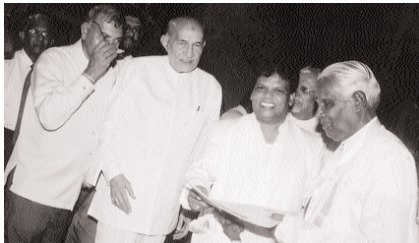




Chief Minister of Western Province Reginald Coorsy, A. M. Yusuf, Member of Western Provincial Council inspect the new administrative block of the I. L. M. Samudren Vidyalaya, Mahagoda, Beruwala. M. M. M. Zubair, Principal is also in the picture. Pic: B. M. Mukhtar, Beruwala Spt. Corr.



Muslim Educational Progressive Society (MEPS) organised a felicitation ceremony for OCE OI students who had obtained 10 As at 2007 examination at the Muslim Ladies Study Circle auditorium recently. Here one of the students receives a cash award of rupees ten thousand and a certificate from chief guest, South Eastern University Vice Chancellor, Dr. A. G. Hussain Ismail. Fala Musthafa PC, Jamiya Naleemiya Deputy Director, Ash Sheikh A. C. Agar Mohammed and MEPS President M. Z. Ahmed Muneerwar are also in the picture. Pic: Ruzsalk Furuk



The Kalabhushana felicitations award ceremony for artists who had rendered yeoman service for the progress in the field of arts and crafts, was held at the John de Silva Memorial Hall, Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha, Colombo 7 recently. The event was organised by the Cultural Affairs Department, Hindu Religious and Cultural Department and the Dept. of Muslim Cultural Affairs. Here veteran artist Palani Kathiravel Murgiah receives his Kalabhushana award certificate from the Deputy Minister, V. Puthirathnamani. Western Province Governor, Alavi Mowlana and President's Advisor, A. H. M. Azwer are also in the picture. Pic: A. Maduraveeran



Lion S. Raghavan, Past Governor of Lions Club 306-B1 is trying a pair of spectacles on a donee at an eye camp held at the Church of Our Lady Sorrows, Kotte, Colombo 13 recently. The event was organised by the Lions Club International under 306-B1 Project Poverty Alleviation. Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Newman, Past Governor, Lion Sivapathasundaram, District Chairperson (Poverty Alleviation) Lion S. Loggapan, Zone Chairperson Lion K. Rajasekaran and Lion Edmond Fernando were also present. Pic: A. Maduraveeran



The research library of the Lanka Bible College Centre for Graduate Studies was upgraded and relocated to a more spacious facility recently. Here, Director (Books programme of Asia Foundation) Anton Nallathambi who was the chief guest with Faculty member-in-Charge of the CQS Library, S. Bernadson after opening the 'new look' library. Pic: A. Maduraveeran



The seventy eighth commemoration day celebration of Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan, organised by the Colombo Vivekananda Society took place at the Ramanathan Hindu Ladies College auditorium, Bambalapitiya, Colombo 4 recently. Here the Secretary, All Ceylon Hindu Congress, Kandiah Neelakandan delivers the oration and a cross section of the gathering. Pic: A. Maduraveeran



The Bharatha Natya arrangement of Ms. Nirupama Jayasundara, daughter of Abeyratne Jayasundara and Mrs. Renuka Jayasundara of Nugegoda will be held at Bishop's College, auditorium on Saturday December 27 at 6.15 p.m. She was a pupil of Miss. Subashini Pathmanathan of the Indian Cultural Centre and Vinodhathan Classical Bharatha Natya Kendra. Nirupama was a student of St. Bridget's Convent and the Colombo International School, Colombo 7. Pic: A. Maduraveeran



The founder of the 'Pragna Pradesha' concept, Dr. Jayantha de Silva who was instrumental in installing a new iron gate to the Anuruddha Balika Vidyalaya, Dematagoda, nips the ribbon to formally open the new gate. Principal, Mrs. B. S. E. Jayawardana and Sumith Perera look on. Pic: A. Maduraveeran



The Viru Siru Pradesha Year-6 Scholarship awards ceremony to children of the Armed Forces personnel who lost their lives, was held at the Defence Ministry under the patronage of Prime Minister, Ratsadevi Wickremesinghe recently. Here the Prime Minister awards a scholarship to a beneficiary. Defence Secretary, Gotabhaya Rajapaksa, Army Commander, Lt. General Sarath Fonseka and Foreign Employment Promotion Ministry Secretary and National Defence Fund Secretary, Sunil S. Siriwardena are also in the picture. Pic: Ruzsalk Furuk



St. Anthony's Nursery School, Borella, Colombo held its annual concert at the BMICH recently. From left: Chief guest Most Rev. Bishop Mario Zenari, Principal of the School Sr. Christobel Wijesekera, Sr. Samanthi Kuruppanchchi and Parish Priest of All Saint's Church, Rev. Fr. Pilecan. Pic: Ruzsalk Furuk



Youth Affairs and Sports Minister of Western Provincial Council, Gnanini Thilakaratne was the chief guest at the Invitation Elle Festival, organised by the Youth League, Hendala held at the Pradeshiya Sabha Grounds, Matagoda, Hendala recently. Here the Minister hoists the National Flag. WPC Member Lawrence Madiwala who sponsored the festival is also in the picture. Pic: Nimal Perera, Wattala Group Corr.

Honorary title for Dr. Dhanawardena Guruge



The honorary title of 'Dhanabhojnam' was conferred on Dr. Dhanawardena Guruge in appreciation of his services as the Treasurer of the Vinayanasabha, Sabha of the Sri Lanka Ramana Maha Nikaya by the Most Ven. Wewedeniya Medhalankara Maha Nayaka Thera at a ceremony held in Meerigama to mark the 100th birthday of the Thera. Here the Ven Thera presenting the Sannasa Panjara to Dr. Guruge. Pic: A. Maduraveeran

Lawrence Madiwala completes 45 years in politics

Western Provincial Councilor Lawrence Madiwala completes 45 years in politics today (December 21).

Madiwala entered politics in 1963 by winning the Thimbirigasyaya ward and becoming a member of Town Council, Hendala. Later he was appointed Chairman, Gramodaya Mandalaya, Thimbirigasyaya, Chairman, Town Council Hendala, Chairman Multi Purpose Co-operative Society, Wattala and a Working Director, State Gem Corporation. Contesting the first Provincial Council elections, Madiwala was elected a Provincial Council member for Gampaha District. He has served as the Minister of Transport, Highways, Health, Electricity, Water



Supply Housing and Construction, Rural Development, Trade and Council Affairs of the Western Provincial Council on occasions acted for the Chief Minister. To mark his 45th year in politics, Lawrence Madiwala has made arrangements to distribute sports items among the 45 sports clubs in the area.

Nimal Perera, Wattala Group Corr.

EVENTS

Free seminar on 'Career Development'

The INGRIN Institute of Printing and Graphics will conduct an awareness seminar for school leavers on career development in computer graphics. Information technology and printing technology on Saturday, January 3. The workshop is free of charge but the participation is limited. Those interested please call 2421846, 2445106 and 2472316 to reserve a seat from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the INGRIN Institute of Printing and Graphics, No. 290, D.R. Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10.

Malays Directory launch

The General Council of the Sri Lanka Malay Association will launch the directory of Sri Lanka Malays on Tuesday, December 30 at 6.00 p.m. at the Padang Complex, Colombo 2. The Special Invitees will be the High Commissioner of Malaysia, Rosley Ismail, Ambassador of Indonesia, Djafar Hussein, Director of National Archives, Dr. Saroja Wettasinghe and Sam Wijesinha, Chancellor of the Open University of Sri Lanka will be the special invitees.

Bhagavan's birthday celebrations

The 83rd birthday celebrations of Sri Satya Sai Bhagavan will be held at Nawalas Mani Mandapam, Temple Road, Mutwal, Colombo 15 today, Dec. 21 commencing with the hoisting of the flag at 9.30 a.m. There will be musical recitals by Sriniath Lila Thavakumar and Sriniath Gowri Ganeshamorthy, followed by pujas and prasadam.

Mr. Sri Lanka sways 'underground'

A new club will be unveiled called 'The Underground' at the Taj Samudra Hotel on December 27. The 'Underground' features a new concept where the bartenders will be exclusively females, from all over the world.

For the festive season the new management of 'The Underground' will present a special show by the Mr. Sri Lanka finalists, when they will keep the audience entertained in Pipe Jeans and Classic style SOVIET Sun glasses from Vision Care optical services. Competitions and raffles will keep the audience enthralled and they can vie for 'MR. HOT'.

Prayers and religious lectures

The program of prayers and religious lectures will be conducted today, Dec. 21 at Nawala Masjid with *Rathibathul Jalalya* by Maulavi Hafiz Aadil, the Principal of Al Kulleyathul Arusiyyathul Qudiriyya Arabic College.

It will be conducted after *Maghrib* prayers and will continue till *Isha* prayers. A religious lecture will also be followed by Moulavi Al Haj M. T. Hilurdeen after *Isha* Prayers.

Obtains Cantab doctorate

Himesh Fernando obtained his PhD from Cambridge at the recent convocation, his thesis being in 'SELECTION OF G-QUADRUPLEX SPECIFIC PROTEINS AND THEIR EFFECTS ON GENE EXPRESSION'. He was attached to Christ College, Cambridge and played hockey for the College team. He also holds a degree in Marketing (CIM).



His research at Cambridge was funded by the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust.

Kalabhooshanam for Satsorupavathy

and social activities for over 43 years. In 1995, she won the Presidential Award on completion of 70 years service of the SLBC. In 1999, she won the 'Best Woman Award' from the Art Council, in 2000, she won the SLBC 'Pavala Vizha' award. In 2003, she won the 'National Award' from the Tamil Media Front in 2004 she won the 'Life Achievement Award' for her best announcement and 'Sakala Kala Vidya' from the Old Girls' Association (Colombo branch) of Jaffna Hindu Ladies College.

Miss Satsorupavathy Nathan, well-known SLBC and SLRC artiste has been awarded the prestigious 'Kalabhooshanam' recently by the Department of Hindu Religious and Cultural Affairs, her services in the spheres of culture, religion

and social activities for over 43 years. In 1995, she won the Presidential Award on completion of 70 years service of the SLBC. In 1999, she won the 'Best Woman Award' from the Art Council, in 2000, she won the SLBC 'Pavala Vizha' award. In 2003, she won the 'National Award' from the Tamil Media Front in 2004 she won the 'Life Achievement Award' for her best announcement and 'Sakala Kala Vidya' from the Old Girls' Association (Colombo branch) of Jaffna Hindu Ladies College.

She is the Vice President of Colombo Tamil Sangam. (C.M.)

Musical show on Dec. 28

Singer Rohana Siriwardene presents his musical show 'Dase Ma Vile' at the BMICH on December 28 from 6.00 p.m. onwards.



The Tamil Natural Science magazine titled 'Akilam', published by the Upcountry Educational Development Foundation was released at a ceremony held at the Vivekananda Society Hall, Kottawa, Colombo 13 recently. Here the maiden copy is being presented by the Editor, K. V. Ramasamy (right) to Prof. S. Chandrasekaran. Deputy Minister, P. Radhakrishnan is also in the picture. Pic: A. Maduraveeran