

Newsletter

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration

June 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>

Annual Poson Dhamma Sermon

The Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration held its annual Poson Dhamma sermon today, made possible through the devout contributions of all its staff members. This meritorious event was organized with the primary objectives of invoking blessings upon all current staff and transferring merit to those who served the Institute and have since passed away.



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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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Induction Training Program: Sri Lanka Scientific Service (Open Batch – Group B)

The induction training program for Group B of the Sri Lanka Scientific Service recently focused on the module "Ethics in Laboratory Management". A key highlight of this training was the session titled "Networking Interlinkage of Laboratories," which was conducted by Dr. Miruna Sudharshani Kalaimani Rabindra Kumar, Head of Department and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Life Sciences at the Faculty of Science, NSBM Green University. This critical session empowered participants with the insights needed to enhance collaboration, streamline data sharing, and create stronger resource alignment between laboratories across both the public and private sectors.



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Editorial Note – SLIDA Newsletter June 2026

The modern public sector no longer has the luxury of operating within isolated, structural silos. As Sri Lanka navigates a complex era of socioeconomic transformation, the demand on state executives has fundamentally shifted. It is no longer enough to merely manage public processes; public administrators must be catalysts for systemic change, transparent governance, and institutional excellence.

This June, the diverse array of capacity-building initiatives running through the corridors of the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration signals a deliberate, strategic push toward this ideal. The month's programs demonstrated that true modern administration requires a blend of rigorous technical compliance, inter-disciplinary networking, and refined personal leadership. From introducing Value for Money procurement frameworks for educational administrative bodies to instilling collaborative, cross-sector networks across our national scientific laboratories, the baseline remains uniform: efficiency, accountability, and adaptive capability.

True institutional reform, however, requires looking past the optimization of daily procedures; it requires reshaping the organizational culture itself. By bringing together cross-disciplinary experts, ranging from senior university academics and legal visionaries to policy advisors, SLIDA is actively working to dismantle rigid bureaucratic mentalities. Crucially, the training curriculum acknowledges that an officer's impact is tied directly to their professional conduct and ethical boundaries. Grounding our young administrators in the realities of citizen-centric service delivery, the complexities of the criminal adjudication system, and internal financial auditing frameworks ensures that governance remains robust, fair, and transparent at every divisional level.

Furthermore, introducing modules in personal mastery, professional presence, and emotional intelligence across our administrative, agricultural, and security services highlights a vital truth: public service excellence relies entirely on personal leadership and integrity. Whether it is senior prison executives embracing a highly proactive management style to drive institutional reform, or agricultural and planning officers testing their collective problem-solving and inclusivity through experiential learning, the goal is the same. When our senior planners look past nominal growth models to present research focused on institution-led transformation and inclusive recovery, the long-term benefits to state governance become clear. Balanced by shared institutional values and moments of collective reflection, these initiatives represent a steady investment in a forward-thinking, resilient public service fully equipped to meet the evolving needs of our citizens.

Editor
M.M.Halida
Senior Consultant

Sri Lanka Administrative Service Grade III Capacity Building Program (2017 Batch & Earlier)

Marking a significant milestone in executive development, the mandatory Grade III capacity building training for Sri Lanka Administrative Service (SLAS) officers from the 2017 batch and earlier was officially inaugurated on June 8, 2026. The program's core module, "Personal Mastery and Service Excellence," was specifically designed to build deep self-confidence, foster institutional pride, and ignite a strong professional drive within the officers. The inaugural ceremony was graced by Mr. Vimukthi Janadara, Director General of SLIDA, and Mrs. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General of Learning and Development, alongside members of the SLIDA faculty, with Senior Consultant Ms. Yashica Weerasinghe steering the program as coordinator.



Leadership development program for Prison Executive Officials

The Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration has launched an intensive leadership development program specifically engineered to reshape the strategic capabilities of the country's Prison Executive Officials.

The initiative officially commenced on June 8, 2026, with an inauguration ceremony attended by SLIDA Director General Mr. Vimukthi Janadara, Course Coordinator and the Additional Director General (Organizational Development) Dr. Sepalika Sudasinghe, and Additional Director General (Training and Learning) Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage. The Commissioner General of Prisons, Mr. R. Prasad Hemantha Kumara, graced the occasion and emphasized that robust, forward-thinking leadership is the foundational pillar required to shift the department toward a highly proactive management culture.

Tailored exclusively for the second batch of Superintendents of Prison (SP), Assistant Superintendents of Prison (ASP), and Rehabilitation SPs/ASPs, the training places strategic leadership at the center of institutional reform.



Public Procurement Practices Training: Ministry of Education (Group 01)

SLIDA officially launched a specialized training consultancy focused on public procurement practices for the first group of officials from the Ministry of Education. The initiative was formally inaugurated by SLIDA Director General Mr. A. V. Janadara and Additional Director General Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage. Coordinated by Senior Consultant Mr. Lasantha Gamage, the primary goal of this program is to significantly enhance knowledge, regulatory compliance, and execution skills in public sector procurement, driving institutional practices that center firmly on efficiency, absolute transparency, public accountability, and achieving Value for Money.



Certificate Awarding: Prison Executive Officials Training

Celebrating the successful conclusion of a rigorous capacity development journey, a formal ceremony was hosted at SLIDA to honor the graduating members of the Prison Executive Officials. Certificates were proudly presented to the participating Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Chief Jailors, and Rehabilitation Officers. Presenting the awards were SLIDA Director General Mr. A. V. Janadara and Additional Director General of Organizational Development Dr. Sepalika Sudasinghe, who commended the officers for their dedication to elevating operational standards within the department.



Capacity Building Program for Officers in Grade III SLAS - 2017 Batch & Earlier

A training session on “Dining and Social Etiquette” was conducted for SLAS Officers representing the 2017 and prior batches on 10th June 2026 at the SLIDA VIP Lounge. The session aimed to cultivate professional presence, self-awareness, and confidence, enabling executives to represent the public service with dignity and professionalism in diverse social and official settings.

The session was facilitated by Mr. Dharshana Jayasinghe, Food & Beverage Trainer, Hospitality Lecturer, Hotel Operations Professional, and Certified Hospitality Educator from the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM), who provided practical insights into professional dining protocols and social etiquette for public sector leaders.

The session was honored by the presence of Ms. Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning & Development), SLIDA and was coordinated by Ms. Yashica Weerasinghe, Senior Consultant under the Personal Mastery and Service Excellence module of the SLAS Grade III Capacity Building Program.



Capacity Building Program: SLAS Grade III Law Module (2021 Batch – Group D)

As part of the ongoing Capacity Building Program for SLAS Officers (Grade III)- 2021 Batch (Group D), participants took part in an insightful session under the module “Law for Public Administrators.”

The session was conducted by Dr. Prathibha Mahanamahewa, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo, who shared his extensive knowledge, practical experience, and expertise on Sri Lanka’s Criminal Adjudication System.

Through his thought-provoking presentation, participants gained a deeper understanding of the structure of the criminal justice system, including key aspects of investigation, arrest, and prosecution. The session provided valuable insights into the legal framework that underpins public administration and governance.

The module was coordinated by Mr. Dashitha Niroshana, Senior Consultant, SLIDA.



Industrial Skills Field Visits: Sri Lanka Scientific Service Induction Training – Open Batch (Group B)

As part of the Industrial Skills Module of the Induction Training Programme for Sri Lanka Scientific Service Officers, participants had the valuable opportunity to undertake educational visits to the Industrial Technology Institute, Government Analyst's Department, Medical Research Institute, and the Department of Meteorology.

Through informative presentations, laboratory visits, and interactive discussions, officers gained practical exposure to modern scientific research, forensic and analytical services, medical and public health research, meteorological observations and forecasting, advanced testing methodologies, and calibration techniques. The programme provided valuable insights into the diverse applications of science and technology in supporting evidence-based decision-making, public service delivery, national development, and industrial advancement.

The Industrial Skills Module is coordinated by Dr. Mayura Arandara.



Strategic HRM & Personal Development: SLPS Grade I (2008 Batch – Group D)

The SLPS Capacity Building Program for Grade I 2008 - Group D Batch has officially commenced, focusing on Strategic Human Resource Management and Personal Development. This important program is designed to enhance the strategic HRM and leadership capabilities of senior planning officers, enabling them to effectively lead development initiatives, strengthen institutional performance, and promote a culture of collaboration.

As part of the program, participants took part in a hike in the Sinharaja Forest, gaining first-hand experience of leadership and teamwork in a natural setting. The activity encouraged managing pace, fostering inclusivity and supporting one another while overcoming physical challenges.

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



SLAS Grade III Capacity Building Program - 2021 (Group C)

Capturing moments from the SLAS Capacity Building Programme - Grade III (2021 Batch, Group C), featuring a session on “Service Delivery Practices and Challenges” conducted by Mr. Rangana Prasad Perera, Senior Assistant Secretary, President's Office. The session provided valuable insights into innovation and best practices in public sector service delivery, enhancing participants' understanding of citizen-focused governance and effective public service. The Module Coordinator is Mr. Ruwan Navarathne - Senior Consultant, SLIDA.



Certificate Awarding Ceremony on Training Program on Internal Auditing - Colombo District Secretariat

The Certificate Awarding Ceremony on Training Program on Internal Auditing for Colombo District Secretariat was held at SLIDA. The event recognized to enhance the knowledge, skills, and competencies of Development Officers performing audit functions in the District Secretariat – Colombo and its Divisional Secretariats.

The certificate awarding ceremony was graced by the presence of Mr. A. V. Janadara, Director General of SLIDA & Dr. Sepalika Sudasinghe, Additional Director General (Organizational Development). The programme was coordinated by Mr. Lasantha Gamage - Senior Consultant, SLIDA.



Policy Reflections Forum: Sri Lanka Planning Service (Grade I)

Grade I officers of the Sri Lanka Planning Service successfully completed their module and presented group project and assessments showed strong analytical methods, professional reporting, stakeholder communication, and leadership. The SLIDA Forum synthesized learning to propose timely improvements in national planning-critical today for evidence based policymaking, cross sector consensus, and resilient post pandemic recovery. Discussions linked economic growth versus development, reviewed growth models, emphasized the role of institutions, policy, and structural change, and framed growth as an ongoing process requiring inclusive, institution driven strategies rather than a sole focus on GDP. Dr. Sepalika Sudasinghe, Additional Director General (Organizational Development), has facilitated this session with expert insights.



Capacity Development Program for Grade I Officers of the Sri Lanka Agriculture Service - Group 02

As part of the Capacity Development Program for Grade I Officers of the Sri Lanka Agriculture Service, conducted in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, participants successfully completed an engaging module on Professional Presence and Personal Mastery for Service Excellence.

The module was designed to strengthen participants' professional effectiveness by enhancing their personal presentation, communication, and leadership capabilities. An Emotional Intelligence and Personal Mastery session was facilitated by Ms. M.M. Halida, Senior Consultant, SLIDA while the session on personal branding was conducted by Ms. Aruni Wickramage, International Trainer, Olanway Institute of Language, Training & Development, together with a social dancing session facilitated by Ms. K.M.S. Anupama Ilangathilaka, Assistant Secretary (Development), Prime Minister's Office,

Through this integrated learning experience, participants gained valuable insights into professional grooming, personal branding, effective self-presentation, dining etiquette, and the cultivation of a strong professional image—essential competencies for contemporary public sector leadership and stakeholder engagement.

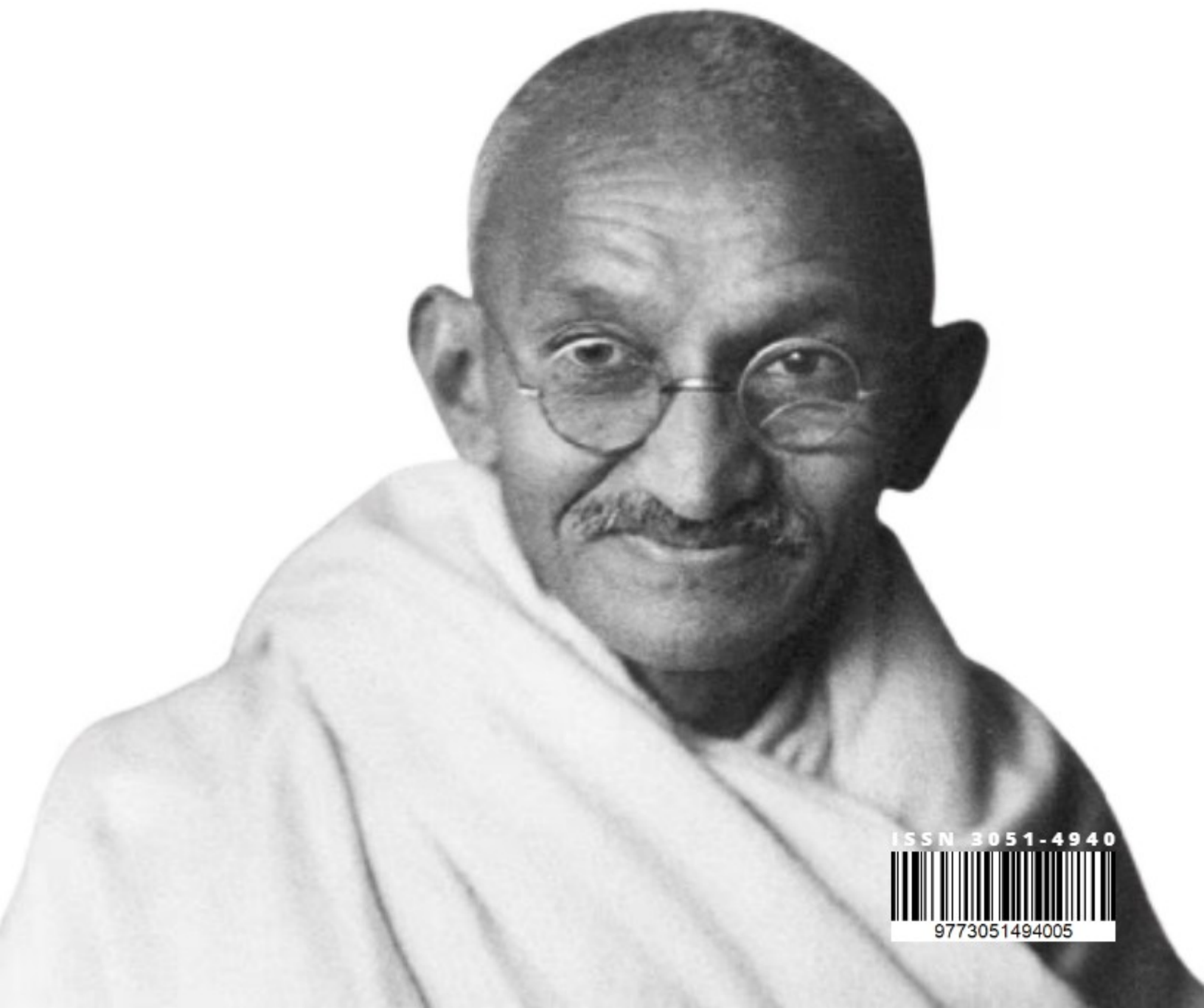
The module was coordinated by Ms. M.M. Halida, Senior Consultant, SLIDA.



TIMELESS THOUGHT

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the
service of others."

Mahatma Gandhi



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