

## NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SRI LANKA 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



The inauguration ceremony of the 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Library of Sri Lanka was held on 04<sup>th</sup> of April 2018 at the NLDSB premises. Chief guest on the occasion was Mr. Sunil Hettiarachchi, Secretary, Ministry of Education. In conjunction with the anniversary, a book exhibition was held from 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> April 2018 with the participation of leading book publishers in Sri Lanka. In addition, portraits of four distinguished scholars of Sri Lanka were unveiled in the National Library. These four scholars are Prof. Valpola Ruhula Thera, Prof. Gunapala Malalasekara, Sir D. B. Jayathilake

and Mahagama Sekara. These portraits were unveiled by Prof. Oliver Abeynayake, Dr. Praneeth Abeysundara, Mr. Sunil Hettiarachchi and Prof. Sunil Ariyaratna respectively. In addition, cheques were presented to authors under the Publication Assistance Project of the NLDSB. Donation of books also took place at the ceremony. A series of seminars were also organized for school children and librarians from 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The National Library and Documentation Services Board organized a religious programme on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018 to mark the 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Library.

## New Chairman of the National Library and Documentation Services Board

Mr. P. M. Deepal Chandraratne, assumed duties on 01<sup>st</sup> of June 2018 as the new Chairman of the National Library and Documentation Services Board. He has obtained LLB (Sri Lanka) and BA (Special) degree from University of Colombo. He has also held several leading positions in the government service.



## Donation of Books and Furniture for Libraries Affected by Flood



*Occasion of the book Donation*



*Library Furniture for Donations*

National Library and Documentation Services Board organized a programme to donate books and furniture for libraries affected by recent floods on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Under this programme 18 libraries received donations. Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education was the chief guest on the occasion. The *Manusath Derana* TV channel was the media sponsor for collecting the donations of books for this event.

## Dr. W.A. Abeysinghe concludes the service as chairman of NLDSB



Dr. W. A. Abeysinghe has concluded his service as the Chairman of the National Library and Documentation Services Board. Dr. Abeysinghe is a well known writer, literary figure and a distinguished scholar of Sri Lanka.

## Workshop on Right to Information Act: The Role and Contribution of a Librarian

Library and Information Centre of the Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies (BCIS) in collaboration with National Library and Documentation Services Board organized a *Workshop on Right to Information Act : The Role and Contribution of a Librarian* on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at Room 105 Atlantis at the BCIS to create awareness on the role and contribution of librarians under the recently implemented Right to Information Act.



*Participants of the workshop*

## Visit of the China delegation to the National Library



*Chinese delegation and officers of the NLDSB*

With the objective of improving cultural relations and co-operation between Sri Lanka and the People's Republic of China, a six member Chinese delegation made a three day visit to Sri Lanka from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018. This delegation visited the National Library of Sri Lanka on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The delegation was headed by Mr. Lin Runmin, Director General of the Department of Culture of the People's Government of Shanxi Province, China.

## Read on Independence - 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence Sri Lanka

National Library and Documentation Services Board made arrangements to organize an information display called “*Vidarsha National Library Information Display*” every month since 2018 relevant to the specific days and events.

An information display on 70<sup>th</sup> independence celebration was conducted during February on the theme of “*Read on Independence*” at the National Library. This information display includes rare and valuable information sources, historical and rare information on independence, heroes of independence struggle, independence struggle and literature,

various viewpoints on independence, independence memorial ceremonies, etc.

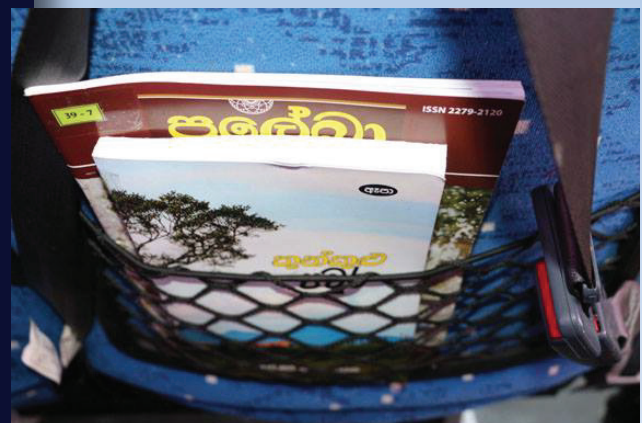


### Reading Facilities for SLTB Commuters

A special programme has been launched in order to motivate the daily bus commuters to read books by the National Library and Documentation Services Board together with Sri Lanka Transport Board (SLTB). The main purpose of this programme is to direct the passengers to spend their time with an effective work until the destination. Under the inaugural step of this programme, fifteen intercity buses from Maharagama to Galle and Matara have been provided with this special service on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2018 at 10.00 am at the main bus stand of the Maharagama highway buses. A set of books and journals to the value of Rs. 25,000/= has been set aside for each bus and the steps have been taken to exchange those sets of books among buses.



*Donating books for the officers of SLTB*



*Books keep on the pocket of the bus seat*

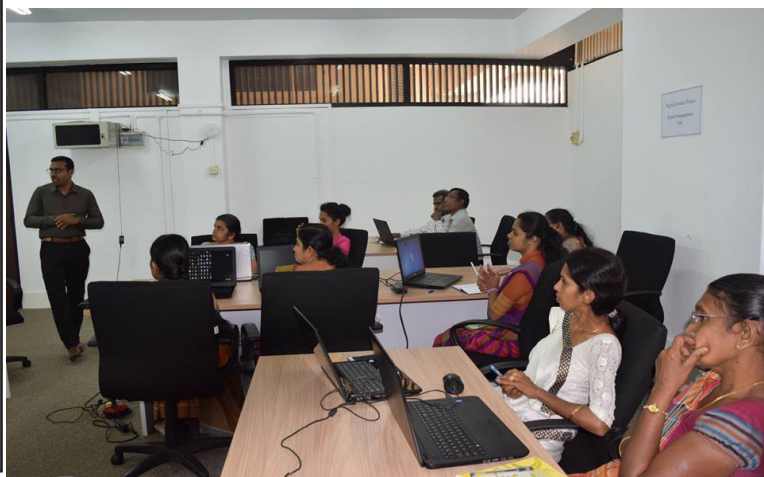
# Modernizing the NLDSB Bbuilding



Modernization of the NLDSB building is now in progress in accordance with the modern technology and the future needs. Renovation of the NLDSB building has not been done since its establishment. There fore, the renovation of the NLDSB building is an important landmark in the history of NLDSB.

## A one day training programme on KOHA Library Software

One day training programme on Koha LMS for the staff of the Technical Colleges was conducted on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at the National Library and Documentation Services Board. Programme was organized by digital libraries project of ICTA. Mr. Norman Ravikumar, Project Consultant conducted the training session. The participants including officers of the Technical Colleges and Librarians from Anuradhapura, Kandy, Galle and Colombo Technical Colleges and some officers of the NLDSB participated for this programme.

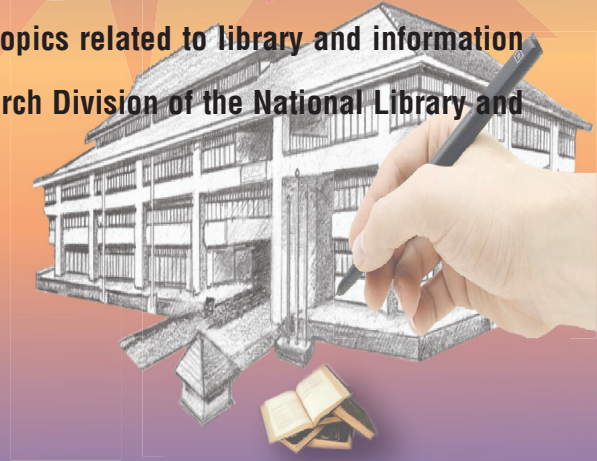


## Workshop on ICT and KOHA Library software

The National Library and Documentation Services Board and The Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA) jointly organized a workshop on ICT and KOHA library software under the digital library project from 30<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018 at the ESOF Metro Campus Training Centre . Mr. Sriyananda Rathnayaka Programme Manager, ICTA, Mr. Harsha Balasooriya, Senior Assistant Librarian, Open University of Sri Lanka, Mr. Chandana Seneviratne, Information Assistant, NLDSB, Mr. Rasika Nanayakkara, Consultant, Lithium Technologies, Mr. Norman Ravikumar, Senior Assistant Librarian, Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Mr. Chaminda de Silva, Assistant Director, NLDSB served as resource persons. while 25 librarians participated for the workshop.

# National Library Research Symposium 2018

National Library and Documentation Services Board has made arrangements to organize a research symposium on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in the National Library auditorium. Objective of this symposium is to provide the opportunity for the library professionals to present their research papers. Library professionals can submit their papers in the symposium on topics related to library and information science field. Further details can be obtained from the Research Division of the National Library and Documentation Services Board.



## Seminar on Information Services for Visually Handicapped Readers

A one-day seminar on “Information services for visually handicapped readers” was held for public librarians of Central Province on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 at the National Library. Ms. Janaki Fernando, former Deputy Director of National Library, Dr. Chandani Liyanage, Senior Lecturer Department of Sociology, University of Colombo, served as resource persons. Dr. W A Abeysinghe, Chairman and Mr. W. Sunil, Director General and other senior officials of NLDSB were also present on the seminar with 47 Public librarians from the Central Province.

## A Workshop on Conservation and Book Binding for Record Room Keepers



A workshop on Conservation and Book Binding for Record Room Keepers was held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, January 2018 at the NLDSB. Record Room keepers of court and allied 15 officers from various places participated the workshop. Two lectures were conducted by Mr. P. P. Senadeera Perera, retired Court Registrar and Mr. Udaya Prasad Cabral, Assistant Director of the NLDSB on the themes of document management and conservation of documents respectively.

## Obtains PhD



Mr. G. D. Amarasiri, a Director of the National Library and Documentation Services Board has obtained a degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Library and Information Science from the University of Kelaniya. The topic of the thesis submitted is *A Review of Public Library resources and Services in Sri Lanka*.

He has discussed a new administrative structure, a legislative framework and a new

role for the public library system in Sri Lanka to suit the present requirements through his thesis. The supervisor of the thesis is Prof. M. P. Satija, Professor (retired) Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, India.

## Workshop on Compilation of Documentation Sources



**A one day workshop on compilation of Documentation sources was held for public librarians of Gampaha District on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018 at the National Library. Ms. Janaki Fernando, Former Deputy Director of NLDSB and the senior staff of the Bibliographic Control Division served as resource persons.**

## 58<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lanka Library Association

The 58<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lanka Library Association was held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at the Grand Oriental Hotel, Colombo.



# Silk Road International Forum for Librarians and the International Summit



Silk Road International Forum for Librarians and the International Summit on the Convergence of Libraries and Bookstores: Reading, Cities and Culture, was held on 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> May in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China. Mr. Maithree Jayasundara, Assistant Director, Research Division of NLDSB participated the conference.

## International conference on “Cultural Dialogue between Iran and sub continent : Spirituality and Sufism



The Chairman of the NLDSB Dr. W. A. Abeyasinghe participated the International Conference on “Cultural Dialogue between Iran and sub continent: Spirituality and Sufism” held from 13<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 in Iran which was organized by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

## General Meeting of the MOWCAP

The meeting of the Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP) was held in Gwangju, Korea from 29<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018. Mr. Udaya Cabral, Assistant Director, Conservation and Preservation Division of NLDSB participated the meeting.

During the General Meeting of the MOWCAP Bureau, National Memory of the World Committees from the Asia-Pacific region presented their progress in preserving and giving access to documentary heritage during the last two years.





# 26<sup>th</sup> Annual conference of the Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania



The Annual Conference of the Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania (CDNLAO) is conducted annually to discuss the problems faced by national libraries in the region and to exchange ideas and experiences. This conference was started in 1976 and the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of CDNLAO was held from 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018 in Naypyitaw, Myanmar. The conference was hosted by National Library of Myanmar. The theme of this year's conference was "Preserving the culture for the National Libraries" Mr. W. Sunil, Director General, National Library and Documentation Services Board, participated the conference representing Sri Lanka.

## Study Tour in China

With the objective of obtaining experiences for the renovation of the building, of NLDSB a group of officers of the NLDSB participated for a study tour in China from 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018. During this study tour, National Library of China, Beijing, Peking University Library and Shanghai Library Institute of scientific and Technical Information of Shanghai were visited. Mr. K. Waduge, Director (Finance and Administration), Mrs. Anoma Wijesinghe, Assistant Director, Mr. Mihira Aravinda, Assistant Director, Mr. N. S. J. Edirisinghe, Library and Documentation Officer, Mr. D. N. S. Gamage, Maintenance Officer and Mrs. Sandya Mendis Chief Architect of the project, Nearest school is the Best School Project, Ministry of Education, Participated the study tour.



## Training Workshop on SPSS for NLDSB staff

A training workshop for training of NLDSB staff on data entering and data analysis using SPSS 22 version software was held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in the National Library conference room. The workshop was organized by the Research Division of the NLDSB. Prof. K. A. P. Siddhisena, retired professor of the Department of Demography University of Colombo served as the resource person of the workshop.



## NLDSB Organized Two Seminars in Jaffna



National Library and Documentation Services (NLDSB) organized two seminars in Jaffna on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018. One seminar was on the reading habit survey of school children in Northern and Eastern Provinces which was organised in Jaffna Zonal Education office for the officers involved in education field in Northern Province.



The other seminar was on the contribution of the book publishing for the reawakening of intellectual culture in post-colonial period with special reference the Sri Lanka National Bibliography (Retrospective) Tamil medium. This seminar was conducted in Jaffna Public Library for the public librarians, authors, publishers and students of Northern Province.

## Donation of Books to the Inmates of the Welikada Prison

The National Library Friends which is an organization affiliated to the National Library and Documentation Services Board organized a programme to donate books (Sinhala, Tamil and English ) with a qualitative value for the benefit of the male and female inmates in the Welikada Prison. A large number of books have been received as donations for this programme.

## National Library lecture series No. 265



The 265 lecture of the National Library lecture series “ශ්‍රී ලංකා දේශපාලනයේ කාන්තා භූමිකාව” was delivered by Mrs. Anoja Weerasinghe , veteran actress, on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at the auditorium of NLDSB. A large number of participants attended the lecture.

## Monthly film show

With the objective of improving the knowledge and entertainment of the reader community, National Library and Documentation Services Board organized a monthly film show. Following world famous films have been screen played so far.



22.02.2018  
Tanna



22.03.2018  
Queen of  
Katwe



24.04.2018  
The mountain  
between us



22.05.2018  
In Syria



26.06.2018  
The Light  
Between Oceans

## Seminar on Sri Lanka National Bibliography (Retrospective)

National Library and Documentation Services Board organized a seminar to mark the 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Library of Sri Lanka on “Contribution of book publishing for the reawakening of intellectual culture in post-colonial period” on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at the National Library Auditorium. The objective of the seminar was to make aware the relevant communities about the Retrospective National Bibliography project. emeritus Prof. K.N.O. Dharmadasa, Mr.Upali Amarasiri, former



Director General, NLDSB, Dr. Nirmal Ranjith Dewasiri, Senior Lecturer, Department of History, University of Colombo, Dr. Suren Raghawan, Senior Researcher, Department of History, University Colombo, Mr.Uditha Alahakoon, Assistant Librarian, National Institute

of Library and Information Sciences, University of Colombo served as resource persons of the seminar. The officers who made contributions for the successful compilation of the retrospective national bibliography were presented awards at the seminar.

## Awareness Seminar on the Public Library survey of North Western Province

Conducting research and surveys in the library field is a responsibility assigned to the National Library and Documentation Services Board. As a programme under this project, a survey on public libraries was carried out in provincial level.

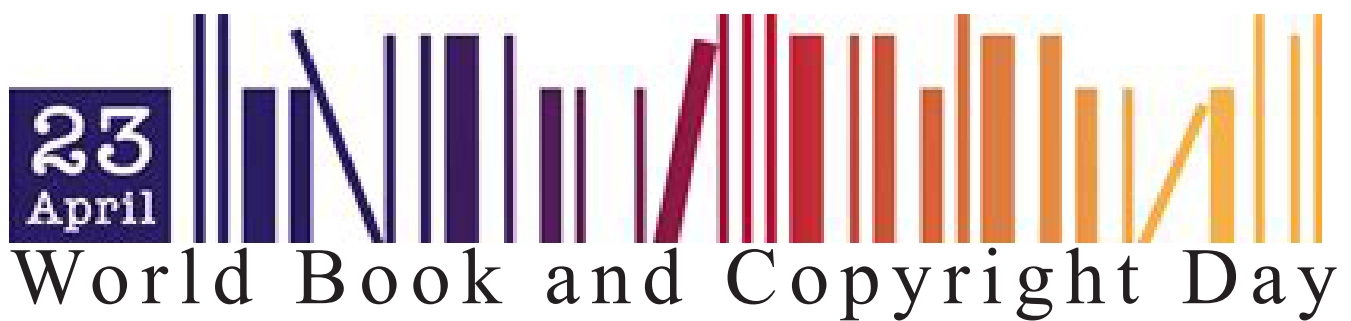
A seminar was conducted to make aware on the public library survey of North Western Province on 22<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at the Wariyapola Pradeshiya Sabha auditorium. The seminar was conducted under the patronage of Mr. J. M. R. P.

Jayasinghe, Commissioner of Local Government (North Western Province), Dr. W. A. Abeysinghe, Chairman, NLDSB, Mr. W. Sunil, Director General, NLDSB, Mr. H. M. Gunaratna Banda, former Assistant Director General, National Institute of Education, Mr. Maithree Jayasundara, Assistant Director, NLDSB, served as resource persons. Public librarians and officers involved in the public library service participated the seminar.



# Grading of Libraries

With the objective of upgrading the status and improving the efficiency of public, school and department libraries in Sri Lanka, a grading process of the libraries is carried out according to the standards prepared by the National Library and Documentation Services Board. Accordingly, Trincomalee public library was upgraded to grade I and Uppuweli public library, Irakkamam public Library, Pugoda Public Library and Gelioya Public Library were upgraded to grade II.



The National Library and Documentation Services Board has organized a one-day seminar for celebrating World Book and Copyright Day. The seminar was conducted in the auditorium of the NLDSB on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The authors, publishers, librarians and other interest persons participated the seminar. The theme of the seminar was publishing in an electronic environment. Dr. D. M. Karunaratne, Former Director General, Sri Lanka Intellectual Property Office and Mr. Bobby G. Botheju, a veteran writer were the resource persons of the seminar.

## A Workshop on Design Thinking for Libraries

A oneday workshop on Design Thinking for Libraries was conducted for the senior officers of the NLDSB on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2018, by Dr. Gnanaharsha Beligatamulla, Lecturer, Department on Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa.



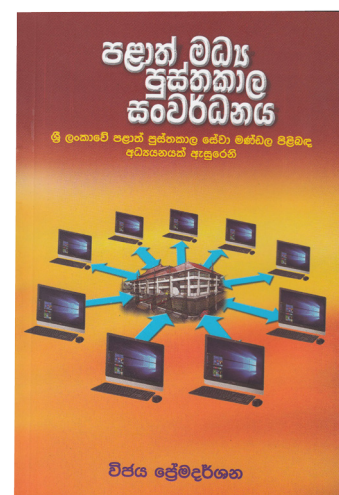
## NEW PUBLICATIONS OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

### A New Book Launched at NLDSB

A New book has been published by National Library and Documentation Services Board, under the title of පළාත් මධ්‍ය පුස්තකාල සංවර්ධනය. (Development of Provincial Central Libraries) It is a study based on Provincial Library Services Boards (PLSBs) of Sri Lanka, and the book has been written by Mr. W. Premadarshana, Assistant Director of Strategic Planning Division of NLDSB. This is the fourth book written by him on library and information science. The launch was held at the auditorium of NLDSB in Colombo on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018.



Kalakeerthi Dr. Edwin Ariyadasa, Dr. W. A. Abeysinghe, Chairman of NLDSB, Prof. W. A. Weerasooriya, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya, Mr. Upali Amarasiri, former Director General of NLDSB and Dr. Sunil Wijesiriwardhana participated and delivered the lectures about the book, and large number of audience in various field such as library professionals, journalists, artists and readers participated the occasion.



## Sri Lanka National Bibliography (Retrospective) 1941-1961

Compilation of the Sri Lanka National Bibliography (Retrospective) is another important project launched by the NLDSB in 1991. This covers the period beginning from 1962 and goes backwards to 1737, covering a period of 225 years. Sri Lanka National Bibliography (Retrospective) includes bibliographic information on publications published in Sri Lanka, publications on Sri Lanka published in foreign countries and publications written by Sri Lankans published in foreign countries. Bibliographic information in Sinhala, Tamil and English publications are included. The following bibliographies have been completed and published so far.

1737 -1884 (Sinhala, Tamil and English)

1884- 1900 (Sinhala, Tamil and English)

1091-1910 (Sinhala and English)

1911 – 1920 (Sinhala and English)

1921- 1931 (Sinhala and English)

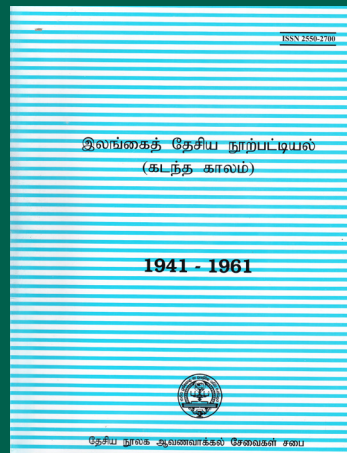
1931-1940 (Sinhala and English)

1941 – 1961 (Sinhala and Tamil )

1901- 1940 (Tamil)

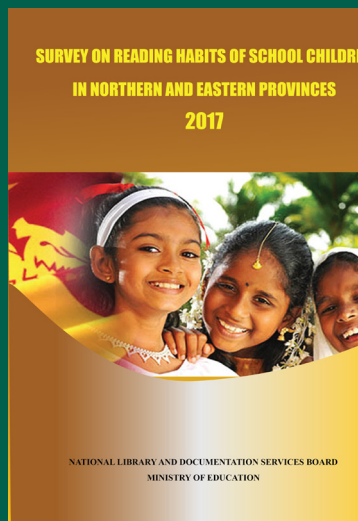
1941-1961 (English – in progress)

1962 (Sinhala, Tamil and English)



## Awareness Programme Reading Habit Survey of School Children 2017.

The Research Division of the National Library and Documentation Services Board



has compiled a book of Survey on reading Habits of School Children in Northern and Eastern Provinces 2017. The first stage of this survey was conducted in other provinces except Northern and Eastern provinces in 2010. This survey conducted in Northern and Eastern provinces is the second stage on the survey. Then this survey is very important because a research of this nature has not been conducted in Northern and Eastern provinces in recent past after the War situation. This

book includes basic information on examining the present status of the reading habit of school children, determining the level and status of reading habits, identifying the facilities available in the schools to improve reading habits, identifying types of reading materials and identifying the obstacles faced by school children in reading, etc. This study is a useful source for library professionals, educational officers who deal with education system of the country.

# FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE

## ETD 2018

**The 21st International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations,**

**Duration** : 26-28 September 2018  
**Venue** : Taipei, Taiwan  
**Theme** : Beyond the Boundaries of Rims and Oceans: Globalizing Knowledge with ETDs.  
**Website** : <https://etd2018.ncl.edu.tw/en/>

## ICAL 2018

**The 3rd International Conference of Asian Libraries, Building Smart Libraries: Changes, Challenges, Issues and Strategies, takes place**

**Duration** : 6-8 August 2018  
**Venue** : Central University Kashmir, India.  
**Theme** : Building Smart Libraries: Changes, Challenges, Issues and Strategies, takes place

## International Conference on Exploring the Horizons of Library and Information Sciences

**Duration** : 7-9 August 2018  
**Venue** : Bengaluru, India, at the Indian Statistical Institute.  
**Theme** : From Libraries to Knowledge Hubs



+94112698847/ +94112685195  
+94112685201 (Fax)



[info@mail.natlib.lk](mailto:info@mail.natlib.lk)



[www.natlib.lk](http://www.natlib.lk)



National Library and Documentation Services Board  
No. 14, Independence  
Avenue Colombo 07  
Sri Lanka

### Editorial advice

**P. M. Deepal Chandraratne**  
Chairman  
**Mr. W. Sunil**  
Director General  
**Dr. G. D. Amarasiri**  
Director

### Editor

**Chandima Wadasinghe**  
Deputy Director

### Assistant Editor

**P. L. Upul Jayantha**  
Library and Documentation Officer

### Designing

**Thanuja Rangika**  
Management Assistant

**Printer** NEO Printers