

NATNET LANKA

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NATIONAL READING MONTH COMMEMORATION CEREMONY 2019



Let's read with WJXNB

- "Buthsarana" New Edition Launched
- Museum Library - Polonnaruwa
- Free Railway Book Room for Passengers
- NatlibSYMPO 2019
- Online payment gateway system for ISBN/ISSN/ISMN
- Two - day workshop for editors & publishers
- Seminar on structural productivity and naming of Ministries in Sri Lanka
- Outbound training programme for National Library staff

The government declared the month of October as the National Reading Month since 2004 with the objective of promotion of reading and information literacy among the Sri Lankan community. Various programmes and projects are implemented under the leadership and guidance of NLDSB in collaboration with relevant stakeholders every year. This year the National Reading Month was celebrated under the theme "Let's read with children". Awards were presented to libraries which implemented best programmes for national reading month 2018.

First place was won by Siriwardana Public Library, Minuwangoda. Second place was won by Kokuvil Public Library and third place was won by Wellawaya Public Library.

In addition, many libraries in the Island were presented awards for their projects and programmes. Hon. Dallas Alahapperuma, Minister of Education, Sports and Youth Affairs graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

Newly Appointed Chairman

Mr. Sonala Gunawardana assumed duties as the Chairman of the National Library and Documentation Services Board on 01st January 2020.

He has obtained his primary education at Royal College Colombo. Later he has acquired LLB Degree from University of Colombo and has studied Master of Business Studies and Economics at Shenyang Aerospace University, China

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

+94112698847/ +94112685199
+94112685201 (Fax)

info@mail.natlib.lk

www.natlib.lk

www.facebook.com/natliblk/

www.youtube.com/channel/UC263Gy-
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“Buthsarana” New Edition Launched

National Library and Documentation Services Board implements the project for editing and publishing classical literature as one of the major functions. The objective of this project is to make available the old and classical literature to the present generation. Under this project, the Publication and Book Development Division of the NLDSB has already edited and published “Mahavansaya”, “Poojawaliya” and “Pansiya Panas Jathaka Potha”. As another activity of this project Emeritus Prof. Rohini Paranavithana, Prof. Ananda Tissa Kumara and Dr. Premasiri Nagasinghe has edited “Buthsarana” on the request of the NLDSB.

The launching ceremony of the book “Buthsarana” was held on 30th July 2019 at 2.00 pm at the main auditorium of the Ministry of Education, Isurupaya, Battaramulla under the patronage of Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education. A group of government officers and writers participated in this event.



ISSN Annual meeting

The 44th meeting of the Directors of ISSN National Centres was held in New Delhi, India from November 12th to 16th, 2019 at the NISCAIR (National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources). Mrs. Senani Bandara, Director (Library Promotion, Standardization and Publication) participated in the meeting.



Museum Library-Polonnaruwa

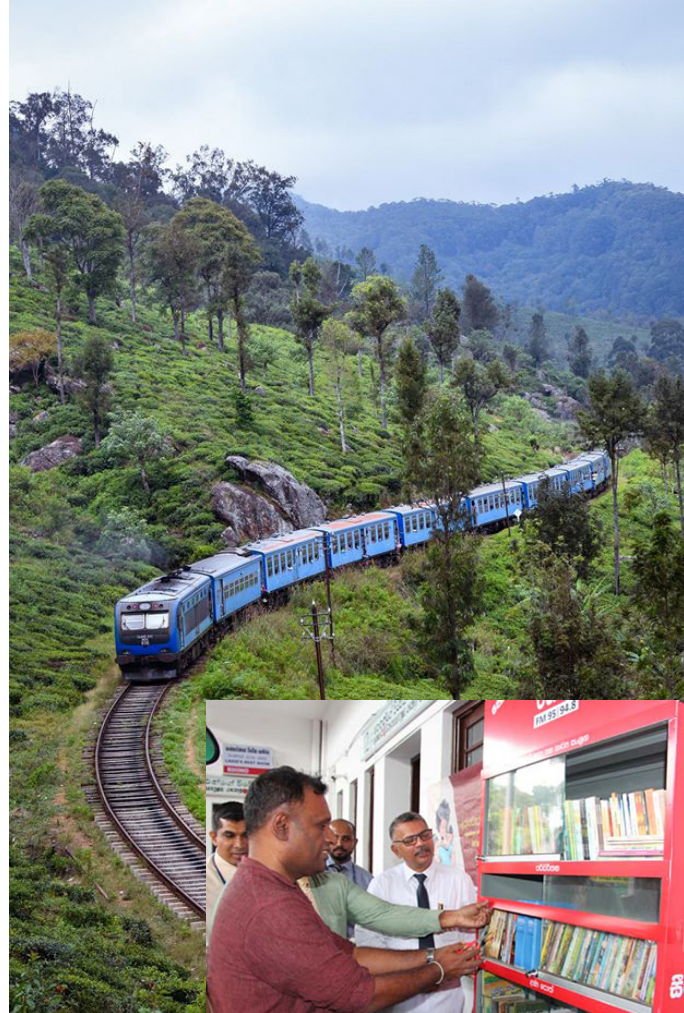


The Library of Polonnaruwa Ancient Technology Museum established under the supervision of the National Library and Documentation Services Board under the “Pibidemu Polonnaruwa” District Development Project was inaugurated by His Excellency Maithrepala Sirisena, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on 03rd July, 2019.

Free Railway Book Room for Passengers

Another important social project of the National Library and Documentation Services Board was started at the Kandy historical railway station. This project was started under the guidance of NLDSB with the co-operation of Sri Lanka Railway Department and with the media sponsorship of Neth FM. The objective of the project is to create a noble society with knowledge.

The free railway book room was launched with the participation of Chairman and other officers of NLDSB, officers of the Sri Lanka Railway Department and the Chief Executive Officer of Neth FM, The Director of the Central Province Library Services Board, Deputy Inspector General of Police in charge of Kandy, Gampola and Matale and Chief Librarian of D.S Senanayake Public Library, Kandy also participated this event.



NDLI-UNESCO

International Symposium

Mr. Udaya Cabral, Assistant Director (Conservation) participated as a panelist of the NDLI-UNESCO International Symposium on Knowledge Engineering for Digital Library Design held from 9th to 11th 2019 in India. It was the second in the series of knowledge sharing events coordinated by National Digital Library of India. The primary objective of this series has been sharing of technical, policy, administration related knowledge pertaining to digital library design. Mr. Cabral participated as a panelist of the UNESCO Breakaway Session (Strengthening SAARC through Digital Heritage) of this symposium.

Online Payment Gateway For Obtaining Standard BookNumbers

The project for providing ISBN/ISSN/ISMN international standard numbers through internet is underway and preliminary activities of the project were carried out in December 2019. Through this method, writers, publishers, and printers spread throughout the country can obtain standard numbers without any inconvenience.



international standard music number



Grading of Libraries

A Programme for making aware the librarians on grading of libraries was held on 11th September 2019 at the auditorium of the Jaffna Public Library



A two - day workshop on basic methods to be followed in editing and publishing of books



Making aware of the relevant stakeholders on the creation of high quality books for readers is one of the major functions of the National Library and Documentation Services Board. A workshop was conducted on 17th and 18th December 2019 to make aware the stakeholders on basic methods to be followed in editing and publishing books. Prof. Jayadeva Uyangoda, Prof. J.B. Disanayake, Prof. Rathnasiri Arangala, Veteran Font Designer Mr. Pushpananda Ekanayake. Veteran writer Mr. Gamage Sumanasekera, Mr. W. Sunil, Director

General, Mrs. Senani Bandara, Director (Library Promotion, Standardization and Publication) NLDSB served as resource persons.

Development of Rural Libraries

Under the project for the development of rural libraries, development activities of Maskeliya Public Library of Maskeliya Pradeshiya Sabha and Ahetuwewe Public Library of Galgamuwa Pradeshiya Sabha were started.



Seminar on Structural Productivity and Naming of Ministries in Sri Lanka



Compilation of various information sources to facilitate the information searching of Sri Lankan community is a major function of the National Library and Documentation Services Board. Under this, “The List of Ministries in Sri Lanka” which includes information on changes of ministry names in Sri Lanka from 1931 to May 2018 was compiled. This ministry list compiled including information on changes on ministry names for a period of 87



years is a comprehensive information source for administrators, politicians, professionals, researchers, scholars and other interest groups.

NLDSB made arrangements to organize a seminar with the objective of making an analytical explanation of this ministry list which reflects the structural productivity of government and political culture of Sri Lanka. This seminar was held on 16th December 2019.



There was no a magazine compiled in braille method for the visually handicapped readers and to overcome this shortcoming the Sri Lanka Council for the Visually handicapped Graduates compiled this “Sith Asa” magazine. This magazine was launched at the auditorium of the National Library and Documentation Service Board. Through “Sith Asa” magazine visually handicapped reader community in Sri Lanka get the opportunity to share knowledge and entertainment.

“Praleka” Third and Fourth Volumes Issued



The Praleka quarterly magazine published by the National Library and Documentation Services Board is a popular magazine among the Sri Lankan reader community. Praleka magazine which consists of entertaining articles written on various themes is published with the supervision and contribution of Sri Lankan scholars.

The theme of third volume is translation literature and consists of articles on the theme of translation literature. The fourth volume of Praleka has also been issued and it consists of articles on the theme of poetic literature.

Entertainment and Reading Camp Programme in Kegalle and Hambantota



The entertainment and reading camp as trainer trainee programme organized by the National Library and Documentation Services Board was held on 20th and 21st August 2019 with the participation of public libraries of Kegalle and Hambantota districts. In this programme a training was given to librarians and community development officers on conducting reading camps.

Accepting Manuscripts under the Publication Assistance Project 2020



The publication assistance project is implemented by the National Library and Documentation Services Board since 1984 with the objective of promoting the writings of upcoming and veteran writers. Manuscripts were accepted under this project for the year 2020 from 16th September to 16th December 2019. The accepted manuscripts are directed to scrutinising and further action will be taken in first quarter of 2020 .

Donation of Books in Conjunction with National Reading Month



In conjunction with the National Reading Month, National Library and Documentation Services Board donated books to security and dhamma school libraries at the NLDSB premises on 23rd October 2019. Mr. W. Sunil, Director General and other Directors of NLDSB donated the books and two special lectures on reading were also conducted for the participants.

National Library Research Symposium NatlibSYMPO 2019

National Library & Documentation Services Board conducted National Library Research Symposium on Library and Information Science (NatlibSYMPO 2019) in collaboration with Asia & Oceania section of IFLA on 31st October 2019 at the National Library premises, Colombo. NatlibSYMPO 2019 is the third of its series which is annually organized by Library Research Division to provide an excellent opportunity for researchers to discuss the issues and challenges relating to the fields of Library & Information Science and social sciences. The conference provided a platform for gathering a pool of academics, professionals, researchers and students to share and discuss new knowledge created in the field that will positively reinforce the functionality of library field. The theme of this year's conference "Library, Information and Documentation in a Context of Transformation" was chosen to address many aspects of growing importance of the value of libraries in the country. Mr. R. M. M. Rathnayake, Additional Secretary (School Affairs) Ministry of Education was the chief guest of the symposium while Prof. Rohan Samarajiva, Chairman, Information



Technology Agency (ICTA) was invited to deliver the keynote address. The inspiring keynote speech delivered on "Transformation of Library Services" was an eye opener to all who gathered at the symposium. A large number of participants representing various types of libraries such as public, academic, school and special libraries attended the symposium. They were presented in four technical sessions chaired by experts in research arena, such as Emeritus Prof. K. A. P. Siddhisena from Department of Demography, University of Colombo, Dr. Ruwan Gamage, Senior Lecturer, NILIS, University of Colombo, Mr. Prasanna Ranaweera, Director, NILIS, University of Colombo and Mr. N. Ravikumar, Senior Assistant Librarian, Eastern University. Valedictory address was delivered by Prof. W. A. Weerasooriya, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya.

Annual Conference of Provincial Library Services Board



The annual conference of provincial library services board was conducted from 22nd to 23rd August 2019 at the Central

Province Library Services Board, Gatambe, Peradeniya. The officers of Central Sabaragamuwa, North Central and Uva Provincial Library Services Boards and officers of the NLDSB participated for a session of exchange of ideas. Hon. Rajith Keerthi Thennakoon, Governor of Central Province participated as the chief guest of the conference held on 23rd August 2019 at the Central Province Library Services Board. The keynote address of the conference was conducted by Prof. K. N. O. Dharmadasa. The officers of Central, Uva, Sabaragamuwa and North Central Library Services Boards, officers of the NLDSB and librarians of central province participated the conference.

Training Workshop For Library Staff – Nuwara Eliya

The first programme of the 2020 sustainable public library



development-training project for training of library staff throughout the island organized by the National Library and Documentation Services Board was held on 27th



June 2019 covering the Nuwara Eliya district. This programme was held in Sinhala and Tamil medium. The programme was held in Nuwara Eliya Public Library auditorium and 25 library professionals participated the programme. In conjunction with this programme another workshop was held for improving the writing skill and reading habit of children. This programme was held using the Nuwara Eliya Gamini National School as a resource center.

SPSS for Data Analysis



A Short Course on SPSS for Data Analysis was organized by the Research Division of National Library & Documentation Services Board. It was held on 8th- 9th August and 19th-20th September 2019 as two sessions at the NLDSB premises. This workshop was aimed at giving the participants a hands-on understanding of the basics and important aspects of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The workshop was based on practical and theoretical sessions. It was mainly targeted at Social Science and Science & Technology field researchers, professionals, academics and graduate and postgraduate students to use SPSS for the analysis of their research findings. Prof. K. A. P Siddhisena, Emeritus Professor of the Department of Demography, University of Colombo served as the resource person of the course. 55 were participated in the course representing various institutions in different fields.

School Library Training Programme - Galle

The school library training programme jointly organized by the Ministry of Education and National Library and Documentation Services Board was held for the library staff of the schools of Galle and Udugama education zones on 19th, 20th and 21st August 2019

School Library Training Programme - Kinniya

A training workshop for school librarians of Kinniya education zone was held on 6th and 7th August 2019.



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Public Library Training Programme -Killinochchi

The second workshop of the sustainable public library development training project was held for the public library staff of Jaffna and Killinochchi districts at the Jaffna Public Library auditorium on 09th, 10th and 11th September 2019. Librarians and book binders participated in the NLDSB. In addition, preliminary activities were also carried out to grade the public libraries of Jaffna and Killinochchi districts.

School Library Training Programme – Deniyaya

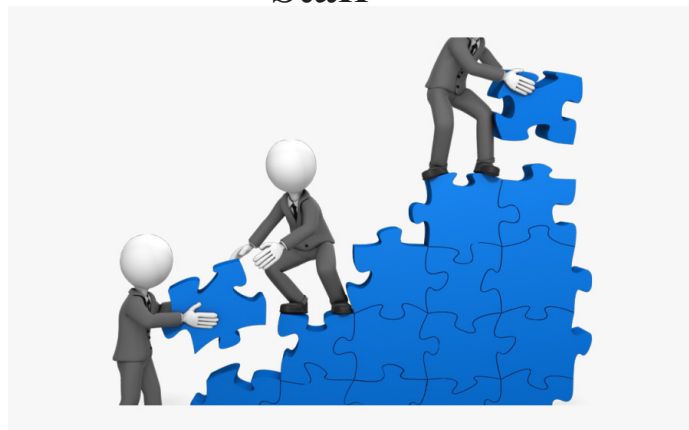
Under the school library staff training project jointly organized by the Ministry of Education and the NLDSB. NLDSB was held in Deniyaya Education Zone on 17th, 18th, 19th September 2019. 54 library officers participated in the programme.



A Seminar in Kandy For Writers, Publishers & Printers

In conjunction with the 2020 library sustainable development and training project, a seminar was conducted for the relevant stake holders on 11th July 2019 at the auditorium of the Central Provincial Council, Kandy. The seminar covered the areas such as standards to be followed in publishing a book accurately, importance of obtaining ISBN/ISSN/ISMN international standard numbers, importance of obtaining cataloguing in publication data and the contribution of printers in expanding the publication coverage of the Sri Lanka National Bibliography.

Training of Technical Library Staff



The training workshop on library management for the technical library officers of Technical Education and Training Department was held from 02nd to 06th December 2019 at the Technical Education and Training Department, Maradana. This programme was conducted under the patronage of Director General, Technical Education and Training Department.

Outbound Training Programme For National Library Staff



The outbound training programme organized for the staff of the National Library and Documentation Services Board was held in Hotel Sigiri on 06th and 07th December 2019. The objective of the programme was to create an attitude development through new experiences. 50 members of the staff participated in the programme and various activities were carried out within the two days to improve their skills and attitudes.



Editorial advice

W. Sunil - Director General

Senani Bandara - Director (Library Promotion, Standardization and Publication)

Editor : Sajanthi Bopitiya - Publication Officer

Designed by : Thanuja Rangika, Management Assistant

