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Internationally renowned Indian LIS Guru hails the SLLA Strategic Plan



Prof. M.P. Satija, UGC Emeritus fellow, Dept. of Library & Information Science, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, India, applauds the Strategic Plan of the Sri Lanka Library Association as a 'well planned, clearly and finely penned document'. Writing to the Convener of the SLLA/SPSDC Mr Upali Amarasinghe he further stated that 'the report is well structured and comprehensively takes all the issues facing the professional organization of librarians in Sri Lanka. Hard work of the Chair, and Coordinators of all the working groups is shining through it. It deserves all praise and shows there are meritorious and committed leaders in the SLLA-despite the general feeling of lack of interest by members as made out in the report'.

He has quoted that 'Strategic planning (SP) is a review and systematic planning process that is undertaken to make thoughtful decisions about an organization's future in order to ensure its success. It is an instrument to envision a desired future, and translate this vision into broadly defined goals or objectives and a sequence of steps to achieve them' ¹ 'It is commendable that the SP report is based on SWOT analysis, Opinion survey, Best practices of prominent LAs in the world and of course with wide deliberations among the library leaders. It is a skillfully and diligently worked out plan and well-structured in its presentation true to the definition given above' he stated.

'This, a well-planned, clearly worded, and systematically structured document, is a reliable roadmap to usher the Sri Lankan library profession in general and SLLA in particular into 21st century. The report comprehensively takes and thrashes out all the issues facing the professional organization of librarians in Sri Lanka. Heuristic method to implement it in phases while learning from each phase is a well thought out strategy' he further pointed out.

Prof. Satija is a leading and well respected LIS professional in India and the international arena, and has published a plethora of books and research papers in Indian, International and European journals during the last four decades. He has also served as a visiting scholar in India and abroad including Sri Lanka. He is a visiting scholar at the Dept. of Library and Information Studies at Kelaniya University and also shared his expertise and wisdom with the NLDSB, National Library and other library forums in Sri Lanka. At present he is the Chair of the 'Satija Research Foundation for Library and Information Science' (SRFLIS).

Prof. Satija also pointed out a few areas of the Strategic Plan which can be further improved and areas where SLLA should tread cautiously. His suggestions include instituting a Fellowship programme either to be conferred on very senior and meritorious persons or to be earned by qualified professionals through research and exam, introducing a Library Council under the aegis of the SLLA on the lines of medical or bar councils which certify qualified individuals as practitioners and introducing 'Friends of Libraries' as Associate Members of SLLA though they may not be professionally qualified or working in libraries. Strengthening SLLA's publication programme by publishing books on Library Science and Information Policies, publishing the newsletter monthly (online), vigorous membership drive, high quality Advocacy, promoting new revenue sources are some of the other valuable suggestions made by Prof. Satija.

'Making suggestions here is just like painting a lily. Nevertheless, I will have a sense of some satisfaction of doing a bit for the country which has been my second professional home' he stated. The internationally renowned Library and Information Science teacher and researcher concluded his note by saying 'Thanking you for the opportunity to go through this valuable and enlightening work which has added to my knowledge and experience. I may ask our newly elected President of the Indian Library Association to read it for some new ideas'.

¹ www.businessdirectory.com/definition/strategic-planning.html

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A public lecture –

"National Library of Medicine: Trusted Health Information Databases and Services" was delivered by Ms. Samanthi Hewakapuge, (MA, MLS), Consumer Health Coordinator, National Network of Libraries of Medicine - Greater Midwest Region, Library of the Health Sciences, University of Illinois, Chicago, USA on 12th Tuesday, January 2016.

Jointly organised by the Sri Lanka Library Association and the National Library and Documentation Services Board, it was held at the auditorium, National Institute of Library & Information Science (NILIS), University of Colombo. Many library professionals attended.

Training Workshop for Public Librarians – Southern Province

SLLA in collaboration with the Department of Local Government, Southern Province, organized a one day training workshop for public librarians in the southern province, on 25th January, 2016.

The objective of this workshop was: "How to conduct a quality Public Library service through customer care, public relations, communication and usage of library software." The workshop was organized by the Public Library Group 2015/2016.

59 Public librarians participated in the workshop which was held at the Management training Institute - Southern Province, Wakwella, Galle. Initially the participants were addressed by Mrs. Varuni Gangabadaarachchi, Chief Librarian, Colombo Public Library.

Mr. Kamal Bandara Heenkenda, Lecturer, University of Kelaniya and Mr. Harsha Balasooriya, Senior Assistant Librarian, The Open University of Sri Lanka served as resource persons.

The areas covered were: Usage of Library and Communication, Library Management, Customer Care, Public Relations, Information Technology and Library Software.

Presentation of certificates was at the end of the programme.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Mrs. Sevbandi Jayasinghe, Convener – Public Library Group SLLA, Chief Librarian Kaduwela Municipal Council.



The Library: Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology (PGIAR)

Introduction: The Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology was established on 1st of January 1986, as an affiliated Institute of the University of Kelaniya, under the proviso No. 2 of 1985 of the Act of University, Act no 16, 1978. The library began its basic functions simultaneously with the Institute of the University of Kelaniya.

Aims and Objectives: Promoting the knowledge of Archaeology and its related disciplines; Appropriating, improving, upgrading and disseminating the knowledge of Archaeology and its related disciplines; Producing the knowledge required to study the text, to conduct field research and to engage with relevant practices of Archaeology and Working in solidarity with other libraries and Institutes in order to exchange and disseminate knowledge of Archaeology.

Membership: Membership category is divided into Internal and External membership. Internal membership is offered for PGIAR academic & non-academic staff and Students. Other university academic staff, students, researchers and Institutes are considered as an external membership. A Membership Fee of Rs 500/- only for researchers.

Development of Collections: The PGIAR library acquires material only on archaeology and related subjects such as art, architecture, heritage, museology etc.

Resource Collections: The Library PGIAR has over 17,000 books and 3800 journals. Other than that, theses, maps, documents, audio-visual, ola-leaf manuscripts, reports, estampages are also available. Special Collections namely, the Stanley Abeysinghe, Deraniyagala, Senake Bandaranayake, Anjalendran, Somasiri Devendra, Alex Gunasekara and R L Brohier are also among them.

Classification and Cataloguing: As the library of PGIAR is based on an exclusive collection of resources on Archeology it follows a specific system of classification of its own. The inventor of this system of classification is Professor Senake Bandaranayake. Therefore, the system is titled as Senake Bandaranayake Classification (SBC).

Library Database: All books, journals and documents accessed by the library are computerized. There are three databases: *PGIAR* for books, *JRN* for articles' from journals, *SBD* for documents.

Library Services: Lending, New Acquisitions, Journal Index, Newspaper Clippings, Photocopying, eBooks, Digital Copying services are available for users. No lending is done in general. But the lending service is offered only for the members of academic and non-academic staff of the Institute. The period of the lending is confined to for a maximum of three months. The library provides the digital copying service only as a prerequisite for enhancing education. And the service is confined only to students who have registered to follow courses conducted by PGIAR.

Rules and Regulations: Every reader should be a member of the library. It is compulsory for students who are registered to follow the courses to get the endorsement of the official library frank and signature of the librarian. It is compulsory for library-users to make an entry on the book positioned at the doorstep. Bringing books, filing gears, bottles of water, bags, etc., into the library premises is prohibited. Operating mobile phones within the library premises is prohibited.

Staff: One academic and three non-academic staff members are currently on the working staff of the Library.

Opening Hours: The library is open for seven days of the week except on government holidays. The library is closed Saturdays and Sundays during the vacation *Binara (June to September)*. The library is open for readers from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm. The library is open in the weekends only for students who have been registered to follow the study courses conducted by the PGIAR. The Library is also open for two week-ends prior to the period of examinations.



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 Face Book: <https://www.facebook.com/librarypgiar/?ref=hl>

NLDSB organized a felicitation ceremony for Prof. Piyadasa Ranasinghe



National Library and Documentation Services Board organized a felicitation ceremony for Prof. Piyadasa Ranasinghe on 06th January 2016 in appreciation of the invaluable services rendered by him to the Library & Information Services field in Sri Lanka. Dr. W. A. Abeysinghe, Chairman, NLDSB, Mr. W. Sunil, Director General, NLDSB, Ven. Lagumdeniye Piyarathana Thero, Head, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya, Mr. M. S. U. Amarasiri, former Director General, NLDSB, Mrs. Shivanthi Weerasinghe, President, SLLA and Dr. Ruwan Gamage, Senior Lecturer,

NILIS delivered speeches extolling the services of Prof. Piyadasa Ranasinghe. Prof. Piyadasa Ranasinghe was presented an award in appreciation of his service for the development of the library and information field in Sri Lanka.

Ilma International Girls' School Annual Library Day

Ilma International Girls' School, Colombo 5, held its Library Week from 11th to 22nd January with the aim of bringing the library centre stage and showing that a library is not merely a storehouse of books but can be much more interesting. Competitions were run for each class of the Secondary and Senior Secondary School, and the library was on exhibition, as it were. The school children do use the library very much, but during this week they connected it with fun too. The Senior Library Society held many activities during Library Week, particularly competitions supporting reading and writing. 'A letter to your favourite Author' was one such activity. General Knowledge competitions were held with a view to exposing students to the resources in the library and how best they could locate them. The book designing competition spurred the aptitude for designing in many senior students. Best book mark, essay & verse writing competitions were also held during this week.



Library Day was held on the morning of 3rd February 2016 under the theme "Enrich, Enlighten, Enchant" with students, teachers and other invitees present including the Chairperson of the school's Education Foundation, Mrs. H. Hussein. The chief guest on the occasion was Mrs. Pushpamala Perera, Chief Librarian Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT).

The programme of the day started with the Principal, Mrs. Hafeeza Ghori, welcoming everyone present and thanking the librarians Ms. Zumra Ashiq and Ms. Hasini Liyanage, the Senior Library Society and Working Committee who had tirelessly committed themselves to making Library Week and Library Day the success they were.

Ms. Pushpamala Perera in a very informative presentation touched upon the importance of Internet in facilitating reading and how the use of on-line resources have made access to information easily available globally.

A very entertaining concert was put on stage which included songs, two skits and an excellent power point presentation titled: "Tour of our school library". Prizes were distributed to all winners of events – three in each competition.

Library Week and Library Day are two significant events on the school calendar and have been undertaken for many years now.



**ජාත්‍යන්තර කීර්තිධර ඉන්දීය පුස්තකාල හා විද්‍යාපන විද්‍යා ගුරු
ශ්‍රී ලංකා පුස්තකාල සංගමයේ උපායමාර්ගික සැලැස්ම පැසසුමට ලක් කරයි**

ඉන්දියාවේ අම්බර්සාර්හි ගුරුනානක් දේවි විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ පුස්තකාල හා විද්‍යාපන විද්‍යා අධ්‍යයනයේ සම්මානිත මහාචාර්ය එම්.පී. සනීෂා මහතා ශ්‍රී ලංකා පුස්තකාල සංගමයේ උපායමාර්ගික සැලැස්ම 'මනාව සැලසුම් කළ, පැහැදිලි සහ මැනවින් රචිත ලේඛනයක්' ලෙස ප්‍රශංසාවට ලක් කර ඇත. ශ්‍රී ලංකා පුස්තකාල සංගමයේ උපායමාර්ගික සැලසුම්කරණ සහ උපායමාර්ගික මාර්ගෝපදේශන කමිටුවේ කැඳවුම්කරු උපාලි අමරසිරි මහතා වෙත ලිපියක් එවමින් ඔහු 'මෙම වාර්තාව මනාව ව්‍යුහගත කර ඇති බවත්, ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ පුස්තකාලයාධිපතින්ගේ වෘත්තීයවේදී සංවිධානය මුහුණ දෙමින් සිටින සියලු ගැටලු වෙත සවිස්තරාත්මකව අවධානය යොමු කර ඇති බවත්' වැඩිදුරටත් සඳහන් කර ඇත. 'කමිටු සභාපතිවරයාගේ සහ සියලු ක්‍රියාකාරී කමිටුවල සම්බන්ධීකාරකවරුන්ගේ දුෂ්කර කාර්ය එමගින් ඔපවත් වෙයි. මෙම වාර්තාවෙන් මතු කර ඇති ලෙස, සාමාජිකයන් විසින් ඒ ගැන දක්වන උනන්දුවේ අඩුව වෙනුවට ශ්‍රී ලංකා පුස්තකාල සංගමය එකී ප්‍රශංසාවට සුදුසු බවත්, එහි විශිෂ්ට සහ කැප වූ නායකත්වයක් ඇති බවත්' ඔහු පෙන්වා දෙයි.

උපායමාර්ගික සැලසුම යනු සංවිධානයක සාර්ථකත්වය සහතික කිරීමට අනුකූලව තීරණවලට එළඹීමට කරනු ලබන විමර්ශනයන් සහ ක්‍රමානුකූල සැලසුම් ක්‍රියාවලියක් බව ඔහු උපුටනයක් දක්වමින් පවසා ඇත. එමෙන්ම 'එය අපේක්ෂිත අනාගතයක් දැකීමටත්, එම දැක්ම පුළුල්ව නිර්වචනය කරන ලද අභිමතාර්ථ සහ අරමුණුවලට පරිවර්තනය කිරීමටත්, ඒවා සාක්ෂාත් කර ගැනීමට අනුපිළිවෙළින් පියවර ගැනීමටත් පවත්නා මෙවලමකි.' 'මෙය කුසලතාපූර්ණ ලෙස සහ ශූර ලෙස සකසා ඇති සැලැස්මක් වන අතර, ඉදිරිපත් කිරීමේ දී ඉහත දක්වන ලද නිර්වචනයට සත්‍යවාදීව හොඳින් ව්‍යුහගත කර ඇත' යනුවෙන් ඔහු ප්‍රකාශ කර ඇත.

'මනාව සැලසුම් කළ, පැහැදිලිව රචිත සහ ක්‍රමානුකූලව ව්‍යුහගත කළ මෙම ලේඛනය පොදුවේ ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ පුස්තකාල වෘත්තීයයන්, විශේෂයෙන් ශ්‍රී ලංකා පුස්තකාල සංගමයන් 21වන සියවස වෙතට රැගෙන යාම සඳහා වන විශ්වාසදායී මාර්ග දර්ශකයක් වේ. එමෙන්ම මෙම වාර්තාව, ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ පුස්තකාලයාධිකාරීන්ගේ සංගමය මුහුණ දෙමින් සිටින සියලු ගැටලු පරිපූර්ණ ලෙස ග්‍රහණය කර ඒවාට ප්‍රබල විසඳුම් ඉදිරිපත් කරයි. සෑම අවධියකින්ම ඉගෙන ගනිමින් මෙම සැලැස්ම අවධි වශයෙන් ක්‍රියාත්මක කිරීමට තැත් වරද ක්‍රමය (Heuristic Method) යොදා ගැනීම ගැඹුරින් සිතා බලා ගත් උපාය මාර්ගයක් බව' ද ඔහු වැඩිදුරටත් පෙන්වා දෙයි. ඉන්දියාවේ මෙන් ම ජාත්‍යන්තර ක්ෂේත්‍රයේ ප්‍රමුඛ සහ ඉමහත් සම්භාවනාවට පාත්‍රව ඇති පුස්තකාල හා විද්‍යාපන විද්‍යා වෘත්තීයවේදියෙකු වන මහාචාර්ය සනීෂා පසුගිය දශක හතරක කාලය තුළ ග්‍රන්ථ රාශියක් ද, ඉන්දියානු, යුරෝපීය සහ ජාත්‍යන්තර විද්වත් සඟරාවල පර්යේෂණ ලිපි විශාල ප්‍රමාණයක් ද ප්‍රකාශයට පත් කර තිබේ. එමෙන් ම ඔහු ඉන්දියාවේ මෙන් ම ශ්‍රී ලංකාව ද ඇතුළු වෙනත් රටවල බාහිර විද්‍යාර්ථියෙකු වේ. එසේම කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යා අංශයේ බාහිර විද්‍යාර්ථියෙකු ලෙස කටයුතු කරන අතර, ඒ සමගම ජාතික පුස්තකාල හා ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා මණ්ඩලය, ජාතික පුස්තකාලය සහ ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ වෙනත් පුස්තකාල සංසද සමග සිය විශේෂඥභාවය සහ ප්‍රඥාව බෙදා හදා ගෙන තිබේ. ඔහු මේ වන විට පුස්තකාල හා විද්‍යාපන විද්‍යාව සඳහා වන සනීෂා පර්යේෂණ පදනමෙහි සභාපතිවරයායි.

උපායමාර්ගික සැලැස්මේ තවදුරටත් වැඩි දියුණු කළ හැකි ක්ෂේත්‍ර කීපයක් මෙන්ම, ශ්‍රී ලංකා පුස්තකාල සංගමය ඉමහත් සැලකිල්ලෙන් පියවර තැබිය යුතු ක්ෂේත්‍ර ගැන ද මහාචාර්ය සනීෂා පෙන්වා දී ඇත. ඉතාමත් ජ්‍යෙෂ්ඨ සහ ප්‍රශංසාත්මක පුද්ගලයන්ට හෝ අදාළ පර්යේෂණ සහ විභාග මගින් වෘත්තීය සුදුසුකම් සම්පූර්ණ කරන්නන්ට ප්‍රදානය කෙරෙන අධිසාමාජිකත්ව වැඩසටහනකට දායක වීම ද, වෘත්තීයයන් ලෙස සුදුසුකම් ලත් පුද්ගලයන් සහතික කරන වෛද්‍ය හා නීතිඥ සංසදවල පවත්නා පරිදි ශ්‍රී ලංකා පුස්තකාල සංගමයේ ද ජ්‍යෙෂ්ඨයන් යටතේ පුස්තකාල කවුන්සලයක් හඳුන්වා දීම, වෘත්තීය සුදුසුකම් නොමැති වුව ද, පුස්තකාලවල සේවය නොකළ ද ශ්‍රී ලංකා පුස්තකාල සංගමයේ ආශ්‍රය සාමාජිකත්වය සඳහා 'පුස්තකාල මිතුරන්' හඳුන්වා දීම යනාදිය ඔහුගේ යෝජනාවලියට ඇතුළත් වේ. පුස්තකාල විද්‍යා සහ තොරතුරු ප්‍රතිපත්ති පිළිබඳ ග්‍රන්ථ ප්‍රකාශයට පත් කිරීම, මාසික පුවත් පත්‍රිකාවක් (මාර්ගගත) පළ කිරීම, සාමාජිකත්වය වර්ධනය කිරීමේ ප්‍රබල මෙහෙයුමක් දියත් කිරීම, උසස් ගුණාත්මක බවින් යුත් උද්දේශනය, නව ආදායම් මාර්ග ප්‍රවර්ධනය මහාචාර්ය සනීෂා විසින් කරන ලද තවත් වැදගත් යෝජනා වේ.

'මේ සැලැස්ම සඳහා අතිරේක යෝජනා ඉදිරිපත් කිරීම ලිලි මලක් තවදුරටත් වර්ණ ගැන්වීමක් වැනිය. එසේ වුවත්, මගේ දෙවන වෘත්තීය නිවහන වන ශ්‍රී ලංකාව වෙනුවෙන් සුළුවෙන් හෝ යමක් කිරීමේ තෘප්තිමත් හැඟීම එමගින් මට ලැබෙනු ඇත.' ඔහු දක්වා ඇත.

ජාත්‍යන්තර කීර්තිධර පුස්තකාල හා විද්‍යාපන විද්‍යා ආචාර්යවරයා හා පර්යේෂකයා තම සටහන නිමා කරන්නේ මෙසේය. 'මගේ දැනුමට සහ අත්දැකීම්වලට යමක් එකතු කළ මෙම වටිනා සහ ප්‍රබුද්ධ ලේඛනය පරිශීලනයට අවස්ථාවක් මා හට ලබා දීම ගැන මාගේ ස්තූතිය ඔබට පුද කරමි. නව අදහස් උකහා ගැනීම සඳහා මෙම ලේඛනය කියවා බලන මෙන් මම අභිනවයෙන් පත් වූ ඉන්දියානු පුස්තකාල සංගමයේ සභාපතිවරයාට දැනුම් දෙමි.'

National Conference on Library and Information Studies (NACLIS) 2016

The SLLA National Conference is an annual event aiming at promoting professional and academic experiences among librarians and information professionals in Sri Lanka. The main theme of NACLIS 2016 will be **“Marching towards excellence: contributions of LIS professionals in building a better society”**. Date and venue will be notified later. Those who are interested are welcome to present papers at the conference. Abstracts can be sent in any language - English/ Sinhala/ Tamil - according to instructions given in the conference flyer - by email by **March 30, 2016**. Deadline for submitting the complete paper is **May 5, 2016**.

‘In conjunction with NACLIS, there will be a promotion of locally developed library software. Any one interested to present their products please contact deepali@gmail.com or 0718260485 for further details’

Workshop on Basic Research Methods

In collaboration with National Institute of Library and Information Science (NILIS), Sri Lanka Library Association organized the above workshop to motivate the professionals working at Public/ Schools/ Government libraries to undertake research. Workshop was held at NILIS on 24th February. Main objective of this workshop was to guide the SLLA members working at these libraries to present a paper at NACLIS which will be held concurrently with SLLA AGM.



Main resource person at this workshop was Dr. Ruwan Gamage. NACLIS committee members assisted him as facilitators. There were 11 participants from different libraries and they worked in three groups. At the end of the workshop they were able to identify an area to carry out a research and also gained basic knowledge on how to conduct a research.

Participants indicated that they were pleased about the way workshop was conducted and the knowledge gained through it.

**ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ මිතුරෝ
Friends of the National Library**

ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ කටයුතු පිළිබඳව උනන්දුවක් දක්වන පුද්ගලයින්, පුස්තකාල වෘත්තිකයින්, විශේෂ උනන්දුවක් දක්වන පාඨකයින් හා අනෙකුත් පුස්තකාල සේවාවන් හා ආශ්‍රිත සංගම් එක්ව 2007 වසරේදී ජාතික පුස්තකාල හා ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා මණ්ඩලයට අනුබද්ධිතව ජාතික පුස්තකාල මිතුරෝ සංවිධානය පිහිටුවා ගන්නා ලද අතර, ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ දියුණුව හා අභිවෘද්ධිය සඳහා ආධාර හා අනුග්‍රහය ලබාදීම, ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ පුස්තකාල ක්ෂේත්‍රයේ අභිවෘද්ධිය සඳහා ජාතික හා ජාත්‍යන්තර වශයෙන් පුළුල් ප්‍රචාරයක් ලබාදීම, ජාතික පුස්තකාල කාර්ය මණ්ඩලයේ අභිවෘද්ධිය සඳහා කටයුතු කිරීම, ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සංස්කෘතික සහ ජාතික උරුමය ආරක්ෂා කරමින් එය මතුපරපුර වෙත දායාද කරලීම සඳහා ජාතික පුස්තකාලය සමග එක්ව කටයුතු කරමින් ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ ඉදිරි සංවර්ධනය සඳහා යෝජනා ඉදිරිපත් කිරීම ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ මිතුරෝ හි අරමුණු වේ. එවැනි අරමුණු රාශියක් පෙරටු කොටගෙන පිහිටුවාගත් ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ මිතුරෝ හි අභිමානවත් සිව්වන සාංවත්සරික උත්සවය 2106 මාර්තු මස 31වන දින උත්කර්ශවත් අන්දමින් පැවැත්විණ.

Professor Russell Bowden



The demise of Prof. Russell Bowden on 27th January 2016 after a brief illness rattled the Library and Information community in Sri Lanka and around the globe.

Prof. Russell had a distinguished LIS career spanning a few decades, in the British Council, Loughborough University of Technology and Library Association, UK. He held the position of British Council Librarian in India, Nigeria, Iraq and Sri Lanka in late 1950s and 1960s. During his tenure in Colombo in 1966-68, he was involved in the activities of Ceylon Library Association and helped the young association in many ways. Later he joined the Loughborough University of Technology, England initially as a postgraduate student in Library & Information Science and later as a

lecturer. During that time with Prof. Peter Haward Williams, he initiated the Masters programme for library science teachers, especially those in developing countries, combining the curricula of library and information science and Education. He was the first Course Director of the popular postgraduate programme which was assisted by the UNESCO. Thereafter he joined the Library Association, UK (present Cilip) as the Deputy Chief Executive in 1976 and after a long and distinguished service, retired in 1994. During that time he was closely associated with the IFLA and served as its 1st Vice President for 4 years. After retirement he joined the newly established Thames Valley University, London and helped the management to put it on a firm footing. He was awarded a Professorship there as a token of appreciation of his services to the university.

In 1996 Prof. Russell came back to Sri Lanka and settled down to spend his retirement in his favorite part of the world. During the last two decades he largely devoted his life to study Buddhism and assist the library field in the country. He joined the Postgraduate Institute of Pali and Buddhist Studies of Kelaniya University and successfully completed the Masters, MPhil and PhD degrees during the period. He had been a regular member of the SLLA Council during most part of the period and served in many of its advisory committees with vigor and enthusiasm. At the NLDSB too he served in a number of advisory committees time to time. He was a regular member in the NILIS Board of Management from the inception. Prof. Russell was an active member of the Royal Asiatic Society, Sri Lanka and served in many committees there including the Library committee and Publication committee.

His long experience at UK Library Association, higher education and at IFLA was very useful for the SLLA, NLDSB and NILIS. He was a regular contributor to the professional journals and National and International conferences of all three organizations. He kept his CILIP membership and time to time donated the professional literature he received from it to the NILIS, SLLA and the National Library. He played a key role in developing the 'Empowering 8' the well-known information literacy programme of NILIS. He made a significant contribution to the Tsunami Library Development Project based at NLDSB after the South Asian Tsunami of 2004. He was considered the father of the Regional Federation of South Asian Library Associations (REFSALA) the regional LIS forum initiated in 2006 in Nepal. His last involvement with the SLLA was the formulation of the Strategic Plan for the association. Though he could not contribute to the development of the final document due to the illness, he was happy and very much relieved to see its completion. At the funeral oration, Director/NILIS announced that the Board of Management of NILIS decided to name the NILIS auditorium as 'Professor Russell Bowden Auditorium' to honor him.

May he rest in peace.

- Upali Amarasiri -

ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ මිතුරෝ - සාමාජිකත්වය

ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ කටයුතු පිළිබඳව උනන්දුවක් දක්වන පාඨකයින්ට හා වෘත්තිකයින්ට ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ මිතුරෝ සාමාජිකත්වය ලබාගත හැකිය. යාවජීව සාමාජිකත්වය රු. 500.00ක් පමණි. යාවජීව සාමාජිකත්වය ලබා ගැනීමෙන් ජාතික පුස්තකාලයෙන් බොහෝ වරප්‍රසාද හිමිවන අතර, ජාතික පුස්තකාල සේවාව ප්‍රවර්ධනයට සහායවීමෙන් ලබන වෘත්තීයමය සතුට හා තෘප්තිය ලබා ගැනීමට එක්වන ලෙස ඔබ සැමට ගෞරවයෙන් ආරාධනා කෙරේ.

- සම ලේකම් - ජාතික පුස්තකාලයේ මිතුරෝ -

THE SLLA ANNUAL TRIP -2016



Social Affairs Committee of SLLA organized its annual field trip to Galle and Koggala on 21st February 2016. 26 members and 08 children were participated. It is a great pleasure to say that we could visit places as arranged and mentioned in the notice.

First we were able to visit the Galle Public Library; the Chief Librarian and her staff warmly welcomed us. All



were happy about the Galle Public Library. From there we visited Galle Fort Light

House, Sama Chaithya and Rumassala Hill, and there most of the members enjoyed a sea bath at Jungle Beach and later had lunch at Cathalina Hotel run by Sri Lanka Air Force. Finally a Boat Safari to Madol Duwa was enjoyed.



Voice your opinion on the SLLA Strategic Plan

The SLLA Council cordially requests all members of SLLA to voice their opinion on the proposed Strategic Plan. The plan was posted on the SLLA website in the first week of February and the Sinhala and Tamil versions of the plan were dispatched to members in the last week of March 2016. The SPSDC is keen to improve the plan further, taking into consideration the views expressed by the SLLA membership. The deadline for members to send their suggestions is 25th April 2016. SLLA has also introduced an online discussion forum on the Strategic Plan in all three languages. Please contact Mr Norman Ravikumar (ravimnr@mail.com) or Dr Ruwan Gamage (ruwan@nilis.cmb.ac.lk) for further information on the online forum. The Sinhala and Tamil translations of the plan will also be posted on the SLLA web shortly.

INFOCUS

The SLLA Publication Group intends to highlight one library with its special features in each Newsletter. If you wish others to know about your library, please email a write-up accompanied with photographs to the Publication Officer. (bgskariyawasam@yahoo.com)

இலங்கை நூலக சங்கத்தின் வெளியீட்டுக் குழுவானது அதன் ஒவ்வொரு செய்திப் பிரசுரத்திலும் ஒரு நூலகம் பற்றியும் அதன் சிறப்புகள் பற்றியும் எடுத்துக்காட்ட எண்ணியுள்ளது. உங்கள் நூலகம் பற்றி பிறர் அறிந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும் என நீங்கள் விரும்பினால் உங்கள் நூலகம் பற்றிய விபரங்களை புகைப்படங்களுடன் வெளியீட்டு அலுவலருக்கு மின் அஞ்சல் மூலம் (bgskariyawasam@yahoo.com) அனுப்பி வைக்கவும்.

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