

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA NEWSLETTER



**The 15th International Conference
University Librarians Association
(ICULA 2025)**
Pre-Conference Webinar Series
Webinar on
"Innovating for Impact: Commercial
Services in the 21st Century Library"

Date: 17th of July 2025
Time: 10.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.

Meeting ID: 859 8594 0392
Passcode: 230090

To Join
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Conducted by
Dr. C.C. JAYASUNDARA
The Librarian,
University of Kelaniya,
Sri Lanka.

Organized by University Librarians Association



**The 15th International Conference
University Librarians Association
(ICULA 2025)**
Pre-Conference Webinar Series
Webinar on
"GenAI for Academic Libraries:
As Users, Guides and
Instructors"

Date: 12th of August 2025
Time: 01.00 p.m. - 02.00 p.m.

Meeting ID: 814 5865 2467
Passcode: 266678

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Conducted by Mrs. D.P.C. Vithana,
Reading for a PhD at Robert Gordon University, MLIS (UOC),
BSc (Hons) (U.NL).

Senior Assistant Librarian,
The Library, Uwa Wellasa University of
Sri Lanka.

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**The 15th International Conference
University Librarians Association
(ICULA 2025)**
Pre-Conference Webinar Series
Webinar on
"Integrating Open Science
Library Services in E-Research"

Date: 15th of August 2025
Time: 10.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.

Meeting ID: 818 2457 4277
Passcode: 279766

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Conducted by
Dr. Wathsala Athukorala
PhD (China), MLIS (UOC), MSc (UOP), BA (Hons) (UOP)
Guest Scholar (Fern University, Germany)
Deputy Librarian
So Paulo Campus
University of Columbia, Sri Lanka

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Feature Article

Infophobia: The Modern Patron's Silent Struggle and the Library's Role as an Antidote



Dilhani Munasinghe
Senior Assistant Librarian,
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,
University of Colombo



Dr. Wathsala Athukorala
Deputy Librarian, Sri Palee Campus
University of Colombo.

Introduction

In an age defined by the unprecedented abundance of information, a new and paradoxical anxiety has emerged within our communities. Patrons no longer walk into libraries primarily facing a scarcity of resources; instead, they are often paralysed by an overwhelming excess. The challenge is no longer finding information, but filtering it, evaluating it, and coping with the psychological toll of the constant deluge. This phenomenon has a name: Infophobia (Savolainen, 2007). While not yet a formal clinical diagnosis, the term “infophobia” from the Latin *informatio* (information) and Greek *phobos* (fear) is gaining traction in Library and Information Science (LIS) discourse to describe the pervasive apprehension, anxiety, and stress individuals experience when faced with the necessity of navigating complex information environments. Unlike technophobia, which is a fear of technology itself, infophobia is a content-based anxiety, a dread of the sheer volume, complexity, and often contradictory nature of the information one must process to function in society.

As Savolainen (2015) articulates in his work on everyday information practices, the “cognitive barriers” to information seeking are becoming significantly more pronounced. Individuals are not just avoiding complex searches; they are actively experiencing a stress response to the very prospect of wading through digital misinformation, scholarly paywalls, and the 24/7 news cycle. This has profound implications for the mission of libraries and the role of information professionals in today's world.

Identifying the Characteristics of Infophobia

Infophobia manifests in several key ways that will be familiar to any front-line librarian:

1. **Analysis Paralysis:** The inability to make a decision or begin a research task due to the perception of endless sources and the fear of choosing an inferior or incorrect one. A student might have fifty open browser tabs yet be unable to write a single sentence, overwhelmed by the possibilities.

2. **Information Avoidance:** A conscious or unconscious decision to avoid information altogether due to the anxiety it provokes. This is particularly dangerous in contexts of health or financial information, where avoidance can have serious real-world consequences (Howell & Shepperd, 2013; Walker, 2021; Munasinghe, 2025).

3. **The Imposter Syndrome Amplifier:** In academic settings, infophobia exacerbates feelings of intellectual inadequacy. The more a student discovers, the more they realise what they don't know, creating a cycle of anxiety that hinders, rather than helps, the research process.

4. **Digital Fatigue:** As identified in recent studies on adolescent literacy (Aziz et al., 2024), intensive digital consumption leads to reduced attention spans and cognitive fatigue, which are core components of the infophobia response. The medium itself contributes to overwhelm.

This phenomenon is fundamentally an affective response to information overload, centering on the emotional and anxiety-provoking dimensions of engaging with modern information ecosystems.

The Library as a “Sanctuary” in the Information Storm

If infophobia is the modern disease of the information age, then libraries are uniquely positioned to be a primary source of the antidote. This requires a shift from merely providing access to actively curating, mediating, and mitigating the stress of information.

1. From Gatekeepers to Guides: The Pedagogical Imperative

The classic model of information literacy instruction, which focus on teaching the mechanics of database searching, is necessary but no longer sufficient. Combating infophobia requires teaching the mindset of a savvy information consumer. This includes:

- **Curatorial Literacy:** Helping patrons develop strategies to filter and select, not just search. This involves teaching the use of RSS feeds, alert systems, and other tools that deliver quality information to the user, rather than the user drowning in a sea of data.

- **Critical Evaluation as a Stress-Reduction Tool:** Framing source evaluation not as an arduous checklist but as an empowering method to quickly reduce the field of play. As breakers of information barriers, librarians can demystify the process, showing patrons how to use triage sources efficiently, thereby reducing the anxiety of the unknown.

2. Promote Digital Wellness and Cognitive Sustainability

Libraries have always been spaces for contemplation and deep thought. In the digital age, this must be intentionally cultivated. This can involve:

- **Programming on Digital Minimalism:** Hosting workshops that teach patrons how to manage their digital consumption, curate their online feeds, and develop healthier relationships with technology.

- **Designing “Low-Stimulus” Zones:** Creating dedicated quiet zones that are not just silent, but are explicitly designed for focused, deep work without digital interruptions, serving as a sanctuary from the hyper-stimulation of modern life.

3. Personalized Navigation and Cognitive Support

The human touch of a librarian is more valuable than ever. The reference interview transforms into a therapeutic-like interaction where the librarian must first assuage anxiety before attempting the query. This involves active listening, breaking down complex tasks into manageable steps, and affirming the patron's feelings of being overwhelmed, validating that their infophobia is a rational response to an irrational system.

Navigating Real-World Constraints: The Implementation Challenge

The proposed role of libraries as an “antidote” to infophobia is aspirational. However, its implementation must be reconciled with significant practical limitations, particularly in contexts such as Sri Lanka.

- **Funding and Infrastructure:** The vision of “Low-Stimulus Zones” requires reliable electricity and Internet, a non-trivial challenge in a country experiencing frequent power cuts. Libraries often operate with limited budgets for database subscriptions, meaning

they cannot always provide the “curated” access they aspire to. The digital divide is not just cognitive but profoundly physical and economic.

- **Staffing and Training:** Transforming librarians from “gatekeepers to guides” requires continuous professional development. However, public libraries in Sri Lanka often face staffing shortages and have limited resources for training staff in advanced digital literacy or cognitive support techniques. Asking a lone librarian managing a small, under-resourced branch also to act as a “digital wellness” coach is a significant challenge.

- **Cultural and Linguistic Scaling:** Developing “Personalised Navigation” for a multilingual population requires resources and tools that are often designed for monolingual, Western contexts. A Sri Lankan librarian must be a guide not only to information but also through the complexities of three-language information ecosystems, a task for which few standardised models exist.

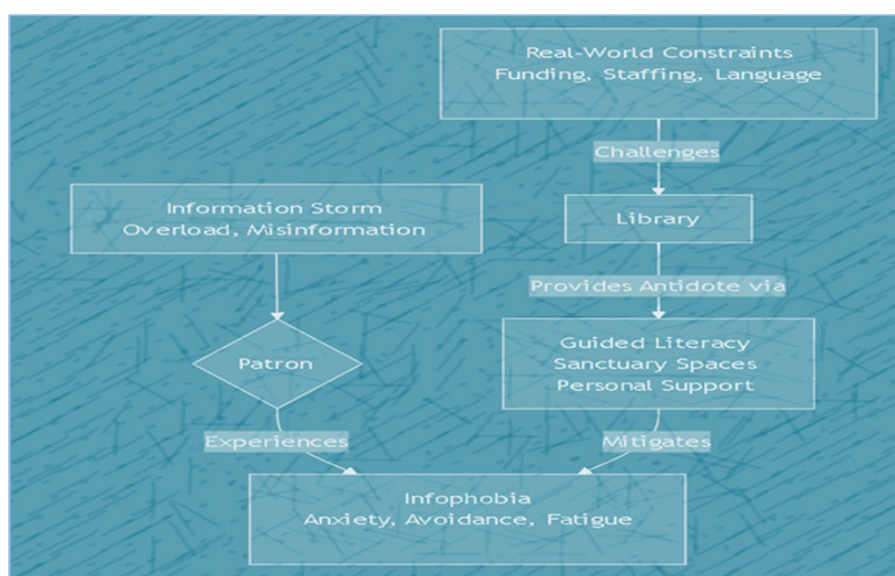


Figure 1: Mapping the Library's Role as an Antidote to Infophobia

The Path Forward: Contextual Research and Advocacy

The LIS field must formally recognise and study infophobia to develop evidence-based strategies that are sensitive to local contexts. Further research is urgently needed to understand its prevalence and impact across different demographics, particularly in Global South nations where the information explosion interacts with pre-existing linguistic, educational, and infrastructural challenges.

For libraries in Sri Lanka and similar contexts, the path forward involves strategic advocacy and partnership. This means:

1. Lobbying for recognition that library funding is a public health imperative for cognitive well-being.
2. Developing low-bandwidth, offline-first digital literacy tools that can function even with intermittent infrastructure.
3. Creating community-specific curation models, such as verified, multi-lingual information hubs on local issues (e.g., agriculture, health, citizen rights) to reduce the chaos of the open web and social media.

In a world saturated with information, the ability to find peace, focus, and truth is not a luxury; it is a necessity. By acknowledging infophobia and consciously evolving to meet this new and urgent human need even in the face of significant constraints, libraries can solidify their role as vital clinics for the overwhelmed modern mind, from the global north to the global south.

A Case in Point: Infophobia in the Sri Lankan Context

While infophobia is a global phenomenon, its manifestations are acutely visible in developing nations like Sri Lanka, where the digital leap has been rapid and often uneven. The concept of a “cognitive divide” (Wurman, 2001) is starkly evident in this context. Consider the empirical observations from public and university libraries scattered across the island wide:

- **The Multilingual Overload:** A Sri Lankan university student is often required to navigate information in Sinhala, Tamil, and English. The challenge isn't just volume, but the cognitive load of filtering and synthesising across languages and cultural contexts. A single search on a topic like “constitutional law” or “economic policy” yields contradictory results in all three languages, leading directly to Analysis Paralysis. The fear is not just of choosing a poor source, but of misinterpreting a culturally or politically nuanced text.
- **The WhatsApp Infodemic:** In a context where mobile data and WhatsApp are primary information channels, Information Avoidance takes on a unique form. During the 2022 economic crisis, citizens were bombarded with a relentless stream of unverified messages about fuel queues, medicine shortages, and political unrest. The anxiety was so profound that many individuals reported deliberately leaving community WhatsApp groups a clear behavioural indicator of infophobia, to preserve their mental well-being, even at the risk of missing critical, practical information (Walker, 2021). This is infophobia driven by survival anxiety.
- **The Digital Native vs. Digital Naïve Divide:** Contrary to assumptions, Sri Lankan youth (Aziz et al., 2024) are not immune to Digital Fatigue. While they are proficient with social media interfaces, many lack the critical digital literacy to evaluate scholarly articles or identify sophisticated misinformation. In a focus group at a Sri Lankan university, students expressed feeling “stupid” and “left behind” when accessing international academic portals, directly amplifying Imposter Syndrome. They have the access, but not the analogous skills to manage the cognitive toll.

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ULA Events – Webinar

Pre-Conference Webinar 4: “Innovating for Impact: Commercialising Library Services in the 21st Century University”

The fourth pre-conference webinar, titled “Innovating for Impact: Commercialising Library Services in the 21st Century University,” was successfully held on 17th July 2025 from 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. via Zoom. The session featured Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, Librarian of the University of Kelaniya, as the Resource Person. The webinar focused on innovative strategies for managing university library budgets in the absence of government funding, highlighting the importance of commercialisation and sustainable financial models in modern academic libraries. The webinar saw the enthusiastic participation of nearly 50 library professionals, who contributed proactively throughout the session. The event marked another successful milestone in the pre-conference series, fostering dialogue on innovative, sustainable practices for the future of university libraries.

ULA ICULA

The 15th International Conference of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (ICULA 2025)

Pre-Conference Webinar Series # 04

Webinar on:

"Innovating for Impact: Commercialising Library Services in the 21st Century University"

Date: 17th of July 2025
Time: 10.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

Meeting ID: 859 8394 0392
Passcode: 236690

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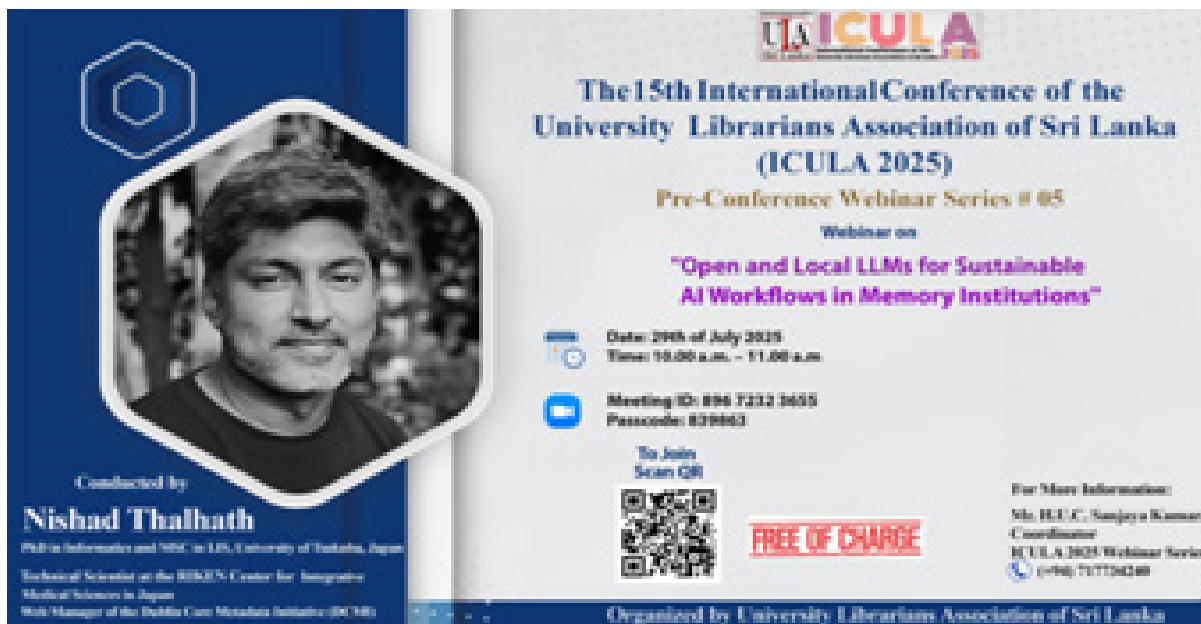
For More Information:
Mr. H.U.C. Sanjaya Kumara
Coordinator
ICULA 2025 Webinar Series
☎ +94 77 7734240

Organized by University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka

Conducted by
Dr. C.C. JAYASUNDARA
The Librarian,
University of Kelaniya,
Sri Lanka.

Pre-Conference Webinar 5: “Open and Local LLMs for Sustainable AI Workflows in Memory Institutions”

The fifth pre-conference webinar, titled “Open and Local LLMs for Sustainable AI Workflows in Memory Institutions,” was held on 29th July 2025 from 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. via Zoom. The session featured Mr. Nishad Thalhath, Technical Scientist at the RIKEN Center for Integrative Medical Sciences, Japan, and Web Manager of the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI), as the Resource Person. The webinar focused on the effective use of open-source and commercial AI applications to develop sustainable AI-driven workflows in libraries and other memory institutions. Participants gained insights into emerging technologies and practical approaches for integrating AI tools responsibly and efficiently. The webinar saw the active participation of nearly 50 attendees, marking another successful event in the pre-conference series and reinforcing the growing interest in sustainable AI practices within the library community.



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University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka
(ICULA 2025)
Pre-Conference Webinar Series # 05
Webinar on
**"Open and Local LLMs for Sustainable
AI Workflows in Memory Institutions"**

Date: 04th of July 2025
Time: 10.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

Meeting ID: 896 7232 3455
Passcode: 829963

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Organized by University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka

Conducted by:
Nishad Thalath
PhD in Informatics and MSc in LIS, University of Tsukuba, Japan
Technical Scientist at the RIKEN Center for Integrative
Medicine in Japan
Web Manager of the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI)

Pre-Conference Webinar 6: "Crossref Services for Librarians"

The sixth pre-conference webinar, titled "Crossref Services for Librarians," was held on 06th August 2025 from 1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. via Zoom. The session featured two distinguished Resource Persons: Prof. K.S.L. Gunawardana, Head, Department of Information Technology, Faculty of Management Studies & Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and Crossref Ambassador for Sri Lanka, along with Mr. Johanssen Obanda, Community Engagement Manager, Crossref.

The webinar focused on key Crossref services, including the Global Equitable Membership (GEM) Program, and highlighted the importance of metadata quality and usage for enhancing content discovery. Participants gained valuable insights into how libraries can leverage Crossref tools and services to strengthen scholarly communication and improve resource accessibility. The webinar attracted nearly 50 proactive participants, marking another successful event in the pre-conference series and enriching the professional knowledge base of the library community.



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The 15th International Conference of the
University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka
(ICULA 2025)
Pre-Conference Webinar Series # 06
Webinar on
"Crossref services for librarians"

Date: 06th of August 2025
Time: 01.00 p.m. – 02.00 p.m.

Meeting ID: 872 4822 7222
Passcode: 705434

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Organized by University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka

Conducted by:
Prof. K.S.L. Gunawardana
Head of the Department
Department of Information Technology
Faculty of Management Studies & Commerce
University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Mr. Johanssen Obanda
Community Engagement Manager
Crossref

Pre-Conference Webinar 7: “GenAI for Academic Library Professionals: As Users, Guides, and Guardians”

The seventh pre-conference webinar, titled “GenAI for Academic Library Professionals: As Users, Guides, and Guardians,” was successfully held on 12th August 2025 from 1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. via Zoom. The session featured Mrs. D.P.C. Vithana, Senior Assistant Librarian, Uva Wellasa University of Sri Lanka, as the Resource Person.

The webinar offered valuable insights into the effective integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) within academic libraries, empowering professionals to serve as informed users, proactive guides, and responsible guardians in an evolving AI-rich knowledge environment. Participants gained a clearer understanding of the potential of GenAI tools and the ethical considerations essential for their responsible use. With nearly 60 enthusiastic participants, the session fostered meaningful dialogue and underscored the growing importance of GenAI in reshaping the future of academic library services.

The poster features a portrait of Mrs. D.P.C. Vithana on the left. The right side contains the following text:

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(ICULA 2025)
Pre-Conference Webinar Series # 07
Webinar on
**"GenAI for Academic Library Professionals:
As Users, Guides and Guardian"**

Date: 12th of August 2025
Time: 01.00 p.m. – 02.00 p.m.

Meeting ID: 814 5445 2447
Passcode: 244478

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Reading for a PhD at Robert Gordon University, MLN (UOC),
BSc (Hons) (USA),
Senior Assistant Librarian,
The Library, Uva Wellasa University of
Sri Lanka.

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Pre-Conference Webinar 8: “Integrating Open Science to Enhance Library Services in Europe”

The eighth pre-conference webinar, titled “Integrating Open Science to Enhance Library Services in Europe,” was held on 15th August 2025 from 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. via Zoom. The session was conducted by Dr. Wathsala Athukorala, Deputy Librarian, Sri Palee Campus, University of Colombo, who shared valuable insights on how open science practices are transforming and strengthening library services across Europe. With nearly 50 participants in attendance, the session served as an enriching platform for exchanging ideas on integrating open science principles into library workflows and advancing the role of libraries in the global knowledge ecosystem.

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The 15th International Conference of the
University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka
(ICULA 2025)

Pre-Conference Webinar Series # 08

Webinar on

**"Integrating Open Science to Enhance
Library Services in Europe"**

Date: 15th of August 2025
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Meeting ID: 818 2457 4237
Passcode: 279706

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PhD (China), MLIS (U.S.), MSc (U.K.), BA (Hons) (U.K.)
Guest Scholar (Fern University, Germany)
Deputy Librarian
St. Peter Campus
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Pre-Conference Webinar 9: "Reimagining Research: EBSCO's Technology and Content Advantage for Academic Libraries"

The ninth pre-conference webinar, titled "Reimagining Research: EBSCO's Technology and Content Advantage for Academic Libraries," was held on 26th September 2025 from 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. via Zoom. The session featured Mr. Kaladhar Reddy, Business Manager for Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Sri Lanka, and Maldives at EBSCO India, as the Resource Person. The webinar focused on EBSCO's databases and services, highlighting how its advanced technologies and rich content offerings can support research, teaching, and learning in academic libraries. The event saw the active participation of around 15 attendees, who engaged enthusiastically throughout the session. Despite the smaller audience, the webinar provided valuable insights into optimizing the use of EBSCO resources within academic institutions.

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The 15th International Conference of the
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(ICULA 2025)

Pre-Conference Webinar Series # 09

Webinar on

**"Reimagining Research: EBSCO's Technology and
Content Advantage for Academic Libraries."**

Date: 26th of September 2025
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Meeting ID: 819 5393 2251
Passcode: 462804

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Organized by University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka

Conducted by
Mr. Kaladhar Reddy
Business Manager,
AP, Telangana,
Sri Lanka & Maldives,
EBSCO India.

Milestones & Achievements

Dr. C.C. Jayasundara Makes History as First Librarian in Sri Lanka to Receive Prestigious CVCD Excellence Award

In a landmark moment for the academic and library science community in Sri Lanka, Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, the renowned University Librarian of the University of Kelaniya, has been honoured with the prestigious Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Directors (CVCD) Excellence Award for 2024.

This achievement marks the first time a librarian has received this distinguished national award, underscoring a historic recognition of the field.

Dr. Jayasundara was presented with this Lifetime Award for the Most Outstanding Senior Researcher in Social Sciences and Legal Studies. This highly competitive category acknowledges scholars whose work spans a broad and impactful spectrum, including disciplines such as Archaeology, Economics, Education, Geography, Library Science, Law and other related disciplines.

The award was bestowed in honour of Dr. Jayasundara's "exceptional contributions to research, leadership and service." Throughout his distinguished and trailblazing career, he has stood as a transformative force in the realms of scholarly research and academic librarianship. He has not only redefined library services with visionary leadership but has also nurtured and inspired a new generation of information professionals, instilling in them a commitment to excellence and innovation. Under his stewardship, the University of Kelaniya library has ascended to unprecedented heights, setting benchmarks of quality and service, while his profound influence has resonated far beyond the university, leaving an indelible mark on the national and global landscapes of academic librarianship. This historic accolade is not only a testament to Dr. Jayasundara's personal dedication and intellectual prowess but also a powerful affirmation of the vital role that Library and Information Science plays in the country's research and education ecosystem. His achievement is a source of immense pride for our university and an inspiration to the entire academic community.





Appointment in the SLA Council- Mrs. MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, KDU



Mrs. MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian attached to the Medical library, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) has been appointed as a convener of the Academic Library group of the Sri Lanka Library Association for the year 2025/2026.



A Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade I) has been appointed as the Co-Director of the Center for Conceptual Anthropology (CCA) at the University of the Visual and Performing Arts. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Rohan Nethsinghe, will serve as the Director of the Center. The main objective of the CCA is to promote research, training and education in the fields of culture and anthropology while strengthening international collaboration through anthropological research.

Appointment as Student Counsellor



Ms. Sakunthala Senevirathna, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Ruhuna, was appointed as a Student Counsellor.



Ms. Hansamali Kaushalya Wijerathne has been appointed as an Assistant Librarian at the Main Library, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, with effect from 16th June 2025.

She holds a BA (Hons) Degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Kelaniya, graduating with First Class, with a specialization in Cataloguing and Classification. She is currently pursuing her MSSC in Library and Information Science at the University of Kelaniya.

SEUSL Librarian Wins Top Honor at State Literary Awards 2025



Mashroofa, Senior Assistant Librarian, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL), wins Top Honor at State Literary Awards 2025, at the prestigious State Literary Awards Ceremony - 2025, conducted by the Department of Cultural Affairs, in Collaborations with the Ministry of Buddha Asana, Religious and Cultural Affairs, held on 18th September 2025 at Temple Trees, Colombo. The book on "Indexing in Library Information Science" authored by Dr. Mohamed Majeed Mashroofa, Senior Assistant Librarian was awarded first place under the various subject related books category. This national recognition highlights Dr. Mashroofa's outstanding scholarly contribution to the field of Library and Information Science. This national award brings pride and honor not only to South Eastern University of Sri Lanka but to the LIS Sector of Sri Lanka.

Farewell to Dr (Mrs) D.C. Kuruppu, Deputy Librarian, University of Colombo

Deputy Librarian of the University of Colombo, Dr. D. C. Kuruppu, retired from service on 30th September 2025. She began her career in the library sector in 1991 by joining the University of Colombo Library as an Assistant Librarian. She was promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian Grade II in 1997 and to Senior Assistant Librarian Grade I in 2003. In 2007, she was appointed as the Deputy Librarian of the University of Colombo.

Dr. Kuruppu earned her BSc. (Hons) Degree from the University of Ruhuna in 1985 and obtained her M. Phil Degree in Chemistry, focusing on Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, in 1993. Furthermore, she acquired her MSc degree in Information Management from the University of Sheffield, United Kingdom, in 1997. She was awarded her doctoral degree, focusing on the information needs of breast cancer patients, from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, in 2017.

Dr. Kuruppu has rendered outstanding service to the University of Colombo Library for over 34 years in various roles. She began her career at the Faculty of Science Library, University of Colombo, and in 2001, she joined the Medical Faculty Library, dedicating herself to its improvement. Additionally, she served as Acting Librarian at the University of Colombo for more than 7 years during 2007-2008, 2011-2014, 2018-2019, and 2021-2024. Throughout her tenure, she initiated numerous innovative activities within the library. Her contributions extended beyond the university; Dr. Kuruppu has been the National Focal Point Librarian of the HELLIS Network since 2002, coordinating many national training programmes to educate health librarians and staff to strengthen health science libraries across Sri Lanka. She has also shared her expertise as a consultant on various national projects.

The University of Colombo Library appreciates Dr. D. C. Kuruppu's 34 years of exceptional service and wishes her good health, happiness, and continued success in all her future endeavours.





Staff Promotions

The University of Peradeniya Library is pleased to announce the promotion of two members of its academic staff to the position of Senior Assistant Librarian Grade II.

- Mr. Eranga Bandara, Assistant Librarian of the Faculty of Medicine Library, has been promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian Grade II with effect from February 2024

- Mr. S. A. Jeewan, Assistant Librarian of the Reference Services and Ceylon Room, has been promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian Grade II with effect from April 2024.

The Library extends its warm congratulations and wishes both of them continued success in their professional careers.



On Sabbatical Leave

Mr. S. Premaratne, Head and Senior Assistant Librarian of the Acquisitions Division, Main Library, has commenced a one-year period of sabbatical leave with effect from 1st August 2025.

The Library wishes him a productive and fulfilling sabbatical period.

Appointment of Members to the National Advisory Committee of the Agricultural Library Information Network (Agri-Net) under the Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy (SLCARP)

After a lapse of several years, the Agricultural Library Information Network (Agri-Net), functioning under the Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy (SLCARP), has been reactivated under the leadership of the newly appointed Chairman, Prof. Saman Dharmakeerthi. The primary objective of Agri-Net is to strengthen agricultural research in Sri Lanka by fostering collaboration, resource sharing, and knowledge exchange among agricultural libraries affiliated with SLCARP.

In line with this initiative, the following members have been appointed to the **National Advisory Committee of Agri-Net**:

- Mrs. Chithra M. Abeygunasekara, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Science, University of Kelaniya – Chairperson of Agri-Net
- Dr. S. M. P. C. Padmini, Deputy Director, Research Management, SLCARP
- Dr. Manoja Samaradivakara, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura
- Mr. Ajantha Dharmarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya
- Mrs. W. P. Thanuja Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
- Mrs. K. N. Samanthi, Information Officer, National Science Foundation
- Mrs. D. Shyagila Muthugala, Librarian, Department of Agriculture
- Mrs. Chanika Wijesekera, Librarian and Publications Officer, Rubber Research Institute, Agalawatta
- Mr. Rasika Duminda, Librarian, SLCARP

The reactivation of Agri-Net marks a significant step toward enhancing access to agricultural information resources and promoting a collaborative framework among agricultural research institutions in Sri Lanka.



Research Contributions

Ms. R. M. Nadeeka Rathnabahu, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya, published an article titled 'The Importance of Constructive Alignment in Higher Education' in the SLAIHEE Newsletter, published by the Sri Lanka Association for Improving Higher Education Effectiveness.

Source:

Rathnabahu, R. M. N. (2025, August). The Importance of Constructive Alignment in Higher Education. SLAIHEE Newsletter. https://www.slaihee.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/2025_SLAIHEE-Newesletter.pdf

Regional & International Collaboration

University of Kelaniya Contributes to EU-Funded Erasmus+ NSIS Project

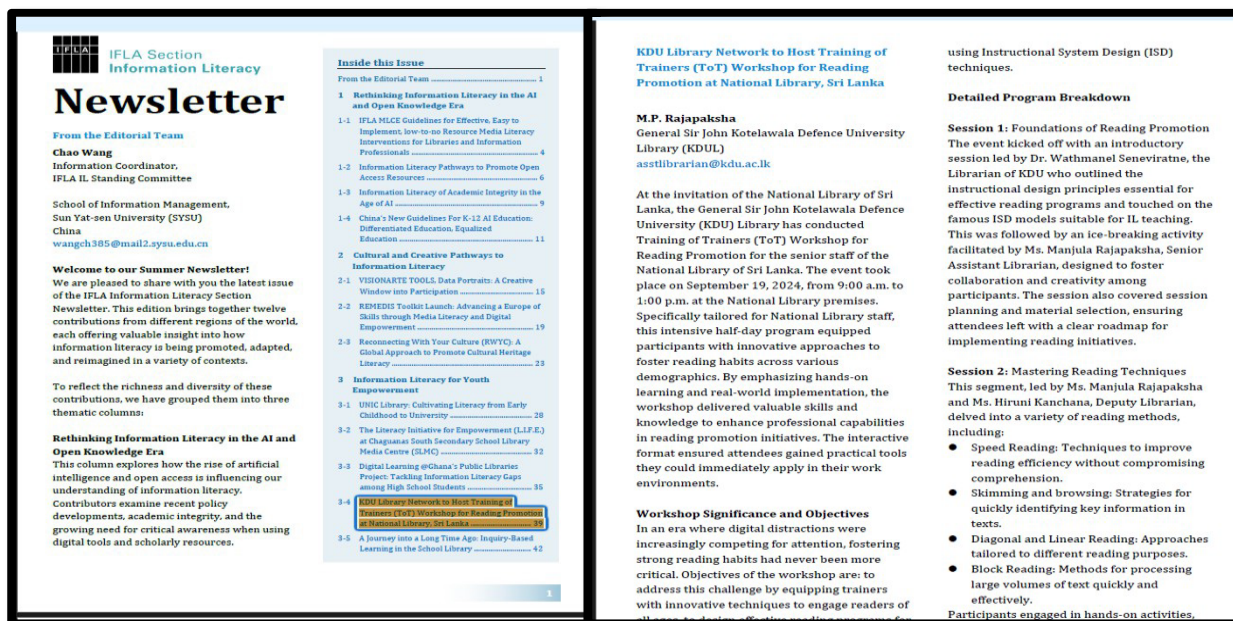


The Library of the University of Kelaniya is proud to be a partner in the Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) project titled “Developing Information, Research, and Digital Skills for Business, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship in India, Sri Lanka, and Nepal (NSIS)”. Coordinated by the Technological University of the Shannon (Ireland) and supported by a €799,933.28 grant from the European Union, this three-year initiative (2024–2027) brings together leading universities and institutions from Ireland, Germany, Greece, Romania, India, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. The project seeks to strengthen the capacity of Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals to support research, innovation, and entrepreneurship within South Asian higher education.

A key milestone in the project was the 2nd Didactic and Scientific Working Group Meeting, held from 15–20 September 2025 at Dresden University of Technology, Germany. Representatives from 14 partner institutions gathered to review project progress, refine curricula, and plan strategies for digital learning implementation. The University of Kelaniya was represented by Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, Librarian, and Dr. W.M.T.D. Ranasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian. A major outcome of the meeting was the development of content outlines for ten NSIS training modules. Notably, both Dr. Jayasundara and Dr. Ranasinghe served as team leaders in designing two of these core modules, underscoring the library’s active contribution to advancing regional LIS education and professional development.

Reading Promotion Program conducted by the KDU Library team publicized in the IFLA Information Literacy Section Newsletter

Featured article on **KDU, Library Network to Host Training of Trainers (ToT) Workshop for Reading Promotion at National Library, Sri Lanka** compiled by the MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Medical library was published in the summer edition 2025 of the IFLA Information Literacy Section Newsletter. The workshop which covered by the article has been conducted by the Dr. W. Seneviratne, Librarian, U. D. Hiruni Kanchana, Deputy Librarian, M. P. Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian and Mr. M. A. Thilanka, Assistant Librarian, of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU).



The Sri Lanka Association for Improving Higher Education Effectiveness (SLAIHEE) conducted its 21st Annual SLAIHEE Conference on 25th July 2025, held at the Informatics Institute of Technology (IIT), School of Computing, Spencer Building, Colombo 03. The conference was organized under the theme “Helping Educators and Students Reduce and Manage Performance Anxieties,” and was proudly supported by IIT. Ms R.M. Nadeeka Rathnabahu, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya, graced the conference, contributing to multiple roles as

1. **Ex-Committee member** of the SLAIHEE
2. **A member** of the Conference Organising Committee,
3. **Session Chair:** Session 2: Helping educators and students reduce and manage performance anxieties, at the 21st Annual SLAIHEE Conference.
4. **Reviewer,** 21st Annual SLAIHEE Conference.

Link: https://www.slaihee.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/SLAIHEE-Proceedings-Book-2025_Final_V5.pdf



National Development

Library Management for School Librarians

A workshop titled “Library Management for School Librarians” organized by the Akuressa Pradeshiya Sabha was successfully held on 29th September 2025 at the Auditorium of the Akuressa Pradeshiya Sabha. The program was conducted for school librarians of the Akuressa Educational Zone, with the participation of nearly 80 library staff members. Ms. Sakunthala Senevirathna, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Ruhuna, served as the resource person for the event. The workshop covered a wide range of essential areas including book acquisition, basic classification and cataloguing, circulation procedures, library services, basic conservation and preservation techniques, withdrawal of library materials, and library activities. The session provided valuable insights into enhancing the effectiveness and sustainability of school library management.



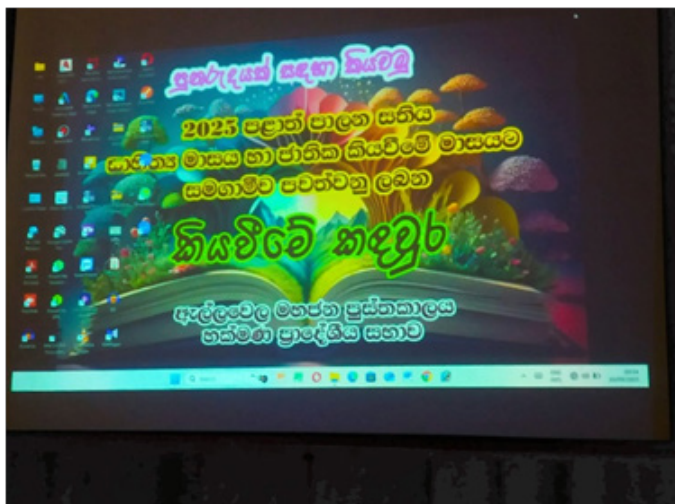
Reading Camp for School Children

A Reading Camp for School Children was organized by the Hakmana Pradeshiya Sabha in collaboration with the Hakmana Public Library on 26th September 2025 at the Auditorium of the Public Library, Hakmana. The event attracted the participation of nearly 120 school students and aimed to foster reading habits and library use among children. Mr. Lal Pannila, Deputy Librarian, and Ms. Sakunthala Senevirathna, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Ruhuna, participated as resource persons. The camp provided an engaging platform for students to develop their reading skills and awareness of library resources, contributing to the promotion of a reading culture within the community.



Reading Camp for Primary School Students

The Ellewala Public Library of the Hakmana Pradeshiya Sabha organized a Reading Camp for Primary School Students on 16th September 2025. Nearly 50 students participated in this interactive and educational program aimed at cultivating reading habits among young learners. Ms. Sakunthala Senevirathna, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Ruhuna, served as the resource person. The camp featured a variety of engaging activities such as learning how to use a book correctly, enjoying poems, storytelling sessions, and drawing pictures based on interesting incidents from the stories. The program provided an enjoyable and enriching experience that inspired children to develop a lifelong interest in reading and creative expression.



Storytelling Hour for Primary School Students

Hakmana Buddha Jayanthi Vidyalaya organized a Storytelling Hour for Primary School Students on 24th September 2025. The event saw the enthusiastic participation of nearly 250 students and was conducted with the aim of fostering creativity and a love for reading among young learners. Ms. Sakunthala Senevirathna, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Ruhuna, participated as the resource person. The session included an engaging storytelling activity followed by a drawing exercise, where students illustrated interesting incidents from the story. The children participated very actively and joyfully, making the event a memorable and inspiring learning experience.



Reading Camp and Parent Awareness Program at the Pusiyankulama Maha Vidyalaya, Anuradhapura

As part of its outreach initiatives to promote reading habits and strengthen educational development, the Rajarata University Library conducted the “Book to World Journey” (fmdf;ka f,dalhg .ukla) Reading Camp and Parent Awareness Program at Pusiyankulama Maha Vidyalaya, Anuradhapura on 19th September 2025.

The program was organized and conducted by Mrs. A.S. Siriwardana (Librarian, Rajarata University), Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi (Senior Assistant Librarian), and Ms. Hansamali Kaushalya (Assistant Librarian). The event was funded by the Maddhyama Nuwaragam Palatha Pradeshiya Sabha.

This initiative reflects the Rajarata University Library's commitment to fostering literacy, supporting school-level education, and contributing to community service, thereby extending the impact of university libraries beyond academia.



Sri Lanka Air Force Officers Visit Rajarata University Library

A group of Sri Lanka Air Force officers from the Trincomalee Camp who are currently following external courses at the Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University, visited the Rajarata University Main Library on 7th August 2025.

As part of their visit, a special session on “The Importance of Reading for Personal and Professional Development” was conducted by the Librarian, Ms. Asoka Siriwardana. The session underscored the critical role of libraries in fostering lifelong learning, intellectual enrichment, and professional advancement. This initiative further strengthened the collaborative engagement between the Rajarata University Library and the National Security Forces, reinforcing the library's mission to extend its impact beyond academia and contribute to national development.



Agriculture Library Open Day – 2025

The Agriculture Library of the University of Peradeniya organized the Agriculture Library Open Day – 2025 for the second consecutive year, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Unit (IQAU) of the Faculty and the Faculty Library Committee of the Faculty of Agriculture. The programme was held on 16th July 2025 at the Appadurai Auditorium and the Agriculture Library premises.

The programme aimed to raise awareness among Advanced Level Biology students on the resources and services of the Agriculture Library, while also providing an overview of the Faculty of Agriculture. Students (ten each) and two accompanying teachers from eleven schools in the Kandy Municipal area participated in the event. The programme included an interactive guided tour of the library, an inter-school abstract summarizing competition, and other activities. A motivational speech was delivered by Senior Professor Buddhi Marambe of the Department of Crop Science.

The event was graced by the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture Prof. B. C. Jayawardane, the Director of the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture Snr. Professor D.K.N.G Pushpakumara, the Librarian of the University of Peradeniya Dr. R. Maheshwaran, along with academic and non-academic staff members of the Faculty and the Library. The programme received positive feedback and contributed to strengthening the outreach efforts of the Faculty and the Library.





The Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy (SLCARP) has launched a series of awareness programs under Agri-Net, following a decision made at the National Advisory Committee meeting. The initiative aims to strengthen the research and information management skills of staff attached to SLCARP-affiliated research institutes, as well as librarians and information officers registered under Agri-Net.

- Introducing the latest print and electronic research journals, databases, and institutional repositories available in NARS libraries.
- Enhancing research capacity through training in literature searching and database use.
- Familiarizing participants with the Zotero Reference Management System.
- Providing guidance on publishing in reputed journals and using Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to support research.

The resource panel included Mrs. Chithra M. Abeygunasekara, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Science, University of Kelaniya; Dr. S. M. P. C. Padmini, Deputy Director (Research Management), SLCARP; Dr. Manoja Samaradivakara, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura; Mr. Ajantha Dharmarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya; Mrs. W. P. Thanuja Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka; and Mrs. K. N. Samanthi, Information Officer, National Science Foundation. The programs were coordinated by Mr. Rasika Duminda, Librarian, SLCARP.



“With digital tools Certification SEUSL Empowers Public librarians

With digital tools certification SEUSL empowers Public Librarians

BY M.A.P. DEEN
– AMPARA

The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL) successfully conducted the Certification Presentation Ceremony for Public Librarians of the South Eastern Regional Library and Information Network (SERLIN), marking the conclusion of the two-day workshop on 'Empowering Libraries through Digital Tools for Exceptional Customer Service' at the Auditorium of SEUSL.

This workshop and certification ceremony is an outcome of the ongoing collaboration among SEUSL, Health Net Nepal, and VuFind USA. One of the key achievements of this partnership was the launch of the first-ever international digital library programme in Sri Lanka – the Advanced Certificate in Digital Library Management – 2025, a three-month blended course inaugurated on 5 May 2025. In addition, SEUSL's digital library infrastructure was significantly upgraded to a world-class standard under this initiative, enhancing access to global research resources and offering advanced digital services for the benefit of researchers, faculty members, and students across the university.

The awarding ceremony, chaired by Librarian M. Rifaudeen, was graced by Prof. S.M. Junaideen, Vice-Chancellor of SEUSL, as Chief Guest, who gave away certificates to the participants. Dr. U.L. Abdul Majeed, Dean, Faculty of Technology; M.I. Nawfer, Acting Registrar;



Prof. Mohan Raj Pradhan, Chairman, Health Net Nepal (Main Resource Person); and Chandra Bhushan Yadav, Resource Person from Nepal, were also present.

Public librarians who participated in the programme, particularly from the coastal areas of the Ampara District, expressed that they greatly benefited from the training and acknowledged University Librarian Rifaudeen's inspiring initiative to advance digital transformation in public libraries through international collaboration.

NOTICE OF THE AMALGAMATION

RSG HOLDINGS (PVT) LTD. WITH RISING SUN PROPERTIES (PRIVATE) LIMITED.

In the matter of a proposal for Amalgamation in terms of section 239 of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007 of RSG HOLDINGS (PVT) LTD. bearing registration No. PV10926 having its registered office at No.36, Temple Lane, Colombo 03, with RISING SUN PROPERTIES (PRIVATE) LIMITED bearing registration No. PV7750 having its registered office at No. 36, Temple Lane, Colombo 03.

Public Notice is hereby given that a proposal has been made for the Amalgamation of RSG HOLDINGS (PVT) LTD. with RISING SUN PROPERTIES (PRIVATE) LIMITED intended to transact business as follows: RSG HOLDINGS (PVT) LTD. with RISING SUN PROPERTIES (PRIVATE) LIMITED.



BALIS students of the Open University visited the University of Colombo Library

A study tour on Library Automation for the Bachelor of Library and Information Science (BALIS) students of the Open University was successfully held on 25th July 2025 at the University of Colombo. The program was organised at both the Science Library and the Main Library of the University, providing participants with valuable exposure to modern library practices and automation systems.

The first session, held at the Science Library, focused on Library Automation. The session was conducted by Mrs. Sajeewanie D. Somaratna, Deputy Librarian and Mr. Lankathilake, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Science Library, who shared their expertise on the processes and technologies used in automating library services.

The second session consisted of a Library Tour and an Introduction to the University of Colombo Library. Mrs. Anuja Silva, Senior Assistant Librarian at the Main Library, facilitated this session. Students were introduced to the library's divisions, facilities, and resources.

The program provided an excellent opportunity for BALIS students to gain hands-on insights into practical aspects of library automation and to familiarise themselves with the University of Colombo Library system.



Special Events

“Tamilthoothu”: A Photo Exhibition Celebrating the Legacy of World Tamil Research Conferences

In conjunction with the Sixth Annual International Tamil Research Conference held on 15 August 2025, the Library of Tamilology organised a five-day photo exhibition titled “Tamilthoothu” (“தமிழ்த்தூது”). The exhibition featured a curated selection of eighty archival photographs from earlier World Tamil Research Conferences conducted by the International Association of Tamil Research (IATR), with special emphasis on the Fourth World Tamil Research Conference (1974) held in Jaffna. The display highlighted the historical significance of these global scholarly gatherings while preserving their enduring legacy.

The exhibition was led by Dr. (Mrs.) Maithili Visakaruban, Deputy Librarian, with the dedicated support of a committed library team comprising Mr. Y. Kesavan and Mr. K. Sajanthan (Assistant Librarians), and Mr. M. Kohulan, Mr. V. Nisanth, and Mr. R. Thananchayan. Their collaborative efforts were instrumental in organising and curating the archival materials.

The archival images were sourced from the Vithiananthan Library and from individual contributors, ensuring a rich and diverse collection. The exhibition was for Through the Lens of History mally inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor, and drew enthusiastic participation from faculty, students, conference delegates, and members of the public, who commended the initiative for bringing Tamil scholarly and cultural history vividly to life.

Through the Lens of History

The International Association of Tamil Research (IATR) was established in 1964 by Rev. Fr. Xavier S. Thaninayagam to promote and advance research on Tamil language and culture worldwide. At the time, Fr. Thaninayagam was serving as Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Head of the Indian Studies Department at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur (1961–1966). His vision for a global forum dedicated to Tamil studies took shape during the 1964 Orient Scholars Conference in New Delhi, where he convened a meeting of Tamil scholars and proposed the creation of an international body. This initiative led to the founding of the IATR in New Delhi later that year.



The First World Tamil Research Conference under the IATR was held in April 1966 at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, and was ceremonially inaugurated by the Malaysian Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman.



The Second Conference took place in Chennai in January 1968, opened by the then President of India, Dr. Zakir Husain



Two years later, in July 1970, the Third Conference was hosted in Paris, organised by Dr. Malcolm Adiseshiah, then Deputy Director-General of UNESCO.



The Fourth World Tamil Research Conference was held in Jaffna from January 3 to 9, 1974, and was ceremonially opened by Rev. Fr. Thaninayagam himself. This event was primarily academic, attended by renowned Tamil scholars from across the world.



Complementing the scholarly discussions, cultural programs were also organised. On 9 January, a vibrant parade was held in Jaffna featuring floats, including a striking miniature replica of “Annapoorani Ammaal”, the Valvettithurai-built brigantine that had famously sailed to the USA and Sri Lankan Tamil Scholar Arumuka Navalar, who identified and published many ancient Tamil texts, including Thirukkural Parimelazhagar Urai and Nannool. A grand cultural evening followed on 10 January, showcasing the participation of international Tamil scholars and artists to a broader audience.



Clicks at the Exhibition





Contribution as a resource person- MP Rajapaksa, Senior Assistant Librarian, KDU

Mrs. M. P. Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian attached to the Medical library, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University contributed as a resource person for the Short Course on Systematic Reviews organized by the Research Cell, Faculty of Medicine of the university. She has covered the session on developing search strategy in systematic review with overall idea of finding best evidence.



Workshop Attendance

Ms R.M. Nadeeka Rathnabahu, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya, successfully attended the Hybrid Workshop on “Fast-Track Your Research with AI Tools & Techniques” held at gapHQ, Colombo 07, on 11th August 2025. A highly informative hybrid workshop was organized by gapHQ in collaboration with the Multidisciplinary Research Centre (MARC), University of Peradeniya.

The workshop aimed to empower researchers by introducing advanced AI tools and techniques that can significantly accelerate the research process and enhance productivity. Attendees participated both in-person and online, benefiting from expert presentations, interactive sessions, and practical demonstrations. Participants gained valuable insights into leveraging AI for various stages of research, including data analysis, literature review, and report writing, equipping them for future academic and professional success.





Ms Nadeeka Rathnabahu, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya and Immediate General Secretary of the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA), conducted an engaging session on "Workload Balance" during the One-Day Training Program held on 26th September 2025. The training was organized specifically for newly appointed Council Members of the SLLA for the 2025/26 term.

Held at the SLLA Auditorium, Colombo, from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM, the session aimed to provide guidance, share valuable experiences, and offer practical insights to help Council Members effectively manage their roles and responsibilities. The session emphasized strategies for balancing work commitments with SLLA duties to ensure productive contributions and sustainable involvement in the Association's activities. This training reflects SLLA's commitment to empowering its Council Members to serve with excellence and dedication in advancing Library and Information Science in Sri Lanka.

OUSL Kandy Regional Centre Library Celebrates Youth Empowerment Through "Youth Voices: From Dreams to Action"

The Kandy Regional Centre Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka successfully hosted "Youth Voices: From Dreams to Action" (isyskhl fmr.uk) on 30th August 2025 at the Regional Centre premises to mark International Youth Day 2025.

The event provided an inspiring platform for OUSL students who are actively engaged in social, cultural, and entrepreneurial activities to share their journeys of growth and achievement. Undergraduates from the Faculties of Technology, Management, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences took the stage as entrepreneurs, innovators, and social workers, sharing how they transformed their dreams into meaningful action while balancing their studies.

The event was organized by Dr. Anoma Weerakoon, Senior Assistant Librarian, with the support of the centre staff. It was moderated by a former OUSL student, now an Attorney-at-Law, and attended by the Assistant Director of the Centre, staff and students.

At a time when entrepreneurship and innovation are vital for Sri Lanka's progress, the event showcased how libraries can play a key role in nurturing these values among youth. The programme aimed to position the library as a vibrant community hub, highlight youth leadership, and encourage other students to take meaningful action. It truly reflected how a library can go beyond books becoming a place that inspires, connects, and empowers youth.



The Library of the University of the Visual and Performing Arts has launched a mini museum within the library premises to showcase the university's cultural, artistic, and creative outputs to the general public. This museum was established in parallel with the exhibition organized from 1st to 5th of July, 2025 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the university. Traditional musical instruments, drums, masks, and painting materials were displayed at its inaugural event. A documentary video on historical paintings and temple arts was also screened throughout the exhibition. The museum attracted school students, university students, learners from cultural academies, and members of the general public.

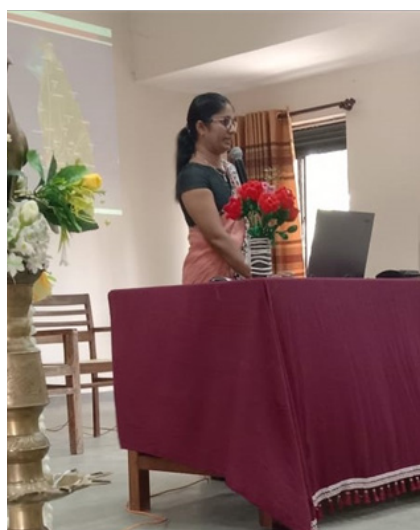




Empowering Future Educators: User Education Program for B.Ed. Primary Students 2024/2025

The Matara Regional Centre (MRC) Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka conducted a User Education Program on Library Services and Facilities for B.Ed. Primary Degree Level 3 students (2024/2025) on 09th July 2025.

The session was conducted by Mrs. P.K.M. Kaushamalika, Senior Assistant Librarian, to familiarize students with the wide range of library resources, services, and digital tools available to support their academic journey. A total of 30 students participated in the program, actively engaging in the activities and discussions.



Enhancing Information Skills: MRC Library Empowers ESBM Students

Mrs. P.K.M. Kaushamalika, Senior Assistant Librarian at the Matara Regional Centre Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka, conducted a User Education Program on the effective use of library resources on 19th July 2025. A total of 20 ESBM students participated and actively engaged in the session.

Unlocking Knowledge: MRC Library Services and Facilities Session

Mrs. P.K. Kaushamalika, Senior Assistant Librarian, Matara Regional Centre, OUSL, successfully conducted an online library session titled *“Unlocking Knowledge: Discover MRC Library Services and Facilities”* for the students of BMS, ESBM, and B.Ed. Primary Degree programmes attached to the Ambalanthota Study Centre on 21st September 2025.

The session, attended by 25 students, aimed to familiarize learners with the wide range of resources, services, and facilities available at the MRC Library to support their academic journey. It provided an overview of library resources, user guidelines, and the support services offered by the library. The session also highlighted how students can effectively utilize these services to enhance their learning and research skills.

User Education Session on Online Resources for Distance Learners

As distance learners, making the best use of online resources is key to succeeding in the academic journey. To support this goal, Mrs. P.K.M. Kaushamalika, Senior Assistant Librarian, Matara Regional Centre, OUSL, conducted a user education session for the students of BMS, ESBM, and B.Ed. Primary degree programmes 2024/2025 at the Ambalanthota Study Centre on 21st September 2025.

The session, attended by 25 students, focused on guiding learners in accessing and effectively using the MRC Library’s digital resources, online databases, e-books, and academic support services. It provided practical tips on information search strategies and guidelines for independent study, enabling students to strengthen their research and learning skills in the distance learning environment.

“Subhawitha Sakampana” – Healing Minds through Musical Reflections

(Organized by the Reading Circle of the Kurunegala Regional Centre Library, The Open University of Sri Lanka)

The Reading Circle of the Kurunegala Regional Centre Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka organized a heartwarming event titled *Subhawitha Sakampana* on Sunday, 20th July 2025, to enhance students’ artistic skills and encourage them to perceive life through the lenses of art and literature.

The programme created an inspiring space for students and staff to reflect on the depth and beauty of Sinhala classical songs, emphasizing their power to soothe, heal, and uplift the human spirit. The event beautifully blended musical performances, singing, and dancing, providing a refreshing experience that revived weary minds and hearts alike.

The occasion was graced by Professor Madhubashini Hewage, Professor of Communication at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Open University of Sri Lanka, as the Chief Guest, and Mr. Anushka Bandara, Director Regional Educational Services, as the Guest of Honor. Prof. Hewage delivered an inspiring keynote address that added significant intellectual and emotional depth to the event, emphasizing the role of the arts in shaping critical thinking, empathy, and social awareness among students.

The Reading Circle and the Library Team extend heartfelt gratitude to Acting Librarian of the Open University of Sri Lanka, Mr. Harsha Balasooriya, Senior Lecturer in Sociology Mr. Binara Angammana, Assistant Director of the Kurunegala Regional Centre Mr. Wimal Seneviratne, and all staff members and students whose support, creativity, and dedication made this event a resounding success.

“*Subhawitha Sakampana*” stood as a reminder that libraries are not merely repositories of books, they are vibrant cultural spaces that nurture creativity, reflection, and emotional well-being.



English Learning Zone (ELZ0 Talk 01 – “Post-colonial Politics of Language and Social Space”

The first session of the ELZ Talk series was successfully held on 11 August 2025 at the English Learning Zone (ELZ) balcony area, from 5.00 PM to 6.30 PM. The event featured a thought-provoking talk by Prof. Nihal Perera from the Ball State University, USA, on the theme, “Post-colonial politics of language and social space.” The event was a joint venture by the Library and the English Language Association (ELA) of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce attended the event, the Librarian, Dr. Madhubashini Ratnayake, academic staff from the Library and Department of English Language Teaching, students, and a few guests from outside the university who shared a deep interest in the topic. After the talk, the group was given a tour of the English Learning Zone by the Librarian and Dr. Madhubashini Ratnayake. It was an evening that combined intellectual engagement with friendly conversations, and a relaxed atmosphere. It marked a perfect start to the ELZ Talk series.



Tour of the English Learning Zone (ELZ)

There was a program jointly organized by the Library and the Department of English Language (DELT) to introduce the English Learning Zone to the USJ community on 31 August 2025. The event was tended by the Vice-Chancellor, Deans of the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences, Applied Sciences, Technology, Graduate Studies, Medical Sciences, and Computing, the Librarian, the Registrar, as well as other academic staff members from faculties and the library.

During the program, the Librarian, Dr. Sampath Pushpakumara (Head of DELT), and Dr. Madhubashini Ratnayake emphasized the importance of promoting informal English learning within the University, and how the English Learning Zone supports this initiative by providing specialized services and facilities designed to enhance language skills.

Following this insightful discussion, attendees were given a guided tour of the English Learning Zone by the Librarian and Dr. Madhubashini Ratnayake. The event concluded on a promising note, highlighting the future expansion plans for the English Learning Zone.



Celebrating Literary and Reading Month 2025 – University of Colombo Library

Book Talk

The Library of the University of Colombo is celebrating Literary and Reading Month 2025 by organising a series of programmes aimed at inculcating reading habits among undergraduates. The first programme, "The Book Talk", was held on 18th September 2025 at the Main Library premises. The featured book was "Niddehkhk yd jd.áuohdj (isoaOdk;" larufõo yd ujdoo" compiled by Senior Professor Sandagomi Coperahewa.

During the session, Professor Coperahewa shared his editorial experiences and provided valuable insights into the content of the book. The discussion encouraged students to explore reading from new perspectives and inspired them to actively engage in research. The programme was highly interactive and well-received by both academic staff and students. On this occasion, Professor Coperahewa generously donated a copy of his book to the Library, which was formally accepted by the Acting Librarian, Dr. Kalpana Manathunga. The event was successfully coordinated by Ms. H.I.S.M. Adhikari, Senior Assistant Librarian, Reader Services.

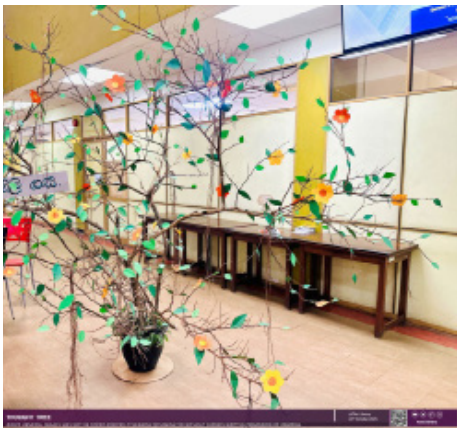


Thought Tree

In celebration of Literary Month, the Library of the University of Colombo introduced an inspiring initiative titled "Thought Tree", designed to encourage creativity and self-expression among library users.

The Thought Tree was ceremonially opened on 18th September 2025 at the Learning Commons area, located on the ground floor of the Main Library. This creative platform invites students and staff to share their reflections, ideas, and literary thoughts, symbolically "planting" them on the tree for others to read and enjoy.

The initiative aims to foster a culture of reading, writing, and idea sharing within the university community, making the library not only a place for learning but also a space for inspiration and creativity.



Book Exhibition at the Main Library

In celebration of Literary Month, the Library of the University of Colombo, in collaboration with the Department of Cultural Affairs, organized a Book Exhibition on 22nd September 2025 at the Main Library. The exhibition commenced at 9.00 a.m., showcasing a wide range of publications from the Department of Cultural Affairs, which were made available to readers at special discounted rates.

The exhibition provided an excellent opportunity for the university community to explore and acquire valuable literary works, promoting reading and cultural appreciation among students and staff.

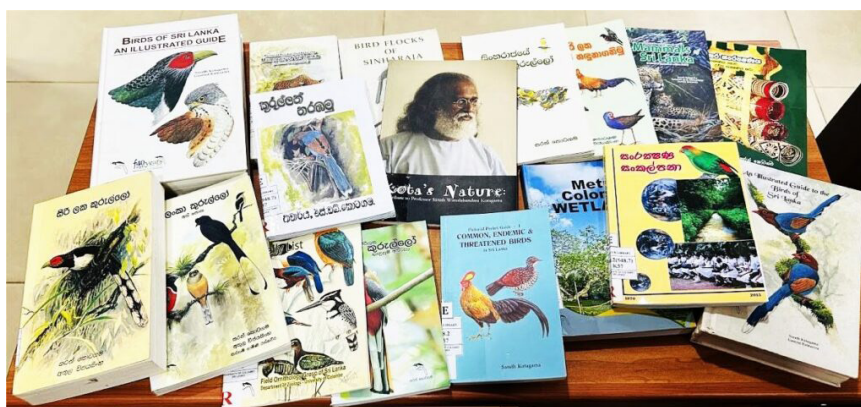


Inauguration of Emeritus Professor Sarath Kotagama's Collection at the Science Library, University of Colombo

A scholarly collection of works by Vidya Jothi Emeritus Professor Sarath W. Kotagama was launched at the Science Faculty Library on 22 August 2025. About 50 books authored by him on Ornithology, Environmental Sciences, Wildlife and Conservation were donated to the Science Faculty Library as the second addition to the 'Scholars' Corner', established at the University of Colombo Library in 2023.

This ceremony coincided with the celebration of Professor Kotagama's Diamond Jubilee. Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor Upul Sonnadara; Acting Librarian, Dr. Kalpana Manthunga; and Deputy Librarian, Mrs. Sajeewanie Somaratna, received the collection from Professor Kotagama. During the event, Professor Kotagama's collection was unveiled on a virtual platform.

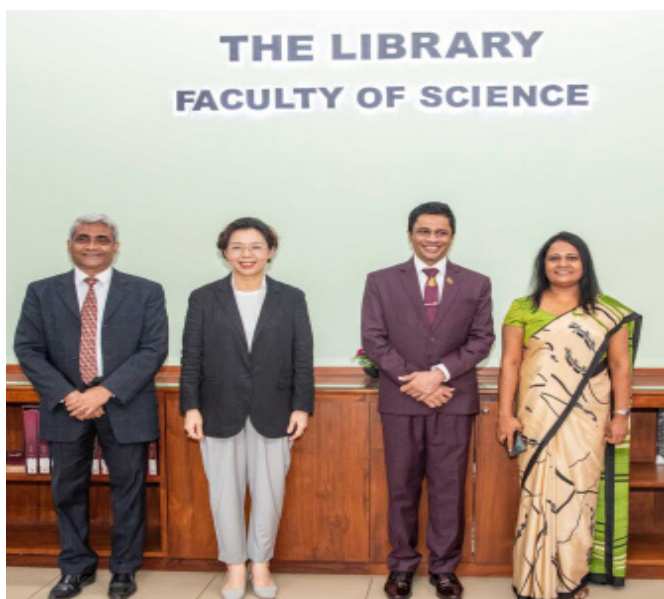
Head of the Department of Zoology, Professor Devaka Weerakoon; President of the Field Ornithology Group of Sri Lanka, Professor Nihal Dayawansa; and other distinguished guests also contributed to the occasion. The event was organised by the Department of Zoology & Environment Sciences, together with the Science Faculty Library and the Field Ornithology Group of Sri Lanka (FOGSL).



Her Excellency Ms. Miyon Lee, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Sri Lanka, Visits the Science Library

On 22nd August 2025, Her Excellency Ms. Miyon Lee, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Sri Lanka, visited the Science Faculty Library during her official visit to the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo. The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Colombo, Professor Indika Mahesh Karunathilake, and the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor Upul Sonnadara, joined the delegation.

Deputy Librarian of the University of Colombo, Mrs. Sajeewanie Somaratna, warmly welcomed the Ambassador and her team, showcasing the state-of-the-art facilities of the Science Library, which is recognised as a contemporary academic library within the Sri Lankan university system. This visit was both historic and significant, marking an important milestone in the Science Library's journey.



SEUSL Libraries Hosts Special Programme with NLDSB to Strengthen Knowledge Sharing

The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL), in collaboration with the National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB), Colombo, successfully hosted a special programme on 10th September 2025 at the SEUSL Library Seminar Hall to mark International Literacy Month and the upcoming National Reading Month. The event, aimed at enriching academic staff, students, librarians, and researchers with insights into national library resources, scholarly services, and research visibility, featured expert sessions conducted by Director Ms. Padma Bandaranaike (NL Resources & Services), Mrs. Anuradha Dassanayake (Pricing of Unpriced Books in Libraries), Mr. Uditha Gunasekera (Applying SDGs in Libraries), and Mr. Shiham (National Union Catalog).

The programme saw the participation of University Librarian Mr. M. M. Rifaudeen, Senior Assistant Librarians, SERLIN members, public librarians from the Ampara coastal belt, and regional publishers, who gained valuable knowledge and exposure. At the conclusion, SEUSL donated books to the NLDSB, public libraries, and SERLIN members, reinforcing regional cooperation and contributing to the national knowledge base. This initiative enhanced the visibility and preservation of SEUSL's scholarly output while strengthening collaboration between academic and public libraries in the region. The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL), in collaboration with the National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB), Colombo, successfully hosted a special programme on 10th September 2025 at the SEUSL Library Seminar Hall. Organized in line with International Literacy Month and the upcoming National Reading Month, the programme aimed to enrich academic staff, students, librarians, and researchers.



SEUSL Library Hosts Special Event on Empowering Your Voice: A Library Event on Democracy

The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL) Library hosted a special programme, “Empowering Your Voice: A Library Event on Democracy”, on 16th September 2025 in celebration of National Literacy Month and International Democracy Day. The event honored the memory of Marhoom Dr. M. H. M. Ashraff, Late Leader of the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress, who devoted his life to protecting democratic values. The programme featured the opening of the Exhibition of Books on Democracy and a student demonstration of printed books, eBooks, and online academic databases, which will remain open to students, staff, and the public until 19th September.

A highlight was the expert session on Civil Society and Democracy in Sri Lanka, where Dr. M. Abdul Jabbar, Acting Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Culture, delivered the key-note address. He emphasized Dr. Ashraff’s contributions to minority rights, the importance of civil society in protecting democracy, and the challenges these organizations face today. The event brought together library staff and political science undergraduates, who gained valuable insights into democracy, civil society, and knowledge resources. Through this initiative, the SEUSL Library reaffirmed its mission to empower voices, foster learning, and strengthen democratic ideals.



SEUSL Library Marks Literacy Month with Research Support Seminar on Digital Skills

The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL) Library, as part of its Research Support Seminar Series, successfully conducted a seminar titled “Effective Search Strategies for Digital Information for Research & Learning” on 17th & 18th September 2025 at the Library Seminar Hall. The session was led by University Librarian Mr. M. M. Rifaudeen, who emphasized that digital research skills are essential in today’s academic environment. He highlighted how planning and applying effective search strategies enable students to access reliable information, enhance academic writing, and strengthen both research productivity and lifelong learning. The seminar, organized in celebration of Literacy Month, was specially designed for 3rd and final-year undergraduates. A total of 200 students actively participated, benefitting not only academically but also through peer networking and academic socialization. The event concluded with the awarding of certificates to all participants, recognizing their enthusiastic involvement.



The poster for the seminar features a blue and white design. On the left, a blue banner contains the text "Effective Search Strategies for digital Information for RESEARCH & LEARNING" in white and yellow. Below this, a white banner displays the SEUSL LIBRARY logo and the text "Research Support Seminar Series". To the right, a circular inset shows a person at a computer. Below the main title, a yellow box identifies the "Resource Person" as "Mr. MM. Rifaudeen, University Librarian, SEUSL", accompanied by a circular portrait of him. Further down, a brown box specifies the location "SEMINAR HALL, SEUSL LIBRARY" with a location pin icon, and another brown box shows the date and time "17-09-2025, 10.00 AM" with a calendar icon. A yellow box with a QR code and the word "Register" is positioned at the bottom left. A yellow speech bubble on the right states "For the 3rd and final year special students". At the bottom right, a yellow banner reads "Certificates will be awarded to all participants".



SEUSL Library Hosts Special Event on Conflict, Peace, and Reconciliation

The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL) Library, under its “Meeting an Expert” series, organized a special programme on 29th September 2025 at the Library Seminar Room to mark National Literacy Month and International Peace Day under the global theme “Act Now for a Peaceful World.” The event was graced by Vice Chancellor Professor S. M. Junaideen, together with University Librarian Mr. M. M. Rifaudeen and Senior Assistant Librarians of SEUSL, whose presence added academic strength to the programme. The keynote address was delivered by Professor (Dr.) A. Sarjoon, Professor of Political Science at the University of Peradeniya, on the theme “On the Margin or Marginalized? Positioning Muslims in Ethnic Conflict and Peace Initiatives in Sri Lanka.”

The programme was compered by Mr. C. M. A. Munas, with the speaker introduced by Mr. M. C. M. Azwer, and overall guidance provided by Mr. A. M. Nahfees. A curated book exhibition, “Peace, Conflict, and Reconciliation: Voices and Perspectives,” showcased SEUSL Library’s strong collection in peace and conflict studies. Professor Sarjoon emphasized the importance of inclusive policies, multicultural recognition, and equitable development for sustainable peace, while also highlighting the overlooked experiences of the Muslim community during Sri Lanka’s civil conflict. The event concluded with an engaging discussion, encouraging students, staff, and academics to reflect on pathways for reconciliation and peacebuilding.



Library Seminar Series No. 17: Healing the Mind and Heart – Meditation as Medicine

The seventeenth lecture of the Library Seminar Series was held on 10th September 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Library Auditorium, University of Peradeniya. The session, titled “Healing the Mind and Heart: Meditation as Medicine,” was delivered by Sister Vinothini Sivasamy, representing the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization, USA.

Sister Vinothini, who possesses an academic background in Biotechnology and Physical Chemistry from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly Pomona), and research experience in brain, memory, and melanoma studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), presented an engaging discourse on the therapeutic potential of meditation. Integrating scientific knowledge with spiritual philosophy, she illustrated how meditative practices can enhance emotional well-being, foster mental clarity, and support holistic healing.

The programme was organized in collaboration with the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization – Kandy Centre, whose contribution was instrumental to the success of the event. A diverse audience comprising academic staff, students, and library professionals attended the seminar. Participants commended the session for its intellectually stimulating content and the serene, reflective environment it fostered. The event was coordinated by Mr. S. A. Jeewan, Assistant Librarian, under the supervision of Dr. R. Maheswaran, Librarian of the University of Peradeniya.



Quality Assurance

SEUSL Libraries Celebrate Success of Mega Digital Library Initiative

The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL) Libraries proudly announced the success of a mega digital library initiative, launched in collaboration with VuFind (Villanova University, USA) US and Health Net Nepal NP. The project introduced a brand-new Advanced Digital Library Platform and achieved a historic milestone with the first-ever 3-month International Advanced Certificate Course in Digital Library Management. SEUSL library staff were trained in advanced tools including DSpace, KOHA, VuFind, and SubjectPlus. The initiative also included outreach training for public librarians in the Ampara District, strengthening professional skills and knowledge sharing. The programme was attended by SEUSL Vice Chancellor, University Librarian, Senior Assistant Librarians, SDC Director of SEUSL, Resource Person Prof. Mohan Raj Pradhan, highlighting strong institutional support. By fostering global academic and technical collaborations, this initiative is transforming how knowledge is accessed, managed, and shared, empowering both the university and the wider library community.



Capacity Building in Library Administration: South Eastern University Library Outreach Program

In support of strengthening library management development, the University Library conducted a special training session for the library team of Sri Ramakrishna College, Akkaraipattu. The program focused on practical advice and procedures essential for effective library administration, aiming to enhance the services and resources offered to students and staff at the college.



Webinar on Uploading Documents to the Institutional Repository (IR) of the University of Colombo Library

A webinar on uploading documents to the Institutional Repository (IR) of the University of Colombo was held on 10th September 2025 via Zoom, with the participation of 83 staff members from across the University.

The session was conducted by Mr. Buddhin Kumara, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Moratuwa, who introduced the new IR interface and demonstrated its key features for efficient document uploading. The webinar aimed to familiarise staff with the updated platform and to ensure the smooth submission of scholarly and administrative documents.

This initiative is expected to enhance the visibility and accessibility of the University's intellectual output, while also promoting effective knowledge management across faculties and departments.

The poster features the University of Colombo logo and name at the top. The main title is 'Uploading Documents to the IR (Institutional Repository) of the University of Colombo'. Below this, it specifies 'For the Staff of the University of Colombo'. The date and time are '10th September 2025' and '10.00 AM - 11.00 AM'. The platform is 'Via zoom'. A circular portrait of Mr. Buddhin Kumara is shown, with his name and title 'Resource Person Mr. Buddhin Kumara, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Moratuwa' below it. The DSPACE logo is at the bottom left. The bottom section states 'Organised by The Library, University of Colombo' and provides contact information for inquiries: 'Dr. Chiranthi Wijesundara, Coordinator/ Library Training & Skill Development, Email: altraining@lib.cmb.ac.lk, Tel. 0112047865'.

Training Session on Institutional Repository (IR) Configuration

A training session on Institutional Repository (IR) Configuration was held on 11th September 2025 at the Smart Classroom, Main Library, University of Colombo.

The resource person, Mr. Buddhin Kumara, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Moratuwa, conducted the workshop, introducing new features and guiding participants through the practical aspects of configuring the University of Colombo's Institutional Repository.

The session was specially designed for the library staff of the University of Colombo, with 18 participants actively engaging in discussions and hands-on activities. The workshop provided valuable insights into managing and strengthening the IR, which plays a vital role in preserving and disseminating the University's scholarly output.



The Library
University of Colombo

Training on IR (Institutional Repository) Configuration

*For the Staff of the Library,
University of Colombo*

11TH SEPTEMBER 2025
10.00 AM - 12.00 PM
SEMINAR ROOM

Resource Person
Mr. Buddhin Kumara
Senior Assistant Librarian,
University of Moratuwa

For inquiries
Dr. Chiranthi Wijesundara
Coordinator of Library Training & Skill Development
Email: cltraining@lib.cmb.ac.lk, Tel: 0112947965

Organised by
The Library,
University of Colombo



Workshop on "Right to Know: A Guide to the RTI Act in Sri Lanka" at SUSL

The Library Quality Assurance Cell (LQAC) organized an online workshop "Right to Know: A Guide to the RTI Act in Sri Lanka", on 28th July 2025 via Zoom. Ms. P. M. Anusha Pathiraja Lecturer (Probationary), Department of Accountancy and Finance, Faculty of Management Studies, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka provided her academic contribution as a resource persons in this session.





“RIGHT TO KNOW”

A GUIDE TO THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT NO.12 OF 2016

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Ms. Anusha Pathiraja

LLB (Hons.) Colombo, Masters in Human Rights Colombo, Attorney-at-Law
Lecturer (Probationary)
Department of Accountancy and Finance,
Faculty of Management Studies,
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

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Library Quality Assurance Cell

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

0711293977 / libcoordinator@cqa.sab.ac.lk

Workshop on "Right to Know: A Guide to the RTI Act in Sri Lanka" at SUSL

The Library Quality Assurance Cell (LQAC) organized a workshop "Effective Abstracts: Write Less, Say More", held on 15th August 2025 from 9.00am – 12.30 pm at the lecture hall 16, Faculty of Technology, SUSL. Dr. W. T. L. S. Fernando, Senior Lecturer, Department of Physical Sciences and Technology, Faculty of Applied Sciences, SUSL provided his academic contribution as a resource persons in this session.



Library Quality Assurance Cell
Sabaragamuwa University
of Sri Lanka

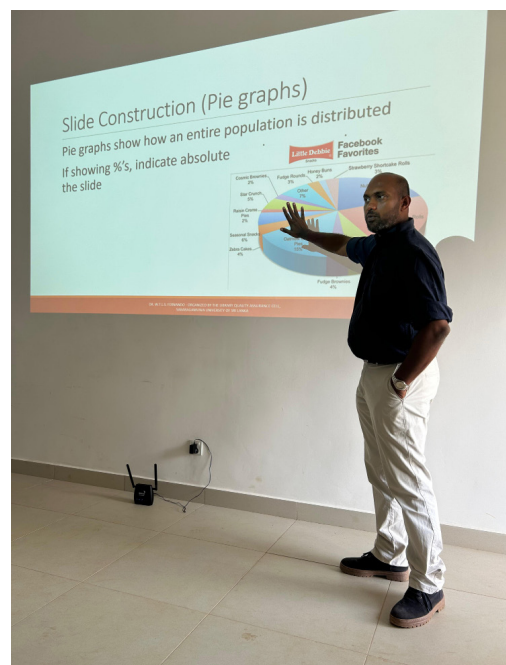
"Effective Abstracts" Write Less, Say More

Master the art of crafting powerful, concise, and impactful writing that speaks volumes in fewer words. Join us to elevate your academic and professional communication with clarity and precision!

Dr. W. T. L. S. Fernando
Senior Lecturer
Department of Physical Sciences and Technology,
Faculty of Applied Sciences, SUSL

15 August 2025
09.00AM-12.00PM
Lecture hall 15/16, Faculty of Technology, SUSL

FOR MORE DETAILS
0711293977
libcoordinator@cqa.sab.ac.lk



Workshop on "Research Without Tears: Your Roadmap to Dissertation Success" at SUSL

The Library Quality Assurance Cell (LQAC) organized a workshop "Research Without Tears: Your Roadmap to Dissertation Success", held on 28th August 2025 from 1.30 pm at the Auditorium, Faculty of Geomatics, SUSL. Ms. W. W. S. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian and LQAC Coordinator, SUSL provided her academic contribution as a resource persons in this session for the 3rd year students.



Student Support

Diploma in Information and Digital Literacy

The Library of the University of Kelaniya successfully launched the Diploma in Information and Digital Literacy on 1st July 2025. The primary objective of this programme is to support undergraduate students across all faculties in enhancing their learning skills and building self-confidence in the digital environment.

The diploma consists of six course modules, including Successful Assignment Writing, Information Sources and Services, Effective Reading and Note Making, Literature Surveys and Literature Review, Referencing Conventions and Citation Management, and Publishing Books and Research Papers. Each course module carries a credit value of five and the first intake is open to undergraduates from the Faculties of Arts and Humanities, Commerce and Management Studies, and Social Sciences.



Awareness Session on Mendeley Reference Management System

Mr. Eranga Bandara, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Medical Library, University of Peradeniya, was invited to conduct an awareness session on the **Mendeley Reference Management Tool** for third and final year undergraduates specializing in Sociology and Social Work in the Department of Sociology, University of Peradeniya.

The session was held at the Department of Sociology Auditorium on 25th September 2025, with the participation of approximately 120 students from both academic streams. The event was coordinated by Dr. Priyadarshani Premaratne, Senior Lecturer in Sociology.



Lecture on Smart Searching: Unlocking Academic Success through Basic Research Skills

Mrs. M. P. Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian attached to the Medical library, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University has delivered lecture on "Smart Searching: Unlocking Academic Success through Basic Research Skills" as a guest lecture for the intake 42 undergraduates of Faculty of Law of the university on 18th July 2025.



English Club as the Master of the day

Science, University of Kelaniya, leads the English Club as the Master of the day at the University of Kelaniya's Department of Library and Information Science, setting an inspiring example for students. Initiated by Ms Rathnabahu on 22 November 2021, the English Club-DLIS continues to thrive under her coordination, with the successful completion of the 13th meeting on 3rd September 2025. The English Club aims to foster essential skills among LIS undergraduates, focusing on English Speaking and Listening Skills, Communication Skills and Leadership Skills.

Many graduates have expressed their gratitude, acknowledging that participation in the English Club significantly improved their English language proficiency and contributed positively to their professional careers. This initiative reflects the department's commitment to holistic student development by enhancing critical communication and leadership abilities through English language proficiency.





Kickstarting the Academic Journey: SLibrary Orientation for Technology Freshers 2023/24

On 11th September 2025, the SEUSL Main Library warmly welcomed the freshers of the Faculty of Technology from the 2023/24 batch with an engaging and informative orientation session. As part of the program, students were given a guided tour of the library, where they were introduced to the wide range of resources, facilities, and services available to support their academic and research needs throughout their university journey. The session was expertly conducted by Senior Assistant Librarian, Mr. A.M. Nahfees, who provided valuable insights and practical guidance on how to effectively utilize the library's offerings for enhanced learning and academic success.



Evolving Role of Clinical Medical Librarians at the 43rd “Meet an Expert” Programme



Meet an Expert | 43rd Programme

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SRI LANKA

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LIVE National Library of Sri Lanka

The National Library of Sri Lanka successfully hosted the 43rd “Meet an Expert” programme on 30th July 2025 at the National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) Auditorium, where Mrs Dilhani Munasinghe participated as the distinguished speaker.

Mrs. Munasinghe delivered an insightful lecture titled “නූතන වෛද්‍ය විද්‍යාව තුළ සායනික වෛද්‍ය පුස්තකාලාධිපතිගේ කාර්යභාරය” (The Role of the Clinical Medical Librarian in Modern Medical Science). Her presentation offered a timely and comprehensive exploration of the expanding role of clinical medical librarians within contemporary healthcare environments in Sri Lanka. She emphasised the importance of evidence-based practice, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the continuous development of professional competencies essential for supporting clinical decision-making.

Throughout her lecture, Mrs Munasinghe also addressed critical issues, including promoting health literacy, maintaining ethical standards in medical information services, and developing innovative methods to integrate librarians into clinical teams better. Her thought-provoking remarks provided valuable direction for the future strengthening of clinical librarianship in the country.

The event was streamed live on NLDSB’s official Facebook, reaching a broad national audience. Information and healthcare professionals engaged in the discussion. Participants praised the session as a key contribution to Sri Lanka’s professional dialogue on clinical librarianship.

The programme was organised under the leadership of Mrs Padma Bandaranayake, Director of the National Library, together with Mrs Anoma Wijesinghe, Deputy Director of the Reader Services Division, as part of the continuing “Meet an Expert” lecture series.



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