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Dewundara Thuduwe Sita Peduru Thuduwata Sahithya Palamak Books Translation Project of NLDSB



National Library and Documentation Services Board implements a number of projects for book development.

Expanding these projects, arrangements have been made to implement a special project to promote literature among ethnic communities in Sri Lanka. Under this project, literature books in Sinhala will be translated into Tamil and literature books in Tamil will be translated into Sinhala. In addition, selected English books will be translated into Sinhala and Tamil.

The inauguration ceremony of this project implemented with the objective of promoting cultural exchange and making available quality books. The ceremony was held under the patronage of Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education and with the participation of Hon. Vijayakala Maheshwaran, State Minister of Education at the main auditorium of the Ministry of Education on 28th March, 2019.

Colombo Digital Public Library Open for Public



The Colombo Digital Public Library was officially launched by Hon. Ajith P. Perera, Minister of Digital Infrastructure and Information Technology and the Mayor of Colombo, Her worship Rosy Senanayake on 14th of March, 2019 at the Public Library premises. Colombo Public Library is now opened to the public as the first model digital library under the digital libraries project. Services of the digital library include access to electronic material via modern digital devices, customized integrated library management system to manage all functions and workflows within the library, tablets with the access to e-newspapers and e-Journals etc, tablets with styles for children's creative education with apps *Hapan*, services like scanning, printing and photocopying which enable user to store / take - home information as they wish. Kurunegala, Polonnaruwa, Bataloa, Badulla, Veligepola, Kirimatiyana public libraries are also expected to be developed as digital libraries in the future. Prof. Rohan Samarajiva, Chairman, Information Communication Technology (ICTA), Mr. W. Sunil, Director General, National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB), Mrs. Varuni Gangabadaarachchi, Chief Librarian, Colombo Public Library and senior officers of the ICTA, NLDSB and Colombo Public Library were participated the occasion. This project is conducted by the NLDSB and ICTA.

Appoint to the Expert Committee for Preparation of Nomination on Tripitaka

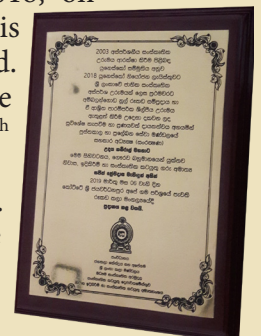


His Excellency the President, Maithripala Sirisena declared the Theravada Tripitaka as a national heritage to ensure the sustainability of pure Buddhism. Not limiting to this noble endeavour, he initiated the process to declare the Tripitaka as a world heritage with the aim of preserving it for thousands more years. He appointed an expert committee for this matter. Mr. Udaya Cabral, Assistant Director, NLDSB has been appointed as a member of this committee.

Team of Experts Inscribed the Rukada Natya were Admired

Rukada Natya traditional string puppet drama in Sri Lanka was inscribed in 2018, on UNESCO representation list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. This nomination dossier was prepared by a group of government officers and experts in the field. Hon. Minister of Housing, Construction & Cultural Affairs Sajith Premadasa admired the excellent work done by this team at the ceremony held at *Ape Gama premises* on 06th March 2019.

Dr. W. A. Abeysinghe, former Chairman, Mr. W. Sunil, Director General, Dr. G. D. Amarasiri, Former Director and Mr. Udaya Cabral, Assistant Director of NLDSB were admired at the ceremony for their great contribution to inscribe the Rukada Natya in Sri Lanka as a UNESCO world heritage.



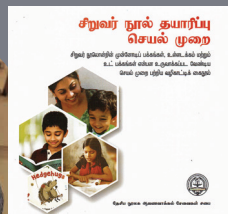
Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lanka Library Association

The 59th Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lanka Library Association was held on 28th June 2019 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Colombo. Inauguration ceremony of the AGM was held from 9.15 a.m. to 10.45 a. m. followed by the AGM proceedings of the AGM commenced at 11.15 a.m.



NEW ARRIVALS

Launch of a Book on Methods of Compiling Children's Books



The launch of "Lama Grantha Sakesme Kramavedaya" (a guide book on compiling

children's books Tamil translation) took place at the main auditorium of the Ministry of Education on 28th March, 2019.

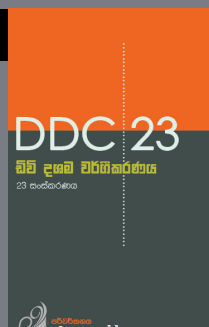
Statistical Handbook on Libraries 2018



Sri Lanka Library Statistical Handbook 2018, Comprise the findings of the Library and Information Science field. The data collection reports the status of library and information science occurred during the period of 1st of January 2017 to 31st December 2017. The data presented in the Handbook also gives a qualitative analysis of different aspects of the library and information sector of the country representing statistics on services of the National Library and Documentation Services Board and statistics on other institutional libraries also. The Handbook accesses in the National Library Website <http://www.natlib.lk/pdf/StatLib2018.pdf>

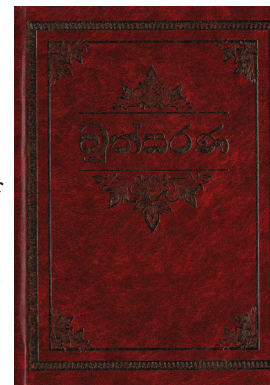
DDC 23

Sinhala translation of Dewey Decimal Classification 23rd edition was published recently. It includes the introduction to DDC, summaries and schedules of DDC. This translation is an useful guide for librarians to classify their collections effectively. Price Rs. 850/=



Revision of Classical Book Buthsarana

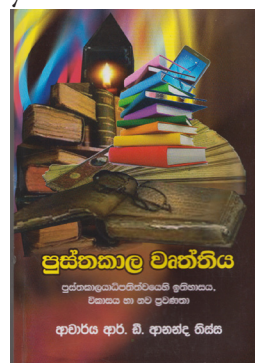
As a result of the attempt made by the National Library and Documentation Services Board to edit and publish old classical books for the use of present generation, "Buthsarana" classical book has been compiled.



On the invitation of the National Library and Documentation Services Board, Buthsarana was edited by a team of academics which included Prof. Rohini Paranavithana, Prof. Ananda Tissa Kumara and Dr. Premasiri Nagasinghe.

A New Book Compiled by Dr. Ananda Tissa

Dr. Ananda Tissa, a veteran library professional in Sri Lanka has compiled a book titled "Pusthakala Vurthiya : Pusthakalayadipathithwayehi Ithihasaya, Vikasaya ha nawa pravanatha". (Library profession : history of Librarianship, evolution and new trends). This book consists of six chapters and contains information on history of librarianship and how the librarianship developed as a profession. It is clear that the author has compiled this book through his long term research and experiences in the profession. The books on library and information science compiled in Sinhala are very limited. Therefore, this book is very important for students, teachers, librarians as well as researchers in the field.



Guvarnika



Guvarnika is the latest magazine on library and information sciences in Sri Lanka. It is a quarterly magazine published in Sinhala. Each issue contains articles on new trends in LIS in all types of libraries. The main objective of the magazine is to create a broader thinking among library personnel in the country.

Price is Rs. 200/= Annual subscription Rs.1000/= (with postage)

Demise of Senior Library Professionals

Mrs. Ishvari Corea



Mrs. Ishvari Corea, a veteran librarian who rendered an excellent service to the library field in Sri Lanka passed away on 15th May 2019.

Mrs. Ishvari Corea served as the chief librarian of the Colombo Public Library from 1961 to 1986. She made a tremendous service to upgrade the Colombo Public Library during the period of her service as a librarian. She served as the Chairman of the National Library and Documentation Services Board from 1989 to 1994. The National Library of Sri Lanka was opened during her period of service as Chairman of NLDSB.

Mr. H. M. Gunarathna Banda

Mr. H. M. Gunarathna Banda, a senior library professional, passed away on 27th March, 2019. Mr. Gunarathna Banda obtained his first degree from the University of Kelaniya and Masters degree from the University of Philippines. He started his library career at the University of Peradeniya and later joined to the National Library and Documentation Services Board. He got promotion to the post of Deputy Director in NLDSB and later joined to the National Institute of Education as the Director, Library and Information Services and was promoted to the post of Assistant Director General. After the retirement he served as a consultant and as a visiting lecturer at the Sri Lanka Library Association, University of Kelaniya and Open University. He was a popular teacher among the students and an excellent professional expert in library field.



CA Sri Lanka Library Launched Digital Library Facilities

The library of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) heralded a new era in digital transformation on 03rd May 2019, as it launched its e-Library for the benefit of its vast membership.

The e-Library will provide thousands of Chartered Accountants corporate clients and CA students a range of eBooks with the convenience of accessing the digital publications anywhere and anytime via any electronic device. The e-Library was officially launched by CA Sri Lanka President Mr. Jagath Perera in the presence of institute staff and officials.



Commemoration of World Children's Book Day

This programme is implemented with the objective of improving the quality of reading materials produced throughout the world for children and developing the reading habit of children. National Library and Documentation Services Board conducted programme for school librarians and public librarians in the Colombo Public Library auditorium on 02nd April, 2019 to mark the World Children's Book Day. About 150 school and public librarians and professionals in the library field participated the event. In this programme lectures were conducted by Prof. J. B. Disanayake, Dr. W. A. Abeysinghe, Mrs. Senani Bandara and Mr. Mihira Aravinda. Assistance was received from Department of Education, Western Province and Colombo Public Library organising this programme.



Convention on Literature for Children and Youth - 2019

The convention on Literature for children and youth was conducted on 5th - 6th April 2019 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute in Colombo. The convention was organised by the Sri Lanka section of the International Board on Book for Young people (IBBY). The convention was inaugurated by Hon. Vijayakala Maheshwaran, State Minister of Education. The participants of the convention included authors, illustrators, publishers, academics, teachers, librarians and child and youth welfare officers and officials of the Ministry of Education, National Institute of Library and Information Sciences, University of Colombo, National Library and Documentation Services Board and National Institute of Education. The *Kalana Mithuru Poth Sumithuru* Programme and *Lama Sahithya Kruthi Agayima* was also honoured with special plaques on this occasion. The recipients were Mr. R. H. N. Nandasiri Mr. P. G. Premada U. P. Alahakoon, Mr. P. K. Vithana, Mr. Vijitha Welagedara and Mrs. Ser Bandara



Observation Tour of Flood Affected Libraries in Northern and Eastern Provinces.

The disaster protection team of the National Library and Documentation Services Board visited the Northern and Eastern Provinces on 09th and 10th January, 2019 to inspect the libraries damaged by floods on 22nd December, 2018 in those provinces. This team made aware the staff of the damaged libraries about the measures to be taken to protect the damaged books. A leaflet on how to protect the books damaged by water was prepared to make aware the public and school libraries in the provinces. The disaster protection team obtained information on the damaged libraries from the District Secretariat, Killinochchi. The Vattakachchi Public Library was completely destroyed due to flood. Through this visit Vattakachchi Public Library, Killinochchi Public Library and other libraries of the area were made aware on preliminary measure that should be taken in this kind of situation.



3rd National Library Research Symposium - Natlib Sympo 2019



Development of research in any field is very instrumental for the development of the respective fields. The main advantage of conducting research is the generation of new knowledge which is important for education and development. To fulfill this responsibility, Library Research Division of the NLDSB has made arrangements to conduct the National Library Research Symposium on 25th October 2019 with honorary collaboration of IFLA - Asia and Oceania section. This symposium is an excellent opportunity to discuss the issues relating to library and information science and related areas. This is also an ideal platform for researchers, academics, professionals and graduate and postgraduate students in the relevant field. Further information on the symposium can be obtained from the National Library website www.natlib.lk

Library Grading Programme

Following libraries have been graded by NLDSB

No	Name of the Parental Institute	Name of the Library	Library Grade	Date of Grading
1	Badulla Municipal Council	Senarath Paranavithana Public Library	Grade i	26 th February 2019
2	Buttala Pradeshiya Sabha	Buttala Public Library	Grade i	26 th February 2019
3	Vavuniya Pradeshiya Sabha	Vavuniya Public Library	Grade i	26 th February 2019
4	Madulla Pradeshiya Sabha	Dambagalla Public Library	Grade ii	26 th February 2019
5	Godakawela Pradeshiya Sabha	Godakawela Public Library	Grade ii	26 th February 2019
6	Kinniya Pradeshiya Sabha	Kinniya Public Library	Grade ii	26 th February 2019
7	Akurana Pradeshiya Sabha	Alawatugoda Public Library	Grade ii	26 th February 2019
8	Mahara Pradeshiya Sabha	Naranwala Public Library	Grade ii	26 th February 2019
9	Pallepola Pradeshiya Sabha	Pallepola Public Library	Grade ii	26 th February 2019
10	Nattandiya Pradeshiya Sabha	Maravila Public Library	Grade ii	26 th February 2019
11	Seethawaka Pradeshiya Sabha	Hanwella Public Library	Grade ii	26 th February 2019
12	Bandarawela Pradeshiya Sabha	Bandarawela Public Library	Grade ii	16 th May 2019
13	Kinniya Urban Council	Maharoorof Nagar Public Library	Grade iii	8 th January 2019
14	Galnewa Pradeshiya Sabha	Galnewa Public Library	Grade iii	30 th January 2019
15	Wellawaya Pradeshiya Sabha	Etiliwewa Public Library	Grade iii	26 th February 2019
16	Divulapitiya Pradeshiya Sabha	Thotillagahawatta Public Library	Grade iii	16 th May 2016
17	Badalkumbura Pradeshiya Sabha	Punsisigama Public Library	Grade iii	16 th May 2016



Workshops on Conservation of Library Material

National Library and Documentation Services Board conducted a workshop on conservation of library materials and book binding on 30th to 31st January 2019. 11 government officers participated the workshop.

Management Development and Training Institute (MDTI) of Southern Province organized a workshop on book binding and document maintenance from 21st to 22nd May 2019. Mr. Udaya Cabral, Assistant Director of the NLDSB served as the resource person of this workshop. 44 librarians of Southern Provincial & government officers participated the workshop.

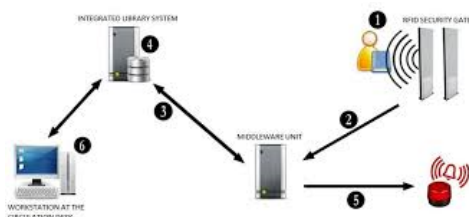
Lending Section of the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Library Opened

Lending section of the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Library was opened by Hon. Dhamma Disanayake, Governor of Sabaragamuwa Province. Readers of Sabaragamuwa Province can borrow books from this library. Books can be obtained by a request made through the regional library functioning under the respective local government institutions of the province. Books are issued to the readers through regional libraries. Readers of Sabaragamuwa Province can also borrow books of the National Library and Documentation Services Board under the inter library loan scheme if the required books are not available in the Provincial Library.



Installation of a Radio Frequency Identification System (RFID) for the National Library of Sri Lanka

The preliminary activities for the installation of a RFID security system for the National Library of Sri Lanka were carried out in 2018 with the objective of providing a user friendly quality service to the readers. RFID system prevents the misplace of books and facilitates annual stock verification. Also the KOHA library software which may be combined to the RFID system can maintain statistics on readers and their reading trends. Accordingly, RFID system is used for the National Library since February 2019. RFID gates will also be installed after the renovation of the National Library building.



Change of the Regional Number of ISBN

The necessity of an international numbering system for books was discussed for the first time in the conference of the book publishers held in Berlin in 1966. As a result the International Standards Book Number (ISBN) was started as a numbering system to differentiate the books published in various countries of the world. From the beginning 955 has been used as the regional number for Sri Lanka. However, this number has been changed by the international center as 624 since 2019.

44th ISSN Directors' Meeting

The 44th Meeting of Directors of ISSN centres organised by National Science Library CSIR- NISCAIR, India. The Indian National Centre for ISSN will be held in the National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) complex from 12th to 16th November 2019.

ISBN Annual General Meeting - 2019

The annual general meeting of International Standard Book Numbering programme will be held on 30th September and 1st October 2019 in Santiago, Chile. The annual general meeting of the International ISMN Agency will take place in the same week. (on 2nd October) Further information can be obtained from www.isbn-international.org/content/information-national-isbn-agencies-regarding-2019-agm

Rajarata Poth Wasanthaya - Book Exhibition

The Rajarata Poth Wasanthaya" book exhibition 2019 will be held at Anuradhapura public playground from 25th to 28th July 2019. The exhibition is organised by Provincial Library Services Board of North Central Province. Leading book publishers in the country will participate the exhibition.



"Potha Patha Yali Kiyawamu" Programme

Potha Patha Yali Kiyawamu programme was implemented by Provincial Library Services Board of Sabaragamuwa Province with the objective of promoting reading among the student community of Sabaragamuwa Province. The inauguration ceremony of the programme was held recently at the auditorium of the Provincial Library Services Board, Rathnapura. In this programme lectures were conducted by Mr. Mahinda Prasad Masimbula, Mr. Suminda K. Gunaratna, Dr. Ajith Kalyana Amarasinghe and Mr. Danushka Ediriweera Bandara.

Launch of the official website of the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Library Services Board also took place on this occasion. Duruthu Mathakaya and commemoration of Mahagama Sekara also took place. Hon. Damma Disanayake, Governor of Sabaragamuwa Province and other officials participated the occasion.

National Conference on Library and Information Science (NACLIS) – 2019

The National Conference on Library and Information Science 2019 was held on 27th June 2019 from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. at the Sri Lanka Foundation, Colombo 07. This event is annually organised by the Sri Lanka Library Association with the objective of promoting professional and academic experiences among librarians and information professionals in Sri Lanka and providing opportunity for its members to share their research findings.

2020 Sustainable Development and Training Project



As the next stage of the public library basic management training programmes, it has been planned since 2019 to provide different trainings needed for a library through one main training programme. Plans have been prepared to provide a comprehensive training and development programmes in district level to suit the needs of the staff and the current trends in the library field under the “2020 sustainable development and training project”

These programmes and services have been planned as follows :

Training on library conservation and preservation.

Software skill development for public library staff

Bibliographic services and project related to public libraries.

Information technology training for public libraries.

Grading and development of public libraries.

Providing national library services for writers including issue of ISBN numbers for publications.

This programme was held on 25, 26 and 27 June 2019 in Sinhala and Tamil medium covering Nuwara Eliya District.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

ICCYAL 2019 - 6th International Conference on Children & Young Adults Librarianship 2019

Theme : “Understanding, Valuing and Preserving Local and Indigenous Knowledge towards Cohesion and Cooperation in Diverse Society”

Venue : Davao City, the Philippines,

Duration : 22-25 October 2019.

Website : <http://web.nlp.gov.ph/nlp/?q=node/10190>

ICADL 2019 - 21st International Conference on Asia-Pacific Digital Libraries

Theme : Digital Libraries at Cross-Roads of Digital Information for the Future
– Connecting Data, Technologies and People in Different Domains –

Duration : 4 – 7, November 2019

Venue : Sunway Putra Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Website : <http://icadl2019.org/>

National Library and Information Technicians' Symposium 2019

Duration : Wednesday 13 to Friday 15 November 2019,

Venue : Victoria University City Convention Centre and Box Hill Institute City Campus, Melbourne

Website : <https://www.alia.org.au/events/17266/national-library-and-information-technicians-symposium-2019#>

12th International CALIBER 2019

Theme : Library 2030: Moving Towards Smart Technologies, Services and Resources”.

Duration : 28-30 November, 2019

Venue : KIIT, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751024

Website : <https://caliber.inflibnet.ac.in/>



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