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National Library Welcomes its new Chairman



Professor Nanda Dharmarathna, has been appointed as the Chairman of the National Library and Documentation Services Board and assumed duties on 10th February 2022. The Maha Sangha, officials from the Ministry of Education, and officials from the National Library of Sri Lanka. National Library Board members and LIS professionals were also among the participants.



The National Library of Sri Lanka has made arrangements to organize a Research Symposium on 08th September, 2022. Objective of this symposium is to provide the opportunity for the library professionals to present their research papers.

High Demand

for

skill online scholarships



Applications were called in April 2022 via www.natlib.soslp.lk for awarding 1250 online scholarships to follow certificate courses offered by foreign universities and higher education institutions. 1250 applicants were selected as successful candidates out of over 5000

applications received. Accordingly, youth candidates of both sexes became eligible to follow one full year of online courses offered free of charge. These scholarships will enable them to develop their intended skills and also earn a valuable certificate at the end.

Awarding of Certificates for the Graded Public Libraries



National Library & Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) grades libraries in the country with the objective of providing a quality library services for the people. Under this programme NLDSB has upgraded 10 Public Libraries to Grade II and 14 Public Libraries to Grade III. The certificates awarding ceremony was held on 10th March, 2022 at the NLDSB

Auditorium. This event was presided over by Prof. Nanda Dharmarathna, Chairman and Mr. W. Sunil, the Director General of the NLDSB. On this occasion Ms. Senani Bandara, Director NLDSB delivered a lecture highlighting the importance of grading and the implementation of programmes that promotes reading habits.

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Mr. W. Sunil,
Director General

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https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC263Gyih_Jp0sodYT3wYAGQ

Donation of Books to Ministry of Defence Library

The National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) under its Book Donation programme to develop libraries in the country donated books to Ministry of Defence Library. Prof. Nanda Dharmarathna, the Chairman, and Mr. W. Sunil, Director General of NLDSB took part in this event and handed over books to General, Kamal Gunarathne, the Secretary to the Ministry of Defence.



Reading Camps for School & Public Libraries



Reading camps are organized mainly for the benefit of public and school libraries with a view of promoting reading habits and creating awareness among people on current techniques of reading. Following reading camps have been conducted under this programme during February to March, 2022.

- Philip Gunewardhana Public Library at Kahahena on 17th February, 2022.
- Ingiriya Public Library on 23rd February, 2022.
- Sri Sumana Vidyalaya at Kuruwita on 09th March, 2022.
- Hendala Public Library on 30th March, 2022



Through these programmes it is expected to upraise the reading levels of school children.

Enhancing Libraries in Schools

Under Library Development programme implemented by the NLDSB, books were donated to the following libraries where no libraries are functioning and arrangements have made to setup new libraries. Sujaya Newspapers also donated books and sponsored the event held on 11.01.2022.

- Kanampalla Primary School - Kosgama.
- Sethnadi Primary School - Bandaragama.



Director General of the NLDSB Mr. W. Sunil and Officers from Sujaya newspapers including Miss. Kerishma Welgama,

Director and Head Trade Mark were also present in this occasion.

World Earth day commemorated



The "World Earth Day" which falls on 22nd April every year was commemorated this year as well by planting a tree at the NLDSB premises.

Book Donation to the NLDSB



Professor Lionel Mandy donated copies of Sinhala, English and Tamil versions of book titled "Traditional Healers in Sri Lanka" written by himself to NLDSB on 4th March, 2022 to be distributed free among other libraries.

Annual Appreciation of National Library Officers – 2021



Dr. Udaya Cabral



Mr. Nuwan Wijeratne



Mrs. Kamalangani Subasinghe

An award ceremony for appreciating National Library officers was held on 11th March 2022 at the National Library Premises. This ceremony was held in appreciation of officers who rendered their dedicated service for the development of the organization during the year 2021. Dr. Udaya Cabral, Assistant Director / Conservation Division was awarded as employee of the year. Mr. Nuwan Wijeratne, Assistant Director / Finance awarded the second place while Mrs. Kamalangani Subasinghe, Library and Documentation Officer awarded the third place. Mr. Uditha Gunasekara, Research officer, Mrs. Sewwandi Wijewardana, Information Assistant, Mrs. Loshini Pandaram, Information Assistant, Mrs. Nadeeka Dasanayake and Mr. Sumith Perera were also appreciated with a consolation prize.



Mr. Uditha Gunasekara



Mrs. Sewwandi Wijewardana



Mrs. Loshini Pandaram



Mrs. Nadeeka Disanayake



Mr. Sumith Perera

Workshop on Book Binding



A workshop on conservation of documents and binding of books was conducted by the NLDSB on 25th January 2022 for the officers in charge of archives in public sector institutions including the Judicial Services Commission. It was well attended by officers representing those institutions.

Training Programmes - School Sector



NLDSB organized one day training programme for school librarians on 03rd February, 2022 at Thanamalwila Zonal Education Office. About 52 librarians participated in it.

50th Death Anniversary of late Mr. Philip Gunawardhana's



Mr. Philip Gunawardhana

To commemorate the 50th Death Anniversary of late Mr. Philip Gunawardhana, a programme was held on 23rd March 2022 at his alma mater, Prince of Wales College, Moratuwa. Among the series of events organized to mark this occasion were the commencement of the computerization of the

library, donation of books for the library and the presentation of a report providing guidelines to develop and restructure the college library.

Iranian Information Window



The rearranged Iranian Information Window of the NLDSB was ceremonially opened on 07th February 2022 at NLDSB and the ceremony was presided over by His Excellency Azasadeh, the Hon Ambassador of Islamic Republic of Iran in Sri Lanka, Dr. Bahman Mosami, the Cultural

Advisor of Iranian Embassy and Mr. W. Sunil, Director General of NLDSB were among the other distinguished guests. This occasion was held to coincide with the Hzrd Anniversary of the Iranian Cultural Centre in Sri Lanka followed by an Iran Film festival held from 7th to 11th February 2022 at the NLDSB auditorium.

"Meet an Expert" Series

The National Library of Sri Lanka has organized a series of "Meet an Expert" programme on monthly basis and following were held between April to June 2022.



"Data Science and Current Social Trends" by Dr. Lochandaka Ranathunga and Dr. Sapumali Ahangama senior lectures attached to the University of Moratuwa on 27th April, 2022.



A well known song composer Mr. Nuwan Kumara Katugampala made a presentation on his creations / lyrics on 31st May, 2022.



" Global Goals in action in Sri Lanka." by Mrs. Chamindry Saparamadu. The Director General of the Council on Sustainable Development on 22nd June , 2022.

Opening A Bus Library



Under the programme of providing bus libraries for schools in remote areas to promote reading habits, the

NLDSB presented a bus library to the Pungudutivu Maha Vidyalaya, Jaffna on 25th February 2022



Training programme on Ola Leaf Conservation

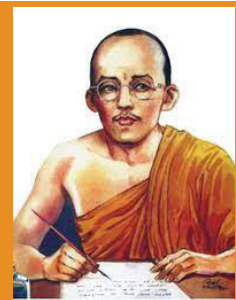
Soma Jayakody Model Library and Training Centre at Bandaragama, which is attached to the NLDSB organized a workshop on 10th February 2022 under the theme "Conservation of Ola Leaf Manuscripts." for pirivenas in the area. Around 40 monks from Ubhaya Vapikarama at Medagama and Vikramashila Pirivena in Bandaragama attended the workshop.

World Book and Copyright Day



A lecture organized to mark 'World Book and Copyright Day' was delivered on April 22nd 2022 by Dr. D. M. Karunaratne, Former Director General of Intellectual Property Office on the theme 'Copyright: New Trends and practical situations.'

71st Death Anniversary of Rev. S. Mahinda Thero



Rev. S. Mahindha Thero



To commemorate the 71st Death Anniversary of the renowned poet Rev. S. Mahinda Thero, a ceremony was held at the

auditorium of the NLDSB on 16th March, 2022 On that occasion, 29 books authored by late Rev. Mahinda Thero, edited

by Dr. W. A. Abeysinghe under the sponsorship of Samudra Publishers were presented to the public.

Rev. Rambukana Siddhartha Thero, Chairman of the Sahitya Mandalaya presided over the function and Mrs. Nimmi Deshapriya, Assistant Director of the NLDSB delivered a lecture highlighting the specialties of Dr. Abeysinghe's editing capabilities.

A training programme for Northern Province Public Librarians

The Northern Province training programme of the project implemented jointly by the NLDSB and the ICTA for the purpose of digitalization and automation of model district public library was held for 3 days from 25th March 2022 to 27th March 2022 at the Training Centre of the Asst. Local Govt. Commissioner of the Kilinochchi district. The main objective of this programme is to develop a model library in each district that function more productively and efficiently. 25 Librarians representing the



the participants demonstrating how to issue books by entering data using Koha software as automation software, Moreover, awareness was created regarding the improvement of library extension services and enhancement of facilities

Point Pedro Town Council public library in Jaffna district, Waddakachchi public library in Mulativ district, Vengala Settikulam public library in Vavuniya district and Mannar town council public library in Mannar district attended these training sessions.



provided to readers by utilizing modern techniques.

Practical training was provided for

Series of Two-Day Workshops on Research Methodology

A series of Two-Day Workshops on Research Methodology was organized by the Research Division of the National Library & Documentation Services Board and it was held during January - March 2022 at the NLDSB premises. This

workshop series were conducted NLDSB by an eminent panel of academics available in the respective fields with the topics in various methods of doing research, analyze and interpret data, understand various types of research methods and develop

the ability of understanding the research process from beginning to end. This workshop was especially meant for novice researchers, graduates & postgraduate students in the field of social science and science & technology. Those who want career advancement in research

methodology with both practical and theoretical sessions were also attended. Around 40 participants were participated in the workshops representing various accademic areas.

