SLIDA
"Learning Confers Discipline"

Newsletter

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration

September 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

Certificate Awarding Ceremony 2026

The Centre for Language Studies at SLIDA celebrated the achievements of 103 recipients of the Diploma in Professional English (DPE) and the Certificate in English for Careers (CEC) at its 2026 Certificate Awarding Ceremony.

The event was welcomed by Dr Sepalika Sudasinghe, Additional Director General (Organisational Development) and Head of the Centre for Language Studies.

In his address, Mr S. Aloka Bandara, Secretary to the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government, emphasised the importance of continuous professional development. He encouraged the award recipients to apply their learning with professionalism, integrity and a strong sense of responsibility in public service.

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

PUBLICATION INFORMATION
ISSN: 3051-4940

PUBLISHED BY
Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA)

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

COPYRIGHT
Copyright © 2026
Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA)
All rights reserved.
No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

The Director General of SLIDA highlighted the importance of strengthening the capacity of public sector officers and underscored language proficiency as an essential competency for effective professional performance.

As they progress in their careers, the recipients can draw on their enhanced communication skills and confidence to meet professional challenges. These achievements reflect the ceremony's theme: "Advancing Through Language: Empowering Professionals."







TABLE OF CONTENTS

Certificate Awarding Ceremony 2026	*01*
Editorial Note – SLIDA Newsletter September 2026	*04*
Inauguration of the Master of Public Management (MPM) Programme – 2026–2028 Intake	*05*
Inauguration of the 2026 Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Accountants' Service and the Sri Lanka Planning Service	*06*
Stakeholder Consultation on the National Human Resource Development Policy	*07*
Inauguration of the Training Consultancy for Sri Lanka Education Administrative Service Officers – North Western Provincial Department of Education	*08*
Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Planning Service (Open) – 2021 (2024), Group B	*09*
Inauguration of the Sri Lanka Scientific Service Induction Training Programme – Second Intake, 2026	*10*
Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (Open) – 2021 (2024), 2025 Intake, Group A	*11*
SLIDA Concludes Strategic Management Training for SLITHM Leaders	*12*
Field Visit on Forest Management and Sustainable Forestry Practices	*13*
Timeless Thought	*14*

Editorial Note – SLIDA Newsletter September 2026

Strengthening Public Service Through Learning, Leadership and Innovation

The effectiveness of public administration depends on the knowledge, integrity, leadership and adaptability of its people. As Sri Lanka continues to advance its development priorities, investing in human resource development and strengthening the capabilities of public officers remain essential to building a responsive, resilient and citizen-centred public service.

The September edition of the SLIDA Newsletter highlights the Institute's continued commitment to this mission through policy dialogue, professional education, induction training and institutional capacity development. From stakeholder consultations on the National Human Resource Development Policy to induction programmes for newly appointed public officers, each initiative reflects the importance of developing competent professionals who can translate knowledge into meaningful public service outcomes.

This month's activities also underscore the value of continuous learning, effective communication and strategic leadership. Whether strengthening English language proficiency, enhancing human resource management competencies, developing scientific and administrative capabilities, or improving strategic management practices, SLIDA's programmes seek to equip public officers to respond effectively to evolving institutional and societal needs. As the demands on public administration continue to grow, learning must extend beyond the classroom and become an integral part of professional practice. Building a capable public service requires not only technical expertise but also ethical leadership, collaboration, innovation and a commitment to serving the public interest.

Through its diverse learning and development initiatives, SLIDA remains dedicated to nurturing public sector professionals who can lead with confidence, act with integrity and contribute to a more effective, inclusive and sustainable Sri Lanka. We invite our readers to explore this edition and celebrate the collective efforts of all those working towards excellence.

Editor
M.M.Halida
Senior Consultant

Inauguration of the Master of Public Management (MPM) Programme – 2026–2028 Intake



The inauguration ceremony for the 2026–2028 intake of the Master of Public Management (MPM) programme was held at the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA).

The ceremony was attended by Mr S. Aloka Bandara, Secretary to the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government and Chairman of the SLIDA Governing Council; Mr A. V. Janadara, Director General of SLIDA; Ms Sujeewa Tissera, Additional Director General; Dr Mayura Arandara, Academic Coordinator of the School of Postgraduate Studies; members of SLIDA's faculty and management; and the newly enrolled MPM participants.

The MPM programme at SLIDA is accredited by the Ministry of Education and recognised at Level 10 of the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF). For more than two decades, this postgraduate programme has supported the development of public sector leaders in strategic management, policy analysis and governance. With more than 800 graduates, the programme continues to contribute to the development of leadership and administrative capacity in Sri Lanka.

SLIDA warmly welcomes the 2026–2028 MPM cohort and wishes all participants a rewarding and successful academic journey.

Inauguration of the 2026 Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Accountants' Service and the Sri Lanka Planning Service



The Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) continues to support the professional development of public officers through structured induction training programmes. The 2026 induction programme for the Sri Lanka Accountants' Service and the Sri Lanka Planning Service is intended to strengthen the knowledge, skills and professional capabilities required for effective public service.

The programme is intended to strengthen the professional knowledge and capabilities of officers entering these services. These programmes are coordinated by Senior Consultants Mrs. Thayalini Thavamannan and Mr. Sampath Mallawarachchi.

Stakeholder Consultation on the National Human Resource Development Policy



Sri Lanka has made significant progress in human development through its achievements in education and healthcare. However, recent economic and social challenges have exposed persistent inequalities, an increase in informal and vulnerable employment, and gaps in access to quality services, particularly among young people, women, persons with disabilities, and other marginalised groups.

On 25 September 2026, the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) convened a high-level stakeholder consultation with human resource specialists from the public and private sectors to initiate the development of the National Human Resource Development Policy (NHRDP).
Led by SLIDA in collaboration with the National Human Resources Development Council (NHRDC), the consultation laid the foundation for an evidence-based and inclusive policy aligned with Sri Lanka's long-term development priorities.

The Director General of SLIDA and the Chairman of the NHRDC emphasised the urgent need for a comprehensive national policy to guide human resource development in the post-crisis context. Dr Sepalika Sudasinghe, Additional Director General of SLIDA, provided technical guidance, drawing on her extensive experience in national policy development. Senior Consultant Sampath Mallawarachchi co-facilitated the consultation, supporting stakeholder engagement and the exchange of views.
The consultation marked an important step towards developing a resilient, equitable and future-ready workforce for Sri Lanka.

Inauguration of the Training Consultancy for Sri Lanka Education Administrative Service Officers – North Western Provincial Department of Education



The inauguration ceremony for the training consultancy for officers of the Sri Lanka Education Administrative Service (SLEAS), organised for the North Western Provincial Department of Education, was held at the Sanhinda Auditorium at SLIDA.

The ceremony was attended by Mr Vimukthi Janadara, Director General of SLIDA; Ms Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development); and members of the SLIDA faculty.

Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Planning Service (Open) – 2025, Group B



The Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Planning Service (Open) – 2025, Group B, has commenced with a focus on human resource management and personal development. The programme introduces participants to key Human Resource Management principles and personal development competencies that support effective workplace relationships and performance.

As part of the programme, participants visited the Rajawaka Agriculture In-Service Training Institute and took part in a morning hike to Dhuwili Ella in Balangoda. These activities provided opportunities to reflect on the application of human resource management and personal development principles to workplace performance, self-leadership and institutional effectiveness.

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

Inauguration of the Sri Lanka Scientific Service Induction Training Programme – Second Intake, 2026



The inauguration ceremony of the Induction Training Programme for the second intake of the Sri Lanka Scientific Service in 2026 was held at SLIDA.

Ms Hiransa Kalutantri, Additional Secretary (Internal Administration) of the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government, attended the ceremony on behalf of the Ministry Secretary.

Also in attendance were Mr A. V. Janadara, Director General of SLIDA; Ms Sujeewa Tissera, Additional Director General (Administration and Finance); and members of the SLIDA faculty.

The programme is designed to equip newly appointed Scientific Service officers with the knowledge, skills and perspectives needed to contribute effectively to the Sri Lankan Public Service.

Dr Mayura Arandara, Senior Consultant at SLIDA, serves as the Programme Coordinator.

SLIDA extends a warm welcome to the newly appointed officers and wishes them every success in their public service careers.

Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (Open) – 2021 (2024), 2025 Intake, Group A



Participants in Group A of the 2025 Induction Training Programme for the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (Open) – 2021 (2024) visited the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management (CIPM) to broaden their understanding of good practices in Human Resource Management. The programme was coordinated by Ms Anusha Batawala Gamage, Additional Director General (Learning and Development) at SLIDA.

SLIDA successfully concludes Strategic Management Training for SLITHM leaders.



The Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) successfully conducted a two-day intensive Training Programme on Strategic Management and Execution for the managerial staff of the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (SLITHM) on 24th and 25th September 2026.

The programme was designed to enhance the managerial and leadership capabilities of SLITHM's leadership team, enabling them to effectively implement strategic priorities, improve production and supply-chain performance, ensure quality and regulatory compliance, and lead adaptive improvements that sustain the Corporation's mission and service delivery.

The training was delivered by Senior Consultant Mr. Sampath Mallawarachchi and Consultant Mr. N. Gawridasan of SLIDA, with Dr. Sepalika Sudasinghe, Additional Director General (Organizational Development), SLIDA, serving as the Programme Coordinator.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of the Director General of SLIDA, together with the Chairman and Director General of SLITHM, whose participation underscored the importance of this capacity-building initiative for Sri Lanka's premier tourism and hospitality education institution.

Field Visit on Forest Management and Sustainable Forestry Practices



A field visit to the Kalatuwawa Water Treatment Plant, Labugama Reservoir Forest Reservation, and Seethawaka Wet Zone Botanical Garden was successfully conducted on 25 September 2026 as part of the Forest Management and Sustainable Forestry Practices module of the Sri Lanka Scientific Service Induction Training Programme – 2026 (First Intake).

The visit received excellent support and cooperation from the respective institutions, enabling participants to gain valuable practical exposure and insights into forest management, water resource conservation, biodiversity, and sustainable development practices.

The field-based learning experience provided an excellent opportunity for Scientific Service Officers to connect theoretical knowledge with real-world practices and better understand the importance of sustainable management of natural resources. Senior Consultants Dr. Mayura Arandara and Ms. M. M. Halida participated in this field visit.

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



9773051494005

TIMELESS THOUGHT

"A real leader uses every issue, no matter how serious and sensitive, to ensure that at the end of the debate we should emerge stronger and more united than ever before."

Nelson Mandela