

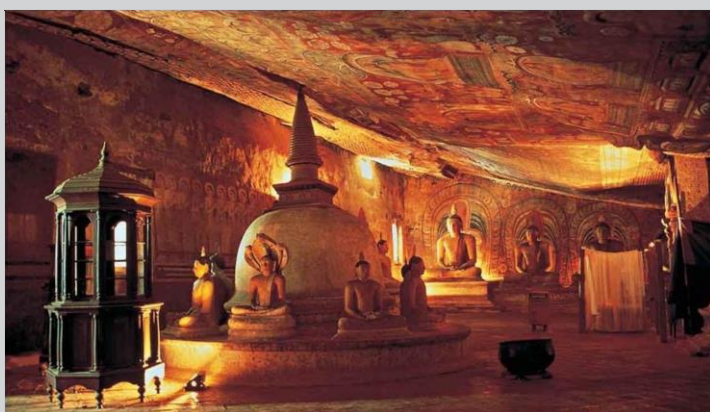
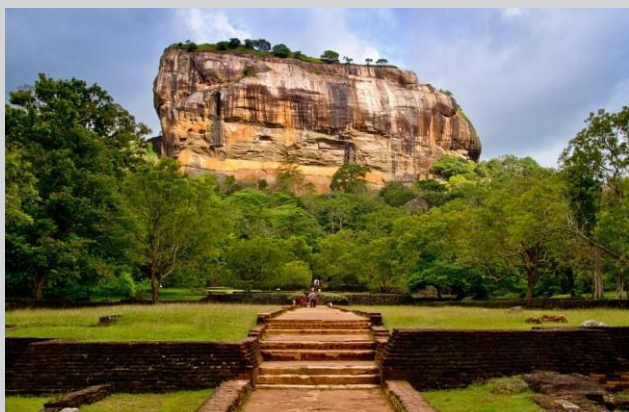
Sri Lanka

National Commission for UNESCO



ANNUAL REPORT

2018



slncu@slt.lk

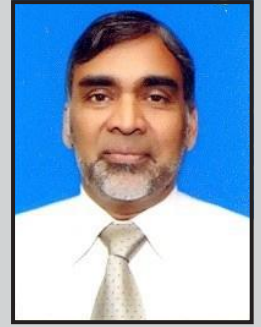
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Foreword



As the Secretary General, I have great pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 2018 of the Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO.

The latest Gazette notification published on 28th December 2018 stated that the Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO (SLNCU) comes under the purview of the Ministry of Education. More over since 1949, the SLNCU has been in existence in Sri Lanka under the said name. Education, Science, Culture and Communication are the key functional areas of the SLNCU. Apart from that, the National Commission has been involved in areas of policy advice, capacity building in basic, primary, secondary, and higher education, through interventions from UNESCO. The thrust of the Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO in 2018 has been the promotion of "Education for Peace and Sustainable Development" and also, promotion of quality education for all. Further, the concept of knowledge society is also being promoted. Since 2015, the SLNCU has been promoting Goal 4, Viz; "Quality Education" of the Sustainable Development Goals, which has 17 Goals.

To mark the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI), UNESCO had organized a flagship event in Sri Lanka, from 28-29 September 2018 at the Hotel Mount Lavinia in Colombo, under the theme "The Asian Digital Revolution: Transforming the Digital Divide into a Dividend through Universal Access". The IDUAI, Colombo Statement was declared as a result of this event.

"The UNESCO Category 2 Centre for Teacher Development" in Meepe, Sri Lanka, which is another initiative of the SLNCU, is to have as its main objectives, the continuous professional development of teacher educators and counsellors, research into development of teacher educators and curriculum development, as well as the concepts of inclusive education and education for peace and sustainable development. It is now hoped that the faculties of the Centre could be made operational soon.

As per the Goal No 13 of the Sustainable Development Goals, Viz; "Climate action" the SLNCU has supported "Sudeesha", (Seacology) a NGO promoting mangrove culture along the coastal belt, in the Puttalam District of Sri Lanka.

The visits of UNESCO Delegations, the UNESCO meetings attended by Sri Lankan Officials, as well as travel grants, training programmes and fellowships awarded to Sri Lankan Officials through the UNESCO Net Works are highly appreciated and are mentioned in the report.

It is our privilege and honour to continue to be valued partners of the Ministries and Institutions concerned with the fields of Education, Sciences, Culture and Communication. Following the defeat of terrorism in May of 2009, greater opportunities have been created to prioritize issues of development, in which UNESCO initiatives through its wide and cross cutting mandate could bring important value additions to the programmes of the Government of Sri Lanka.

Premalal Ratnaweera
Secretary General
Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO

Message from Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education, Chairman of Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO and Member of the UNESCO Executive Board



Since assuming duties in August 2015 as Minister of Education, I am pleased to be associated with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural organization, (UNESCO), which covers the varied fields of Education, Sciences, Social Sciences, Culture, Mass Media and Communication.

I believe that UNESCO's multidisciplinary fields of competences can contribute greatly towards the promotion of peace and sustainable development at national and global levels, if properly harnessed.

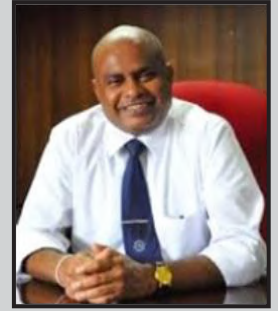
At the national level, UNESCO has helped in monitoring the delivery of quality education for all, sector wide in Education through capacity building programmes in the Ministry, as also in providing recognition for the South Asian Centre for Teacher Development in Meepe, under its auspices as a Category II UNESCO Institute. It is now left for us to make use of this honor and recognition to build this Centre up to the required international standards. UNESCO has also assisted in providing conceptual policy advice for the setting up of the Sri Lanka Institute for Nano Technology (SLINTEC) in Pitapana, Homagama. Furthermore, UNESCO continues to play important roles in the preservation and promotion of the country's tangible and intangible cultural heritages, its natural heritages and in promoting Media Freedom, Right to Information and Freedom of Expression.

I recognize the commitment of the Secretary General and the staff of the Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO, who has shown much promise in delivering their services, although limited in the number. I hope to make every effort to incorporate its statutes by way of an Act of Parliament with a view to strengthening its capacities to deliver its services to the country.

I therefore remain committed to building the capacities of the Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO and wish them all success in its future endeavors.

Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, MP
Minister of Education

Message from Mr. Sunil Hettiarachchi, Secretary of Education, Vice – Chairman of Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO



As The Secretary to the Ministry of Education and Deputy Chairman of the Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO (SLNCU), it is my great pleasure to send this message for the 2018 Annual Report.

For reaching the government goals in delivering the service to the people, I believe that the policy development and capacity building are important components. UNESCO's actions in these spheres, not only benefit the education sector, but also benefit the sector of science, culture, social sciences, mass media and communication. I have been made aware of the many uplifting programmes that UNESCO is providing to our education system, Viz; overseas training programmes, seminars and organizing an international event which is much beneficial to the country in the areas of policy making, capacity building and innovation. Declaring of Colombo Statement as the way forward of International Day for Universal Access to Information held on 28-29 September 2018, enhancing the IT sector in the country and implementation of LLRC recommendations with the intention of developing social cohesion towards peace to create reconciliation among the various ethnic group, conducting of Annual School Camping programme are the other important initiatives undertaken by SLNCU.

I am committed to giving my fullest support to UNESCO activities which are carried out by the SLNCU office and wish to congratulate its staff for their dedication to support the government's programmes. I remain committed to give my fullest support to the Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO (SLNCU), so that Sri Lanka can best utilize UNESCO's varied fields of competences for the greater common good of the country.

Sunil Hettiarachchi
Secretary of Education

UNESCO

The **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) founded in 1945 with its headquarters in Paris. Its declared purpose is to contribute to peace and security by promoting international intellectual collaborations in education, sciences and culture in order to enhance universal understanding and respect for justice, the rule of law, and human rights along with the fundamental freedom proclaimed in the United Nations Charter.

UNESCO has 195 member states and ten associate members. Most of its field offices are "cluster" offices covering three or more countries; national and regional offices also exist. UNESCO pursues its objectives through five major programs: education, natural sciences, social/human sciences, culture and communication/information. Projects sponsored by UNESCO covers education including technical, vocational education and teacher-training programs, international sciences programs, the promotion of independent media and freedom of education, the promotion of cultural heritage and diversity as also international cooperation agreements to secure the world's cultural and natural heritage (World Heritage sites) and to preserve human rights, and attempts to bridge the worldwide digital divide. Above are the promotion of peace and sustainable development. It is also a member of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG).



UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Sustainable Development Goals were adopted at the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 as a shared agenda for all humanity. UNESCO, as one of the United Nations' specialized agencies, is at the forefront of work to achieve the SDGs.

the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to Transform Our World :

GOAL 1: No Poverty : End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

GOAL 2: Zero Hunger : End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being : Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

GOAL 4: Quality Education : Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

GOAL 5: Gender Equality : Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation : Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy : Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth : Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure : Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality : Reduce inequality within and among countries.

GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities : Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

GOAL 13: Climate Action : Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

GOAL 14: Life Below Water : Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

GOAL 15: Life on Land : Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions : Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

GOAL 17: Partnerships to Achieve the Goal : Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.



Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO / SLNCU

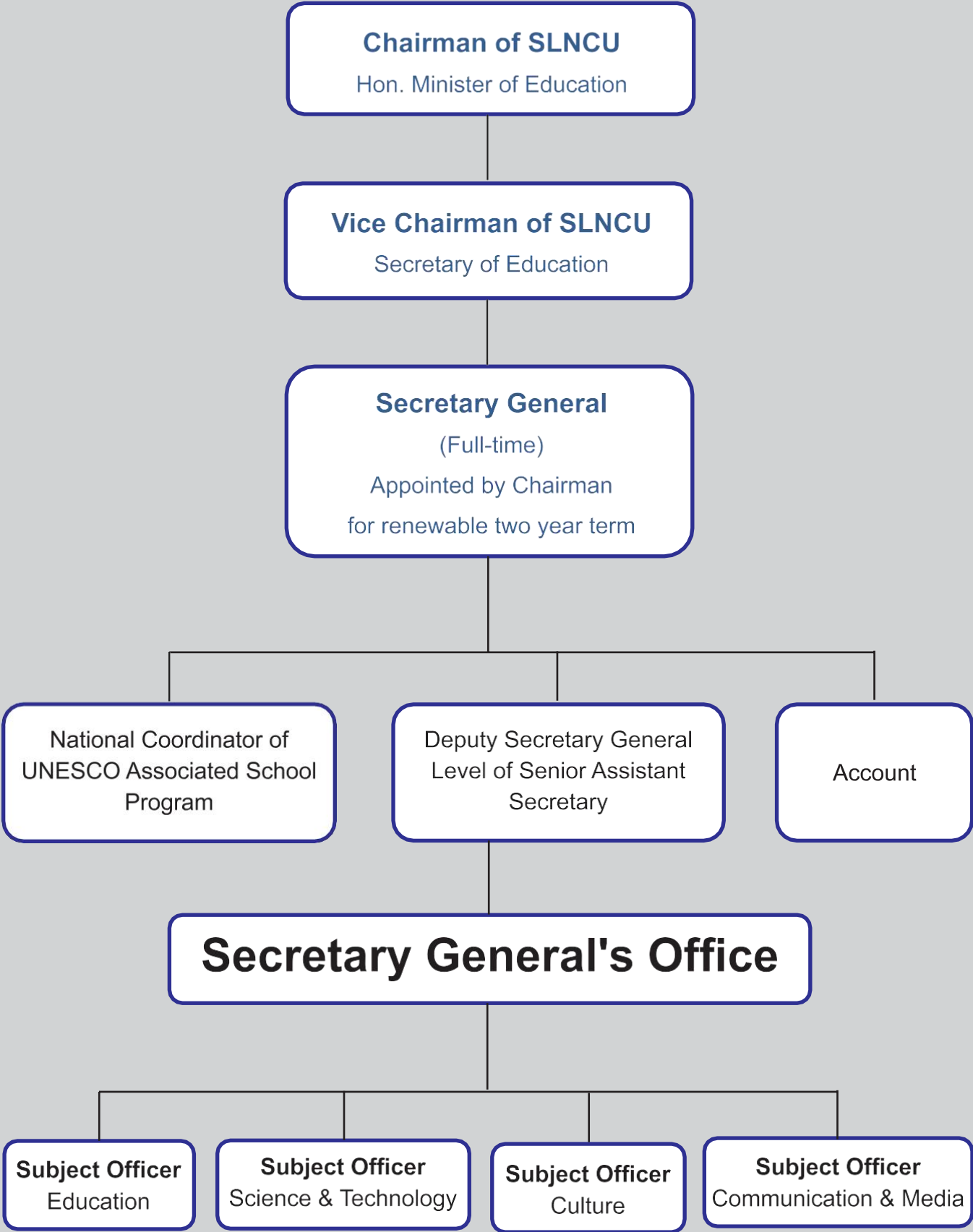
Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO Agenda in Sri Lanka, officially known as Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. This Commission established on 14th November 1949 under the Ministry of Education and is chaired by Hon. Minister of Education. The Secretary of the Ministry of Education functions as the Vice Chairman and the Secretary General is the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission.

Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO is currently chaired by Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education and Mr. Sunil Hettiarachchi functions as the Vice - Chairman and Mr. Premalal Ratnaweera is the Secretary General of the Commission.

Address	: Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO 5 th Floor, Ministry of Education, “Isuripaya”, Pelawatte, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.
Email	: slncu@slt.lk
Web site	: http://www.slncu.lk/



Organizational Structure of Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO



Staff of Secretary General's Office

- Mr. Premalal Ratnaweera - Secretary General of SLNCU
- Mr. D.R.Tissa Kumara - Chief Accountant
- Mrs. Waruni Devendra - Chief Management Assistant cum Subject Officer for Education
- Mrs. Punya Jayawickrama - Subject Officer for Technology, Communication and Media
- Mr. H.A.D.S. Sanjith - Accounts Officer
- Mrs. R.D.R.S.Rajapakshe - Subject Officer for Science
- Ms. D.D.S.C.Gunawardena - Subject Officer for Culture
- Ms. B.P.S.Udani - Office Assistant
- Ms. R.L.P.G.Sachithra - Office Assistant
- Mrs.T.D.N.B.Samaranayake - Office Assistant

**UNESCO's 2019 Global
Education Monitoring
Report – UNESCO
Publication**

UNESCO's 2019 Global
Education Monitoring Report,

migration, displacement and education: Building Bridges, Not Walls is the first of its kind to explore the issues of migration, displacement and education in-depth across all the part of the world. It presents evidence on the implications of different types of migration and displacement for education systems but also

the impact that reforming education curricula and approaches to pedagogy and teacher preparation can have and addressing the challenges and opportunities poses by migration and displacement. It gives voice to experience in host and home communities.

Affiliated Ministries and Other Entities of Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO

Ministry of Education (Chairman of SLNCU)

- Ministry of Economic Development
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Public Administration, Rehabilitation and Law & Order
- Ministry of Higher Education
- Ministry of Finance and Mass Media
- Ministry of National Heritage
- Ministry of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Skills Development
- Ministry of Technology and Research
- Ministry of Telecommunication, Digital Infrastructure and Foreign Employment
- Ministry of Social Services
- Finance Commission
- University Grants Commission
- National Science Foundation
- National Institute of Education
- National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol



Plan of Action - 2018

Under Local Funding

Major Programmes	Activities	Funds Allocated (Rs.,000)	Result Achieved
Contributions to UNESCO and affiliated bodies	Payment of the UNESCO contribution and other mandatory contribution	16,600	Completed
Payments for the office assistant at the permanent delegation in Paris	Payment of salaries through the MEA	6,800	Completed
UNESCO Executive Board Meetings	Preparation of papers		Completed
Attending UNESCO meetings	Executive Board Meetings	3,500	Completed
	Any Other Meetings	500	Completed
UNESCO ASP net Schools Programme	School camps	1000	Completed
Sector Programmes with other Ministries/Agencies	Preparation of candidacy for the intergovernmental committee on ICH	2300	Completed
Publications	Initiating of the National Launch of GEM Report of 2019	500	Completed
Operational Activities		5,400	Completed

Under Foreign Funding

Programme	Activities	TEC (Rs.,000)	Result Achieved
Children's Art competitions	Enikki Festa	500	Planning of 2019 Calender
UNESCO participatory projects	A Tracer Study of Graduates of the Universities in Sri Lanka	6,900	Completed
	Enhancing the preparedness for impacts of climate change on mangroves through research and training		Completed
	Strengthening Gender Equality and Equity zero Tolerance for sexual and Gender based violence		Completed
Emergency Assistance	Rehabilitation of schools affected by 2017 floods	7,400	Completed

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN 2018

1. UNESCO Scholarships Fund

UNESCO Scholarships Fund was established through the Act, No.44 of 1999 of Parliament with the intention to provide financial assistance to differently abled and displaced children in Sri Lanka.

This Fund has been established under the National Commission for UNESCO within the Ministry of Education. It is being governed by a Board of Management as per the Act, and in accordance with Article (3) (2) (a) of the said Act, the Secretary of the Ministry in Charge of Education Chairs this Board. The fund has presently a corpus of Rs. 10 Million which is placed under the Central Treasury of the Government of Sri Lanka.

Since October of 2017, It has already initiated to provide monthly financial assistance of Rs. 2,000/= to 34 school children without parents and/or differently abled until they complete their school education.

3. School Campaign in December 2018

The LLRC (Lessons Learnt Reconciliation Commission) has made recommendations to the Government to create reconciliation among the various ethnic groups that were affected by the evil war. Since Education is an important tool that can be used effectively for establishing everlasting peace, cohesion and sustainable development in the country, the Ministry of Education has taken

significant steps towards achieving this prime goal. The LLRC recommendations too have emphasized that long term benefits could be achieved through education. Responding to some of the key recommendations of the LLRC has been assigned to the Ministry of Education, in the areas of Human Rights and Reconciliation. The Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO with the supervision of Ministry of Education has shown progress in the implementation of what has been recommended by the LLRC.

UNESCO School Campaign is one of the programmes that brings Sri Lankan school children in different ethnic groups living around the country under one shade, with the intention of developing social cohesion towards peace. The Phase III of this school campaign was successfully held at the National Centre for Leadership Development in Embilipitiya, Sri Lanka from 10th to 14th December 2018.

Schools with a total of 80 students from 3 provinces in the country comprising the Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim communities participated in the said programme with the guidance of 25 school teachers from those selected schools. The programme contained a field trip to the Galle Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a water sports event, Canoeing/Kayaking at Chandrika Lake, Embilipitiya, joint drills and physical exercises, lectures on peace and sustainable development and also group studies and presentations on the subjects presented.



3. International Day for Universal Access to Information, IDUAI, An Asian Regional Conference on 28 and 29 September 2018

To mark the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI), the Ministry of Telecommunication, Digital Infrastructure and Foreign Employment and the Ministry of Education of the Government of Sri Lanka and UNESCO co-organized a flagship Asian regional event in Colombo, Sri Lanka as part of IDUAI commemorations that were held around the world in collaboration with UNESCO.

This UNESCO international event successfully held on 28th and 29th September 2018 at the Hotel Mount Lavinia in Sri Lanka with the participation of Mr. Eric Falt, Director of UNESCO New Delhi office, India comprised international panelists, experts workshops and other high-level events under the theme, "The Asian Digital Revolution: Transforming the Digital Divide into a Dividend through Universal Access", which addressed four key areas :

- The state of the digital divide in Asia
- New technology opportunities and challenges in the service of Sustainable Development: including Artificial Intelligence, big data and the Internet of Things
- Advancing the dividends of "opening up"
- De-risking" Information Access

Symbolizing worldwide commemoration of 28 September for IDUAI reinforces UNESCO's mission to support its 195 Member States to build Knowledge Societies upon four pillars: universal access to information and knowledge; respect for

cultural and linguistic diversity, freedom of expression; and quality education for all.

The celebration of IDUAI- 2018 was inaugurated under the patronage of Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka as the Chief Guest and the participation of the Hon. Minister of Education, Minister of Telecommunications, Digital Infrastructure and Foreign Employment, the respective Deputy Ministers and Ministry Secretaries.



Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka at his Welcome Speech



Mr. Eric Falt, Director, UNESCO Representative to Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, the Maldives and Sri Lanka.



Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka with the Ministers, Deputy Ministers and UNESCO Representatives.

At the conclusion ceremony held on 29th September 2018, the declaration titled the "Colombo Statement" was adopted as the way forward for IDUAI. The main recommendations of the "Colombo Statement" were the following;

The Colombo Statement: IDUAI 2018

Having attended "The Asian Digital Revolution: Transforming the Digital Divide into a Digital Dividend through Universal Access", a commemorative event held to celebrate the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) in Colombo on 28-29 September 2018:

1. Recalling that the 38th session of the UNESCO General Conference proclaimed 28 September as the "International Day for Universal Access to Information" and invited all Member States, United Nations system

organizations, and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to commemorate the International Day in a manner which each considers most appropriate;

2. Thanking the Government of Sri Lanka, particularly its Ministry of Telecommunication, Digital Infrastructure and Foreign Employment, Ministry of Education and National Commission for Sri Lanka for graciously hosting the commemorative event in Colombo;
3. Reaffirming that the universal right to information is essential for societies to function democratically and for the well-being of all women and men in an equal manner;
4. Recognizing a shared commitment to the principles of social justice, inclusion and non-discrimination of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Information for All Programme (IFAP) in advocating a humanistic perspective to the digitization of information across various spheres of life;
5. Asserting the need for using multiple channels to reach out to the citizen's need and desire for knowledge.
6. Believing that freedom of information is an integral part of the fundamental right to freedom of expression enshrined in

Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, which stipulates that freedom of expression encompasses the freedom "to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers".

7. Considering knowledge and education as vital means to achieve sustainable development goals through cultural socialization, political participation and integration within markets, globally regionally and nationally
8. Repeating the view that the full potential of digital networks and media and information applications can be achieved only if there is a fair balance between private and public interests in knowledge;
9. Recalling that information access is not limited to creation of physical infrastructure but also involves the ability of women and men equally, both as individual and communities to use that information. When either of the two components, i.e. access **or** ability to use, lags behind, it widens the digital divide by exacerbating the inequality in how the dividends of digital progress are shared out.
10. Reiterating UNESCO's Global Priority Gender Equality focus on gender mainstreaming within knowledge societies, in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5;
11. Recalling the 2015 New Delhi Declaration on Inclusive ICTs for Persons with Disabilities: Making Empowerment a Reality and understanding the need for creating accessible Open Educational Resources [OER] to improve teaching and learning experience for the people with disabilities;
12. Recognizing the key role of language within the information process and that UN has proclaimed 2019 as the Year of Indigenous Languages and articulated the need to promote openness in and for all languages;
13. Considering the 2011 Strategy on UNESCO's contribution to the promotion of Open Access (OA) to scientific information and research and taking into account specific needs in the countries of the South;
14. Observing that the advances in digital technologies are disrupting the traditional ways of working across businesses, governments and in the daily lives of people and that the four key developments are at the heart of this transformation – the Internet of Things, cloud computing, big data analytics and artificial intelligence;
15. Recognizing the contributions from many quarters including governments, private sector and the Free and Open Source Software Communities in extending access to information and knowledge

The participants:

01. Believe that the theme for the conference "Transforming the Digital Divide into a Digital Dividend through Universal Access" addresses directly the challenges and opportunities of the digital age.
02. Assert that achieving full information access is a particular challenge to traditionally disadvantaged groups - such as women, cultural minorities and persons with disabilities – and therefore call upon governments, as the main owners of physical locations and funding resources - to take specific media literacy and other educational initiatives for the empowerment of vulnerable groups in accessing, evaluating and utilizing information, within the framework of the essential personal freedoms and entitlements guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
03. Reaffirm that the networked nature of advanced Information and Communication Technologies demands that the social, legal, ethical, linguistic, web accessibility and technical challenges imposed by their widespread adoption require a multi-stakeholder response.
04. Declare their conviction that universal access to Information and knowledge for both women and men is fundamental to the development of inclusive Knowledge Societies.
05. Appeal to all stakeholders including governments, technology groups, media houses and the civil society to adopt decisively a gendered approach, and resolutely include women practitioners, female CEOs and technology officers in decision making and in the design and implementation of new information access policies, technologies and products.
06. Emphasize the need to promote research around enhanced knowledge and skills, along with improved access to ideas and information, which can encourage and empower citizens to become engaged partners and themselves take intelligent and informed steps towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
07. Welcome the enactment, in several countries, of legislation on access to information, but highlight the need to implement this in a comprehensive and transparent manner - with particular reference both to levels of media literacy and personal preparedness which can safeguard users' privacy against cybercrime and also to protect professional journalists who remain a major source of reliable information within societies.
08. Reaffirm the importance of empowering all citizens, especially young women and men and persons with disabilities, to develop a culture of openness and to become creators of content and innovation, including through access to information and quality education.

09. Reiterate the understanding of the Dakar Declaration on Open Access for the Global South, and state the necessity for establishing polycentric governance mechanisms for OA research and recommend that institutions and governments urgently collaborate to pilot and develop policies and enabling mechanisms to promote and publicize Open Scholarship and Open Science.

10. Call upon the governments to take firm steps and develop policies to mandate all the publicly funded research are available under Open Access; and also to earmark enough funding for necessary infrastructural and capacity enhancement.

11. Appreciate the Ljubljana Ministerial Statement and Open Educational Resources [OER] Action Plan 2017 which recognizes OER as a strategic opportunity to increase knowledge sharing and universal access to quality learning and teaching resources and call upon Governments and all relevant educational stakeholders, including civil society, to mainstream OER making them more broadly accessible including to persons with disabilities in support of achieving the Education 2030 Agenda.

12. Note the need to ensure institution-wide multi-sectoral training, attuned to people's divergent and discrete needs, in particular those of disadvantaged groups and individuals, and designed to accustom and familiarize the community towards a more inclusive environment which can

integrate the latest available technology (ODL, OER, FOSS, OA, etc.) into learning, teaching and training routines, applying the tenets of universal design for learning including UNESCO's just published Competency Framework.

04. Participation in International Events, 2018

- Conservation of Photographic and Archival Collections-ICCROM, Italy
- Re-Org Lisboa- International Workshop- ICCROM, Italy
- Contribution to Kanagawa art competition in Japan by Sri Lankan students.

05. Participation Programme

Participation Programme is one of the Major Programmes of UNESCO which is implemented in UNESCO member states, through funds provided as per the requests that are analyzed and approved by the UNESCO Secretariat related to UNESCO's mandate in the fields of Education, Science, Social Sciences, Culture and Communication.

SLNCU awaits the approval from UNESCO HQ for 07 requests made in 2018/2019 under participation programme.

06. Participation at the consultations and the symposium on Blended Learning for quality Higher Education in Colombo Sri Lanka

UNESCO Bangkok together with the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka hosted consultations and a symposium on blended learning to showcase the key output from the Shenzhen Funds-in-Trust project on *Building staff capacity for ICT driven innovation in Cambodia and Sri Lanka* from 13-14 December 2018 in Colombo Sri Lanka. The aim of the meeting was to review progress and lessons learned from the project with generous support of the Shenzhen Funds-In-Trust.

07. Intangible Cultural Heritage Programme

Dr. B. D. Nandadeva, retired Professor from University of Kelaniya and a Member of the National Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage of Sri Lanka participated as official delegate of Sri Lanka to the 13th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, held in Port Louis, Republic of Mauritius from 26th November to 1st December 2018.

Sri Lanka's nomination, "Rukada Natya", Traditional String Puppet Drama in Sri Lanka has been recommended for inscription on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity during the 13th session of the Intergovernmental committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.



Angampora, the valuable ancient martial art of Sri Lanka was proposed to be highlighted to reach the global stage under the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) program of UNESCO.



8. Natural Cultural Heritage Knuckles

Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO was involved in solving issues which occurred within the UNESCO World Heritage Knuckles forest reserve.

- 21,000 acres of land within the World Heritage Site of the Knuckles Conservation Forest being offered for private projects.

This matter has been investigated by Forest Department and found that no such deforestation has occurred and no forest lands within the Knuckles Conservation Boundary or associated buffer zones are being utilized for any development activity.

Sinharaja Forest

Successfully completed the investigation for discontinuation of activities in the Sinharaja World Heritage Property. This investigation was carried out by the Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO in collaboration with the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment and the Forest Department

- Investigating the deforestation of adjacent areas in the Sinharaja World Heritage sites
- The prevention of the proposed translocation of the last two remaining elephants that range into the Sinharaja Forest Reserve.
- Tree felling in the Sinharaja Forest and its adjoining land being sold to private companies for business

H.E the President of Sri Lanka provided guidance to ensure that the remaining elephants shall not be dislocated from Sinharaja Forest.

9. Cultural Heritage

Galle Fort

There was a question concerning illicit buildings around the Galle Fort Fortifications. The ICOMOS report, released in 2016 under UNESCO advice assisted in overcoming this issue. It mentioned that the bigger threat to the outstanding value of the World Heritage property comes not from the development of the Port, but from developments within the Old Town itself.

Dambulla Rock Temple

The Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO intervened with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs concerning conservation of the World Heritage Site of the Dambulla Rock Temple as follows,

- I. Assisting in the investigation of reasons for the decay of frescos within the cave temple of Dambulla, Rock Temple.
- ii. Establishing of a site management committee as a priority, including representatives of the government, temple authorities and the local community, as well as experts.
- iii. Updating management plan by including plans of frescos conservation, tourism management, plans for control and management of income and expenditure and revised the responsibilities of the coordination parties.

SLNCU ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• **Affiliate with Sub Committees**

The National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka is the focal point of UNESCO in the area of science. They organize the following meetings monthly.

Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO is a committee member of those UNESCO sub committees.

1. National Committee on the Man and the Biosphere (MAB)

Facilitate and support the national programmes in relation to conservation and sustainable management of natural resources in keep with the MAB concepts.

2. Working Committee on International Relations

The committee advises and facilitates the development of strategic international partnerships with international institutions / agencies / bodies / organizations.

3. Working Committee on Bioethics

The committee produces guideline of national importance listed below through a process of consultation involving all relevant stakeholders.

Guidelines for Research Ethics Review in Sri Lanka

Guidelines for Research Using Animals in Sri Lanka

Guidelines for Stem Cell Research in Sri Lanka

Guidelines for Genetics Research in Sri Lanka

Bioethics Education from Secondary Level

4. Steering Committee on Gender in STEM

This committee identifies the needs and gaps to make suitable recommendations to enhance the popularity of subject disciplines like science, mathematics and engineering with equitable access.

The subcommittee has initiated a study on STEM access and processes and as the first phase of the study, NSF plans to identify existing data sources related to Gender in STEM in Sri Lanka and prepare an inventory and a data dummy which can be used in continuing with the next phases of the duty.

The second phase consists of identification of national and international policies related to gender in STEM and preparing a policy inventory.

The third phase comprises of two surveys; one on gender aspects in Higher Education, Vocational Training, Entrepreneurship and Innovation in the STEM field in Sri Lanka, and the other on gender aspects of advanced qualification holders and senior position holders in Higher Education, Vocational Training, Entrepreneurship and Innovation in the STEM field in Sri Lanka.

- **UNESCO Associated School Project / (ASP Schools)**

The UNESCO Associated School network links educational institutions across the world around a common goal, to build peace of mind of children and young people. The Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO has chosen one hundred and forty five (145) schools from different districts to participate in this programme. Among these schools, twenty five schools are registered with ASPnet in UNESCO, Paris.

- **Award / Prize/ Fellowship Programmes**

UNESCO organizes several Award / Prize / Fellowship Programmes annually. Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO calls for nominations from related organizations of Sri Lanka for consideration to these programmes.

1. L'OREAL- UNESCO Prize 'for women in science
2. Young Professional Programme
3. "Wenhui Award" for Educational innovation
4. UNESCO/KEIZO Obuchi research Fellowship Programme
5. Water Security Project of UNESCO

- **The National Institute of Education, Sri Lanka has been selected for Honorable Commendations by the Wenhui award Jury in year 2018, for their work on open School Programme.**

- **The application submitted by the National Science Foundation for Water Security Project of UNESCO has been selected for follow-up.**

- **Intergovernmental Commission / Programme**

Sri Lanka is a member state of Intergovernmental Oceanography Commission and Intergovernmental Council of Hydrological Programme of UNESCO. All messages of these programs are disseminated to relevant organizations through the Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO.

Sri Lanka focal point of IOC is the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency and the IHP focal point is NSF of Sri Lanka.

UNESCO WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES IN 2018

Education

No.	Programme/ Event	Date(s)	Organize by / Venue	Participations	
				Name	Institute
1.	Training Workshop on Online Gender Assessment tools for Teacher Education	28-29 May 2018	Hanoi, Viet Nam	Ms. M.H.F.Maheeza, Senior Lecturer	National Institute of Education
2.	The Asia-Pacific Regional Seminar on MOOCs for Higher Education: Seizing digital opportunities to achieve SDG4	11-13 June 2018	China	Mr. K.R.Uduwawala, Additional Secretary (Non-State Higher Education)	Ministry of Higher Education & Cultural Affairs
3.	3 rd Asia-Pacific Regional Policy Forum on Early Childhood care and Education	5-6 June 2018	Kathmandu, Nepal	Mr. S.Sathkunaraja, Deputy Director of Education Development	Department of Provincial Education, Northern Province
4.	Technical Consultation Meeting on the future of Education for Sustainable Development	09-10 July 2018	Bangkok, Thailand	Ms. Leela Kumari Senevirathne, Director of Education, management and Quality Assurance	Ministry of Education
5.	Training Workshop on Gender Mainstreaming in Teacher Education	17-20 July 2018	China	Mr. Virajith Kodagoda, Senior Lecture	National Institute of Education
				Ms. M.H.F.Maheeze, Senior Lecture	National Institute of Education
				Ms. U.G.W.Wimalaka, Senior Lecture	National Institute of Education
				Ms. Anusha Edirisinghe, Director, Center for Gender Studies	University of Kelaniya
6.	The 3 rd International Conference on Global Citizenship Education (GCED)	5-6 Sep. 2018	Korea	S.U.I.K. De Silva, Lecturer	Department of Social Sciences, NIE
				A.L.S.Abeywickrama, Senior Lecturer	Department of Social Sciences, NIE
7.	Regional Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Comprehensive Sexuality Education	6-7 Sep. 2018	Thailand	H.G.Priyanthi Dhammika, Assistant Director of Education	Provincial Department of Education (North Central Province)
8.	South and West Asia Training Workshop on Monitoring SDG4: Education Statistics and Tools	6-10 August 2018	New Delhi, India	Ms. K.G.D.P.Gunaratne, Assistant Director of Education.	Ministry of Education
				Ms. A.B.T.M.A.R. Bandaranayake, Assistant Director of Education.	Ministry of Education
				Mrs. G.W.C.K.K. Sumanasiri, Statistical Officer	Ministry of Education
9.	Regional Workshop on Enhancing Community Engagement for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):	10-14 September 2018,	Okayama City, Japan	Mrs. Badra Padmakanthi Withanage, Director of Education, Education for All + SDG-4-	Ministry of Education
				Mrs. A.C.Hewage, Teacher,	Ananda College,

10.	Regional Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (Regional CSE Dialogue)	6 th and 7 th September 2018	Bangkok, Thailand	Mrs. H.G.Priyanthi Dammika, Assistant Director of Education	Provincial Department of Education (North Center Province)
11.	Asai-Pacific Meeting of National Commissions for UNESCO	19 th to 21 st Sep. 2018	Gyeongju, Korea	Mr. Premalal Ratnaweera, Secretary General	Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO
12.	UNESCO MGIEP: invitation for teachers to participate in the TECH conference 2018	13 th November 2018 to 17 th November 2018	India	Mr. W.M.I.G.D.P. Wijerathne	D.S.Senanayaka M.V. Dambulla
				Mr. K.A.U.S. Ariyaratna	Dehiowita M.V. Dehiowita
13.	Presentation and Launching of the Regional Technical Booklet on Results – Based Budgeting and Project on SDG 4 Costing and Financing	11 December 2018	Bangkok	Mr. N.A.J.Sri Lal	Gothamie B.V, Colombo 10
				Mr. A.G.G.I.L. Kumarasinghe	Dambulla M.M.V. Dambulla
				Mr. D.N.Dumbulwaka	Bandaranaike M.M.V. Veyangoda
				Mrs. W.A.T.I. Wickramasinghe, Accountant (Procument)	Ministry of Education

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No.	Programme/ Event	Date(s)	Organize by / Venue	Participations	
				Name	Institute
1.	KFIT 3 Project Meeting	21-22 November 2018	Thailand	M.A.V.Surangi, Deputy Director	Ministry of Education
				P.Nalaka, Director of Education	Ministry of Education

Culture

No.	Programme/ Event	Date(s)	Organize by / Venue	Participations	
				Name	Institute
1.	Group Training Course for Young Professionals on Cultural Heritage Protection in the Asia-Pacific Region 2018-Investigation, Preservation and Management of Archaeological Sites.	4 th Sep.to 4 th Oct. 2018	Japan	Mr. A.K.Siriwardha, District Cultural Officer,	Department of Cultural Affairs
				Mr. Nandana Upul Kumara, District Cultural Officer,	Department of Cultural Affairs
				Miss. M.A.D.R. Athukorala, Archaeological Research Officer	Department of Archaeology
				Mrs. T.L.D.Weerakkody, Archaeological Research Officer	Department of Archaeology
2.	Re-Org Lisboa – International Workshop			Mr. A.A.T.K. Amarasinghe, Archaeological Research Officer	Department of Archaeology
3.	Group Training Courses for Young Professionals on Cultural Heritage Protection in the Asia-Pacific Region 2018	4 th Sep. 4 th Oct. 2018		Mr. I.K.C. Amarsinghe, Archaeology Officer	Central Cultural Fund
4.	42 nd Session of the World Heritage Committee	24 th June to 04 th July 2018	Royal Kingdom of Bahrain	Prof. P.B. Mandawala, Director General	Department of Archaeology
5.	Thirteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage	26 November 1 December 2018	Republic of Mauritius	Dr. B.D.Nandadeva Retired Professor	University of Kelaniya



Science

No.	Programme/ Event	Date(s)	Organize by / Venue	Participations	
				Name	Institute
1.	2 nd WESTPAC Workshop on Microplastic Research and Monitoring	15-17 October 2018	China	Mr. J.P. Samarakoon, Cheife Engineer	Sri Lanka Institute of Textile & Apparel

“We consider that is our paramount duty to empower children, who start and leave school having completed their 13 years of education, to face challenges in the world. My vision is to provide leadership in achieving modernization of education necessary for the endeavors”

- Minister of Education, Akila Viraj Kariyawasam

The purpose of our life is to be happy
- Dalai Lama

ONE SUCCESS STORY

Worldwide commemoration of 28 September IDUAI reinforces UNESCO's mission to support its 195 Member States to build Knowledge Societies upon four pillars: universal access to information and knowledge; respect for cultural and linguistic diversity; freedom of expression; and quality education for all.

The concept of Knowledge Societies was developed from a conviction that universal access to information is a key to building peace and achieving sustainable development.

Universal access to information addresses the Human Right to seek and receive information. These are an integral part of the right to Freedom of Expression, covered by [Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) and [Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights](#).

UNESCO's expertise in ICT for Development and universal access to information are applicable to development goals facing the host country Sri Lanka and the region. UNESCO works in such areas as Open Access to scientific information; Open Educational Resources; preservation of documentary heritage; libraries and archives; Media and Information Literacy, Internet Governance; linguistic diversity on the Internet; and access for persons with disabilities.

Declaring the "Colombo Statement" on "International Conference of International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI)" held on 28 and 29 September 2018 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in order to discuss the key points and implementation of the proposal, establishment of a Steering Committee comprising leading Ministries and Agencies in Sri Lanka was initiated. This could be deemed a success story for 2018.



FUTURE PRIORITIES AND POSSIBILITIES FOR JOINT WORKS

- The National Launch of Sinhala and Tamil versions of Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report Summary – 2019 scheduled to be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka under the guidance of UNESO HQ.



- Realizing the long felt need to provide for continues Professional Development of Teachers in the country, where such facilities are deemed greatly lacking, the Ministry of Education in Sri Lanka presented the Concept Proposal to UNESCO in 2012, the global leader in the field of education, to establish the South Asian Centre for Teacher Development (SACTD) in Sri Lanka. Upon acceptance by UNESCO and the member states of the South Asian Region and following the approval of Cabinet of Ministers, the Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka signed an agreement with UNESCO on 10th June 2014 to establish the South Asian Centre for Teacher Development (SACTD), in Meepe, Sri Lanka. The process of operationalize the SACTD, the Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO (SLNCU) is working on the matter with the guidance of Secretary General of SLNCU and the members of Board of Management of the South Asian Centre for Teacher Development. This needs to be operationalized as soon as possible.



FOREIGN DIGNITARIES VISITED UNESCO, COLOMBO

- **Visit of Mr. Eric Falt, Director UNESCO Representative to Bangladesh, Bhutan, India , Nepal, the Maldives and Sri Lanka.**

Mr. Eric Falt, Director, UNESCO Representative to Bangladesh, Bhutan, India , Nepal, the Maldives and Sri Lanka visited Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO at Isurupaya premises in Battaramulla, Sri Lanka on 27th September 2018 as Head of Delegation to Sri Lanka visited for the commemoration of International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) held in Colombo on 28th and 29th in September 2018. The Ministry of Telecommunication, Digital Infrastructure and Foreign Employment and the Ministry of Education of the Government of Sri Lanka and UNESCO co-organized this flagship Asian Regional Event in Sri Lanka.

- **Visit of Mr. Suganami Shigern, President of AMDA Foundation in Okayama, Japan**

Mr. Suganami Shigern, President of AMDA Foundation in Okayama, Japan met with the Secretary General of Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO at Isurupaya premises in Battaramulla, Sri Lanka on 15th October 2018. This opportunity renewed the Sri Lanka- Japan affairs carried out by NATCOM for long.

- **Visit of Mr. Rostislav LENCHUK, Third Secretary (Political) of Embassy of Russian Federation in Sri Lanka and to the Maldives**

Strengthening the membership country interconnection of UNESCO and in connection with the 205th Session of Executive Board held in Paris in October 2018, Mr. Rostislav LENCHUK, Third Secretary (Political) of Embassy of Russian Federation in Sri Lanka and to the Maldives met with the Secretary General of Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO at Isurupaya premises in Battaramulla, Sri Lanka on 21st December 2018.

**IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW
EDUCATIONAL REFORMS BY MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION IN
SRI LANKA**

1. **13 years' Continuous School Education Programme**

Guaranteeing the receipt of 13 years' continuous education by providing the opportunity to follow the G.C.E. Advanced Level also under the Vocational Subject Streams without taking in to the consideration the pass or failure at the GCE (O/Ls).

2. **Guaranteeing the Opportunity for Obtaining Education for All the Children in Their Compulsory Age of Education**

- ❖ Making all the students in the age of obtaining education admitted to schools.
- ❖ Provision of educational facilities to children stay in homes or in hospitals due to disabilities or diseases.
- ❖ Recruitment and training of teachers in Special Education.
- ❖ Establishment of a Resource and Information Centre for special education.
- ❖ Provision of non- formal education opportunities.
- ❖ Providing assistance to the school children affected by disastrous situations.
- ❖ Reconstruction of schools destroyed owing disastrous situation.
- ❖ Establishment of equal access to education for students of the plantation schools.

- ❖ Construction of new national schools fully equipped with facilities.

3. **"Suraksha Insurance" for Student**

Provision of an Insurance Cover for 4.5 Million of students in the age group of 5-19 years subject to a maximum of Rs.200,000/- . Annual installment is Rs. 2,348 Million.



4. **A Higher Participation for Education through the Welfare of the Student**

5. **Recruitment for Professional Service and Empowerments**

- ❖ Uplifting the utilization of teachers.
- Strengthening the Principals' Service.
-
-
- ❖ Strengthening the Education Administrative Service.

6. **Teachers' Education and Teacher Development to Produce a Generation of Teachers with Professional Competencies**

Construction and modernization of Teachers' Centres

- ❖ Increasing the allowance for the student teachers in the national Colles of Education

7. Using the Information and Communication Technology for Education

8. Uplifting the Qualitative in the Primary Education and the Secondary Education

9. Uplifting the Sports and Physical Education

- ❖ Improvement of Sports Schools to produce internationally recognized players.

10. Protection of Physical and Mental Health of Students

11. Equal Facilities Required for the Education are also for the Students in Pirivena

12. The contribution of the School for the Sustainable Development

- ❖ Introduction of numerous programmes such as the Global Learning and observation to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) programme, National Environment Pioneers programme, Green School Programmes and many more.

13. Production of Teachers and Students Equipped with Creative and Innovative Skills

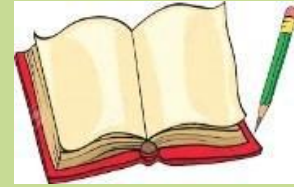
14. Development of Attitudes and skills on the National Reconciliation and National Integration and Citizenship within the School Student Community

15. Improvement of Infrastructure Facilities in all the Schools under the Programme of " Nearest School Best School".



Quality Education - Goal No.4 of UN Sustainable Development Goals

ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE AND QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL



First, the bad news on Education, Poverty, armed conflict and other emergencies keep many, many kids around the world out of school. In fact, kids from poorest households are four times more likely to be out of school than those of the richest households. Now for some good news, since 2000, there has been enormous progress on the goal to provide primary education to all children worldwide; the total enrollment rate in developing region has reached 91%. By measures in any school, that's good grade. Now, let's get an even better grade for all kids and achieving the goal of universal primary and secondary education, affordable vocational training, access to higher education and more.

"The wide diffusion of culture and the education of humanity for justice and liberty and peace are indispensable to the dignity of man and constitute a sacred duty which all the nations must fulfill in a spirit of mutual assistance and concern."

- UNESCO Constitution, 16 November 1945

" Creativity is contagious, pass it on "
• Albert Einstein

**SRI LANKAN
CONTRIBUTION
TO THE WORLD**

World Heritage Sites Named by UNESCO Situated in Sri Lanka

1. The Sacred City of Anuradhapura

Anuradhapura, the first capital of Sri Lanka, was growing with power and prosperity for more than 1500 years. This city, whose antecedents can be traced to 6th Century BC, spawned a novel culture based on Buddhism that made its advent here in 3rd Century BC. Comprising gigantic temple complexes as the Maha Vihara, Jethavana, Abhayagiri and an inner city spreading in about 200 acres, the city's archaeological remains span about 14 sq. miles. These include some ruins of great architectural value and exquisite pieces of sculpture. This has been nominated as a World Heritage in the year 1982.



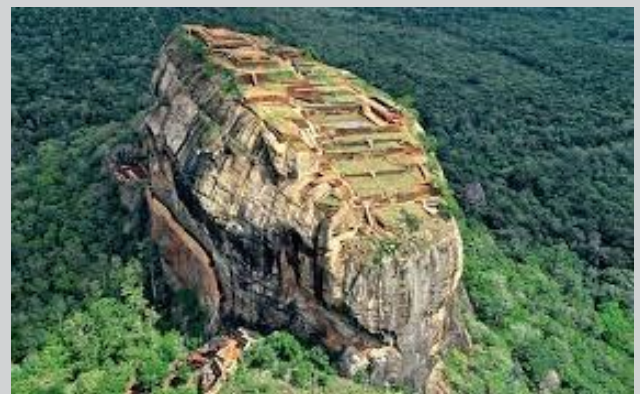
2. The Medieval Capital of Polonnaruwa

Polonnaruwa is the second most ancient city of Sri Lanka's kingdoms. Polonnaruwa was first declared the capital city by King Vijayabahu I. The most noteworthy sites of Polonnaruwa are the cluster of Gal Vihara, Thivanka Image House and Alahana Pirivena. Polonnaruwa has been nominated as a World Heritage in 1982.



3. The Sigiriya Rock Fortress

The Sigiriya complex has been developed around the 600 feet tall mountain and acted as the capital of the country, in the 5th century AD. It was the glorious Art Gallery and Palace cum Fortress of King Kashyapa in the 5th century AD. Sigiriya presents a unique concentration of fifth century urban planning, surrounded by the remains of an extensive network of gardens, arts and architecture, engineering and hydraulic technology. This has been nominated as a World Heritage in 1982.



4. The Royal City of Kandy

Kandy was the last capital of the country before British subjugation of Sri Lanka. The city has enriched Sri Lankan culture in many ways. One of the most sacred places of the Buddhists is the Dalada Maligawa, where the "Sacred Tooth Relic Temple" is located. Around it sprawls the archaeological complex of the king's palace and the old city and many other aligned edifices. Not subject to destruction of edifices as in other capitals, Kandy remains a grandiose reflection of Sri Lankan architecture. Wooden carvings and murals embellish a number of buildings of which the Audience Hall and Dalada Maligawa are glowing examples. UNESCO has nominated Kandy city as a World Heritage in the year 1988.



5. The Cave Temples of Dambulla

Dambulla was designated a World Heritage site in 1991. It is the largest and best-preserved cave temple complex in Sri Lanka. This edifice considered as the centre of Sri Lankan Buddhist art and sculpture is replete with about 160 Buddha statues, Bodhisatva images and figurines of Gods. Murals have been drawn on an area of 20,000 square feet. The murals depict a very stylish form of art developed in the Kandy Period.



6. The Dutch Fortifications at Galle

The City of Galle and its Fortifications is included in the UNESCO World Heritage list. The Fort belongs to the European traditions and was constructed during the Portuguese and Dutch periods. The town inside and the architectural remains are considered to be excellent creations. The Portuguese, Dutch and British periods in Sri Lanka are depicted within the Galle Fort. UNESCO has nominated this place as a World Heritage in the year 1988.



7. The Sinharaja Forest Reserve

Sinharaja forest reserve is one of the least disturbed and biologically unique lowland rain forests in Sri Lanka. It is also national park in Sri Lanka. This is the only low lying primary tropical rain forest in Sri Lanka and is one of the few virgin forests of the world. Green Canopy and high Bio-Diversity are the most outstanding values of the Singharaja Forest. More than 60 % of the trees are endemic and many of them are rare. And UNESCO nominated the Singharaja Rain Forest in Sri Lanka as a Natural World Heritage Site in 1988.



8. Central Highland

1. Sripada Range

Sripada Range is situated in the Central Highlands which have High Bio-diversity and Endemic Flora and Fauna. Considering these most outstanding values, UNESCO has nominated the Central Highlands of Sri Lanka as a World Heritage in the year 2010. Not only it's outstanding natural heritage values, it has also, cultural values by way of myths, beliefs, rituals and pilgrimage. It is one of Sri Lanka's most important religious pilgrim routes. To Buddhists,

Sri Pada (sacred foot print) is the place where the Lord Buddha placed his foot print at the last visit to Sri Lanka on the top of the mountain where there is now, a temple. The pilgrim period starts from Unduvap full moon Poya Day to Wesak full moon Poya Day. Seetha Gangula, Idikatupaana, Mahagiridamba and Lihinipola are the places to visit when on pilgrimage to Sri Pada.



II Knuckles Range

Having considered the three most important areas of the Central Highlands in Sri Lanka, namely, Sripada, Knuckles Range and Horton Plains, UNESCO has nominated the Central Highlands in Sri Lanka as a World Heritage in the year 2010. Knuckles Range is also situated in the Central Highlands which has high Bio-Diversity and Endemic Flora and Fauna.



III Horton Plains

Horton Plains is situated in the Central Highlands World Heritage Site which has 3,159.8 ha. It has a mountain rain forest and open grasslands. Umbrella shaped mountain forest patches gives more beauty to the plains. The endemic flora and fauna and also the high biodiversity are the most outstanding values of the plains. This has been nominated as a World Heritage in the year 2010.



" If you light a lamp for somebody, it will also brighten your path "

• **Buddha**

" No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin or his background or his religion. People must learn to hate and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite. "

• **Nelson Mandela**

"There is a higher court than court of justice and that is the court of conscience. It supersedes all other courts."

• **Mahatma Gandhi**



"Building Peace in the Minds of Men and Women"

- UNESCO

"We need to take actions responsibly based on the understanding that what we do today can have implications on the lives of people and the planet in future. Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) empowers people to change the way they think and work towards a sustainable future."

- UNESCO

Ministry of Education

Vision

To achieve excellence in the global society through production of skillful citizens who are the shareholders of the Sri Lankan identity.

Mission

Tproduction of citizens fit enough to confront the international tendencies through a modernized approach of education aimed at efficiency and high qualitiveness in a manner that it satisfies all the stakeholders.