

1. Education Committee

SLLA Launches Higher Diploma in Library and Information

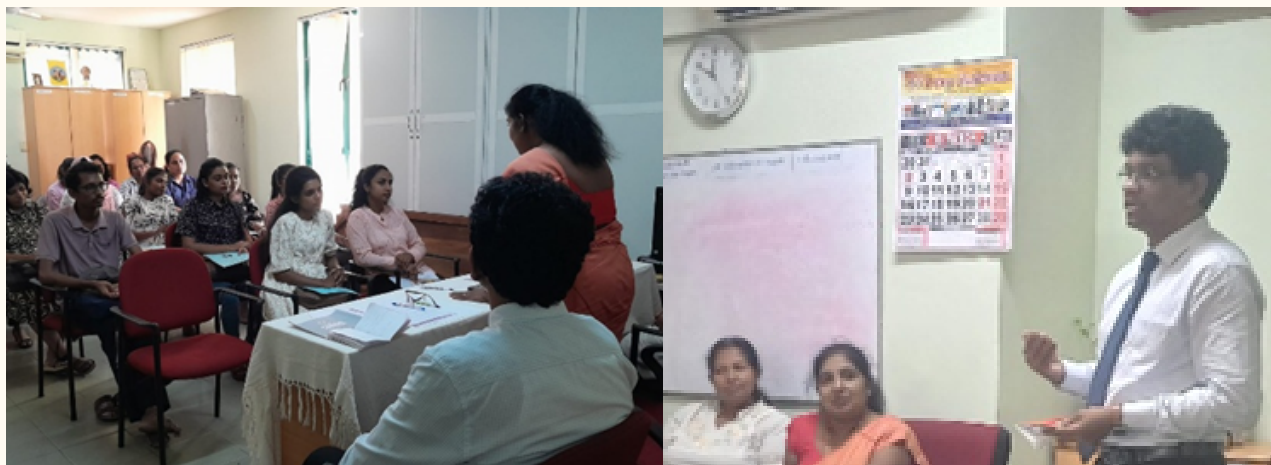


Image credit: @ SLLA

The Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) marked a significant milestone in professional education with the official commencement of the Higher Diploma in Library and Information Science (Level 11). The opening ceremony was held on 14 March 2026 at the SLLA premises.

The event was attended by key officials, including Mrs. W.A.J. Kaushalya Ratnasekera (Education Officer), Mr. Daminda Manamperi (Assistant Education Officer), and Mrs. Priyani Balasuriya. In line with its commitment to inclusivity and accessibility, the Higher Diploma programme will be conducted in both Sinhala and Tamil mediums.

This bilingual approach enables library professionals from diverse backgrounds across the island to enhance their technical knowledge and professional competencies. As the final stage of the Higher Diploma programme, this course is designed to develop participants' research and management skills further, preparing them to meet the evolving demands of modern library and information services. The SLLA continues to play a vital role in strengthening the professional capacity of library and information science practitioners in Sri Lanka through such forward-looking educational initiatives.



Revision Seminar for Diploma in Library and Information Science

A revision seminar for students of the Diploma in Library and Information Science (English Medium) of the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) was successfully held on 24 January 2026 at the SLLA Auditorium.

The seminar covered several key subject areas to support students in their examination preparation. The Leadership module was conducted by Ms. Upeksha Kodithuwakku, while Ms. Hiruni Kanchana delivered the session on Cataloguing. The Classification module was conducted by Mr. Dammika Rathnayaka, and the session on Library Resources and Services was conducted by Ms. Sakunthala Senevirathna.

The programme provided valuable academic guidance and revision support to the participants, contributing to their readiness for the diploma examination.

2. The Information and Public Relations Committee

**INTEGRITY IN LEARNING
& RESEARCH WITH AI
TOOL**

CONTACT - 070 209 1035
(BUDHDHIKA)

Sankathana Lecture No.35
This programme will be conducted by
Mr. Thankavadiivel Ramanan - Senior
Assistant Librarian (Grade 1) at
University of Colombo

**ON THE
28TH FEB 2026**
From 7.30PM to 8.30PM

ONLINE

 **SRI LANKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**
275/75, STANLEY WIJESUNDARA
MAWATHA, COLOMBO 07, SRI LANKA

Sankathana Lecture Series 35 : Explores Integrity in AI-Assisted Learning and Research

The lecture titled “Integrity in Learning and Research with AI Tools” was successfully conducted on 28 February 2026 via online mode as part of the Sankathana Lecture Series 35. The session was delivered by Mr. Thankavadiivel Ramanan, Senior Assistant Librarian at the University of Colombo.

The lecture focused on the responsible and ethical use of artificial intelligence tools in academic learning and research, highlighting best practices, challenges, and the importance of maintaining academic integrity in the digital age.

This programme was organized by the Information and Public Relations Group of the Sri Lanka Library Association and attracted the participation of library professionals and students interested in emerging trends in information literacy and research practices

3. Libraries, Departments, Institutions: Workshops, and Training programmes



3.1. Special Library Group

A health and safety workshop titled “A Safer Life Tomorrow Through Awareness Today” was successfully held on 4 March 2026. The programme was jointly organized by the Special Libraries Committee of the Sri Lanka Library Association and the Colombo Young Men's Buddhist Association. The workshop comprised two informative sessions aimed at enhancing community awareness on critical health and safety issues.

First Session

The first session was conducted by doctors and nursing officers from the Indira Cancer Trust, focusing on breast cancer awareness for women. The session aimed to educate participants on risk factors, causes, early detection through self-examination, and available treatment methods. In addition, participants were informed about free support services and institutions available for patients. The two-hour session provided valuable insights into early identification and prevention, concluding with guidance on accessing free healthcare services.



Second Session

The second session was conducted by senior nursing officers with the objective of raising awareness to prevent avoidable deaths caused by lack of knowledge. The session addressed how to respond effectively to accidents and emergency situations in daily life. Participants were educated on immediate actions, essential precautions, basic first aid techniques, and how to manage a patient until professional medical care is available. The session also emphasized the importance of remaining calm and seeking appropriate assistance. This practical two-hour session was highly informative and beneficial for all participants. Overall, the workshop successfully enhanced awareness on health and safety, empowering participants with essential knowledge and practical skills for everyday life.



3.2. Government Library Group

ONLINE LECTURE SERIES FOR GOVERNMENT LIBRARIANS' SERVICE EXAMINATION



A series of online lectures has been successfully organized by the Government Librarians' Group of the Sri Lanka Library Association to support open and limited applicants preparing for the examination for recruitment to the Government Librarians' Service.

The lecture series was conducted in both Sinhala and Tamil medium to ensure wider accessibility and inclusivity among candidates.

Professor Ruwan Gamage, Dr. R.D. Ananda Tissa, Miss K.A. Samanthi, and Mr. Rajith Kumarasinghe provided Sinhala medium resource contributions. Tamil medium resource contributions were made by Dr. S. Shanmugathan, Dr. (Mrs.) M.M. Mashroofa, Dr. (Mrs.) Thayananthi Sritharan, Dr. (Mrs.) K. Chandrasekar, Mr. R. Kupeshan, Mr. B. Prashanthan, Mrs. Komathy Murugathas, Ms. Thivya Janen, Mr. Rajith Kumarasinghe, and Miss Achala Sugandhi.

Mrs. Yanika Nandasena, Mrs. Menaka Subasinghe, Mr. Rajith Kumarasinghe, and Mrs. Thivya Jenan carried out the coordination of this successful lecture series.

This initiative significantly enhanced candidates' knowledge and preparedness, supporting their success in the Government Librarians' Service examination.

3.3. Sustainable Development Group

FIRST STREET LIBRARY IN WESTERN PROVINCE LAUNCHED AT MATHUGAMA



The primary objective of this innovative project is to inspire a positive change in public attitudes towards reading while encouraging commuters to make productive use of their time. A unique feature of this street library is its 24-hour accessibility and its self-sustaining nature, as it is maintained systematically by the public without the supervision of a librarian.

The event was attended by several distinguished guests, including parliamentarian Mr. Jagath Withana, Chairman of the Mathugama Pradeshiya Sabha Mr. Kasun Munasinghe, and President of the Sri Lanka Library Association Mr. Sugath Gunathilaka. Also present were council members of the Sri Lanka Library Association, Programme

Coordinator Ms. Nissanthi Chandrasiri, Secretary of the Pradeshiya Sabha Mrs. Rangika Ranasinghe, librarians of the Mathugama Pradeshiya Sabha, government officials, and members of the Mathugama libraries. The first street library initiated by a local government agency in the Western Province was ceremonially launched on 13 February 2026 at the Mathugama main bus stand under the theme “If development begins, let it start with me.” This initiative was jointly organized by the Mathugama Pradeshiya Sabha and the Sustainable Development Goals Group of the Sri Lanka Library Association. This initiative marks a significant step towards promoting reading culture and community responsibility, while aligning with sustainable development goals through public participation and shared ownership.



4. Feature Article

Academic Integrity in the AI Era: Similarity, AI-Generated Content, and Plagiarism in Academic Writing



Dr. N. M. Karannagoda
Senior Assistant Librarian
University of Colombo

Honorary Professor in Library and Information Science (QAHE & Kennedy University)

Can a perfectly written assignment still be academically dishonest? In the age of artificial intelligence and plagiarism-detection software, this question has become increasingly relevant." Therefore, the integrity of scholarly work is more significant than ever in the modern academic environment. The rapid development of digital tools, especially artificial intelligence (AI), and the use of similarity-detection applications have made the notions of similarity, plagiarism, and AI-generated text the focus of scholarly debates. These terms, however, are misinterpreted or used interchangeably, causing confusion among scholars and learners. This paper will clearly discuss these concepts with a focus on ethical academic practices. Academic writing is bound to contain similarity.



All academic work is based on existing knowledge, theories, and already published research. Thus, it is not only natural but also anticipated that one will come across similar phrases, terminology, or even ideas. In academia, similarity is normally calculated by software such as Turnitin, iThenticate, and Drillbit, which compares a document to a large database of published and unpublished works. The outcome is usually given as a percentage of similarity. Notably, being similar is acceptable and not a problem. Academic institutions and universities recognize this and, as such, set cut-off points or tolerable levels of similarity. These thresholds

vary by institution, discipline, and the nature of the academic work (e.g., thesis, journal article, or assignment). The presence of such limits clearly shows that there is some degree of tolerable similarity. However, there is one important difference to keep in mind: Similarity can only be tolerated to a certain extent. Anything outside the acceptable limit may be a reflection of original thinking and writing by the author. Another important aspect is that all similarities should be appropriately cited. Regardless of whether the similarity is due to direct quotes, paraphrased ideas, or common scholarly phrases, it is necessary to reference them properly. However, commonly used terms or standard academic phrases may not always require citation. A citation not only gives credit to the original author, but it also enhances the credibility of the work. To conclude, similarity is not an ethical judgment but a quantitative measure. It becomes ethically significant only when it is mishandled.

Plagiarism: A Zero-Tolerance Academic Offense

Although similarity is acceptable to a certain extent, plagiarism is definitely not acceptable in any academic setting. Plagiarism is the use of another person's work, ideas, or words without crediting them. One point to emphasize is the following: If there is a similarity that is not mentioned, whether deliberately or inadvertently, it amounts to plagiarism.

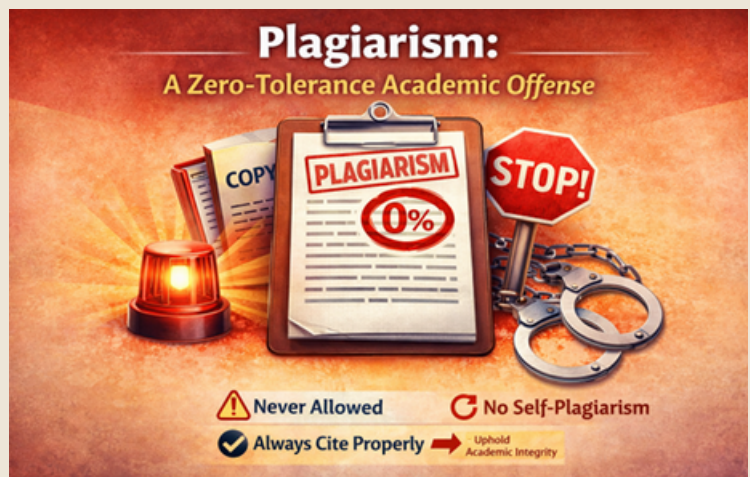


Figure 3: Image Credit: OpenAI (2026)

Plagiarism highlights the ethical aspects of writing academic papers. Plagiarism is an integrity issue, unlike similarity, which is expressed as a percentage. Thus, educational establishments have a zero-tolerance policy on plagiarism. That is, in any academic document, there should be no plagiarism. Plagiarism may take various forms: direct copying without referencing, improper paraphrasing, applying ideas without crediting them, or submitting another person's work as your own. Self-plagiarism is yet another form that is often overlooked but is equally important. Self-plagiarism occurs when a writer uses material they have already published without citing it. Although the piece in question is the author's original work, it still needs to be referenced, as academic writing must be transparent and original in every new submission. When considering plagiarism, the other major problem arises with paraphrasing. In the case of a text that has been paraphrased correctly, similarity detection software might fail to detect it as a similar text. Nevertheless, this does not nullify the moral obligation to acknowledge the source. What is the significance of this? Since the source is identified, whether manually or with better software, it would obviously be classified as plagiarism. Ethical academic practice, therefore, demands citation, irrespective of whether similarity is found. Therefore, plagiarism is not only a technical issue but also



Figure 4: Image Credit: OpenAI (2026)

an ethical one, compromising academic credibility and trust. AI-Generated Content: Opportunities and Ethical Responsibilities The emergence of artificial intelligence has greatly changed academic writing. AI-driven tools can assist with generating ideas, optimizing language, summarizing, and even creating complete blocks of text. Nowadays, it is hard to envision scholarly work without some AI assistance. In fact, AI has become a part of contemporary academic practice. Nevertheless, its application introduces new ethical issues. Detection is a major problem. Although AI detection tools have been created, they are not yet fully reliable. The difference between AI-generated language and human-written text has become very thin. Sophisticated tools can generate content that is very natural and human-like, making it hard to determine who is writing. In addition, the development of humanized AI tools makes it even more difficult to detect. These tools edit AI-generated content to resemble human writing styles, making detection even less accurate. As a result, AI detection software cannot accurately distinguish AI-generated content, and it can also confuse human-written content with AI-generated content (Miller, 2024).

These aspects raise questions about equity and objectivity in academic assessment. With such restrictions, it is not just about detection but about use, and it should be used ethically. There is nothing wrong with using AI. Actually, it may improve productivity and facilitate learning. However, it should be used responsibly. Transparency is one of the most important ethical requirements. The use of AI tools in academic work should be openly disclosed when they are used. Moreover, most universities and academic institutes have started formulating AI policies to inform learners and scholars. Such policies establish what is acceptable and what is not acceptable in the use of AI in academic work. Thus, people must examine their institution's AI policy, understand the permitted extent of AI application, and adhere to institutional guidelines. Finally, AI is not meant to replace critical thinking, originality, or academic responsibility, but rather to serve as an aid.

Interconnection between Similarity, Plagiarism, and AI

Even though similarity, plagiarism, and AI-generated content are different terms, they are closely related in academic writing. While

similarity concerns measurable textual overlap, plagiarism introduces an ethical dimension. The rise of AI further complicates this distinction by blurring traditional ideas of originality. For example, AI-generated text can produce text that appears original and has low similarity scores. Nevertheless, when ideas are obtained from available sources and fail to be credited, the ethical issues remain. Moreover, similarity detection can be circumvented by paraphrased AI content, which nonetheless needs to be cited.

The above explanation supports one of the major principles: Software results alone do not define academic integrity; rather, ethical responsibility does.

Conclusion: Upholding Academic Integrity in a Changing World

As academic practices evolve with technological development, the issue of integrity is becoming increasingly significant. To become a responsible scholar, it is important to understand the distinction between similarity, plagiarism, and AI-generated content.

To summarize: Similarity is acceptable within boundaries and should never be omitted. Plagiarism is entirely unacceptable and should be avoided. AI can be used, but only in accordance with ethical, transparent, and institutional policies. Ultimately, academic writing is not merely the generation of content, but rather a contribution, which is honest and responsible to the body of knowledge. No matter the tools used, the principles of originality, transparency, and ethical accountability should never be sacrificed.

Bibliography

- Haber, E., Jemielniak, D., Kurasiński, A., & Przegalińska, A. (2025). Using AI in academic writing and research: A Complete Guide to Effective and Ethical Academic AI. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Karannagoda, N. M., Aponsu, R., & Athukorala, L. H. (2026). Guide for a successful doctoral journey: 10 golden principles which be key to any Ph.D. candidate (2nd ed.) [English]. Nine Publishing.
- Kothari, C. R., & Garg, G. (2019). Research methodology: Methods and Techniques.
- Miller, D. (2024, December 21). Why AI content Detection is failing: The rise of AI Humanizers in 2024. AI HUMANIZE. Retrieved May 12, 2026, from <https://aihumanize.io/blog/why-ai-content-detection-is-failing-the-rise-of-ai-humanizers-in-2024/>
- OpenAI. (2026). AI-generated content: Opportunities and ethical responsibilities [AI-generated image]. ChatGPT (DALL·E).
- OpenAI. (2026). Plagiarism: A zero-tolerance academic offense [AI-generated image]. ChatGPT (DALL·E).
- OpenAI. (2026). Similarity: A natural but controlled aspect of academic writing [AI-generated image]. ChatGPT (DALL·E).
- OpenAI. (2026). Understanding similarity, AI-generated content, and plagiarism in academic writing [AI-generated image]. ChatGPT (DALL·E).

5. Library in Focus

1). Sri Jayawardenepura General Hospital Library



RW Nimasha Hansinee Balasooriya

Librarian

Sri Jayawardenepura General Hospital

Address: Thalapathpitiya, Nugegoda

Telephone: 0112778610 / 0716682269

Email: librarysjgh@gmail.com

About the Hospital

Sri Jayawardenepura General Hospital is a leading healthcare institution & post graduate institution dedicated to providing high-quality medical services, advanced treatments, and compassionate patient care. The hospital has grown into a trusted center for excellence in healthcare, education, and research.

The Sri Jayawardenepura General Hospital (SJGH) is a government-owned, not-for-profit tertiary care institute that was gifted by the people of Japan, honoring the late President His Excellency J.R. Jayawardana. Established under the provisions of the Parliament Act number 54 of 1983, and has been managed by a board of members since its inception on the 17th of September 1984.

It is located in Sri Jayawardenepura, the capital of Sri Lanka, on nearly 30 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens with serene nature. This state-of-the-art green conceptual hospital maintains and preserves its environmental policies thoroughly for sustainable development.

The eco-friendly hospital environment of SJGH has a nurturing, therapeutic effect, and this helps to reduce patients' anxiety and stress, accelerate recovery, shorten hospitalizations, and promote a sense of well-being while uplifting the tranquility of the staff. With the primary objective of providing high-quality healthcare services to the community. Over the years, the hospital has expanded its facilities, departments, and specialized services. Today, it stands as a trusted healthcare institution equipped with modern technology and a dedicated team of professionals committed to patient care.

About the Medical Library

The Medical Library serves as an essential resource center for healthcare professionals, students, and researchers. It provides access to textbooks, journals, research articles, and digital databases (e-books and e-journals) to support learning, clinical decision-making, and up-to-date medical information.

Objectives of the Library

- To provide accurate and up-to-date medical information
- To support clinical decision-making and research
- To promote lifelong learning among healthcare staff
- To enhance digital and information literacy
- Promote information literacy
- Ensure easy access to information

Library Collection

- Medical-related Books (Printed and Electronic)
- Medical-related Journals (Printed and Electronic)
- Annual Hospital Reports
- Annual Scientific Sessions Bulletin
- English News Papers

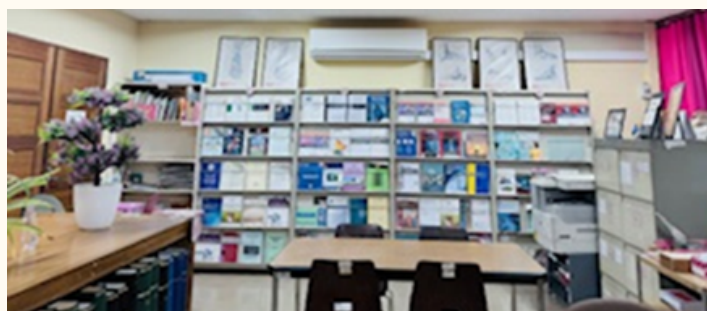
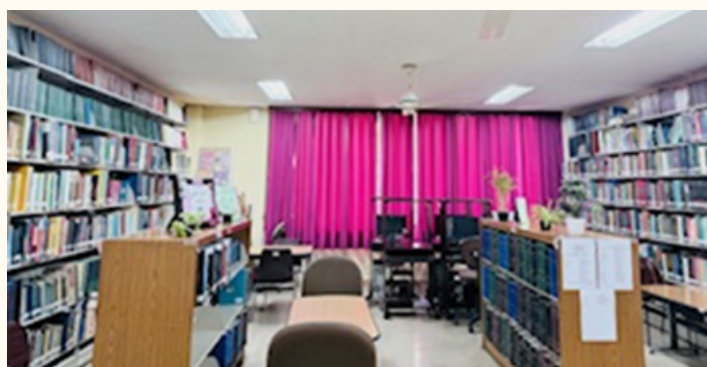
The Medical Library collection is organized using the Universal Decimal Classification (UDC) system. For example, the number 616 represents Medicine, helping users easily identify and locate medical-related books on the shelves.

Each resource is assigned a classification number based on its subject area, ensuring a well-structured and user-friendly arrangement. The library also maintains a catalogue system (OPAC/manual catalogue) for quick and efficient searching by title, author, or subject.

Library Services

- Book lending
- Reference and research assistance
- Internet and digital database access
- Access to medical journals and e-books
- Printing, photocopying & Scanning Facilities
- Inter Library Loan Services

Furthermore, the Sri Jayawardenepura General Hospital Library organizes a range of user-focused activities such as health education sessions, library orientation programmes, and other awareness programmes to enhance information literacy and service utilization.



2). Attorney General Department Library



Vijaya Prasad Welikannage
Librarian

The Hon. Francis Flemming Was Appointed as the first Attorney General in 1884 on 1st January. The legal Draftsmen's department was also under the Attorney General and was housed in the present legal Draftsmen's Department building at Hulftsdorp.

Attorney General's Department Library has opened at the same time in the same building, along with the first Attorney General, the Hon. Francis Flemming. And this Library was opened to the officers of the Legal Draftsmen's Department too. Most importantly, reliable data on the early history of the Attorney General's Library is not readily available in the form of annual administrative reports or government reports. Hence, we have to depend on very old files in the record room, older generation administrative officers, and legal officers.

There is no evidence to show that there was a cadre for a librarian for this department. However, it appears that the office Assistant was in charge of the library while a clerk had been looking after it physically.

The Attorney General Department Library was given an annual allocation of Rs.1750/- The following materials have been added to the library. Examples are Chitty's statute, Statutory Rules and Orders, Whitaker Almanac, and Statesmen's Yearbook, etc.

From the inception of the libraries in Sri Lanka, there have been some common features observable in regard to the purchase of library materials. The Sri Lankans were governed by the European for nearly five centuries, and eventually their laws too became centered on the legal systems of these nations. Especially that of the Dutch and the British. And various collections of Roman law books, Roman Dutch Law books, English Law books, and a fair collection of Sinhala Law, Thesawalmei law, Muslim Law, South African law books.

During the World War II time period, lots of legal officers, students, and law practitioners in srilanka faced the fundamental problem of purchasing the law books that they needed

because the price of law books was very high. Hence, at that time, the Attorney General's Department Library played a vital role. The library had the best book collection, reading materials, Reference collection, and the best history and law book collection. So it began as an office collection at the time of the establishment of the Department. As the Department grew, so did the collection, and later it became necessary to engage the services of a clerk to function as a librarian.

The Attorney General's Department is now under the Ministry of Justice and is headed by the Attorney General, who functions as the legal advisor to the government, the Authority charged by law with the enforcement of criminal justice, and the department head.

Current Status of the Library

In the current status of the library, there are two buildings in the Attorney General's Department, and there are two libraries in both buildings. (Old building library and the new building library) The old library building is now housed in the basement of the Attorney General's Department. This is a spacious hall. The stock of both libraries of about 45000 books is now shelved on twelve large bookshelves. Both libraries are air-conditioned, and a suitable atmosphere is created to enable officers to work comfortably and undisturbed in the library. There are a photocopy machine and two printers in both libraries is being used to reproduce research materials, judgments, acts, etc. required by library users.

Library Collections/ Sections

Basically, the Attorney General's Department Library provides reference and information services to the above clientele. For this purpose, the library is composed of a

- Lending section
- Reference section
- Periodical section
- Reading room

Lending section: the library has a book stock of about 45000. The lending section is open only to all the legal officers of the Attorney General's department.

Reference Section: The reference section is open to the Legal officers of the Attorney General's Department. The reference section contained lots of rare books, law dictionaries, Encyclopedias, and unpublished judgments. There is a special collection on Ceylon.

Reading Section: The reading section in the library has an atmosphere that is conducive to doing research work. Reference service to officers using this section is easily extended beyond normal working hours when it is necessary. The library is open weekdays.

- Who is the clientele in the Library?
- Attorney General
- Solicitor General
- Additional Solicitor General
- State Counsels that often do court work, appearing on behalf of the Attorney Generals of the Government. Whether to appear before a court of law or to advise the Government, a state council has to engage in research.

- All the legal officers of the department.
- Apprentices who are learning the law under the state council.
- In certain respects, the Attorney General's Library is the nucleus library of the Ministry of Justice. It is not only serving the requirements of the officers of the A.G Department but also of the officers of the Ministry of Justice, such as judges, staff officers of the legal draftsmen department, and the administrative staff of the Law Ministry.



6. Outreach Activities

SLLA COUNCIL MEMBER CONTRIBUTES AS RESOURCE PERSON AT NATIONAL LIBRARY PROGRAMME



Ms. Shivanthi Weerasinghe, a Council Member of the Sri Lanka Library Association (2025/2026), participated as a resource person at a programme organized by the National Library of Sri Lanka on 28 January 2026.

She delivered a lecture titled

සේවයට ඇති උනන්දුව, අභිප්‍රේරණය හා ධනාත්මක ආකල්ප මගින් පෞද්ගලික හා ආයතනික වර්ධනය

focusing on the importance of motivation, positive attitudes, and enthusiasm in enhancing both personal and organizational development.

Ms. Weerasinghe, who is also an active member of the SLLA, contributed valuable insights to the session, highlighting practical approaches to improving workplace productivity and professional growth.

This programme served as an important platform for knowledge sharing and professional development within the library and information sector.

you can do ANYTHING you just have to be DETERMINED

Don't stop

Meet an Expert | 47th Programme 

සේවයට ඇති උනන්දුව: අභිප්‍රේරණය හා ධනාත්මක ආකල්ප මගින් පෞද්ගලික හා ආයතනික වර්ධනය

Inspired to serve: Motivation and a positive Attitude for personal and Institutional growth.

2026 ජනවාරි මස 28 වන බදාදා පෙ. ව. 11.00 - 12.30

ජාතික පුස්තකාල ශ්‍රවණාගාරයේ දී හා මාර්ගගතව

 Meeting ID: 863 9301 2699
Passcode: 832850


ශිවන්ති වීරසිංහ
ඉතා මහඟුම මටුලු පුස්තකාලාධිපති සහ
මහා පුස්තකාල සංවිධාන මටුලු කොමිෂි.



 National Library of Sri Lanka

මෙහෙතෙමේ පාර්ශ්වකරුවන්ගේ අවධානය යොමු කිරීමට මෙහිදී සහභාගී වන්න. අංක 14, බැංකු මාර්ග, කොළඹ 07

LET'S CHAT!

7. Any other News

1. Workshop for Medical and Dental Postgraduate Trainees attached to the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine

The Library of the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM) successfully conducted its Orientation Programme on PGIM Library Resources and Services for postgraduate trainees between January and March 2026. A total of 203 trainees participated across 13 sessions covering a wide range of medical and dental specialties. This mandatory programme, approved by the University of Colombo Senate Meeting No. 463, 30.06.2021, is designed to provide trainees, particularly those engaged in research, with the knowledge and skills needed to efficiently navigate PGIM Library resources, access scholarly databases, and utilise research tools effectively.

The sessions were coordinated and facilitated by Mrs Dilhani Munasinghe and Mrs Chandima Wadasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarians (SALs), who guided participants through practical demonstrations, resource orientation, and research support services offered by the library. Upon completion, all participants were awarded e-certificates recognizing their successful engagement with the programme.

Programme Highlights by Degree and Specialty

MD Trainees: General Medicine, Family Medicine, Community Medicine, Radiology, Surgery, Dermatology, Orthopedics, Venereology, Medical Administration, Restorative Dentistry, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, and Medical Education.

MSc Trainees: Community Medicine, Community Dentistry, and Nutrition.

Diploma and Certificate Courses: Palliative Medicine, Sports Medicine, Geriatric Medicine, Health Sector Disaster Management, and Medical Education.

In addition to familiarizing trainees with library resources, the programme focused on enhancing research skills, literature search strategies, reference management, and evidence-based practice, helping trainees become independent and confident researchers. Participants also received guidance on accessing e-journals, digital repositories, and specialized databases, ensuring they can make the most of the Institute's academic resources throughout their training.

This initiative reflects PGIM Library's ongoing commitment to supporting academic excellence, fostering a research-oriented culture, and empowering postgraduate trainees to achieve professional growth and success in their respective fields.

1. Orientation Programme Statistics 2026 January – March

| 2026 | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|---|
| No | Programme Date | No Of Participants | Specialties |
| 1 | 09/01/2026 | 13 | Diploma Palliative Medicine |
| 2 | 12/01/2026 | 18 | MD Community Medicine/Community Dentistry |
| 3 | 14/01/2026 | 15 | MD Family Medicine |
| 4 | 23/01/2026 | 12 | Diploma Sports Medicine |
| 5 | 29/01/2026 | 08 | MD General Medicine-1, MD Venereology-1, MD Medical Administration-1, Certificate Medical Education-1, MD Orthodontics-2, MD Human Nutrition-1, MD Oral Maxillofacial Surgery-1 |
| 6 | 13/02/2026 | 20 | MSc Nutrition |
| 7 | 16/02/2026 | 50 | MSc Community Medicine/Community Dentistry |
| 8 | 20/02/2026 | 25 | MD Radiology |
| 9 | 26/02/2026 | 05 | MD Surgery-1, MD Restorative Dentistry-1, MD Medicine-1, MD Oral Maxillofacial-1, MD Medical Education-1 |
| 10 | 04/03/2026 | 07 | DHDP |
| 11 | 20/03/2026 | 11 | Diploma Geriatric Medicine |
| 12 | 26/03/2026 | 09 | MD Medicine-4, MD Dermatology-1, MD Orthopedic-2, MD Internal Medicine-1, MD Medical Administration-1 |
| 13 | 31/03/2026 | 10 | Diploma Health Sector Disaster Management |
| Total Participants | | 203 | |
| Total Programmes | | 13 | |

2. Recognition as Technology and Innovation Support Centre (TISC) staff



Mrs. Harshani Dissanayake, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya, completed the WIPO Technology and Innovation Support Centre (TISC) Foundation Certificate Course. The course was conducted by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The course consisted of two phases. The first phase was on online mode and covered fundamentals of intellectual property and related topics relevant to TISCs. The second phase was conducted as live training seminars to develop skills for professional development in technology and innovation support services to build TISC core competencies. She is recognized as certified TISC staff since 31st January 2026.

PUBLICATION AND EDITORIAL COMMITTEE, SRI LANKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 2025/26

Ms. Sakunthala Senevirathna (Editor-in-Chief)

MSSc (LISC)(UoK), BA.Hons.(LISC)(UoK), Dip.
Journalism (Colombo)
Dip. Counselling (SDTI), ALA (SLLA), LM (OPA)
Senior Assistant Librarian (Chartered Librarian)
University of Ruhuna
Matara, Sri Lanka
Email: saku@lib.ruh.ac.lk

Prof. R.C.G. Gamage

PhD (Wuhan, P.R. China), MLS (Colombo), BSc
(Colombo), FLA (SLLA)
Professor in Library and Information Science
National Institute of Library and Information Sciences
University of Colombo
Colombo, Sri Lanka
Email: ruwan@nilis.cmb.ac.lk

Dr. R. D. Ananda Tissa

PhD (UoK), MSSc (UoK), BA (Hons) (UoK), PGD
(UoSJ), FLA (SLLA), LM (OPA)
Acting Librarian
Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous
Medicine
Yakkala, Sri Lanka
Email: anandat@gwu.ac.lk

Mr. Ajantha Darmarathna

MLS (Colombo), BA (Hons.) (PDN), ASSLA (SLLA)
Head / Senior Assistant Librarian
Faculty of Agriculture
University of Peradeniya
Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
Email: ajanthad@pdn.ac.lk

Mrs. Dilhani Munasinghe

MPhil (UoC), MSSc (UoK), BA.Hons.(UoK), Visharad in
Music,(Bhatkhande,India)
FLA (SLLA), CTHE (SEDA-UK accredited), LM (OPA)
Senior Assistant Librarian
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM)
University of Colombo
PGIM Academic Centre, No.85, Rodney Street,
Colombo 08, Sri Lanka
Email: dilhani@pgim.cmb.ac.lk

Mr. M.N. Ravikumar

BSc.Hons.(Chem.)(EUSL), MLIS(Colombo), FLA
(SLLA)
Senior Assistant Librarian
Eastern University Sri Lanka
Chenkalady, Sri Lanka.
Email: ravikumarmn@esn.ac.lk

Ms. R. M. Nadeeka Rathnabahu

MSSc (UoK), B.A.(Hons) (UoK), FLA (SLLA)
Senior Lecturer
Department of Library & Information Sciences
Faculty of Social Sciences
University of Kelaniya
Kelaniya, Sri Lanka
Email: rathnabahu@kln.ac.lk

Dr. Udaya Cabral

PhD (UoC), MSSc (UoK), PG(Dip)(UoK), BA (UoSJ)
Deputy Director
National Library and Documentation Services
Board
Colombo, Sri Lanka
Email: ucabral@ymail.com

Ms. M.K.G. Yanika Nandasena

HDIPLIS (UoK), PGDLIS (NILIS, UoC), MIM (NILIS,
UoC), FLA (SLLA)
Chartered Librarian
National Audit Office
Baththaramulla, Sri Lanka
Email: givon.yanika@gmail.com

Mr. D.M.D.B. Dissanayake (Layout Designer)

BA (UoK), MA (UoK), MSSc (UoK), Dip. in English
(Aquinas), Dip. in
Computer Hardware with Networks (VTC)
Assistant Librarian
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
Mihinthale, Sri Lanka
Email: mr.dissan@gmail.com

If undelivered, please return to:
Sri Lanka Library Association,
OPA Center, 275/75,
Prof. Stanley Wijesundara Mawatha,
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.

