tone for the months ahead, highlighted by the high-level policy forum “Bridging the Gap: Public Sector Leadership for Inclusive Growth,” organized by the SLAS 2010 Batch at Waters Edge. The forum convened senior public officials and thought leaders to reflect on inclusive leadership and the evolving demands of governance. Capacity building and induction programmes conducted across the SLAS, SLPS, SLAcS, and SLES focused on fiscal policy, strategic planning, procurement, legal frameworks, project management, and digital governance, thereby equipping officers with practical, future-oriented competencies for effective public sector leadership.

Digital transformation remained a priority, with Advanced IT Training Programmes conducted for officers of the National Audit Office of Sri Lanka. Certificate Awarding Ceremonies for Batches 14 and 15 celebrated the successful completion of these initiatives, reinforcing SLIDA’s commitment to data-driven governance and institutional excellence. Experiential initiatives, including leadership development programmes conducted at the Sinharaja Forest Reserve and the inauguration of Speechcraft Programme Batch 03, further strengthened leadership capabilities, professional competencies, confidence, and advanced strategic communication proficiency among public officers.

As we begin this new chapter of 2026, SLIDA remains dedicated to nurturing ethical, competent, and forward-thinking leaders who will drive excellence in governance and public service delivery throughout.

Editor
M.M.Halida
Senior Consultant

Induction Training Programme - Sri Lanka Accountants' Service (Open Batch) 2021 (2024) - Group C



As part of the ongoing Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Accountants' Service – Open Batch 2021 (2024), Group C, a comprehensive session was held on Project Stakeholder Identification and Analysis & Project Feasibility under the module on Fundamentals of Public Project Management.

The session was conducted by Mr. N. Gowrithasan - Consultant at SLIDA, providing valuable insights to the participants to enhance the knowledge, skills, and competencies required to understand development projects.

Capacity Building Programme for SLAcS Grade I

Capacity Building Programme for SLAcS Grade I (Group 23) has commenced with a focus on leadership learning. This essential program aimed to develop strategic soft skills among Sri Lanka Accountancy Service officers to enhance leadership effectiveness, team performance, conflict management, and professional communication.

As part of the program, participants embarked on a hike in Sinharaja Forest. This activity allowed them to observe natural leadership and teamwork in action, especially when facing physical challenges. It also supports the development of skills in managing pace, fostering inclusion, and encouraging mutual support among team members.

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



SLPS Capacity Building Programme Grade I -2008 (Group A)

As part of the ongoing Capacity Building Programme for officers of the SLPS Grade I - 2008 Batch (Group A), participants took part in an enriching session titled “Global Fiscal Trends and Future Directions: Innovation, Digitalization, and New Paradigms”, conducted under the module “Advanced Fiscal Policy Applications in Growth and Stability.”

The session was facilitated by Dr. M. K. C. Senanayake, Director General of the Department of Fiscal Policy, Ministry of Finance, and Senior Professor H. D. Karunaratne of the Department of Business Economics, Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo. The resource persons shared invaluable insights, practical experience, and expert knowledge, equipping officers with enhanced competencies in strategic planning, monitoring, and evaluation (PME) to effectively design, implement, and assess development initiatives.



Induction Training Programme for SLAcS (Limited) Group D

As part of the ongoing Induction Training Programme for SLAcS (Limited), Group D attended a key session on “Fundamentals of Office Management” under the module “Office Management”. The session was conducted by Ms. Neranjala Dilhani - Director- National Police Commission.

The session provided participants the knowledge, skills and competencies necessary to effectively manage and coordinate office operations, optimize administrative processes and support organizational goals through efficient communication.



Capacity Development Training Programme for Grade III Officers of the Sri Lanka Agriculture Service -Group 08

Training Consultancy- Capacity Development Training Programme for Grade III Officers of the Sri Lanka Agriculture Service participated in an important session on “Effective Communication Skills” under the Module on “Cultivating Excellence”. The session was facilitated by Mrs. Nilmini Daladawatta- Consultant at SLIDA.

The session provided guidance for participants to enhance the essential competencies and skills for effective communication in their service delivery as agricultural service managers.



SLIDA - Conducts Advanced IT Training for NAOSL Audit Office Officers – Group 14

SLIDA successfully conducted an Advanced IT Training Programme for the 14th batch of officers from the National Audit Office of Sri Lanka (NAOSL).

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.



Certificate Awarding Ceremony – Advanced IT Training for NAOSL Audit Office Officers – Group 14

SLIDA proudly marked the successful completion of the IT Skills Development Programme for Group 14, designed specifically for Audit Officials of the National Audit Office of Sri Lanka. A Certificate Awarding Ceremony was held to honor the participants for their commitment and successful completion of the programme.

The event was graced by the presence of Mr. A. V. Janadara, Director General of SLIDA, Mr. H.M.U.S.A. Wijekoon, Former Deputy Auditor General (Health, Welfare, and Social Security) & Dr. A.M.P. Arandara, Senior Consultant-SLIDA. The programme was coordinated by Mr. Wasantha Kuruppu Arachchi- Senior Consultant at SLIDA.

This initiative reflects SLIDA’s continued commitment to empowering public sector professionals through digital capacity-building, fostering a culture of continuous learning, and driving excellence in institutional performance.



Speechcraft Programme Batch 03 Inauguration Ceremony

The Speechcraft Programme - Batch 03 Inauguration Ceremony, organized by the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration, marked the beginning of another dynamic learning journey dedicated to strengthening public speaking and professional communication skills among public sector officers. Building on the success of previous batches, the programme welcomed a new cohort of participants committed to enhancing their confidence, clarity, and effectiveness in public engagement and leadership communication.

The ceremony was graced by Ms. Anusha Batawalagamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development); Dr. Sepali Sudasinghe, Additional Director General (Organizational Development); and Dr. Mayura Arandara, Senior Consultant at SLIDA, highlighting SLIDA’s continued emphasis on communication as a core leadership capability in the public service.

The programme is coordinated by Ms. Sachithra Jayavindi, Associate Consultant at SLIDA. It marks a strong beginning to yet another meaningful chapter in advancing communication excellence within the public sector.



SLIDA Conducts Advanced IT Training for NAOSL Audit Office Officers – Group 15

The Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration hosted an Advanced IT Training Programme for the 15th batch of officers from the National Audit Office of Sri Lanka (NAOSL).

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.



Certificate Awarding Ceremony – Advanced IT Training for NAOSL Audit Office Officers – Group 15

SLIDA proudly marked the successful completion of the IT Skills Development Programme for Group 15, designed specifically for audit officials of the National Audit Office of Sri Lanka (NAOSL). A Certificate Awarding Ceremony was held to honor the participants for their commitment and successful completion of the programme.

The event was graced by the presence of Mr. H.M.U.S.A. Wijekoon, Former Deputy Auditor General (Health, Welfare and Social Security) The programme was coordinated by Mr. Wasantha Kuruppu Arachchi- Senior Consultant at SLIDA.

This initiative reflects SLIDA’s continued commitment to empowering public sector professionals through digital capacity-building, fostering a culture of continuous learning, and driving excellence in institutional performance.



Capacity Building Programme for SLPS Grade I (2008)

As part of the ongoing Capacity Building Programme for officers of the SLPS Capacity Building Programme Grade I- 2008 Batch participants engaged in an enriching session on the module “Strategic Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Techniques for Senior Managers”. The session was led by Dr. S.R.S.N. Sudasinghe - Additional Director General (OD) - SLIDA who shared her invaluable insights, practical experiences and expertise to equip SLPS Grade-I officers with advanced capabilities in strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation (PME) enabling them to design, implement and assess development.



TIMELESS THOUGHTS

Management is efficiency in climbing the ladder of success; leadership determines whether the ladder is leaning against the right wall.

Stephen Covey
American Educator and Author



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