

# NATNET LANKA

Newsletter on Library and Information activities in Sri Lanka

Vol. 21 No. 2

July - December, 2017



## National Reading Month Award Ceremony - 2017



The 13<sup>th</sup> annual national reading month award ceremony was held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at the auditorium of the National Library and Documentation Services Board. This programme is conducted with the objective of promoting the reading habit of Sri Lankan people.

Sixty libraries including 30 public libraries, 20 school libraries and one technical college library which implemented reading promotion programmes successfully were presented awards at this ceremony to appreciate their contribution for the National Reading Month programme.



A special award was presented to senior journalist, Kala Keerthi Dr. Edwin Ariyadasa for his contribution for creating a knowledgeable society in Sri Lanka.



## ADORNING OF BADGES ON THE THEME OF READING

To mark the inauguration of the National Reading Month a badge was prepared on the theme of reading and the first badge was adorned to His Excellency the President on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017 at the Presidential Secretariat. Dr. W. A. Abeysinghe, Chairman, NLDSB, Mr. W. Sunil, Director General, NLDSB, Prof. K. N. O. Darmadasa, member of the Board of Directors, NLDSB, Mr. G. D. Amarasiri, Director, NLDSB, Mrs. Senani Bandara, Director, NLDSB and Mr. Maithree Jayasundara, Assistant Director, NLDSB participated at this event.



## CONTRIBUTION TO "KALANA MITHURU POTH SUMITHURU" READING PROMOTION PROGRAMME

The reading promotion programme organized in conjunction with the national reading month is implemented by the Presidential Secretariat in collaboration with the Ministry of Education. The inauguration ceremony of this programme was held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 under the patronage of His Excellency the President Maithreepala Sirisena. 2200 selected schools were donated books in this ceremony. National Library and Documentation Services Board also contributes to this programme.



## READING CORNERS IN RAILWAY STATIONS

Arrangements have been made to start reading corners in railway stations for the benefit of railway passengers. The objective of this programme is to provide the opportunity to read books for the passengers who are waiting for trains in stations. Actions have been taken to start reading corners in Galle, Hikkaduwa, Ambalangoda, Polgahawela, Kurunegala, Mahawa, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Matale and Ella railway stations as a pilot project.

## Awareness Raising Programme



National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) has made arrangement to start an awareness raising programme on the activities of the NLDSB through displaying stickers in buses in selected areas of the country. As the first step displaying of stickers has been started in Kurunegala - Kandy buses and Moratuwa - Pettah buses.

## Reading promotion Walk to mark the National Reading Month

To mark the National Reading Month, NLDSB organised a reading promotion walk on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017 with the objective of making aware the people about the importance of reading. This walk started from the NLDSB and marched to Viharaman Devi Park via Lipton round about. The members of Board of Directors, Chairman, Director General, the staff of the NLDSB, former staff members, library staff of the Colombo Municipal area, members of reader societies members of National Library Friends organisation, school children government servants and members of armed forces participated the event.





## COMMEMORATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH AND SCHOOL LIBRARY DAY

The month of October has been declared as the school library month and the last week of October as the school library week and the Monday of the last week of October as school library day by the International Association of School Librarianship. To commemorate this event, actions have been taken to set up reading and talking societies in school level, starting reading circles, encouraging students to start wall newspapers and writing books, compiling newspaper and periodical articles and organizing essay competitions and short story competitions.

## INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY STUDY TOUR PROGRAMME

The inauguration ceremony of the National Library study tour programme for school children to mark National Reading month – October 2017 was held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017 in the National Library auditorium. Students of Darmashoka College, Ambalangoda, Vadduwa Central College, Wadduwa, Sri Jayawardenapura Balika Vidyalaya, Kotte, Giriulla Wewala M.V, Vishaka Balika, Sapugaskanda participated the ceremony. Mrs. Sumeda Nawarathna, Journalist of “Dinamina” conducted a special lecture in the ceremony.



## STUDY TOUR PROGRAMME



Another study tour programme was held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017 for students from Gampaha, Radawana Mahagamasekara Maha Vidyalaya. Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna, member of parliament of Gampaha District participated in this programme as the special guest. Mr Saman Rajapaksha, Senior Lecturer, Department of Mass media, University of Kelaniya delivered an special speech for students on reading and its importance.

## INAUGURATION OF THE KIYAWAMU.LK WEBSITE



National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) implements various programmes for the promotion of reading habit among the Sri Lanka community. As another step of promoting reading habit, NLDSB launched the website Kiyawamu.lk in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Telecom.

Launching of this website took place on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2017 in the Colombo International Book Fair in BMICH premises under the patronage of His Excellency the President Maithreepala Sirisena. Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Ministry of Education, Chairman, Director General and the senior staff of the NLDSB were also present on the occasion. Some books on this website can be used free of charge and some books can be used by paying a concessionary payment.



## WORKSHOP ON PALM LEAF MANUSCRIPT

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and the National Library and Documentation Services Board jointly organized a workshop on Palm Leaf Manuscript. The workshop was held from 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at the NLDSB with 17 participants from libraries in the region as well as international experts. The objective of the workshop was to address the problems encountered by libraries and holders of Palm Leaf Manuscript collections throughout the region. Absence of Metadata and digitization standards for Palm Leaf Manuscripts was a problem faced by many libraries in the region and capacity building should be placed to preserve for the future.





## ICH NETWORK MEETING IN THE SOUTH ASIA

Sub- regional ICH Network meeting in the South Asia , was held in Nepal from 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017. The objective of the meeting was to foster international collaboration and build international and regional networks of experts and government stakeholders for the effective implementation of the 2003 convention. The meeting was organized by the UNESCO office in Kathmandu and the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (ICHCAP), jointly with the Cultural Division , Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation of Nepal. Mr. W. Sunil , Director General ,NLDSB participated the meeting.



## WORKSHOP ON CHALLENGES AND CHANGES OF LIBRARIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE

The National Library and Documentation Services Board in collaboration with German Cultural Center organized a workshop on Challenges and Changes of Libraries in the Digital Age on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017. The objective of the workshop was to enhance the capacity of developing long term strategies and methods for the creation of digital libraries in Sri Lanka.

Mrs. Lek Choh Ngian, Consultant, National Library Board, Singapore served as resource persons of the workshop.



## WORKSHOP ON NATION'S MEMORY AND ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT

Nation's Memories and Archives Management workshop was held in the National Central Library in Taiwan from 30<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017. The objective of the workshop was to promote technology and Nations' memory with East Asian Libraries all over the world. Ms. Iromi Wijesundara , Library and Documentation Officer , NLDSB participated the workshop.



## IFLA Global Vision programme

Under the IFLA Global Vision programme launched by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions it has been planned to prepare the criteria on the guidelines on how the librarians in the world should work. For this purpose, it is expected to obtain information from librarians representing all countries of the world through a questionnaire.

As the national centre of library field in Sri Lanka, National Library and Documentation Services Board obtained information from selected librarians representing all 24 districts through a questionnaire and sent the relevant responses to IFLA. To obtain information a workshop was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2017 in NLDSB.





## NATIONAL LIBRARY RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



The National Library Research Symposium organized by the National Library and Documentation Services Board was held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in the National Library auditorium. Objective of organizing this symposium was to provide an opportunity for library professionals to present their research papers and encourage library research. The Chief guest in the inauguration ceremony was Mr. Sunil Hettiarachchi, Secretary, Ministry of Education. The key note speech was delivered by Prof. K.A.P.Siddhisena. 11 library Professionals presented papers in the symposium.

## SEMINAR ON USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR DEPARTMENT LIBRARIES

A one-day seminar on “Information Technology for Department Libraries” organized by the National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) was held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at the NLDSB auditorium. The objective of this seminar was to make aware the department librarians about the utilization of information technology in their libraries. Mr. Nimal Hettiarachchi, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Ruhuna, Mr. W. Sunil, Director General, National Library and Documentation Services Board, Mrs. Padma Bandaranayake, former Library Director, Americ

## PROGRAMME FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED READERS



National Library and Documentation Services Board has started a programme to provide talking books equipment and software for the benefit of visually handicapped readers. The talking books and equipment are provided to the main public libraries in the country. In conjunction with the National Reading Month 2017, a seminar was organized to make aware the public librarians of North Western Province on July 18<sup>th</sup> 2017 about this programme



Information Centre and Mrs. Sunethra Perera, former head, Science Information Resource Centre, National Science Foundation served as resource persons. About 100 library professionals in department libraries participated the seminar.

## FOREIGN SUPPORT TO PROTECT HERITAGE SITE

On the intervention of the Ministry of Education, the National Library and Documentation Services Board has signed agreements with various countries in order to obtain foreign assistance for the conservation of archaeological heritage and archaeological premises. Accordingly the agreements have been signed with the countries such as France, Poland, Korea, Malaysia, Nigeria and Kuwait.

## DONATION OF BOOKS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY PROPOSED TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE NEW ADMINISTRATIVE CITY IN EGYPT

Sri Lankan maps and books have been donated by the NLDSB in Sri Lanka to the international library proposed to be established in the new administrative city in Egypt. This donation of books and maps was organized on the intervention of the Ministry of Education as a result of a request made by the Embassy of Egypt to the Foreign ministry of Sri Lanka and it was a great opportunity to promote history and culture of Sri Lanka.

## VISIT OF THE CHINA DELEGATIONS TO THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

Five member Chinese delegation from Qingdao Municipal Bureau of Culture, Radio, Television, Press and Publications visited the National Library of Sri Lanka on the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017 under the cultural relations programme between the National Library of Sri Lanka and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Sri Lanka.



Another special delegation from China visited the National Library of Sri Lanka on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017, concurrently with the completion of 60 years of foreign relations between China and Sri Lanka and holding the Guangxi Cultural Week in Sri Lanka from 23<sup>rd</sup> September to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017. The tour helped to exchange views on promoting the cultural exchange and co-operation in the library field between the two countries.

## FORMULATION OF MODEL LIBRARY STATUTE FOR SRI LANKA

Meeting was held on 07<sup>th</sup> December 2017 for Formulation of Model Library Statute For Sri Lanka ; Project under SLLA strategic plan (2016-2022) Mr. Upali Amarasiri former Director General NLDSB, Mr. P. Gallaba, Mr. W. Sunil, Director General of NLDSB, Mrs. Senani Bandara, Director of NLDSB, Mrs. Chandima Wadasinghe, Deputy Director and Mr. W. Premadashana, Assistant Director, NLDSB participated the meeting.



## DEVELOPMENT OF FACILITIES OF RURAL LIBRARIES

NLDSB Organized a programme for the development of facilities of rural libraries, in conjunction with the National Reading Month. Arrangements have been made to donate tables, chairs, racks, books and stationaries to selected rural libraries with the objective of developing the facilities of these libraries. In the year 2017 facilities are developed in 18 rural libraries under this project

## REBUILDING THE LIBRARIES DAMAGED DUE TO FLOOD

A large number of libraries have been damaged due to the recent floods and earth slips. These libraries have already been donated books to the value of Rs. 50,000.00 each. As the second stage of the programme, books were collected in the international book exhibition held in BMICH from 15<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September for rebuilding the 30 schools and privena libraries destroyed due to recent floods. This was carried out by the National Library and Documentation Services Board in collaboration with “Manusath Derana”. In addition, books were collected in eleven libraries in the country.



## NOMINATING KANDY HISTORICAL PROCESSION OF SACRED TOOTH RELICS FOR UNESCO ICH WORLD REGISTER

National Library and Documentation Services Board implements various programmes to preserve intangible cultural heritage in Sri Lanka. A preliminary discussion was held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017 in the Temple of Tooth Relics in Kandy regarding the nomination of sacred procession of tooth relics to the UNESCO intangible cultural heritage world register. Mr. Nilanga Dala, Diyawadana Nilame, officers of the Ministry of Education and National Library and Documentation Services Board participated in this meeting.



## DIGITIZATION OF NATIONAL LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS

A four-day workshop on Research Methodology was held at NILIS, University of Colombo, from 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October 2017. The main objective of this workshop was to give participants insight about the process of research and build their capacity on research methods and design. Participants were made aware on how to develop a research proposal using the most appropriate methodology and equipped them with the knowledge and skills to undertake their own research as well as to evaluate the research of others Ms. Chandima Wadasinghe, Deputy Director and Ms. Kamalangani Subasinghe, Library and Documentation Officer, NLDSB participated the workshop

## WORKSHOP ON RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) has made an arrangement to digitize the NLDSB publications with the financial assistance of National Science Foundation (NSF) under the National Digitization Project of NSF. This project is very helpful for the preservation and wider access for NLDSB publications.

The Digital Library Unit of the National Library and Documentation Services Board organized a workshop on DSpace library software for the staff of the NLDSB who handle the digital library activities on 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Mr. Buddin Kumara, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Moratuwa University served as the resource person of the workshop.





## REVISION OF THE SERVICE MINUTE OF GOVERNMENT LIBRARIANS

The service minute of the government librarians has been published in government gazette dated on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017. The scholars and trade unions in the library and information field have pointed out that the government librarians have to suffer an injustice due to this service minute. Therefore, action are being taken by the National Library and Documentation Services Board to revise of this service minute with the assistance of some academics in the field.

A preliminary discussion on this matter was held with the Director of combined services of the Ministry of Public Administration and Management on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017 Chairman, Director General, NLDSB and some academics and trade union leaders in the library field Participated the meeting.

## FREE MEMBERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

National Library membership can be obtained free of charge during the National Reading Month – October. This facility is provided with the objective of popularizing the National Library among the readers and encouraging the reading habit of people. Any Sri Lankan can apply for this free membership.

All Sri Lankans irrespective of any limitations are eligible for membership. This could be a good opportunity for academics, researchers, university students, journalists and general information seekers to obtain one-year free membership of the National Library.

## COLOMBO INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR

The Colombo International Book Fair was inaugurated by His Excellency the President Maithreepala Sirisena on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in the BMICH Premises. This exhibition, organised by Sri Lanka Book Publishers Association was held up to 24<sup>th</sup> September. A large number of local and foreign Book Publishers participated the exhibition and a large number of people visited the exhibition.

## NEW LOOK FOR THE NATIONAL LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP CARD



National Library of Sri Lanka introduced a new electronic membership card for readers. The launching of this new card took place during the National Reading Month 2017



# NEW ARRIVALS OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

## Managing eBook Metadata in Academic Libraries:



Managing eBook Metadata in Academic Libraries: Taming the Tiger tackles the topic of ebooks in academic libraries, a trend that has been welcomed by students, faculty, researchers, and library staff. However, at the same time, the reality of acquiring ebooks, making them discoverable, and managing them presents library staff with many new challenges. Traditional methods of cataloging and managing library resources are no longer relevant where the purchasing of ebooks in packages and demand driven acquisitions...

## An Emergent Theory of Digital Library Metadata



An Emergent Theory of Digital Library Metadata is a reaction to the current digital library landscape that is being challenged with growing online collections and changing user expectations. The theory provides the conceptual underpinnings for a new approach which moves away from expert defined standardized meta data to a user driven approach with users as metadata co-creators.

## The Metadata Manual A Practical Workbook



The Metadata Manual provides such a resource, answering basic metadata questions that may appear, and exploring metadata from a beginner's perspective. This title covers metadata basics, XML basics, Dublin Core, VRA Core, and CDWA schemes and provides exercise in the creation of metadata. Finally, the book gives an overview of metadata, including mapping and sharing.

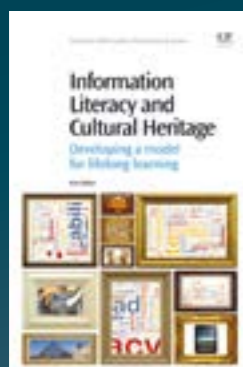
## Creating Digital Collections: A Practical Guide



Libraries recognize the importance of digitizing archival material to improve access to and preservation of their special collections. This book provides a step-by-step guide for creating digital collections, including examples and practical tips that have never been published before. Provides detailed technical information and practical experience Discusses practitioners' insight in digitization Can be used as a guide for creating digital collections



## Information Literacy and Cultural Heritage



There is a complex and contested terrain of cultural heritage in the library, archive and museum context. Information Literacy and Cultural Heritage explores this landscape and covers perspectives from museums, archives and libraries, highlighting the role of memory and contested history in the collection, description and presentation of cultural heritage. The book argues that the convergence of libraries, archives and museums in digital preservation should be extended to include the development of combined lifelong learning programmes, teaching both information literacy skills and awareness of cultural heritage

## RFID for Libraries :A Practical Guide



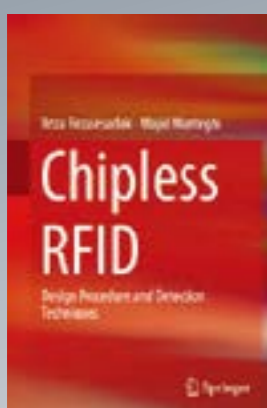
Many modern technologies give the impression that they somehow work by magic, particularly when they operate automatically and their mechanisms are invisible. A technology called RFID (Radio Frequency Identification), which is relatively new, has exactly this characteristic. Librarians everywhere are closely watching RFID technology. Advances over using bar codes on library materials, RFID tags are being touted as a way to radically redesign how library materials are handled. But it is expensive. The tags are vulnerable to wear and tear and the technology is not fully developed.

## Eco-Library Design



Eco-Library Design provides a worldwide perspective on 21st century trends in library architecture. This publication explores in detail the evolution of the ecolibrary, focusing on how design teams cope with diminishing resources in diverse geographic and climatic conditions. The featured projects demonstrate measurable reductions in both construction and operating costs through innovative designs that utilize the ecology of a selected site in a positive way.

## Chipless RFID: Design Procedure and Detection Techniques



This book examines the design of chipless RFID systems. The authors begin with the philosophy of RFID and its effect on commercial applications. Then, they discuss the chipless RFID systems and the application of chipless RFID systems, the advantages it provides compared to conventional barcode ID and chipped RFID tags. The text then covers chipless RFID components in block diagram representation and introduce FCC requirements which should be considered in the design procedure of each component.

# FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE

### **Libraries in the sky: large-scale collaboration strategies and infrastructures to enhance the use of digital heritage collections: "International digital collaboration and infrastructures"**

Duration : 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2018

Venue : Oslo, Norway

Sponsor/Organizer: IFLA Rare Books and Special Collections Section (RBSCS)

URL: <https://www.ifla.org/node/18577>

### **International Conference on Information Technology & Systems (ICITS'18)**

Duration : 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, January, 2018

Venue : Peninsula de Santa Elena, Ecuador

URL : <http://www.icits.me/index.php?lang=en>

### **The 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Emerging Trends and Technologies in Libraries and Information Services (ETTLIS)**

Duration : 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018

Venue : Bennett University, Greater Noida, India.

URL : [https://www.ieee.org/conferences\\_events/conferences/conferencedetails/index.html?Conf\\_ID=41730](https://www.ieee.org/conferences_events/conferences/conferencedetails/index.html?Conf_ID=41730)

URL : [https://www.ieee.org/conferences\\_events/conferences\\_events/con](https://www.ieee.org/conferences_events/conferences/conferencedetails/index.html?Conf_ID=41730)

### **The Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians (CONSAL XVII)**

Duration : 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Venue : Naypyitaw, Myanmar.

Theme : Next Generation Libraries: Collaborate and Connect.

URL : <http://consalxvii.org/>

### **International Conference on Reshaping Libraries: Emerging Global Technologies and Trends (ICRL 2018)**

Duration : 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018

Venue : India

Organized by: DELNET and Ambedkar University, Delhi.

URL : <http://www.delnet.nic.in/ICRL2018>

### **7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Innovation, Knowledge and Management**

Duration : 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, June, 2018

Venue : Bali, Indonesia

URL : <http://www.icikm.org/>



**22<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Electronic Publishing : “Connecting the Knowledge Commons: From Projects to Sustainable Infrastructure”**

Duration : 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2018  
Venue : Toronto  
URL : <http://epress.utoronto.ca/elpub2018/>

**Workshop on Altmetrics for Research Outputs Measurement and Scholarly Information Management (AROSIM 2018)**

Duration : 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
Venue : Singapore  
Theme : The best of both worlds  
: cross-metric exploration and validation of Altmetrics and Bibliometrics  
URL : <http://www.altmetrics.ntuchess.com/AROSIM2018/>

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