

New entrants to the Year One classes of Gurukula National School, Kelaniya were enrolled under the patronage of the Ven. Welamitiyawa Kusaldhama Nayaka Thera, Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya and Parivenadhipathi Vidyalankara Pirivena, Peliyagoda recently. Principal Anil Geethalal Abeygunawardena is also in the picture.

-Pic: Edward Weerasinghe, Kelaniya Gr. Corr.



The website of WPC Member Saira Jayakody, who is contesting under the UPFA ticket from the Gampaha District was launched by Ven. Kumburgamuwa Vajira Thera, Chancellor, Sabaragamuwa University and Principal Vidyalankara Dhanna School, Kelaniya at a function at Sri Sudharshanasaramaya temple, Kiribathgoda, Kelaniya recently. Urban Development and Sacred Area Development Minister and Chief Government Whip Dinesh Gunawardene, Sisiri Jayakody look on.

- Pic: Edward Weerasinghe, Kelaniya Gr. Corr.



The President of the Republic of Cyprus has appointed Mrs. Colombage Premasiri Perera as the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Cyprus in Sri Lanka. Here Foreign Affairs Minister, Rohitha Bogollagama hands over the letter of exequatur to Mrs. Perera.



Governor, Western Province Assayed Alavi Moulana Chairman, U.C. Kalutara, M.S.M. Mubarak being conducted to the venue during the annual Meelad-un-Nabi Celebration of the Kalutara District Ahadiyya Federation at the Muslim M.M.Y. Kalutara, President M.H.M. Uswain and principal M.A.M. Faris are also in the picture.

- Pic: B.M. Mukhtar, Beruwala Spl. Corr.



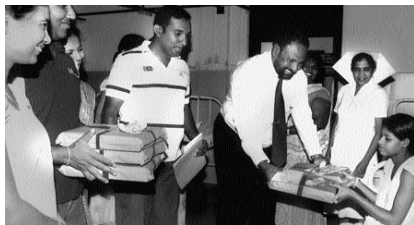
Ministers Felis Perera and Dr. Rajitha Senarathne being conducted to the venue of the foundation stone laying of Nangooram Pola at the Maradana Fisheries harbour area, Beruwala recently.

-Pic: B.M. Mukhtar, Beruwala Spl. Corr.



The annual concert of Ramanathan Hindu Ladies College, Bambalapitiya, Colombo 4 was held at the Kathartha Hall, Bambalapitiya recently. Here a group of students present a cultural musical program.

- Pic: A. Maduraveeran.



Newly born babies at the Ampara General Hospital on the 62nd Independence Day were in for a bonanza, the 'Birth of Freedom', gifted by the People's Bank, Ampara to mark the occasion. Here People's Bank's Ampara Regional Manager, D. N. A. D. Joseph presenting a package to a mother while the staff members look on.

- Pic: M. A. Phakurdeen, Addalaichenai Gr. Corr.



Naita jointly with Everonn will conduct training programs in eight major occupational areas, with Fashion Designing and Apparel Occupation, in the first phase. Here Anal Senalakkadhikara, Chairman, National Apprentice and Industrial Training Authority exchange the MoU with T.V. Jayaraman, Chief Executive Officer of Everonn Skills Development Ltd. S. Jayakumar, AGM of Everonn and Jagath Basnayake Director (Training), NAITA look on.

- Pic: Vipula Amarasinghe.



Kyle Wright of the United States Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (US-NNSA) addresses the participants of the Radio Active Source Security Awareness seminar conducted by the Atomic Energy Authority of Sri Lanka and the US-NNSA organised by Ceylenco-Cisco. Vipul Hettige, CEO, Ceylenco-Cisco, Mrs. M.B.A. Ekanayake, chief guest, Secretary Ministry of Science and Technology and acting Chairman, Atomic Energy Authority, J.M.A.C. Jayasinghe, Executive Director, Atomic Energy Authority and Anil Rajitha, Head, Radiation Protection, Atomic Energy Authority look on.



The Interact Clubs of Zahira College, Colombo, Study and President's College jointly organised a study project "Memories of Mid Town" to felicitate those who had helped the Clubs in the past. Here project chairperson, Int. Nethmi (centre), Int. Hazeem (left) and Int. Nuzar (right) present a memento to the chief guest Rtn. G. S. Sylvester.

- Pic: Ruzaik Faraok



The Sri Lankan Youth Club in Hong Kong, who makes regular annual donations to the motherland donated 150 wheelchairs to the Sri Lankan Army Hospital, Naranpetta recently. Here Youth Club Secretary, Krishantha presenting a wheelchair to the Medical Board Director Brigadier Sumanapala who is also a Brigadier of the Army's Medical Regiment.



The Thankitiyawa drinking water supply scheme in the Walapana Divisional Secretariat Division, constructed under the "Gama Neguma" concept was commissioned by the Livestock Development Minister, C. B. Ranayake recently. Over one hundred and fifty families in the area will benefit by the scheme.

-Pic: Kotagala G. Corr. - Aruna Ponnambalam



Livestock Development Minister, C. B. Ranayake opens the new bus stand at Padiyapalala. Central Provincial Councillor, S. P. Ranayake is also in the picture.

- Pic: Kotagala G. Corr. - Aruna Ponnambalam

EVENTS

Old Rajans '91 Group AGM

The annual get-together and the annual general meeting of the 1991 Group of the Old Boys' Union, Dharmaraja College, Kandy will be held on Saturday, Feb. 27 at 5.30 p.m. at Hotel Topaz, Aniswate, Kandy.

Krishnamurti talk

A recorded public talk on 'Is it possible to end all sorrow' delivered by the late Indian philosopher J. Krishnamurti will be played at the Public Library auditorium, Colombo 7 today at 10.30 a.m.

It is organised by the Krishnamurti Centre, Sri Lanka Inc.

Book distribution on Feb. 26

The Sri Lanka Islamic Society has organised the Holy Prophet Muhammad's birthday celebration and the distribution of exercise books, stationery and uniform material to schoolchildren, on Friday Feb. 26 at 4.30 p.m. at the SILS Secretariat, Cotta Road, Borella, Colombo.

Sri Lanka Freedom Party's Colombo District Organiser, Fawzan Ameer will be the chief guest. **RF**

Dharmapala PPA get-together

The Annual General Meeting and get-together of the Past Pupils Association of Dharmapala Vidyalaya, Punnipitiya will be held at the Amaliya Reed Holiday Resort, Pitipane, Homagama on Saturday, Feb. 27 from 9.30 a.m. For details, Contact: PPA College office

YMMA Meelad in Panadura

The All Ceylon UMMA Conference has organised the Meelad Un Nabi celebration on February 27 at 4.30 p.m. at the Rawfarhal Athkiya Jumma Masjid, Thotawatta, Panadura.

The SLBC Muslim Service will broadcast the proceedings from 8.15 p.m. to 8.55 p.m. on the same day **RF**

Meelad on SLBC

The Muslim Service of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation and the *Ummu Zawaya* Colombo have jointly organised the Meelad-un-Nabi celebration on Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Ummu Zawaya Masjid.

SLBC Muslim Service will broadcast the program live from 8.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. **RF**



A workshop on 'Washing and Shrouding' dead bodies (Janaza) organised by the Akkaraipattu Janaza and Welfare Organisation with the assistance of Muslim Religious and Cultural Affairs Minister was held at Akkaraipattu Ayesha Bhalika Maha Vidyalaya recently under the chairmanship of President, H.S.A.M. Habelbullah. Here the Visiting Obstetrician and Gynaecologist (VOG) attached to the Akkaraipattu Base Hospital, Dr. (Mrs.) A.R.J.P. Niya addresses the participants.

- Pic: M. A. Phakurdeen, Addalaichenai Gr. Corr.



Lasantha Weikala and Chanaka Talpahewa of Bogoda Lake Rowing Club (BLRC) won the FEARA Double Scull event at the 68th annual Amateur Rowing Association of the East (ARAE) regatta held in Chennai, India recently. The pair received the Karachchi Regatta Challenge Trophy, being the first ever Sri Lankan crew to win this prestigious trophy.

Third State award for Gamini G. PUNCHIHEWA



Freelance journalist for the past 45 years and author of ten books, Gamini G. PUNCHIHEWA of Embilipitiya was presented with his third State award of *Kala Booshana* for the year 2009 recently, by the Department of Cultural Affairs held recently at a ceremony at the

De Silva Memorial hall, Colombo.

His other previous State award of 'Prathiba Pranam' was by the Sabaragamuwa Chief Minister's office, Ruwanwella for 2007, while the other award of *Deshra Prasadhi* was by the Embilipitiya Divisional Secretariat, in 2008.