Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

NEWSLETTER

2026 | Volume 07 Issue 01



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Editorial Note

The period spanning 2025 to mid-2026 marks one of the most transformative chapters in the history of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. As Editor in Chief, I am honoured to present this concise record of our collective achievements, reflecting the dedication, resilience, and vision of our academic community. The year began with major institutional milestones, including hosting the 15th Sri Lanka University Games and the 25th General Convocation. A defining moment arrived in March 2026 with the appointment of Professor P.M.B. Jayathilake as the 8th Vice Chancellor *"the first Vice Chancellor appointed from among our own graduates."* His leadership, coinciding with the university's 30th anniversary, has infused renewed purpose and confidence in our future trajectory.

Across faculties, academic excellence and innovation were strongly evident. The Faculty of Agriculture celebrated its Silver Jubilee and showcased 129 research projects at its Annual Research Symposium. Student innovations addressing national challenges such as solar powered drip irrigation and solutions to reservoir plastic pollution highlight the faculty's applied impact. The Faculty of Applied Sciences strengthened its research culture through Undergraduate Research Sessions, Three Minute Thesis competitions, and award-winning projects. Cultural and environmental initiatives, including the Fastunes Music Society's national performance and the international Bird Ringing Programme, enriched the student experience.

In Management Studies, new leadership, professorial promotions, and international research recognition underscored academic growth. Student achievements from perfect GPAs to sports victories demonstrated well rounded excellence, while initiatives like trendFluence and the Next Wave competition bridged academia with industry. The Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences continued to elevate its global standing, with three academics ranked among the world's top 2% scientists. Its contributions during national health emergencies, pioneering surgical workshops, and student successes in national competitions reaffirm its commitment to service and scholarship.

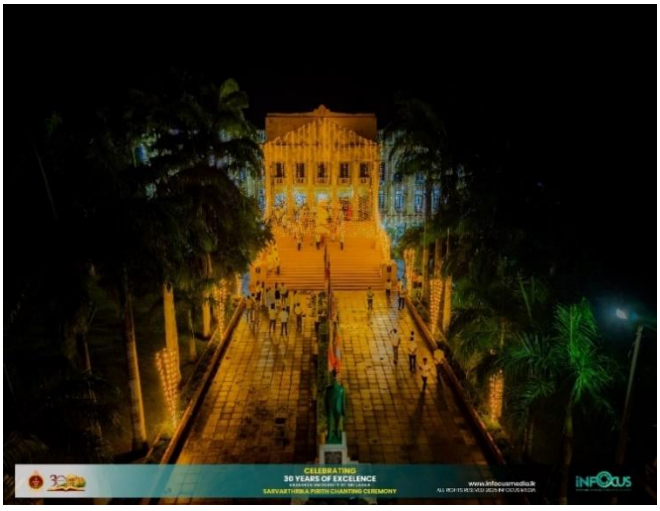
The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities expanded its international presence, with a student delivering a Youth Speech at UNFCCC COP30 and archaeological research gaining global attention. The launch of Lumina and new Senior Professor appointments strengthened academic dissemination. The Faculty of Technology advanced research and international collaboration through major grants, biodegradable packaging innovations, global seminars, and its first international conference on microbial technologies. Strengthened facilities and new appointments position the faculty for continued growth.

Administrative and support units played a vital role in institutional progress. The Career Guidance Unit connected hundreds of students with industry partners, while the University Business Linkage Cell facilitated patents, licensing, and commercialisation. The Main Library expanded services, inaugurated new facilities, and engaged in regional literacy outreach "reading camps and literacy programmes for school children across the North Central Province." International partnerships flourished through programmes with Pakistan, the Netherlands, Sweden, Germany, China, Poland, and India. Scholarships from the Mosvold Martinus Foundation and initiatives such as the U.S. Embassy's Mobile American Space further enriched student opportunities.

Our cultural celebrations from Poson and New Year festivals to Christmas Carols and alms giving ceremonies reinforced the university's identity as a vibrant, inclusive community. These events, alongside sporting, musical, and artistic achievements, strengthened shared values and campus spirit. As we look ahead, we do so with confidence in our foundations and optimism for the future. The achievements of the past thirty years have borne abundant fruit, and the journey ahead promises even greater accomplishments. It is my privilege to present this record of excellence and to celebrate the unwavering commitment of our university community.

Dr. D.M.D. Dissanayake
Editor-in-chief
RUSL Newsletter Volume 07, Issue 01

RUSL Commemorates 30 Years of Excellence with Religious Celebrations



The Rajarata University of Sri Lanka celebrated its 30th anniversary on 5th to 6th February 2026, with a series of religious events. Founded in 1996, this milestone was commemorated with all-night Pirith chanting on 5th February at the University Administrative Building, followed by a traditional alms-offering (*Heela dana*) to the Maha Sangha the next day.

The ceremonies were organised under the patronage of Acting Vice Chancellor Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara. They saw enthusiastic participation from Deans, the Registrar, academic and non-academic staff, and students, reflecting the unity and shared cultural values within the university community.







Professor P.M.B. Jayathilake Assumes Duties as 8th Vice Chancellor of RUSL



On 16th March 2026, Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilake formally assumed duties as the 8th Vice Chancellor of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka at a ceremonial event held at the Office of the Vice Chancellor.

The ceremony was attended by members of the University Council, Deans, senior academics, administrators, and staff representatives. Prof. Jayathilake, an alumnus of the Faculty of Management Studies and the first Vice Chancellor appointed from among RUSL's alumni, previously served as Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies. In his address, he expressed gratitude for the trust placed in him and emphasised the importance of collaboration and collective commitment in advancing the University's mission and achieving new heights of academic excellence.

25th General Convocation of RUSL



Rajarata University of Sri Lanka proudly held its 25th General Convocation on 29th, 30th, and 31st July 2025 at the Faculty of Technology Auditorium. Across five sessions, the ceremony conferred degrees on graduands from all six faculties; Agriculture, Applied Sciences, Management Studies, Medicine & Allied Sciences, Social Sciences & Humanities, and Technology, as well as selected postgraduate and external programs. The Acting Vice-Chancellor and staff extended heartfelt congratulations to all graduands on their achievements and wished them success in their future endeavours.







Sarasavi Sirasa 2026 Brings Media, Talent, and Entertainment to Rajarata University

The Faculty of Agriculture of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully hosted “Sarasavi Sirasa 2026” on 25th-26th May 2026 as a parallel event to its Silver Jubilee celebration, in collaboration with Sirasa FM and the Capital Maharaja Group. The event created a vibrant platform for students to engage with media professionals, showcase their talents, and gain exposure to the dynamic world of broadcasting and communication. The programme was organised following a series of pre-event activities, including voice and screen tests and the “Unique Voice” competition conducted at the Faculty of Technology.







The day commenced with a Media Workshop held at the Faculty of Technology Auditorium, where students received valuable insights into modern media practices, communication skills, and career opportunities within the media industry. Simultaneously, the Commercial Credit Podcast Series provided an engaging platform for discussions on youth development, innovation, and professional growth.

A day earlier, a Product Showcase was organised at the Faculty of Technology Cafeteria, enabling students to interact with industry representatives and explore emerging products and services. Throughout the day, participants actively engaged in networking opportunities and knowledge-sharing sessions that bridged academia and industry.





The highlight of the programme was the grand “Sarasavi Sirasa” Musical Evening, which attracted a large gathering of students, staff, and visitors. The event featured outstanding performances by renowned Sri Lankan artists together with the energetic performances of the Sachee Maduranga Orchestra, creating an unforgettable atmosphere of music and entertainment.

The Faculty extends its sincere appreciation to Sirasa FM, the Capital Maharaja Group, all participating artists, industry partners, staff members, student volunteers, and attendees whose contributions made the event a remarkable success. Special gratitude is extended to the university administration, including the Vice-Chancellor, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, academic and non-academic staff, and the organising committee for their unwavering support and commitment.

“Sarasavi Sirasa 2026” successfully strengthened the connection between higher education, media, and industry while providing students with valuable opportunities for learning, exposure, and personal development. The event stands as a memorable milestone in the university's ongoing efforts to enrich student life through innovative and engaging extracurricular experiences.

Global Recognition for Research Excellence: FMAS Academics Among the World’s Top 2% of Scientists

The Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences (FMAS), Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, achieved a remarkable milestone in the field of research and academic excellence with the international recognition of three distinguished members of its academic staff. This achievement reflects the Faculty’s continuous commitment towards advancing knowledge, promoting impactful research, and contributing to the global scientific community.



Prof. Suneth Agampodi and Prof. Nuwan Wickramasinghe from the Department of Community Medicine, along with Prof. Kosala Weerakoon from the Department of Parasitology, were recognised among the world's top 2% of scientists in the latest global ranking published by Stanford University, USA. This prestigious recognition highlights their outstanding contributions to research, scholarly publications, and the advancement of scientific knowledge in their respective fields.

The inclusion of FMAS academics in this globally recognised list is a proud moment for the Faculty and Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, demonstrating the growing impact of research conducted within the institution. Their achievements serve as an inspiration for students, researchers, and fellow academics, encouraging a culture of innovation, curiosity, and excellence.

This international recognition further strengthens the reputation of FMAS as an institution dedicated not only to producing competent healthcare professionals but also to generating meaningful research that addresses national and global health challenges. The Faculty extends its heartfelt congratulations to Prof. Suneth Agampodi, Prof. Nuwan Wickramasinghe, and Prof. Kosala Weerakoon for bringing pride and distinction to FMAS and Sri Lanka.

Celebrating Excellence in Teaching: CTHE Certificate Awarding Ceremony 2025

The Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the Academic Staff Induction Programme was held on 14th May 2026, under the distinguished patronage of Vice Chancellor Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilake. Eight academic staff members who successfully completed the 2025 Academic Staff Induction Programme were formally presented with their Certificate of Teaching in Higher Education (CTHE) at the ceremony.



The Vice Chancellor congratulated all certificate recipients and emphasised the importance of translating the knowledge and skills gained through the induction programme into effective practice; both as educators and as administrators contributing to the university's development.

The ceremony was attended by the Deans of the Faculties, the Director of the Staff Development Centre, the University Librarian, and the Registrar, reflecting the institution's collective commitment to the continuous professional development of its academic staff.

Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and Tesla Consumers (Pvt) Limited



Rajarata University of Sri Lanka signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tesla Consumers (Pvt) Ltd., on 19th May 2026 with the objective of commercialising several university research outcomes, including herbal soap and herbal shampoo, developed through university research. The signing ceremony was held at the university premises in the esteemed presence of Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilake, Vice Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, and Mr. Salila Vithanage, Managing Director of Tesla Consumers (Pvt) Ltd.

The herbal soap and herbal shampoo projects are research initiatives of the Faculty of Applied Sciences of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The commercialisation of these products marks another important milestone in strengthening university-industry collaboration and promoting research commercialisation at the university. Tesla Consumers (Pvt) Ltd. is an emerging company engaged in the development, manufacturing, and distribution of cosmetic and consumer-related products. Through this collaboration, both parties aim to enhance the value of university innovations by introducing research-based products to the market.







The research team was led by Prof. Ranjith Edirisinghe of the Department of Chemical Sciences, Faculty of Applied Sciences. Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences; Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture; Prof. H.M.B.P. Ranaweera, Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies; Prof. E.M.S. Ekanayake, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities; Ms. S.C. Herath, Registrar, RUSL; Dr. Asha Wijegunawardana, Director, University Business Linkage (UBL) Cell; Prof. Manoj Samarathunga, Director, International Relations Unit; Dr. N.B. Jayarathne, Head of the Department of Chemical Sciences; and Dr. (Mrs.) S.A. Senevirathne, UBL Cell Representative, Faculty of Applied Sciences, along with several other staff members, also participated in the event to witness this significant milestone. Representing Tesla Consumers (Pvt) Ltd., Mr. M.A.M. Perera, Consultant and Mr. Tharaka Amarasena, Consultant, were also present at the occasion.

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka to Host the 15th Sri Lanka University Games for the First Time

The 15th Sri Lanka University Games (SLUG) 2025 was a landmark event in the history of Sri Lankan University sports, proudly hosted by Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. It brought together athletes from universities across the country, uniting them under the shared values of sportsmanship, friendship, and excellence.

Under the visionary guidance of the Main Organising Committee, chaired by the Vice-Chancellor and comprising the Registrar, Bursar, all Deans, and the Director of Physical Education, the University undertook the immense task of planning and executing this prestigious event. To ensure efficiency and specialisation, nine subcommittees were appointed, each responsible for key operational areas such as accommodation, ceremonies, transport, logistics, security, and event coordination. The Closing Ceremony of the 15th Sri Lanka University Games (SLUG) 2025 marked the grand finale of nearly three weeks of unforgettable sporting excellence, friendship, and celebration.

The event was organised by the Faculty of Management Studies under the supervision of the Ceremonies Committee and was held on 21st September 2025 at 4.00 p.m. at the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Thus, the 15th Sri Lanka University Games 2025 came to an excellent and memorable conclusion, leaving behind a legacy of achievement, collaboration, and pride for Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, a university that once again demonstrated its ability to organise one of the most remarkable sporting events in the history of Sri Lankan university sports.

Inter-Faculty Fresher's Sports Tournament 2026: A Celebration of Excellence and Unity

The Inter-Faculty Fresher's Sports Tournament 2026 was successfully conducted for the 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 batches from 07th to 24th March 2026, fostering sportsmanship, teamwork, and inter-faculty collaboration across the university. The tournament was organised by the Department of Physical Education under the supervision and guidance of the Vice Chancellor, all Deans, and other senior administrative officials of the university.













A total of 58 trophies were awarded, including Overall Champion, 1st Runners-up, and 2nd Runners-up titles for both batches. In addition, over 50 Best Player awards were presented to outstanding men and women athletes in recognition of their exceptional performances. The tournament concluded with a grand closing ceremony held at the university grounds, graced by the Chief Guest, the newly appointed Vice Chancellor, Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilaka. The ceremony featured a vibrant and well-coordinated program, culminating in the presentation of Best Player awards and Overall Championship trophies.

At the conclusion of the tournament, the Faculty of Management Studies emerged as the Overall Champions of the 2022/2023 batch. The Faculty of Applied Sciences secured the Overall Championship of the 2023/2024 batch. The tournament marked a significant milestone in promoting student engagement and sporting excellence within the university community.

Inspiring Young Innovators: "Aluth Sithuwillak, Nawa Nipayumak"



The Knowledge and Technology Transfer Office (KTTO) of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully hosted the School Invention and Innovation Programme "Aluth Sithuwillak, Nawa Nipayumak" on 7th July 2026 at Mitripala Senanayake Central College, Anuradhapura.

Organised at the request of the Madawachchiya Divisional Secretariat, with support from the Divisional Secretary and Vidatha Scientific Officers, the programme encouraged students to embrace creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Interactive sessions led by academic staff and undergraduates from the Faculties of Agriculture, Applied Sciences, and Technology engaged participants in discussions, hands-on activities, and the sharing of experiences.

MMF AKO Scholarship Plus: Expanding Opportunities for Rajarata Undergraduates (2026–2029)



The Mosvold-Martinus Foundation (MMF) has renewed its commitment to educational equity by launching the MMF AKO Scholarship Plus Programme at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka for the 2026–2029 cycle.

Following the success of the first phase (2023–2026), which supported 50 undergraduates, the expanded programme now provides scholarships to 64 academically talented students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Beyond financial assistance, the initiative offers personal development, leadership training, and professional growth opportunities to nurture socially responsible, well-rounded graduates.

The new cycle was formally inaugurated with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 2 July 2026 between MMF and Rajarata University. The ceremony was attended by Mr. Nimal Martinus (Founder/Managing Trustee, MMF), Mr. Ranjith Wijekoon (Head of Programmes, MMF), the Vice-Chancellor, Deans, senior university officials, and scholarship recipients. Rajarata University extends heartfelt appreciation to MMF for its continued generosity and vision in empowering undergraduates to achieve their academic aspirations and contribute meaningfully to society.

Cremation Ceremony of the First Vice-Chancellor of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

The cremation ceremony of the first Vice-Chancellor of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Prof. V.I. Siriweera was solemnly held with the participation of family, alumni, students, staff, and representatives from universities across the country. The gathering reflected the profound respect he earned for his visionary leadership and invaluable contributions to higher education. Attendees paid their final respects with deep gratitude, honouring a legacy that laid the foundation for RUSL's growth and continues to inspire generations of scholars.



USBus Collaboration Brings Innovation to RUSL



The USBus – Mobile American Space (MAS) programme, launched by the U.S. Embassy of Sri Lanka and hosted by Sarvodaya Fusion in collaboration with the Career Guidance Unit of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was held on 22nd–23rd January 2026.

Over 150 students participated in the two-day programme, gaining hands-on experiences in STEM, entrepreneurship, AI, leadership development, and American English learning, along with guidance on U.S. higher education through EducationUSA and eLibraryUSA resources.

The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Steven Walter, Public Diplomacy Officer, U.S. Embassy, with the presence of Acting Vice-Chancellor Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, the Director of Career Guidance, and Deans of Faculties. Interactive activities such as Virtual Reality (VR), 3D printing, Kahoot quizzes, and educational games offered students a unique opportunity to explore global knowledge and innovation through this collaborative initiative.

ISYMRU 2025 & Research Excellence Awards

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka proudly hosted two significant events on October 8th, 2025, at the Faculty of Technology: The Research Excellence Awards 2025 and the inauguration of the International Research

Symposium of Rajarata University (ISYMRU 2025). This year's theme was "Beyond Boundaries: Advancing Human and Planetary Well-being". These joint celebrations honoured outstanding academic contributions while launching an intellectually stimulating symposium. The event featured an inspiring keynote address by Mr. Rohan Pethiyagoda, a distinguished biodiversity scientist, who is a Linnean Medal Winner (2022) and a Rolex Award Winner (2020). The Chief Guest for the occasion was Senior Professor Nilanthi De Silva, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya, who added significance to the proceedings.

The ceremony was further honoured by the presence of Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, Acting Vice-Chancellor of RUSL, along with the Deans of all six faculties, academic and non-academic staff, and enthusiastic research presenters. Following the inauguration, the symposium continued on October 9th, 2025, at the Sollertia Building of the Faculty of Technology, featuring insightful sessions across four thematic tracks. This event celebrated research excellence, innovation, and interdisciplinary collaboration, reinforcing RUSL's role as a hub for advancing knowledge and fostering entrepreneurial impact.





Rajarata Agriculture Undergraduate Claims National Honours at Youth Climate Challenge 2026





The Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, celebrates a proud moment of recognition as two undergraduates secured top honours at the Youth Climate Challenge Competition 2026, held alongside the Sri Lanka Climate Summit 2026 at the Taj Samudra Hotel, Colombo. Mr. J.M. Dinuka Madhushan Jayaweera, a final-year student of the Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science, claimed first place for his innovation, "Solar-Powered Fully Automated Drip Irrigation System for Water-Efficient and Climate-Resilient Agriculture in Sri Lanka's Dry Zone." The system addresses one of the nation's most enduring agricultural constraints, water scarcity, by integrating renewable energy, smart sensors, and automated irrigation control to enhance water- and energy-use efficiency alongside crop productivity. The project was developed under the supervision of Prof. P.D. Kahandage, Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna, and Mr. E.J. Kosgollegara, whose guidance carried the work from concept to a field-tested solution.

Ms. S.M.N.A. Bawanthika Welivita, also of the same department, was named 1st Runner-Up for "Smart Bund Waste Traps for Plastic Pollution Control in Sri Lankan Reservoirs," a practical response to plastic accumulation along reservoir bunds, a quiet but persistent threat to water quality and aquatic ecosystems across the country's irrigation network.

Organised by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce under the patronage of the Ministry of Environment, the Summit drew climate experts and partners including UNDP, UNDRR, FAO, ADB, and IFC. The awards were presented by Mr. Krishan Balendra and Mr. Vimlendra Sharan, who commended both projects' innovation and potential to advance sustainable agriculture in Sri Lanka.

RUSL Career Fair 2025

The Career Guidance Unit of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka hosted the RUSL Career Fair 2025 on 16th October at the Convocation Hall. Chief Guest Mr. P.B. Dissanayake, Director General of the North Central Province Chamber of Commerce, joined Acting Vice-Chancellor Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, Deans of the Faculties, and the Director of the Career Guidance Unit to open the event. Twenty-four leading companies offered job and internship opportunities, engaging over 400 undergraduates. The fair successfully connected students with the corporate sector, enhancing employability and industry–university collaboration.



Central Bank 75th Anniversary Outreach at RUSL: Empowering Financially Literate Futures



The Central Bank of Sri Lanka marked its 75th anniversary with a special outreach program at the Faculty of Management Studies Auditorium, Rajarata University, on 6 August 2025. Students gained valuable insights into real-world economic and financial practices through interactive sessions led by Central Bank experts. Topics included recent economic developments, monetary policy, personal financial management, digital literacy, pyramid schemes, and consumer protection. The program strengthened financial awareness and linked academic learning with practical expertise, inspiring students to make informed professional and personal decisions.

Thai Pongal Celebration at RUSL



Rajarata University of Sri Lanka joyfully celebrated Thai Pongal, the Tamil harvest festival, bringing together students and staff to honour tradition and gratitude for nature's bounty. The event began with a vibrant Kolam and ceremonial lamp lighting, followed by the traditional preparation of Sakkarai Pongal in clay pots, accompanied by the chorus of "Pongalo Pongal!" symbolising prosperity. Cultural performances, including Tamil folk dances and music, showcased the rich heritage of the Tamil community. The celebration fostered inclusivity, unity, and cultural pride across the university, reminding all of the values of gratitude and togetherness.

Club Opening Day 2025

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka held its Club Opening Day on 5th August 2025 in front of the Career Guidance Unit, showcasing the energy and creativity of undergraduates. The event was graced by Acting Vice-Chancellor Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara and Dr. (Ms.) H.O. Wijewardane, Director of the Career Guidance Unit. Six student clubs; Rotaract, AISEC, Gavel, InFocus, Zero Plastic, and Hiking presented their vision and activities, encouraging students to join and explore diverse opportunities for engagement. The program strengthened student involvement and highlighted the vibrant extracurricular culture at RUSL.



Commemorating the Sacred Arrival of Buddhism: Poson Poya at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka



Rajarata University of Sri Lanka commemorated Poson Poya on 9th June 2025 with a serene and spiritually enriching program ahead of the official day. The occasion honoured the arrival of Arahant Mahinda and the introduction of Buddhism to Sri Lanka, a historic milestone at nearby Mihintale.

The celebration featured a "*Dansala*" (alms giving) organised by university staff, Poson lanterns, and symbolic artwork depicting the advent of Buddhism. A highlight was the Mihidu Perahera in Mihintale, a vibrant cultural procession showcasing traditional Buddhist heritage. The event fostered spiritual awareness, cultural unity, and mutual respect, reminding the university community of enduring values of peace, compassion, and harmony.

Sinhala & Hindu New Year Celebration 2025

The Art Council of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka celebrated the Sinhala and Hindu New Year (*Aluth Avurudu*) on 6th April 2025, bringing together the university community in a spirit of unity and festivity. The event showcased Sri Lanka's diverse cultural heritage with traditional decorations, music, and *Avurudu Kreeda* such as *Kotta Pora*, *Wasana Mutti Bindeema*, and musical chairs. Students also presented vibrant performances of dance, drumming, and singing. The celebration fostered cultural harmony and inclusivity, reflecting the values of reconciliation, shared identity, and togetherness.



Participation in the Disrupt Asia Innovation Festival 2025



The Knowledge and Technology Transfer Office (KTTO) of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka participated in Disrupt Asia 2025, Sri Lanka's premier startup conference and innovation festival, as an official ecosystem partner on 18th September 2025. The university was represented by academic staff and innovators from the Faculty of Technology and the Faculty of Agriculture, showcasing its commitment to fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and industry collaboration.

Disrupt Asia brought together entrepreneurs, researchers, investors, industry experts, policymakers, and startup enablers across the country to exchange ideas, explore emerging technologies, and strengthen the national innovation ecosystem. The event provided an excellent platform for the university representatives to engage with startup founders, innovation support organisations, and potential industry partners while gaining valuable insights into the latest trends in technology commercialisation and entrepreneurial development.





Workshop on "Fostering Research Collaboration for Entrepreneurial Impact"





The Knowledge and Technology Transfer Office (KTTO), in collaboration with the Research and Publication Committee of the Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, conducted a workshop titled "Fostering Research Collaboration for Entrepreneurial Impact" in partnership with the National Science Foundation (NSF). The workshop was organised for academics, students, government officers, and small and medium-scale entrepreneurs in the region. The event took place on 15th December 2025 at the university premises. The primary objective of the workshop was to empower local youth and aspiring entrepreneurs by strengthening their entrepreneurial knowledge, skills, and access to resources. The workshop was graced by Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, the Acting Vice-Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The resource persons included Eng. Mahesh Dissanayaka, Head of the Research Division, National Science Foundation (NSF); Dr. Inoka Sandanayaka, Scientific Officer, Research Division, NSF; and officials from the Organisation for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) Sri Lanka National Chapter (SLNC). The event was also attended by the Manager of the Bank of Ceylon, Mihintale Branch, along with government officers and small and medium-scale entrepreneurs from the region.





Furthermore, the workshop witnessed the participation of Prof. T.C. Bamunuarachchige, Dean of the Faculty of Technology; Dr. N.D.A.D. Wijegunawardana, Director of the University Business Linkage Cell; Prof. Manoj Samarathunga, former Director of the University Business Linkage Cell; as well as other esteemed academic and administrative staff members of the university.

Intellectual Property Related Workshop for RUSL Academics



The Knowledge and Technology Transfer Office, in collaboration with the National Intellectual Property Office (NIPO), successfully organised a one-day workshop on intellectual property on 26th February 2026 at the Staff Development Centre of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

The workshop aimed to enhance awareness among university academics on key aspects of intellectual property rights and to strengthen their practical knowledge of the patenting process. The initiative focused on supporting researchers in safeguarding innovative research outcomes and contributing to national development. Academic staff members representing all six faculties joined the session.

The programme covered several key areas, including an introduction to intellectual property, the patenting procedure, drafting patent applications (with emphasis on claim writing), conducting prior art searches, and completing patent application forms.





The sessions were conducted by resource persons from NIPO: Mr. Nalinda Atapaththu, Assistant Director (Information & Examination), Patent & Industrial Design Division, and Mr. Lakshan Gunasinghe, Patent Examiner, Patent & Industrial Design Division. Their expert guidance provided participants with valuable insights into protecting and commercialising research innovations.

Commercialisation of Modified Perumkayam Herbal Soap

The Rajarata University of Sri Lanka signed two license agreements with L.B. Kangara Aushadhalaya (Pvt) Limited on 21st January 2026 to commercialise two newly modified Perumkayam herbal soap varieties, developed in response to industry requirements. The signing ceremony was held at the university premises and was graced by the esteemed presence of Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, the Acting Vice-Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, and Mr. K.M.P.M. Kangara, Managing Director of L.B. Kangara Aushadhalaya (Pvt.) Limited.





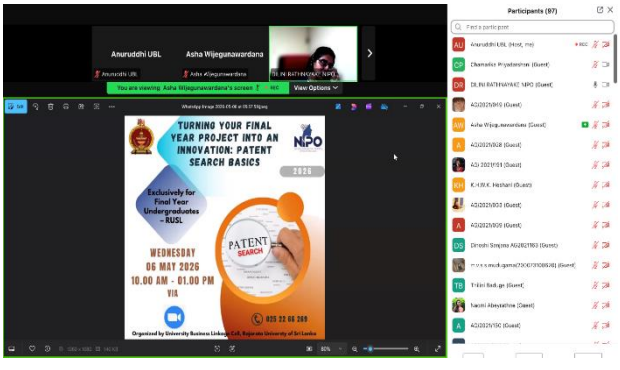
The modified products, Perumkayam Herbal Soap (Wild Turmeric Added) and Perumkayam Herbal Soap (Fragrance Added) were developed through a collaborative effort between the Faculty of Management Studies and the Faculty of Technology of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. These soaps are rich in antioxidants and have a high Total Fatty Matter (TFM) content, ensuring superior quality and enhanced skin benefits.

The project was led by Prof. Manoj Samarathunga, with scientific enhancements and formulation improvements provided by Dr. Asha Wijegunawardana. The successful modification and licensing of these products highlight the university's commitment to industry collaboration, innovation, and the effective commercialisation of research outputs.

Research Grant Awarded for the Establishment of CareSphere Laboratory: A Complete Personal Care Solution

The Knowledge and Technology Transfer Office (KTTO) of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka has successfully secured a research grant of LKR 10 million from the Ministry of Science and Technology to establish and implement the CareSphere Laboratory, a comprehensive personal care solutions laboratory. The laboratory is headed by Dr. Asha Wijegunawardana and is dedicated to advancing research, innovation, product development, quality testing, and technology transfer in the personal care sector. The establishment of this laboratory will provide a platform to support researchers, innovators, entrepreneurs, and industry partners in developing scientifically validated personal care products while ensuring compliance with recognised quality standards.

Workshop: Turning Your Final Year Project into an Innovation: Patent Search Basics



The University Business Linkage Cell of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the National Intellectual Property Office, conducted a workshop on 6th May 2026 for final-year undergraduates at RUSL on patent information searching prior to the commencement of their final research projects. This session aimed to guide students in identifying existing technologies, avoiding duplication, and developing more innovative research outcomes.

Workshop on Climate, Business and Leadership



The Knowledge and Technology Transfer Office of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the Bank of Ceylon, Super Grade Branch, Anuradhapura, successfully organised a workshop on Climate, Business and Leadership on 22nd June 2026 at the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The workshop aimed to promote environmental consciousness and climate action among university students. The programme focused on environmental conservation, climate change awareness, waste management, sustainable practices, and inspiring young people to become environmental leaders within their communities.

The session was facilitated by Mr. Hasanka Padukka, an environmental innovator, social entrepreneur, and climate leadership trainer. The event was attended by undergraduate students representing different faculties of the university, along with several academic staff members. The workshop provided participants with valuable insights into current environmental challenges and the role of leadership and innovation in addressing climate-related issues. It also encouraged students to adopt sustainable practices and contribute actively to building a more environmentally responsible society.

Circular Design Thinking Workshop Series 2026 – GIZ Sri Lanka

The Knowledge and Technology Transfer Office (KTTO) of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (RUSL) nominated a group of students and academic staff to participate in the Circular Design Thinking Workshop Series 2026, organised by GIZ Sri Lanka.



The Dambulla workshop was successfully held on 25th and 26th June 2026, bringing together participants from universities and organisations across the country to explore innovative approaches to circular economy principles, sustainable design, and design thinking methodologies. Representatives from several faculties of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka actively participated in the two-day workshop, engaging in interactive sessions, group discussions, and practical activities designed to enhance their knowledge and skills in circular design thinking.





SYNERGY 2026: CCS–RUSL Collaborative Research Initiative



A productive meeting was held on 1st July 2026 at the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka under the SYNERGY 2026: CCS–RUSL Collaborative Research Initiative. The meeting brought together the Research and Development (R&D) and Innovation Team of CCS and the research teams of RUSL. The discussion focused on the shortlisted research concepts proposed by the RUSL research teams. Participants reviewed each concept, exchanged technical and strategic insights, and identified the next steps for advancing the collaborative research projects. The meeting marked another significant milestone in strengthening the partnership between CCS and RUSL, reaffirming a shared commitment to fostering innovation, promoting impactful research, and developing sustainable solutions through industry–university collaboration.

Meeting with the National Innovation Agency (NIA) - Strengthening University–Industry Linkages for a Vibrant Innovation Ecosystem







A productive meeting was held with the National Innovation Agency (NIA) on 27th April 2026 to discuss potential collaboration and capacity building in technology transfer and commercialisation. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Muditha Senarath Yapa, the Chief Innovation Officer of NIA. The discussion was attended by Dr. Asha Wijegunawardana, the Director of the KTTO, RUSL, along with representatives from various faculties, including Prof. Ranjith Edirisinghe, Dr. P.D. Kahandage, Mrs. J.N.G. Lalani and Mr. R.M.G.H.N. Rathnayake. This partnership marks an important milestone as the university expands its presence in the innovation and commercialisation landscape, creating pathways to transform university research, ideas, and technologies into real-world impact. The institution looks forward to working together to strengthen innovation, entrepreneurship, and industry engagement for the benefit of society and national development.

Patent Granted: "Solid Formulation Method of Locally Isolated *Trichoderma virens*"

The Rajarata University of Sri Lanka was granted a patent titled "Solid Formulation Method of Locally Isolated *Trichoderma virens*" on 10 June 2026. The patent was awarded for an invention developed by the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

The inventors include Tikka Dewage Chamarika Priyadarshani, Prathiba Aruni Weerasinghe, Weerawickramage Chaminda Priyanka Egodawatta, Manawaduge Ayesha Madushani, Dinayaduru Dulanji Naveesha Karunarathna, Garumuni Dilrukshi Nadeeshani Menike, Kammala Waththe Asanka Madushan and Wijesekara Mudiyanselage Shalika Nirmani Wijesekara. This achievement reflects the university's commitment to promoting research, innovation, and the protection of intellectual property with the potential to contribute to sustainable agricultural development.

Rajarata University Strengthens Pakistan–Sri Lanka Higher Education Cooperation



The Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (RUSL) successfully hosted the Pakistan–Sri Lanka Higher Education Programme on 3rd July 2026, in collaboration with the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan and the High Commission of Pakistan in Sri Lanka. The event brought together senior university officials, academics, school students, and representatives from eight leading Pakistani universities. Representing RUSL, Vice-Chancellor Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilake, Director of the Rajarata University International Relations Unit Prof. W.H.M.S. Samarathunga, Deans, and senior academics welcomed the delegation. Discussions focused on strengthening bilateral cooperation through joint research, innovation, staff and student exchanges, postgraduate opportunities, curriculum development, and long-term institutional partnerships.

The visiting delegation represented Dow University of Health Sciences, Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences, the University of Lahore, Bahria University, COMSATS University Islamabad, Pak-Austria Fachhochschule Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology, the National University of Technology (NUTECH), and Khyber Medical University. An Education Fair followed, providing Sri Lankan school-leavers with information on the Allama Muhammad Iqbal Scholarship Programme, which offers fully and partially funded undergraduate, master's, and PhD scholarships. The programme reinforced RUSL's commitment to internationalisation and expanding global academic partnerships.







Dutch–Ceylon Conference on Reimagining Sri Lanka Tourism Concludes Successfully

The Dutch–Ceylon Conference on Reimagining Sri Lanka Tourism, jointly organised by the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (RUSL) and Breda University of Applied Sciences (BUAS), the Netherlands, concluded successfully on 26th March 2026 at the Mangata Hotel, Galle, following a month-long field study that commenced with an inaugural programme at the Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM), Colombo, on 2nd March 2026.



The inaugural session was attended by Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilake, Vice-Chancellor and the former Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies, together with tourism academics, industry leaders, and policymakers. Throughout the programme, Prof. W.H.M.S. Samarathunga, from the Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Faculty of Management Studies, RUSL, served as the Conference Chair and Overall Coordinator, while the final conference in Galle was jointly chaired by Prof. Jos van der Sterren of BUAS. The Conference Secretary was Mrs. H.M.R.D. Kularathne, Senior Lecturer, Department of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Management Studies, RUSL. Following three weeks of intensive field research in the Galle region, 17 master's students from BUAS and three undergraduate students from RUSL presented their findings to academics, policymakers, and tourism industry representatives. Their evidence-based recommendations focused on destination competitiveness, sustainability, market diversification, and future tourism development in Sri Lanka. A highlight of the closing ceremony was the address by Mr. Iwan Rutjens, the Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Sri Lanka and the Maldives, who attended as the Guest of Honour. In his speech, he expressed the embassy's strong commitment to supporting the sustainable development of Sri Lanka's tourism sector and emphasised the importance of academic collaboration, knowledge exchange, and international partnerships in shaping the future of tourism. He also commended the joint initiative between RUSL and BUAS as an excellent example of how universities can contribute to evidence-based tourism development and strengthen the longstanding relationship between Sri Lanka and the Netherlands.

















Career Guidance Activities

The Career Guidance Unit (CGU) of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka proudly reflects on a dynamic and impactful half a year. Between January and June 2026, we successfully executed a comprehensive suite of initiatives aimed at career development and employability enhancement for our undergraduates.

Our core mission remains steadfast: inspiring and equipping students to pursue their dream careers by cultivating the critical soft and hard skills demanded by today's competitive global job market.

Key Highlights & Achievements

- Empowering Undergraduates: Delivered targeted programs, interactive workshops, and professional development sessions focused on bridging the gap between academia and industry expectations.
- Active Student Clubs: The seven specialised clubs registered under the CGU operated at peak engagement, driving peer-to-peer learning through dynamic webinars, specialised training sessions, and collaborative events.
- Soft Skills Cultivation: Prioritised leadership, communication, critical thinking, and teamwork as foundational pillars across all member activities.

OBT Training at Academy of Adventure, Belihuloya

The Outbound Training (OBT) program was successfully conducted at the Academy of Adventure, Belihuloya, on 30th-31st January 2026, with the participation of 50 students and four staff members from the Career Guidance Unit.









Drama Therapy Workshop

The Drama Therapy Workshop was successfully conducted on 26th May 2026 at the Career Guidance Unit Mini Auditorium.







Students Attend the Kayak Program

The Hiking Club of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully organised a Kayaking Program at Kanthale on 10th May 2026.









Hostel Programs

The Career Guidance Unit conducted hostel-based programs throughout the year to enhance undergraduates' emotional management skills and career focus.







Digital Marketing Program

The program was conducted on 27th May 2026 at the Career Guidance Unit Mini Auditorium and was facilitated by Mr. Ravindu Dilshan, Digital Marketer and Content Creator.





School Programs

The School Career Guidance Program was conducted on 18 June 2026 at Rathmalgahawewa Vidyalaya for Grade 9 and 10 students. The program was facilitated by Ms. Chanika Muthunayaka, Career Guidance Counselor.





Stress Management Programs




The Mental Relaxation Program was conducted for HRM students on 14th May 2026 at the Faculty Lecture Hall. The program was facilitated by Mr. Jaliya Rathnayake, Career Guidance Counselor.

Mindfulness Programs

The Mindfulness and Stress Management Program was conducted on 20th May 2026 at the Technology Faculty Auditorium. The program was facilitated by Mr. Jaliya Rathnayake, Career Guidance Counselor.







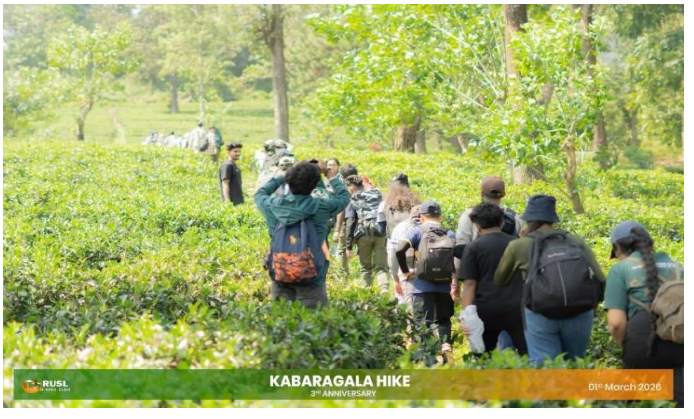
Students Joined Hiking programs

The Hiking Club of the Career Guidance Unit of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully organised two hiking programs: Kabaragala Hiking on 1st May 2026 and Hanthana Hiking on 23rd May 2026, with the participation of students and two CGU staff members.









Library Orientation Programme for First-Year Tourism and Hospitality Management Students



The Library Orientation Programme for first-year students of the Tourism and Hospitality Management Degree Programme, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was successfully conducted on 27th May 2026 from 8.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon at the Main Library. The programme introduced students to the library's facilities, services, resources, and regulations, followed by a guided library tour. An introductory session on academic citation practices was also conducted, highlighting the importance of academic integrity and plagiarism prevention. The programme was facilitated by Librarian Mrs. Asoka Siriwardana and Assistant Librarian Ms. M.G.H.K. Wijerathne. The session enhanced students' awareness of library resources and encouraged the effective use of library services throughout their academic journey.

Reading Camp at Medawachchiya Model School

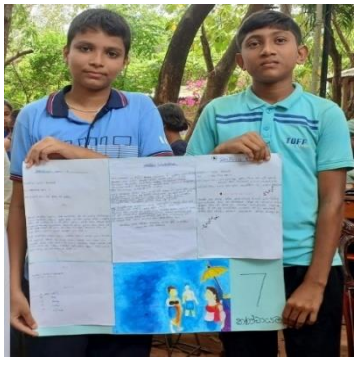


A reading camp for the fourth-grade children of Medawachchiya Model School under the theme "Let's make time for books" (පොතට වෙලාවක් වෙන් කරමු) was held at the Medawachchiya Children's Park on 12th September 2025 in conjunction with the National Reading Month. The program, organised by the Medawachchiya Pradeshiya Sabha and the Pradeshiya Sabha Library, was resourced by the Librarian of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, and encouraged the development of reading habits and creativity in the children. This initiative highlights the commitment of the University Library to promote a strong reading culture in the community.

Reading Camp and Parent Awareness Program

Aiming to promote reading habits and support educational development, the "Book to World Journey" (පොතෙන් ලෝකයට ගමනක්) Reading Camp and Parent Awareness Program was successfully held at Pusiyankulama Maha Vidyalaya on 19th September 2025. The program was organised and conducted by the Librarian, Senior Assistant Librarian, and Assistant Librarian of the University of Sri Lanka Rajarata, with sponsorship provided by the Central Nuwaragam Provincial Pradeshiya Sabha. This initiative reflects the University Library's strong commitment to fostering literacy, enhancing community-based education, and contributing to social service.







Reading Camp Programme at Mahawannammaduwa Vidyalaya, Galkulama

On 30th October 2025, Mahawannammaduwa Vidyalaya, Galkulama, organised a Reading Camp Programme for students from Grades 1 to 11 as part of its literacy development initiatives. The programme aimed to foster reading habits, enhance language skills, and inspire a lifelong love for books among students. The camp was facilitated by library professionals, including Librarian Mr. Asoka Sirwardana, Assistant Librarians Mrs. Hansamali Wickramasooriya and Ms. Kaushalya Wijerathne, who guided students through engaging activities such as storytelling sessions, guided reading exercises, creative literacy games, and group reading tasks. These activities encouraged active participation, boosted confidence, and developed students' comprehension and vocabulary. The Reading Camp was warmly received by students and teachers alike, and it contributed positively to cultivating a strong reading culture within the school.







Literacy Programs at Padavi Mahasen National School

The Library of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully conducted two literacy-enhancement programs at Padavi Mahasen National School on 4th November 2025, strengthening its outreach and community engagement efforts. The first program, titled "*Pothen Lokayata Gamanak*", was delivered to Grade 8 students to develop information literacy competencies and promote a strong reading culture among young learners. Additionally, the "*Poth Peraherak*" program was organised for Grade 6 and 7 students, offering them an interactive and enjoyable platform to connect with books and library resources. Both sessions were conducted by the Librarian of Rajarata University, who served as the resource person for the day. These initiatives reflect the university library's continuous commitment to supporting school communities, enhancing literacy, and inspiring students to cultivate lifelong reading habits.





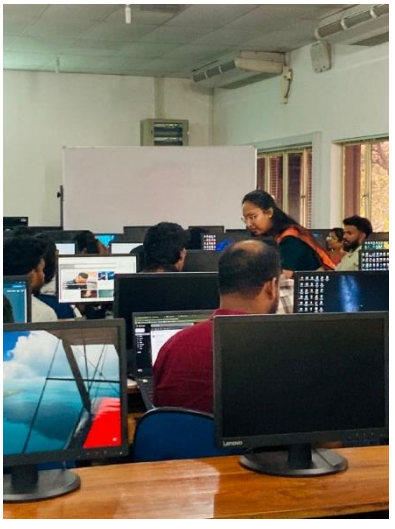


Library Awareness Sessions for Final-Year Information Systems Undergraduates

The Main Library successfully conducted a series of Library Awareness Sessions for final-year undergraduate students of the Department of Information Systems on March 9th, 16th, and 23rd, 2026. These sessions were carefully designed to enhance students' research capabilities and academic skills through comprehensive guidance on library resources, practical training on reference management tools such as Mendeley, and essential academic writing techniques in research. The sessions were conducted by Librarian Mrs. Asoka Siriwardana, Assistant Librarian Mrs. Hansamali Wickramasooriya, and Assistant Librarian Ms. Kaushalya Wijerathne, whose expertise and guidance ensured an engaging and valuable learning experience for the students.



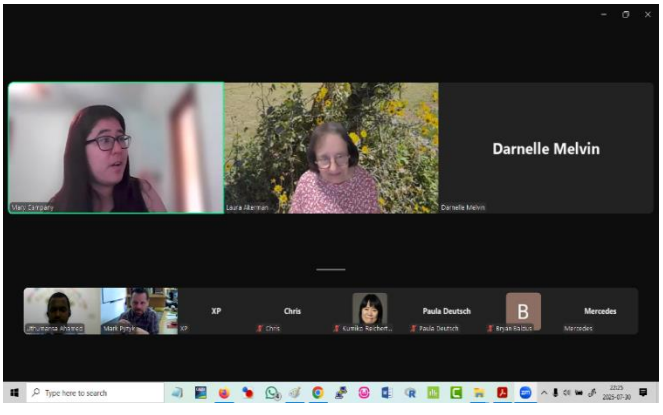


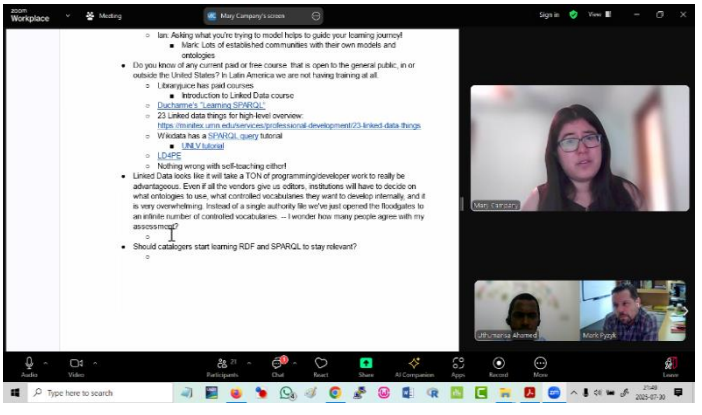


Invited Speaker at Annual LD4 Conference 2025

The annual LD4 Conference, themed "Linked Data in the Real World," was held virtually from 28th to 30th July 2025. Organised by the global LD4 Community, which primarily comprises library professionals from the United States, the event brought together experts to discuss advancements in linked data.

Mr. U. Ahamed, Assistant Librarian at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, made notable contributions to the conference. He served as a member of the program committee and was also an invited speaker during the "Linked Data Help Hour" on the final day of the event. Alongside two other specialists, Mr. Ahamed shared valuable insights on linked data applications in library and information science.





Guest Lectures to Commemorate the Reading Month 2024

Kegalu Balika Vidyalaya organised an event for guest lectures with a prize-giving event to commemorate the Reading Month 2024, and the event was held on 10th February 2025, from 9.00 a.m. onwards at the School auditorium. Dr. P. Wanigasooriya, Head of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya, and Mr. U. Ahamed, Assistant Librarian, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka have joined as the chief guests and delivered the guest lectures. The librarian of the public library, Kegalla district and the school librarians have graced the event.





In-House Training: Koha Acquisition Module



An in-house training program was organised by the Main Library on the service of the available Digital Library Services – KOHA Acquisition Module on 12th and 26th March 2025 for two separate sessions. Mr. U. Ahamed, Assistant Librarian, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, has conducted the session as the resource person. The program aimed to introduce, practice, implement, and resolve issues related to the KOHA acquisitions module. Senior Assistant Librarians, Assistant Librarian, and Library Information Assistants in the main library and all branch libraries have participated in the program.

Reference Management Using Mendeley

The online session, titled "Reference Management Using Mendeley," was held on February 06th, 2025, from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. Mr. U. Ahamed, the Assistant Librarian at the Main Library, led the workshop, providing participants with valuable insights into effective reference management. During the session, attendees learned about the essential steps for using Mendeley, including offline installation and plugin configurations. Mr. U. Ahamed guided participants through the process of creating a Mendeley account and demonstrated how to



link online resources effectively. He also discussed methods for extracting reference lists, which are crucial for academic writing and research documentation.

In-House Training Session for Library Staff



An in-house training session on updated library policies, circulars, regulations, and best practices was held on 08th April 2025 for the library staff of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The session took place at the Audio-Visual Unit of the Main Library and was conducted by Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The training aimed to enhance staff awareness of current library policies and regulations while promoting best practices in library service delivery.

Training Session for Undergraduates



The Career Guidance Unit of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, organised a training session on "Utilising Digital Library Services of the Rajarata University Library System" for the undergraduates of the Faculty of Applied Sciences on 15th May 2025. The session aimed to empower students with the knowledge and skills required to effectively navigate and utilise the library's digital resources. Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, served as the resource person for the session.

Awareness Session on Digital Tools for Research, Developing Digital Information Literacy skills



An awareness session on "Digital Tools for Research: Developing Digital Information Literacy Skills" was conducted on 20th May 2026 for the students of the 2020/2021 Batch of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The session aimed to motivate students to utilise their information and digital literacy skills for success in university education, introduce online databases relevant to research activities, and share useful web resources to support and enhance their research endeavors. Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, served as the resource person for the session.

Awareness Session on The Science of Wellbeing



An awareness session on "The Science of Wellbeing: Understanding Happiness through Psychological Science" was conducted on 20th May 2026 for the students of the 2022/2023 Batch of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The session aimed to support students' mental wellbeing during their transition to university life, encourage healthy perspectives on success and happiness, and provide simple, evidence-based strategies for managing stress. Mrs. Hansamali Wickramasooriya, Assistant Librarian, served as the resource person for the session.

Awareness Session on Mendeley Reference Manager: Managing Research References Effectively

The Agriculture Library organised a practical session as part of its research support services on "Mendeley Reference Manager: Managing Research References Effectively" on 20th May 2026 for the research students of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Ms. M.G.H.K. Wijerathna, Assistant Librarian, Main Library, served as the resource person for the session.





Outreach Activities Conducted for School Children





As part of its commitment to promoting reading habits and supporting the educational development of school children, the Library academic staff conducted several outreach activities in schools across the North Central Province.

Reading Camps Were Successfully Organised at Schools

- Pahalawatiyawa Vidyalaya, Nochchiyagama – 31st October 2025. The programme was conducted by Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Agriculture Library and Mrs. H. Wickramasooriya, Assistant Librarian, Technology Library, who served as resource persons.
- Katuwarahalawa Primary College, Horowpothana – 4th June 2026. The programme was conducted by Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Agriculture Library, who served as the resource person.

These initiatives demonstrate the University Library's commitment to fostering literacy, strengthening community engagement, and contributing to the educational and social development of school children in the region.

Grand opening of the "Forum" New Library Complex at Faculty of Technology



The long-cherished dream of the students of the Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was realised on 14th January 2026 with the official inauguration of the “Forum” New Library Complex of the Faculty of Technology. This three-storey state-of-the-art facility has been meticulously designed to support academic and research activities across technological disciplines. Equipped with cutting-edge technology, spacious reading halls, and advanced e-library facilities, the new library complex will enhance students’ learning experiences by providing improved access to academic resources, collaborative study spaces, and a conducive environment for independent and group learning.

The inauguration ceremony was held in a grand manner with the distinguished presence of the former acting Vice-Chancellor, Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, the Dean of the Faculty of Technology, Deans of other faculties, the Librarian, and members of the academic, executive, and non-academic staff, followed by the active participation of students of the Faculty of Technology. The ceremony was further enriched by the blessings and patronage of the Chancellor, Ven. Ethalawetunawewa Gnanatilake Thero marking the occasion as a moment of pride and progress for the entire university community









Appointments & Promotions

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka is pleased to welcome the newly appointed members who have assumed duties. These appointments highlight the University’s commitment to strengthening its administrative services and improving the efficiency of its operations. The newly appointed members will contribute to the effective functioning of various divisions, faculties, and units of the University through their knowledge, skills, and dedication. The newly appointed members and their respective places of work are as follows.



Mr. D.M.D.B. Dissanayake has been appointed as the Assistant Librarian of the library of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, effective from 16th April 2026.



Mr. N.A. Chammika Coray has been appointed as the Assistant Network Manager of the Center for Information Technology Services (CITS), effective from 1st June 2026.



Ms. K.S.F. Sabira has been appointed as the Assistant Registrar of the Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, effective from 16th June 2026.



Mr. S. Sinthujan has been appointed as the Assistant Registrar of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, effective from 16th June 2026.



Ms. S. Shamini has been appointed as the Assistant Registrar of the Faculty of Technology, effective from 16th June 2026.



Mrs. R.M.S.D.L. Abeyrathne has been appointed as the Assistant Registrar of the Faculty of Management Studies, effective from 16th June 2026.



Ms. P.S.L. Pathirana has been appointed as the Assistant Internal Auditor of the Internal Audit Division, effective from 16th June 2026.



Mr. P.S. Palliyaguruge has been appointed as the Director of the Center for Information Technology Services (CITS), effective from 1st May 2026.



Ms. D.M. Jayakodi has been appointed as the Senior Assistant Registrar of the Student Welfare Division, effective from 16th June 2026.



Mr. S. Sivarasah has been appointed as the Senior Assistant Registrar of the Capital Works Division, effective from 16th June 2026.



Ms. V. Thanuja has been appointed as the Assistant Registrar of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, effective from 16th June 2026.



Ms. V. Kiriyaliny has been appointed as the Assistant Registrar of the Student Registration Branch, effective from 16th June 2026.



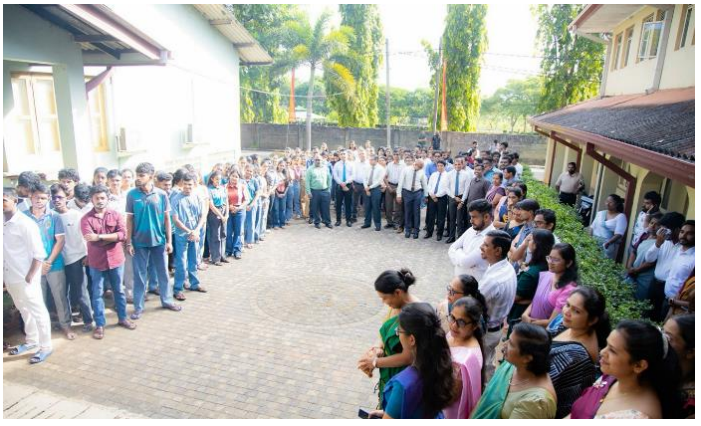
Mr. M.A. Faisar has been appointed as the Assistant Bursar of the Faculty of Agriculture, effective from 16th June 2026.



Mrs. S.N. Priyadarshani has been appointed as the Assistant Bursar of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities & the Faculty of Management Studies, effective from 16th June 2026.

Faculty of Agriculture Celebrates Silver Jubilee Inauguration

The Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, proudly celebrated its Silver Jubilee on 21st April 2026, commemorating 25 years of excellence, unity, and growth since its establishment in 2001. Organized by the academic staff (alumni) of the Faculty of Agriculture, the celebration brought together academic and non-academic staff, students, alumni, and distinguished guests to reflect on the Faculty's remarkable achievements in agricultural education, research, innovation, and community service. The event commenced with the traditional *Kiri Ithiraweema* ceremony organized by the students, symbolising prosperity and a promising future, followed by the Silver Jubilee cake-cutting ceremony.





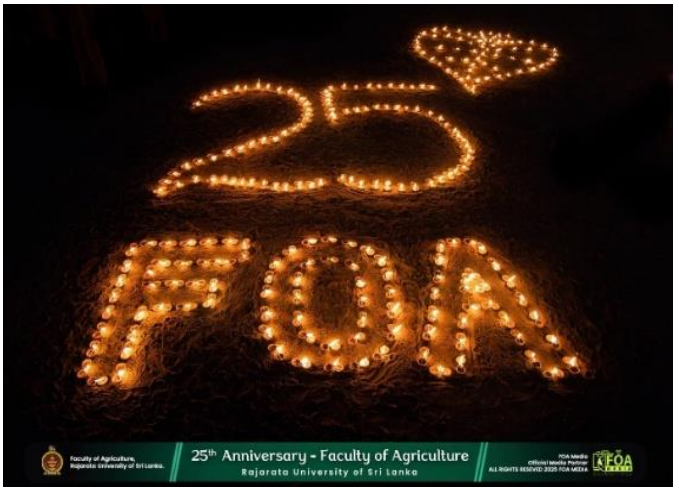




The celebration was graced by Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilake, Vice Chancellor of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, as the Chief Guest, together with Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, university administrators, students, and alumni representatives. During the ceremony, the Dean and the Vice Chancellor highlighted the Faculty's significant contributions to national agricultural development over the past 25 years and reaffirmed its commitment to academic excellence, innovative research, and sustainable agricultural advancement. The Silver Jubilee celebration served as both a tribute to the Faculty's achievements and a renewed vision for its future growth and impact.

Religious Observance to Commemorate the Faculty's Silver Jubilee

As part of the 25th Anniversary celebrations of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, a Buddhist religious observance (*Ashirwadha Poojawa*) was held on 21st April 2026 at the sacred Ruwanwelisaya (*Mahā Seya*), Anuradhapura. The event was organized by the staff and students of the Faculty of Agriculture to invoke blessings for the continued success, prosperity, and future growth of the Faculty.









The religious ceremony brought together academic and non-academic staff, students, and alumni in a spirit of unity and gratitude, offering an opportunity to reflect on the Faculty's 25-year journey and seek blessings for its continued excellence in education, research, and service to the nation. The event concluded with a Pirith chanting ceremony and the lighting of traditional oil lamps, symbolising peace, blessings, and prosperity for the Faculty and its future endeavours.

Professor M.H.J.P. Gunaratna Appointed as Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture



The Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, is pleased to announce the appointment of Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunaratna as the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, effective 17th September 2025.

Prof. Gunaratna is one of the pioneering academics of the faculty and has made remarkable contributions to its growth through his excellence in teaching, research, academic leadership, and university administration. As a distinguished Professor of Agricultural Engineering, he has played a vital role in strengthening the Faculty's academic and research profile since its early years.

Prior to his appointment as Dean, Prof. Gunaratna served as the Head of the Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science from August 2013 to 2016, and from 2025, providing effective leadership in academic development, research advancement, and departmental administration.

His research interests encompass Crop and Environmental Modelling, Irrigation and Water Management, and Climate Change, areas in which he has made significant scholarly contributions through research, publications, and collaborative projects. The Faculty warmly congratulates Prof. Gunaratna on his appointment as Dean and wishes him every success in leading the Faculty of Agriculture towards greater academic excellence, research innovation, and institutional development.

Faculty of Agriculture to Host Premiere of "*Olu Haluwo*" Stage Drama as One of The Events of Its Silver Jubilee Celebrations



The Faculty of Agriculture at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka recently staged the Sinhala drama *'Olu Haluwo'* as part of its Silver Jubilee celebrations, marking 25 years of academic excellence. The performance, produced by the esteemed artist Chinthaka Piris, took place on Saturday, 6th June 2026, at the Surapura Open-Air Theatre in Anuradhapura.

Directed by Janaka Samantha, with musical direction by Ashan Pranandu, *'Olu Haluwo'* featured a talented cast, including Chinthaka Piris, Mihira Sirithilaka, and Sarath Kothalawala. This comedy-drama explored the theme of youth transitioning into adulthood, providing a rich and entertaining experience for all audiences. The event successfully celebrated the Faculty's commitment to academic and cultural excellence, offering a delightful evening filled with laughter and reflection.

Award Winners of Research, Scholarly, & Creative Work 2024

The Faculty of Agriculture proudly announced the Award Winners for Research, Scholarly & Creative Work Year 2024, honouring two distinguished academics whose exceptional contributions have significantly advanced the faculty's research excellence and academic reputation. The awards were formally presented at the "Awarding Ceremony and Networking Dinner" of the 17th Annual Research Symposium, held on 23rd October 2025.



1st Place
Dr. P.D. Kahandage
Senior Lecturer
Department of Agricultural Engineering & Soil Science



2nd Place
Snr. Prof. (Ms.) P.A. Weerasinghe
Senior Professor
Department of Plant Sciences

Both awardees were recognised for their outstanding scholarly output, innovative research initiatives, and creative academic contributions that continue to strengthen the faculty's role in national agricultural development and scientific advancement. The Faculty of Agriculture extends its warmest congratulations to the winners and looks forward to their continued leadership and contributions in shaping the future of agricultural research.

"*Haritha Piyasa*" Farmer Day 2026

"*Haritha Piyasa*" Farmer Day 2026 was proudly organized by the 2021/2022 batch of the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL, as part of their practical course requirements in the 3100 semester. This event reflects the core aim of the course, where students are trained to develop practical skills of crop production and management in contrasting environments, while demonstrating their acquaintance with theoretical knowledge and technological aspects

The inauguration of Farmer Day marks the moment where this comprehensive learning journey becomes visible. After weeks of nursery management, land preparation, crop establishment, pest and disease identification, field work, group activities, and maintaining crop records, students finally present the outcomes of their season-long efforts.









The event was formally declared open by the Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, in the presence of Heads of Departments, academic staff, and guests. Their participation underscores the importance of practical, field-based learning in agricultural education.

Farmer Day serves as a dynamic platform for students to apply knowledge, demonstrate field competence, communicate agronomic practices, and showcase their commitment to responsible crop management. It celebrates their ability to optimise production, respond to real-world challenges, and share their learning with peers and the wider community, directly reflecting the ILO of the course to disseminate acquired knowledge and skills to the associated community.

Sowing the Seeds of a Bright Future, Welcoming Batch 24/25 to FOA, RUSL



Glimpses from the official Inauguration Ceremony of the newly entered 2024/2025 batch to the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. A new journey begins today, rooted in knowledge and branching out into endless possibilities. Wishing our freshers an incredible and rewarding university life ahead!

The Faculty of Agriculture proudly recognised five outstanding undergraduates as Faculty Awardees for the Year 2025, celebrating their exceptional academic performance, leadership, and contribution to the university community. The awards were presented at the Inauguration Ceremony of the 2024/2025 batch, held on 03rd May 2026 at the faculty premises.



Award Recipients 2025

- Ms. T.A.T.K. Thennakoon (AG/2020/110)
- Ms. P.H.K.C. Weerarathne (AG/2022/192)
- Ms. S.M.N.A.B. Welivita (AG/2021/105)
- Ms. D.A.A.N. Ravindran (AG/2022/040)
- Ms. H.A. Hishma (AG/2021/043)

These students were honoured for their exemplary dedication to academic excellence and their active engagement in faculty activities. Their achievements reflect the high standards upheld by the Faculty of Agriculture and serve as an inspiration to the newly enrolled batch. The Faculty of Agriculture extends its heartfelt congratulations to both awardees and looks forward to their continued contributions to national and international research advancement.

17th Annual Research Symposium 2025

The 17th Annual Research Symposium 2025 of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was successfully held on 23rd October 2025 under the theme, "Innovative Pathways in Agriculture: Bridging Science, Society and Sustainability." The symposium provided a vibrant platform for final-year undergraduate and postgraduate students to showcase their research while fostering collaboration between academia, industry, and other stakeholders.









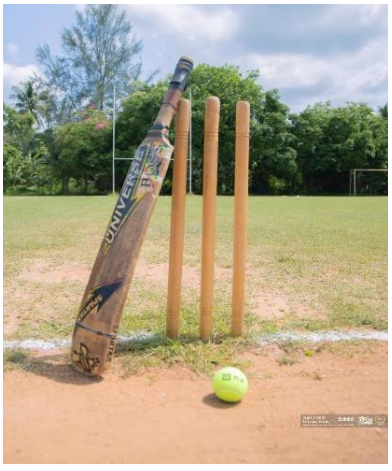
Research presentations covered eight key disciplines: Agricultural Engineering, Environmental Soil Management, Agricultural Economics and Extension, Agricultural Systems and Management, Animal Production and Technology, Food and Postharvest Technology, Agricultural Biology, and Crop Science. The symposium proceedings featured 129 research projects, presented across 11 technical sessions, highlighting innovative solutions to contemporary agricultural and rural development challenges. The programme also included Three-Minute Thesis (3MT) presentations, enabling students to effectively communicate their research to a wider audience. The event was chaired by Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna, coordinated by Dr. S.M.C.B. Karaliyadda, and featured a keynote address by Snr. Prof. G.Y. Jayasinghe, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna. The symposium proceedings were edited by Dr. C.A.K. Dissanayake, Editor-in-Chief.





The day concluded with an Awarding Ceremony and Networking Dinner at The Heritage Hotel, Anuradhapura, celebrating the achievements through recognition, inspiring speeches, and memorable moments. The evening was further enriched by the participation of Dr. K.K. Asanka Sanjeewa, a proud alumnus of the Faculty of Agriculture as the guest of honour, adding value to this special celebration of excellence and collaboration.

Agri Family Cricket Fiesta 2026



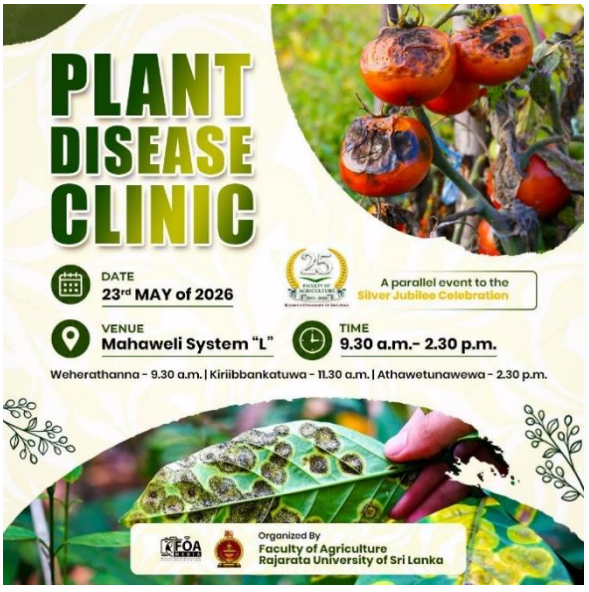
As part of the ongoing Silver Jubilee celebrations marking 25 years of the Faculty of Agriculture (2001–2026), the Student's Union Sports Sub Committee organized the Agri Family Cricket Fiesta, a lively friendly cricket tournament held at the Faculty Ground. The event brought together students, academic staff, and non-academic staff in a spirited display of sportsmanship and unity, reflecting the close-knit "Agri Family" spirit that has defined the Faculty over the past quarter-century. The ground came alive with explosive boundaries, spectacular catches, and enthusiastic cheering from spectators throughout the day.

Beyond the competitive spirit, the tournament served as a heart-warming reminder of the bonds shared across all levels of the Faculty community, a fitting tribute to 25 years of shared growth, learning, and camaraderie. The Faculty extends its sincere gratitude to everyone who played, volunteered, cheered, and contributed to making this milestone event a memorable success.





Plant Disease Clinic 2026 Held Across Mahaweli System L



As part of the ongoing Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Faculty of Agriculture, the "Plant Disease Clinic – 2026" programme was jointly organized by the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, and the Regional Project Management Office, Mahaweli System L, on 23rd May 2026. The programme aimed to create awareness among the farming community on plant disease identification, control, and plant health management.

The event was conducted on a single day across three key locations in the Mahaweli System L area: Veheragama at 9.30 a.m., Kiribbankattuwa at 11.30 a.m., and Athawetunuwewa at 2.30 p.m. At each location, sessions covered plant disease identification, plant health management solutions, hands-on diagnostic activities, and expert consultations and awareness talks. Faculty academics took part in the programme, which drew active participation from the local farming community, and transport facilities and refreshments were provided for all attendees. Aimed at strengthening farmers' knowledge of plant health and offering practical solutions, the programme reflected the Faculty's continued commitment to community engagement during its Silver Jubilee anniversary year, further reinforcing ties between the Faculty and the surrounding agricultural community.

Agri Ape Aurudu 2026: A Celebration of Joy, Unity, and Togetherness

Agri Ape Aurudu 2026 brought students together for a joyful celebration filled with laughter, unity, and unforgettable memories. Through the vibrant *Aurudu Kreeda* (traditional New Year games), students strengthened their bonds and celebrated togetherness beyond the boundaries of academic life.





More than just an event, Agri Ape Aurudu 2026 served as a heartfelt reminder that university life is about living, laughing, and growing together as one family, a spirit that continues to define the close-knit community of the Faculty of Agriculture.





"Kamatha" 2026: A Celebration of Harvest and Unity





The 2021/2022 cohort of the Faculty of Agriculture at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka proudly hosted "*Kamatha* 2026," a cultural evening designed to honor the traditions, heritage, and unity of the student body. Following the successful "Farmer Day" activities, students gathered for a memorable evening filled with traditional music, dynamic dance performances, and a variety of cultural showcases. The lively rhythms of traditional drums and the vibrant displays of talent fostered an atmosphere of joy and togetherness among all participants. "*Kamatha* 2026" serves as a noteworthy celebration of cultural heritage, student ingenuity, and the enduring spirit of unity within the Faculty of Agriculture community.





Faculty of Agriculture Conducts Workshop on Preparation of Question Papers in Compliance with Quality Standards



The Faculty Quality Assurance Cell (FQAC) of the Faculty of Agriculture organized a workshop on "Preparation of Question Papers in Compliance with Quality Standards" on 20th May 2026 at the Faculty Board Room. The session, held from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m., was coordinated by Dr. U.G.A.I. Sirisena, Coordinator of the FQAC, and attended by all academic staff members of the Faculty. The workshop was conducted by Prof. D.A.U.D. Devasinghe, who served as the resource person. The session focused on the preparation of well-prepared examination question papers aligned with university quality assurance standards and outcome-based education principles. Key topics included aligning questions with course learning outcomes, assessing different cognitive levels, ensuring clarity and fairness in examinations, and adhering to the approved Faculty question paper format. The interactive discussions enabled participants to clarify issues related to question paper preparation and moderation while sharing best practices in assessment design. The programme strengthened academic staff members' understanding of quality assurance requirements and reaffirmed the faculty's commitment to maintaining high standards in teaching, learning, and student assessment.





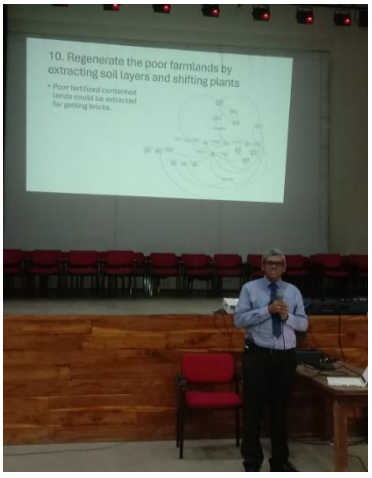


Guest Lecture on Climate Change Impacts on Agricultural Communities Successfully Conducted

The Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully conducted a guest lecture on "Climate Change Impacts on Agricultural Communities" on 19th June 2026 at the Faculty Auditorium.

The lecture was delivered by Prof. Bingunath Ingirige, Chair in Urban Resilience and Adaptation at the Centre for Disaster Resilience, University of Salford, United Kingdom. During his presentation, Prof. Ingirige shared valuable insights into the impacts of climate change on agricultural communities, the importance of building resilience and adaptation strategies, and the opportunities available for students to engage in higher education, international research, and collaborative projects.





The session was further enriched by Dr. Dayan Munasinghe, Senior Scientist at the National Building Research Organisation (NBRO), who shared his experiences and observations from climate change adaptation initiatives in Bangladesh, highlighting practical lessons that are relevant to Sri Lanka.

The Faculty of Agriculture extends its sincere gratitude to Prof. Bingunath Ingirige and Dr. Dayan Munasinghe for sharing their expertise and inspiring our students with their knowledge and international experiences. The guest lecture was organized by Prof. N.S. Abeysingha with the support of the academic staff of the Faculty of Agriculture, under the patronage of the Dean, Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathne.

Workshop on "How to Develop Research Culture in the University for a Better Future"





A workshop on "How to Develop Research Culture in the University for a Better Future" was successfully conducted on 29th December 2025 for the academic staff and third-year undergraduate students of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

The session was delivered by Senior Prof. Rangika Halwathura, who shared valuable insights on strengthening research culture, enhancing research engagement, and promoting innovation within the university environment. The workshop was organized by the Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, with the aim of fostering a strong research-oriented mindset among academic staff and students.

Workshop on "Roots and Horizons: Cultivating Innovation in Plant Pathology"



A workshop titled "Roots and Horizons: Cultivating Innovation in Plant Pathology" was successfully conducted on 3rd October 2025 for the students and academic community of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

The session was delivered by Dr. Ishara S. Manawasinghe, a distinguished scientist recognised among the World's Top 2% Highly Cited Scientists and a proud alumna of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

She shared valuable insights into recent advancements, research innovations, and future perspectives in the field of plant pathology. The workshop was organized by the Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, with the aim of fostering a strong research-oriented mindset among academic staff and students.

Japanese Delegation Visits Endane Biodiversity Corridor



A team of 23 Japanese nature enthusiasts from Kyoto, led by Prof. Hiroyuki Watanabe, recently visited the Endane Biodiversity Corridor within the Sinharaja Forest Landscape to witness Sri Lanka's pioneering rainforest restoration efforts. Prof. Watanabe, a renowned plant ecologist and former head of Kyoto University's Tropical Forest Resources and Environment Laboratory, guided the group, who shared a deep interest in tropical ecosystems and ecological restoration.

The visit was coordinated by Mr. Amila Perera, Centre Coordinator of Dilmah Conservation, with support from his team. Prof. Nalaka Geekiyanage from the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University, enriched the experience by sharing insights into the ecological significance of restoration and long-term monitoring efforts.

Inauguration Ceremony of the Master of Agriculture and the Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Development Programmes



The inauguration ceremony of the Master of Agriculture and the Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Development programmes was held on the 31st of January 2026, at the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, in hybrid mode. The ceremony was graced by the presence of the Acting Vice Chancellor, Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara; Chairman of the Board of Study and Dean of the Faculty, Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna; Programme Director, Dr. A.M.K.R. Bandara, academic coordinators, academic staff members, the assistant registrar, non-academic staff members, and new postgraduate students.

Professor G.V.T.V. Weerasooriya Strengthens International Academic Collaboration in China



Prof. G.V.T.V. Weerasooriya, of the Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science, undertook an official academic visit to the College of Engineering, Huazhong Agricultural University, Wuhan, People's Republic of China, from 21st April to May 2026 under the Foreign Expert Exchange Programme.

During the visit, Prof. Weerasooriya delivered an invited speech at the 2026 International Symposium on Technology and Application of Intelligent Agricultural Machinery and Agricultural Robots, held from 5th–7th May 2026. The symposium brought together leading academics and researchers in the fields of intelligent agricultural machinery and robotics. As part of the programme, he also revisited Hubei Vocational College of Biotechnology on 8th May 2026 to further strengthen institutional links.

Throughout the visit, Prof. Weerasooriya actively engaged in teaching and academic activities at Huazhong Agricultural University, provided guidance to postgraduate students, and participated in discussions on teacher training and joint research initiatives. These interactions contributed to enhancing academic and research collaboration among Huazhong Agricultural University, Hubei Vocational College of Biotechnology, and Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The visit also paved the way for future cooperation in areas such as lateral training programmes, student exchange initiatives, and joint research projects, reflecting the University's continued commitment to international collaboration and capacity building in the field of Agricultural Engineering.







Professor Nalaka Geekiyanage to Feature at World Wetlands Day 2026 Session on Traditional Wetland Wisdom





Prof. Nalaka Geekiyanage of the Department of Plant Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was a featured speaker at "Living Wetlands, Living Heritage," a World Wetlands Day 2026 session jointly organized by Biodiversity Sri Lanka and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI). The session explored how Sri Lanka's ancient Tank Cascade System (*Ellangava*) offers valuable lessons for navigating climate risk, water security, and sustainability transitions, connecting traditional ecological knowledge with modern science to build climate resilience across water, biodiversity, agriculture, and climate sectors.

Prof. Geekiyanage presented insights on "Tank Cascade Systems as Climate-Resilient Wetland Landscapes: Lessons from Traditional Wisdom," alongside Dr. Chaturangi Wickramaratne of IWMI Sri Lanka, who discussed "Guardians, Not Just Users: Rights-based Approaches for Sustainable Wetland Management." The session also featured case studies on the Kapirigigama Tank Rehabilitation Success Story (IHSC–IUCN) and Thumbikulama Tank Restoration. The Faculty of Agriculture congratulates Prof. Geekiyanage on this invitation to share his expertise on a national platform bringing together experts, policymakers, and sustainability leaders under the theme "One with Wetlands."

Exploring Marine Ecosystem Challenges: Insights from International Collaboration







From 22nd of October to 10th November 2025, Mr. Kapila Premarathne, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Agricultural Systems, Faculty of Agriculture, visited Tamil Nadu, Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University, India as BIMReN Visiting Professor/Scientist under BiMReN Faculty Exchange Programme. This visit was funded by Bay of Bengal Programme–BiMReN Twinning Research Grant funded two years international collaborative research project entitled 'Sustaining Fisheries Ecosystem in the Palk Bay Region: Assessing

Management Options, Livelihoods, and Fishers' Perspectives', representing as one of the Principal Investigators. Under this visit, he visited the Department of Fisheries, Extension, Economics & Statistics, Dr. M.G.R Fisheries College and Research Institute, Ponneri – 601 204, Tamil Nadu, India – a constituent unit of Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University and CMFRI (Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Chennai Office). In addition to that, he also participated in MECOS 4 (International Symposium on Marine Ecosystems Challenges and Opportunities), which was held in Kochi, India from 4th to 6 th November 2025. It was organized by the Marine Biological Association of India and ICAR-CMFRI.

Strengthening Agricultural Extension in Sri Lanka: Insights from Collaborative International Visits"

From the 16th of February to 1st of March 2026, Dr. S.M.C.B. Karalliyadda, former Head of the Department, who is the International Ambassador for Education of Sri Lanka, along with the current Head of the Department, Mr. Kapila Premarathne visited Ayub Agriculture Research Institute (AARI), Jhang Road, Faisalabad, Office of the Director Agricultural (Extension), Faisalabad Division, and Agricultural Research Organisation, on a visit to Pakistan and were hosted by the University of Agriculture (UAF), Faisalabad, Pakistan. The visit comprised of visitations to exhibitions, meetings with superior officials regarding agricultural extension models, education, research and development in Pakistan. The knowledge and exposure gained by the academic staff members of the Department are promising signs in further strengthening the field of agricultural extension of Sri Lanka.









International Workshop Advances Practical Approaches to Sustainable Fisheries Management






A two-day international residential workshop was successfully conducted on "Practical Approaches to Sustainable Fisheries Management" to strengthen knowledge and skills in sustainable fisheries management. The workshop was collaboratively organized by Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, University of Jaffna, Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University, and the ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai, India under the BIMSTEC-INDIA MARINE RESEARCH NETWORK (BIMReN) - BoBP Palk Bay Sustainable Fisheries Project, with generous financial support from Pelagikos (Pvt) Ltd. This initiative was organized as a knowledge dissemination programme under the research titled as 'Sustaining Fisheries Ecosystem in the Palk Bay Region: Assessing Management Options, Livelihoods, and Fishers' Perspectives', led by Mr. Kapila Premarathne who is working as a Co-Principle Investigator from the Department of Agricultural Systems, Faculty of Agriculture. The workshop was held at Hotel Alakamanda, Anuradhapura on the 16th and 17th of March 2026. Both local and international participants engaged in both theoretical learning and hands-on training using analytical tools to assess fisheries sustainability and support evidence-based management decisions.

Faculty of Agriculture Staff Join Tree Planting Programme at Endane Biodiversity Corridor




Staff members of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, participated in a tree planting programme held at the Endane Biodiversity Corridor, organized in collaboration with Dilmah Conservation. The initiative brought together academic staff in a shared commitment to environmental conservation and biodiversity restoration, reflecting the Faculty's ongoing dedication to sustainability beyond the classroom. Through this collaboration with Dilmah Conservation, participants contributed to

strengthening the ecological corridor, supporting habitat connectivity and long-term biodiversity conservation in the region. The event stood as a meaningful reminder of the Faculty's role not only in agricultural education and research, but also in active environmental stewardship and community-based conservation efforts.

Faculty of Agriculture Marks National Dengue Prevention Week 2026 with Clean-up Initiative

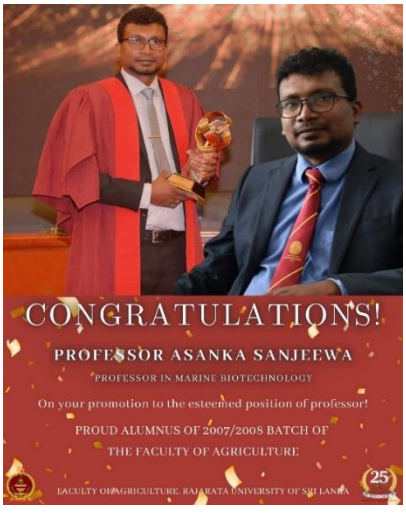




In line with National Dengue Prevention Week, the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organized a Dengue Prevention Programme on 19th June 2026. The initiative brought together students, academic staff, and non-academic staff in a collective effort to eliminate mosquito breeding sites and promote a cleaner, healthier environment within the Faculty premises.

Working side by side, participants carried out cleanup activities across the Faculty grounds, reflecting a shared sense of community responsibility toward public health. The Faculty extends its heartfelt appreciation to everyone who contributed to the success of this initiative, reaffirming that through collective action, sustained progress toward a dengue-free environment is possible.

A Historic Achievement in a Silver Jubilee Year: Faculty of Agriculture Alumnus Promoted to Professor



The Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, proudly congratulates Prof. Asanka Sanjeewa, a distinguished alumnus of the 2007/2008 batch, on his promotion to Professor in Marine Biotechnology at the Industrial Biosystems Technology Specialisation Area, Department of Biosystems Technology, Faculty of Technology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

The Faculty takes special pride in recognizing him as the first Professor produced from among its alumni, a remarkable milestone in the Faculty's journey since its establishment. This achievement holds even greater significance as it coincides with the Faculty's 25th Anniversary celebrations this year, standing as a testament to the growth and progress the Faculty has achieved over the past twenty-five years.

The Faculty of Agriculture extends its heartfelt congratulations to Prof. Sanjeewa and wishes him continued success, impactful research contributions, and many more distinguished accomplishments in the years ahead.

"කෘෂි ප්‍රභා" Farmer Day 2025: Towards a Bountiful Harvest



The Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, organized "කෘෂි ප්‍රභා" Farmer Day 2025, an agricultural educational exhibition focused on empowering farmers with practical and up-to-date knowledge on plant diseases, pests, and modern agricultural technologies.

Held on 5th June 2025 at the Faculty premises, the event provided innovative solutions to common agricultural challenges while encouraging entrepreneurship and self-employment opportunities. It was a meaningful step towards a more productive, sustainable, and technology-driven agricultural future.





"කමත 2025": Honouring Heritage, Celebrating Talents

2020/2021 batch of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, proudly presented "කමත 2025", a vibrant cultural evening that brought students together to celebrate their heritage and shared identity. Following the successful Farmer Day activities, the evening unfolded with the captivating rhythms of traditional drums, graceful dance performances, melodious music, and a variety of cultural showcases. The vibrant atmosphere and remarkable talents of the students transformed the evening into a memorable celebration filled with joy, friendship, and unity.







IMPERIUM 2025: A Celebration of Language, Literature, Art, and Performance

The 2023/2024 batch of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, proudly presented "IMPERIUM 2025," a spectacular English Night celebrating the beauty of language, literature, art, and performance. The evening unfolded with captivating performances, creative expressions, and memorable moments that showcased the talents and enthusiasm of the students. Filled with inspiration, entertainment, and a wonderful spirit of togetherness, IMPERIUM 2025 became a cherished celebration of creativity, friendship, and student talent.











Agri Ape Awurudu 2025





With the arrival of a fresh spring and the warmth of togetherness, *Agri Ape Awurudu* 2025 brought the vibrant spirit of the Sinhala and Tamil New Year to life. Shaped by the hands of friendship and filled with joyful traditions, laughter, and celebration, the event created beautiful memories within the Faculty of Agriculture community.





Agricultural Engineering & Soil Science Wins Vice Chancellor's Award 2025



The Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka was honoured with the Vice Chancellor's Award 2025 for achieving the highest number of indexed journal publications among the departments of the Faculty of Agriculture.

The award was presented at the Research Awards Ceremony held on 8th October 2025, recognising the department's outstanding contribution to research excellence, scientific publications, and the advancement of

agricultural engineering and soil science research. This achievement reflects the dedication and commitment of the academic staff towards strengthening the research culture and enhancing the global visibility of the faculty.



Prof. N.S. Abeysingha

- Vice Chancellor's Award 2025 for the Researcher with the Highest *h*-index in the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL – 1st Place
- Vice Chancellor's Award 2025 for the Researcher with the Highest Number of Citations in the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL – 2nd Place
- RUSL Research Excellence Award 2025 for the Researcher with the Highest *h*-index, securing the 10th place among researchers of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka



Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna

- Vice Chancellor's Award 2025 for the Researcher with the Highest h-index in the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL – 2nd Place
- Vice Chancellor's Award 2025 for the Researcher with the Highest Number of Citations in the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL – 4th Place



Dr. A.J. Fernando

- Vice Chancellor's Award 2025 for the Researcher with the Highest h-index in the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL – 2nd Place
- Vice Chancellor's Award 2025 for the Researcher with the Highest Number of Citations in the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL – 3rd Place
- Outstanding Doctoral Research Award – Gold Medal 2025, awarded by the Board of Study in Agricultural Engineering, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, on 21st November 2025
- Best Scientific Award 2025 was awarded at the ICSBE Next Inauguration 2025 held on 13th December 2025 in recognition of outstanding scientific contributions in the field of sustainable and smart food systems.



Prof. P.D. Kahandage

- Best Scientific Paper Award 2025 was awarded for the outstanding research contribution presented at the special session on Food Processing, Product Development, and Food Technology Innovation at the Colombo Conference 2025.



Mrs. K.G.S. Nirmanee

- Vice Chancellor's Award 2025 for the Researcher with the Highest Number of Citations in the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL – 5th Place.

Training Program on Practical Knowledge of Tractor and Agricultural Machinery Operation and Maintenance



A three-day training program on "Practical Knowledge on Operation, Maintenance, and Troubleshooting of Tractors and Other Agricultural Machinery" was successfully conducted from 11th to 13th March 2026 at the premises of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The program was organized for students specializing in Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science and second-year undergraduate students of the faculty.

The training was conducted with the valuable contribution of Browns & Company PLC., providing students with hands-on experience and practical knowledge on tractor operation, machinery handling, maintenance practices, and agricultural machinery management. The program enhanced students' technical competencies and industry-oriented skills in agricultural engineering.







Workshop on "Micro Irrigation System Design and Development"



A three-day workshop on "Micro Irrigation System Design and Development" was successfully conducted from 27th to 29th April 2026 at the Farm Machinery Training Centre (FMTC), Anuradhapura for students specializing in Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science at the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The workshop was designed to provide students with hands-on experience and practical knowledge on modern micro irrigation technologies, including system design, installation, operation, and

management practices. The training enhanced students' technical skills in efficient water management and sustainable irrigation system development, supporting their professional competencies in agricultural engineering.





Staff Exchange Program and Research Collaboration with the University of Warmia and Mazury, Poland



As part of an international staff exchange program and research collaboration, Prof. Katarzyna Glińska-Lewczuk, Head of the Department of Water Management and Climatology, Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, University of Warmia and Mazury (UWM), Olsztyn, Poland, together with her research team, visited the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, on 17th September 2025.

The visit was organized to strengthen academic partnerships and promote collaborative research between the Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science and the University of Warmia and Mazury. During the program, discussions were held on potential joint research initiatives, academic cooperation, and future staff and student exchange opportunities. The program was coordinated by Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna and Prof. Nadeeka Kumari on behalf of the Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science.





Academic Field Visit to the Farm Mechanisation Research Centre (FMRC), Mahailluppallama





As part of the Advanced Agricultural Engineering (ES 4101) course, an academic field visit was conducted to the Farm Mechanisation Research Centre (FMRC), Mahailluppallama, on 26th March 2025. The visit was organized to provide students with practical exposure to the testing and evaluation of farm machinery. Through this field-based learning experience, students gained valuable insights into modern agricultural machinery, performance evaluation techniques, and the role of mechanisation in improving agricultural productivity.

Academic Field Visit to the Farm Machinery Training Centre (FMTC), Anuradhapura






Under the course Field Practices in Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science (ES 3102), academic field visits were conducted to the Farm Machinery Training Centre (FMTC), Anuradhapura, on 22nd April 2025, 24th April 2025, and 8th May 2025. The visits provided students with hands-on training on the operation of sowing and planting machines as well as the usage, maintenance, and troubleshooting of paddy reapers, combine harvesters, and combine threshers. The programme enhanced students' practical skills and technical knowledge in agricultural machinery operation and field mechanisation practices.

Academic Field Visit to Mahaweli System B and System C

An academic field visit to Mahaweli System B and System C was conducted on 7th and 8th November 2025 as part of the Integrated Management of Water Resources in Sri Lanka (ES 3206) course. The visit aimed to provide students with practical exposure to the multipurpose water resource development schemes of Sri Lanka, including irrigation, water management, and agricultural development. The field experience enhanced students' understanding of integrated water resources management and the role

of the Mahaweli Development Programme in supporting sustainable agriculture and regional development.






Academic Field Visit to Jaffna

As part of the Soils of Sri Lanka (ES 3216) course, an academic field visit was conducted to Jaffna on 2nd October 2025. The primary objective of the visit was to provide students with the opportunity to observe and study the major soil groups of Sri Lanka under field conditions. The visit enabled students to gain practical knowledge of soil characteristics, classification, and distribution, thereby enhancing their understanding of the country's diverse soil resources.




Arogya Concert Project: ECOMECHANE Club Kicks Off 2025/2026 Tenure with Community Fundraiser





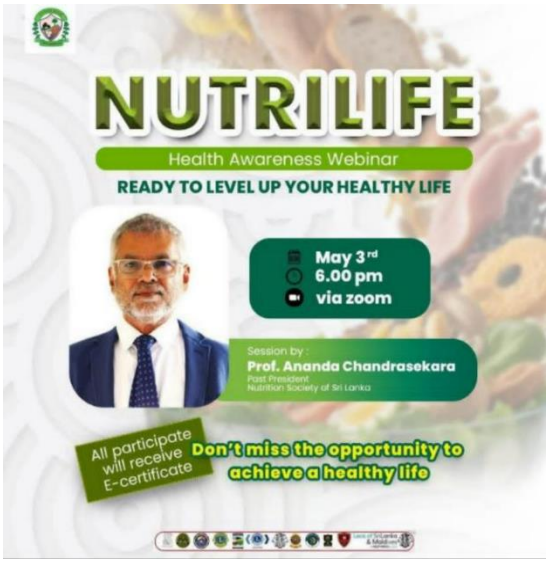
The Arogya Concert Project, the first major initiative conducted by the ECOMECHANE Student's Club during the 2025/2026 tenure, was successfully held on 16th November 2025 at Anuradhapura Central College. The event, graced by Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, as the Chief Guest, was organized to raise funds for future community service projects of the club. The project was chaired by Ms. A.M.P.K. Dekanduwala with W.A.D. Wanniarachchi serving as the Co-Chairperson and was conducted in collaboration with leading schools in Anuradhapura, including Anuradhapura Central College, St. Joseph's College, and Walisinghe Harischandra College. The event provided a valuable platform for students to showcase their talents in performing arts while strengthening community relationships and supporting the personal development of participating students.

ECOMECHANE Club's LINK Project Equips 175+ Students with LinkedIn and Career-Building Skills

The LINK Project, the second major initiative conducted by the ECOMECHANE Students' Club during the 2025/2026 tenure, was organized to enhance students' knowledge of LinkedIn profile management, professional networking, and career development strategies. The session was conducted by Ms. Upalakshi Kodithuwakku, Senior SEO Specialist, who shared valuable insights on creating effective LinkedIn profiles and utilising professional networks for future career opportunities. The programme was successfully attended by more than 175 students, with M.W.P.Y. Elikewala serving as the Chairperson and Ms. A.M.P.K. Dekanduwala as the Co-Chairperson. The project provided participants with practical skills in personal branding and professional networking to support their future academic and career success.



ECOMECHANE Club's NUTRILIFE Project Promotes Healthy Living Among 100+ Participants



The NUTRILIFE Project, the third major initiative conducted by the ECOMECHANE Student's Club during the 2025/2026 tenure, was organized to enhance awareness of healthy lifestyles and proper nutritional practices among participants. The programme was conducted by Prof. Ananda Chandrasekara, Past President of the Nutrition Society of Sri Lanka, who shared valuable insights on nutrition, balanced diets, and overall well-being. The event was successfully conducted with the participation of more than 100 participants, with Ms. A.M.P.K. Dekanduwala serving as the Chairperson and W.A.D. Wanniarachchi and G.A.C. Sewwandi as Co-Chairpersons. The project contributed to improving health awareness and promoting informed lifestyle choices among students and the wider community.

Future Climate Leaders from Rajarata University of Sri Lanka are in Action

In a powerful collaboration with Janathakshan (GTE) Ltd and HSBC, the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (RUSL) launched the "Fostering Climate Change Action Ambassadors" project. On October 30th, the Faculty of Agriculture Auditorium was buzzing with energy as the RUSL community set out to inspire and empower our students to lead the way in building climate-resilient communities. This journey is about transforming young hearts and minds into Climate Action Ambassadors. Through hands-on workshops, impactful awareness campaigns, and community projects, our students will develop the skills to make a real difference for Sri Lanka and the world

Department of Agricultural Systems Represented at the First National IAAS Sri Lanka Summit









On the 4th of April 2026, Mr. Kapila Premarathne, Head of the Department of Agricultural Systems, and Dr. S.M.C.B. Karalliyadda, Senior Lecturer of the Department attended the first National Summit of IAAS Sri Lanka (International Association of Students in Agriculture and Related Sciences) held at the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, as the National Advisors. The summit featured insightful knowledge-sharing sessions and engaging panel discussions, with key focus areas including agro-entrepreneurship development and challenges in agriculture. Panel members and invited guests contributed valuable and forward-looking insights for young agricultural professionals.

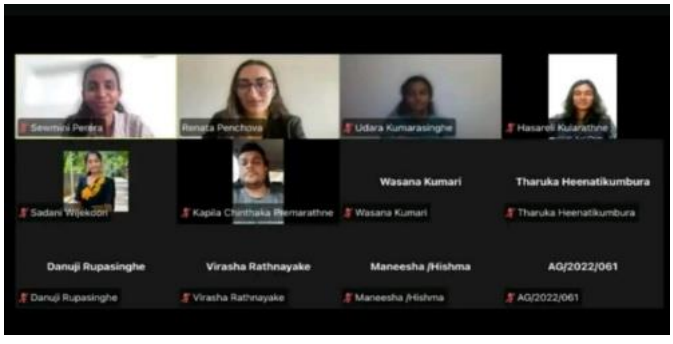
Green Hearts Hosts Inspiring Session on Women's Empowerment and Sustainable Development





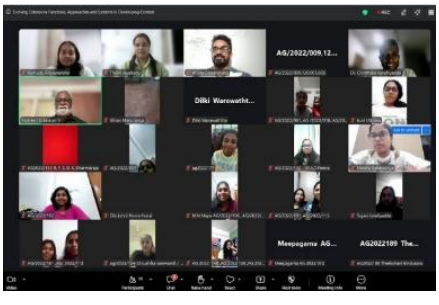
On 11th April 2026, the Green Hearts Students' Association of the Department of Agricultural Systems, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully conducted an inspiring session titled "From Young Voices to Global Impact: Empowering Young Women for Sustainable Development." The session commenced at 2.30 p.m. and provided a valuable platform for young participants to explore the importance of youth leadership, women's empowerment, and sustainable development. The session featured Ms. Renata Penchova as the esteemed resource person, who shared inspiring insights and valuable perspectives on empowering young women to become confident leaders and active contributors to sustainable change. The session successfully brought together 50+ participants, whose enthusiasm, engagement, and active participation contributed significantly to the success of the event. The program served as a meaningful opportunity for participants to gain knowledge, inspiration, and motivation to become future leaders and advocates for sustainable development.





Department of Agricultural Systems Hosts Guest Lecture by Dr. Rasheed Sulaiman on Agricultural Extension Systems







A guest lecture by Dr. Rasheed Sulaiman, the Director of Center for Research on Innovation and Science Policy (CRISP) was organized by the Department of Agricultural Systems under the topic 'Evolving Extension: Functions, Approaches, and Systems in Developing Contexts'. This was conducted on the 07th of May 2026 via Zoom platform.

Framing Farming: Mobile photography for Storytelling



The Department conducted a photography workshop under the title 'Framing Farming: Mobile photography for Storytelling'. It was conducted with the objective of improving the knowledge and skills of students on how to capture stories, creativity and the beauty of agriculture via their mobile lens. The workshop was held on the 8th of May 2026 at the Faculty Lecture Hall Premises of Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

Academic Staff and Students Engage in CIRCULAR Economy Innovation Workshop









The academic staff and students representing the Department of Agricultural Systems participated in the Design Thinking Workshops under the CIRCULAR Economy in the Food Sector Incubator Programme held in Dambulla on the 25th and 26th of June 2026. The workshop focused on reducing post-harvest losses in the fresh produce supply chain. Through the European Union-funded CIRCULAR Programme under the Global Gateway Strategy, co-funded by BMZ, the workshop series aims to transform Sri Lanka's circular economy challenges into practical, locally relevant solutions. This opportunity provided the participants a valuable opportunity to strengthen their knowledge of local food system challenges while engaging in design thinking and collaborative problem-solving.

Food Fiesta 2025





Food Fiesta 2025 was organized by the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, and was held on 16th September 2025 at the Faculty Auditorium premises. The exhibition showcased undergraduate research food products. It provided a platform for disseminating knowledge on innovative food technologies and promoting commercialisation opportunities for student-developed products. The event highlighted the Department's commitment to linking academic research

with industry and community needs, supporting sustainable food practices and enhancing student learning through practical application. The exhibition featured 17 innovative food products developed by undergraduate students over the past decade. These products included: Pumpkin-based products, Fruit-based products and Other innovative food products like banana *dodol*, coffee candy, *Rohu* fish patty, meat spread), jackfruit seed flour–based string hoppers and pittu.

Approximately 500 participants attended the event, including the Chief Guest, Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, Acting Vice Chancellor of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The audience also comprised school students, university students, academics, industry representatives, farmers, and officers from government and non-government organisations. In addition, the exhibition received national-level media exposure through a dedicated podcast featured on Sri Lanka Jathika Rupavahini under the *Ran Arunella* programme. This media coverage helped disseminate knowledge on undergraduate food innovations to a wider public audience and enhanced the visibility of the university's research and outreach activities.

Training Program on Entrepreneurship and Value-Addition in Inland Fisheries



In accordance with the approval and instructions issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Production and Health, North Central Province, the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, conducted a training program titled "Entrepreneurship and Value-Addition in Inland Fisheries" on 30th December 2025. The program was organized as an approved institutional activity and was implemented under the guidance of the relevant authorities.

The training program was designed to bridge the gap between traditional inland water fish harvesting and professional value-added production. Its primary objective was to enhance the practical knowledge and technical skills of participants in producing value-added inland fish products, while improving income stability and reducing post-harvest losses. The program commenced with an interactive discussion on the current status of the inland fisheries industry in the North Central Province. Participants discussed key challenges such as seasonal surpluses, wastage, and limited market access, and identified opportunities for developing value-added products to strengthen income generation.



A dedicated session on entrepreneurship and the legal framework guided participants on formalizing small-scale enterprises. Topics included business registration procedures, legal requirements for food production in Sri Lanka, basic financial management, and strategies for scaling up production. Food safety and hygiene were emphasised through a session conducted by a Public Health Inspector (PHI), who introduced participants to Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), hygienic processing practices, and methods to prevent cross-contamination during fish handling and processing, in accordance with national health regulations. The training also covered commodity packaging and branding, highlighting

the importance of appropriate packaging materials, mandatory labelling requirements, and the role of packaging in extending product shelf-life and improving marketability.

Nutrition Day 2025



The Department of Animal and Food Sciences of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, annually organizes Nutrition Day with the aim of promoting awareness of human nutrition, balanced diets and enhancing knowledge on health-related practices among students and staff members. "Nutrition Day 2025" was organized by the students of the 2019/2020 batch, majoring in the Food and Postharvest Technology module offered by the Department of Animal and Food Sciences. The event was successfully held on 6th January 2026 at the faculty premises.

The event commenced with a physical exercise session followed by the serving of a wholesome and healthy breakfast for all participants, including students and staff members of the faculty, to encourage healthy lifestyle practices. In addition, anthropometric measurements of students and staff members were taken to assess and create awareness regarding their current health status. In parallel with the event, a puzzle competition was organized among students, and winners were awarded for their achievements. The event was successfully concluded with active participation of both students and staff members.

Faculty Staff Participate in Erasmus+ Global Week Staff Mobility Programme in Portugal





Prof. G.V.T.V. Weerasooriya, Dr. U.G.A.I. Sirisena, Dr. A.M.K.R. Bandara, Dr. D.M.S. Duminda, Mrs. H.C.D. Wijayawardhana, and Ms. A.N. Kodithuwakku participated in the Erasmus+ Global Week Staff Mobility Programme, held in Portugal from 19th to 23rd May 2025. The programme, themed "Mobility Innovation," was organized by the Polytechnic University of Coimbra together with its International Relations team. The event served as an initiative to foster research, development, and educational collaboration between Mendel University in Brno and Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, offering participants valuable opportunities for academic exchange and international networking. The Faculty of Agriculture congratulates all the academic staff members on representing the Faculty at this international mobility programme and looks forward to the collaborative opportunities this engagement may bring.

Department of Plant Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture Team Wins First Runner-up at Venture Verse Competition 2025



A team from the Department of Plant Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, headed by Mrs. T.D.C. Priyadarshani, secured the First Runner-up position at the Venture Verse Competition, an inter-university innovation contest held on 22nd December 2025 at Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.

The winning innovation concept, "Development of Seaweed-Based Bio-Control Formulations to Control Postharvest Diseases in Fruits and Vegetables," showcased the team's research-driven approach to sustainable, eco-friendly solutions for postharvest disease management.

This achievement reflects the innovative spirit and research capability nurtured within the Faculty of Agriculture, and stands as a proud moment for the institution's growing contribution to inter-university innovation and entrepreneurship platforms.

Professor Nalaka Geekiyanage Presents Endane Restoration Project at World Ecological Restoration Conference in Denver, United States



Prof. Nalaka Geekiyanage presented the successful Endane Biodiversity Corridor forest landscape restoration project at the 11th World Conference on Ecological Restoration 2025 in Denver, USA, organized by the Society for Ecological Restoration.

During the visit from 30th September to 5th October 2025, he also visited Earth Lab, University of Colorado Boulder, to explore future collaborations in environmental research, big data, and AI-based approaches to understanding environmental change.

Sylvanterra Nature Club, Department of Plant Sciences: A Year of Environmental Education and Community Outreach

The Sylvanterra Nature Club of the Department of Plant Sciences continued to demonstrate its strong commitment to environmental education and community engagement through a series of impactful initiatives conducted during 2025 and 2026. On 5th June 2025, the club contributed to the Faculty of Agri-

culture's "*Krushi Prabha*" exhibition by organizing an informative stall, attracting wide interest from students and visitors.



Further strengthening its academic outreach, the club hosted the "Voices for Planet" virtual webinar series on 24th September and 10th October 2025, providing faculty students with valuable insights into contemporary environmental challenges and encouraging active youth participation in conservation efforts. Expanding its activities beyond the university, the club conducted the "*Haritha Hetak*" School Awareness Program on 24th October 2025 at Walisinghe Harischandra College, Anuradhapura. This initiative aimed to inspire school students to adopt environmentally responsible behaviours and deepen their understanding of ecological issues. Continuing its annual activity plan, the club organized an Awareness Session on Garbage Disposal on 22nd April 2026 via Zoom. The session covered garbage management, microplastics, pollution, proper waste disposal, and individual responsibility, reinforcing the club's role in promoting environmental consciousness within the university and wider community.







Appointments & Promotions

Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, extends its warmest congratulations to its faculty members on their recent academic, administrative, and coordinator appointments. These roles reflect their dedication to student development and the continuous progress of our institutional initiatives.



Prof. Nalaka Geekiyanage has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Plant Sciences, effective from 15th May 2026.



Prof. N.S. Abeysinghe has been appointed as the Director of the Centre for Excellence in Climate Change Studies (CECCS), effective from 20th April 2026.



Dr. D.A.U.D. Devasinghe, has been promoted to the position of Professor in Plant Sciences, effective from 5th March 2024.



Dr. P.D. Kahandage, has been promoted to the position of Professor in Agricultural Engineering, effective from 3rd March 2025.



Mrs. J.D.T.D. Jayakody has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Agricultural Systems, effective from 1st September 2025.



Mrs. K.T.I. Wijewardana has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Agricultural Systems, with effect from 1st January 2026.



Mrs. S.M.S.N. Senanayake has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Agricultural Systems, effective from 1st January 2026.



Mrs. M.M.W. Methma Hiruni Dissanayake has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Plant Sciences, effective from 2nd February 2026.



Mr. H.G.S.C. Wickramasooriya has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science, effective from 2nd February 2026.



Mrs. Mihirangi Piyasena has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, effective from 16th April 2026.

ASURS 2026 Concludes Successfully at the Faculty of Applied Sciences





The Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully concluded the Applied Sciences Undergraduate Research Sessions (ASURS) 2026, providing undergraduate students with a valuable platform to present their research findings and engage with the scientific community in a professional setting. This encouraged undergraduate students to publish their research findings and communicate scientific ideas in a professional environment. The sessions covered six major disciplinary tracks: Biology, Chemistry, Computing, Health Promotion, Mathematics and Physics.

Alongside the main research sessions, ASURS 2026 also featured a series of events, including two Pre-Congress Workshops, a 3-Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition, and an Art Competition, offering participants a well-rounded academic and creative experience. The success of ASURS 2026 was made possible through the dedicated efforts of the organising committee, led by Prof. G.N.D. Guruge as Program Chair and Ms. S.P. Senevirathne as Program Secretary and the team of coordinators including Mr. P.S. Palliyaguruge, Dr. (Mrs.) S.A. Senevirathne, Dr. E.Y. Fernando, Dr. C.A. Thotawatthage and Ms. S.D. Gunasekara.

The editorial work was headed by Prof. D.L.P. Senarathna as Editor-in-Chief, supported by an Editorial Board comprising Prof. H.M.A.M.C. Herath, Mr. N. Weerakoon, Dr. W.A. Gunarathne, Dr. D. Raheem, and Ms. W.M.N.U.K. Rathnayake. With the support of this committee, ASURS 2026 proved once again that it is a cornerstone event for developing young researchers in the Faculty of Applied Sciences. It gave students majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Computing, Health Promotion, Mathematics, and Physics a great platform to connect, share ideas, and gain first-hand experience with professional academic presentations and publications. On behalf of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, congratulations go to all the participants, presenters, and organisers of ASURS 2026.

ASURS 2026 3MT Thesis Competition Showcases Emerging Scientific Innovation

The ASURS 2026 Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition was successfully held, featuring talented young researchers who presented innovative scientific ideas and discoveries across a wide range of disciplines. The event highlighted participants' ability to communicate complex research clearly, engagingly, and impactfully in just three minutes.





covering topics such as cancer therapeutics, environmental sustainability, green chemistry, biodegradable materials, nanotechnology, water purification, and cleaner energy solutions.

The participants from the Department of Chemical Sciences and their presentation topics were as follows:

- Ms. A.M.S.K. Indurangi: "Discovering Safer Weapons Against Cancer – From Sea to Solution"
- Ms. A.M.I. Darshani: "How Green Tea Protects Lipids from Oxidation: The Battle Against Rancidity"
- Ms. D.J.G.R.D. Dissanayake: "The Coconut Sponge That Cleans Water"
- Ms. S.R.H.B. Senanayaka: "Nature's Molecular Gatekeepers of Metal Transport"
- Mr. K.C. Kuruppu: "From Jungle to Lab: Can a Sri Lankan Plant Stop Deadly Bacteria"
- Ms. R.M.N.M. Sewwandi: "Zircon's Electrical Fingerprints"
- Ms. H.M.N.S. Dissanayake: "Balanced"
- Ms. M.H.K.H. De Silva: "From Waste to Wonder: The Electrochemical Biorefinery of Coconut Husk"
- Ms. D.M.R.T.K. Dharmakeerthi; "Tiny Particles, Greener Solutions"
- Mr. P.S. Weerasuriya: "Nature's Blood Secret: A Sentinel for Our Water"
- Ms. H.M.H.S. Bandara: "The Silver Gatekeeper"
- Ms. M.A.F. Ashfa: "Banana Waste into Biodegradable Films"
- Ms. M.N.F. Ilma: "From Curiosity to Creation: Turning Questions into Discoveries, Ideas into Impact"
- Ms. G.D. Weerawansha: "Smarter Separation for Cleaner Energy"





Among the outstanding presenters, Ms. A.S. Wannige won 1st Place with the presentation titled *"Light Activated Fungal Shield,"* demonstrating exceptional innovation, scientific significance, and presentation skills. The 3rd Place award was awarded to Mr. M.V.R.D.C. Somarathne for the presentation *"When Starch Biopolymer Meets Pine Resin,"* which showcased promising research in sustainable material science. The ASURS 2026 3MT Competition served as an inspiring platform for young researchers to share their scientific contributions and promote innovative thinking for a sustainable future. The organisers extend their sincere appreciation to all participants, judges, mentors, and supporters for making the event a success.

ASURS 2025: Igniting Curiosity, Inspiring Discovery



Organised by the Faculty of Applied Sciences, ASURS 2025 took place on 4th June 2025 as a platform for undergraduate students to present their research. The symposium celebrated creativity and dedication across various scientific fields. Beyond academic presentations, ASURS 2025 fostered engagement between students, academics, and professionals, promoting critical thinking and collaborative learning. Projects from disciplines such as physics, chemistry, and environmental science highlighted the participants' talent and curiosity.

With keynote sessions and poster presentations, the event provided an enriching atmosphere that inspired attendees. ASURS 2025 underscored the Faculty's commitment to a research-driven undergraduate culture, igniting curiosity and empowering young minds to contribute to the scientific community.

Inauguration of the 2023/24 Batch



The 2023/24 intake of Applied Sciences students at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka began their academic journey on 3rd July 2025. The inauguration ceremony, held at the Faculty of Technology Auditorium, was attended by students, parents, and university officials, including the Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, Acting

Vice-Chancellor. The Faculty welcomed the new cohort and emphasised its commitment to guiding students in knowledge empowerment, leadership, and societal service, marking the start of a transformative experience for their future endeavours.

Best Female Voice at the Sirasa Voice Audition

Ms. A.S. Wannige, from the Department of Chemical Sciences, has brought great pride and recognition to the department through her outstanding achievement at the Sarasavi Sirasa Voice competition. She successfully participated in the audition held on 25th May 2026 and was selected as the "Best Female Voice" among the contestants. Following this remarkable achievement, she performed at the Sarasavi Sirasa program on 26th May 2026, captivating the audience with her exceptional vocal talent and confident stage presence. The Sarasavi Sirasa platform is well known for discovering and encouraging talented university students across Sri Lanka, providing them with a valuable opportunity to showcase their artistic abilities on a national stage. performance stood out for its tone, emotional expression, and excellent vocal control, earning admiration from the audience.

Her accomplishment reflects not only her personal dedication and passion for announcing but also the diverse talents within the Department of Chemical Sciences. Balancing academic excellence with extracurricular achievements is truly commendable, and her success serves as an inspiration to fellow students to confidently pursue their talents and dreams. The Department of Chemical Sciences warmly congratulates Ayesha on this remarkable milestone and wishes her continued success in her future musical journey and artistic endeavors.



Department of Chemical Sciences Students Participate in Inter-University Debate Competition

Eight students from the Department of Chemical Sciences participated in the Inter-University Debate Competition organised by the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon, held on 21st May 2026 at Malabe. The event included participation by the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, the University of Jaffna, the University of Kelaniya, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, and the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon, bringing together diverse academic teams for intellectual engagement. Ms. A.M.I. Darshani, Ms. S.R.H.B. Senanayaka, Ms. M.N.F. Ilma, Ms. A.S. Wannige, Ms. M.H.K.H. De Silva, Ms. D.J.G.R.D. Dissanayake, Mr. M.V.R.D.C. Somarathne, and Ms. A.M.S.K. Indurangi represented the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

The competition provided an excellent platform for students to enhance critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and scientific communication skills. Participants engaged in structured debates on contemporary scientific and societal issues, where they were required to present logical arguments and respond effectively to opposing viewpoints under time constraints. Although the team did not secure a winning position, their performance was highly commendable. They demonstrated strong teamwork, confidence, and professionalism, reflecting the academic standards and spirit of the Department of Chemical Sciences. Such inter-university activities play a significant role in developing essential soft skills, including public speaking, leadership, and collaboration, while also strengthening academic networking among future scientists.

Chemistry Workshop for GCE O/L Students

A chemistry workshop focusing on the GCE Ordinary Level examination syllabus was successfully conducted at Swarnapali Girls' College, Anuradhapura for Grade 10 and Grade 11 students studying chemistry as a subject. The workshop was conducted by Professor Ajith Herath to enhance students' understanding of key chemistry concepts and improve their examination preparation.

The session provided valuable guidance on important subject areas, effective study techniques, and examination strategies while encouraging students to develop a deeper interest in chemistry. Through interactive discussions and engaging explanations, the workshop created a supportive learning environment that motivated students to strengthen their knowledge and confidence in the subject. The program was highly beneficial to the participating students and reflected a continued commitment to supporting science education and academic excellence among school students.

Celebrating Success at the NIFS Three Minute Thesis Competition 2026



The 3MT (Three Minute Thesis) Competition organised by the National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS), Kandy, was successfully held on 3rd June 2026, providing a valuable platform for young researchers to present their research findings and communication skills. Representing the Department of Chemical Sciences of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mr. K.C. Kuruppu, Ms. A.M. Darshani, Ms. M.H.K.H. De Silva, and Ms. M.A.F. Ashfa participated in the competition with great enthusiasm and dedication. The competition challenged participants to explain their research effectively within three minutes before a distinguished panel of judges and audience. All participants demonstrated excellent presentation skills, confidence, and academic competence while representing the university at the national level.









Among the participants, Ms. M.A.F. Ashfa achieved a remarkable milestone by being selected among the final ten contestants of the competition. Further highlighting this achievement, Ms. Ashfa secured 3rd Place, bringing pride and recognition to the Department of Chemical Sciences and the university. This accomplishment reflects the research excellence, dedication, and potential of the students of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The university extends its heartfelt congratulations to Ms. M.A.F. Ashfa and appreciation to all participants for representing the institution with professionalism and excellence.

Second Place in Inter-University Magic Show Video Competition



Students from the Department of Chemical Sciences proudly secured Second Place at the Inter- University Magic Video Competition organised by the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon. Their award- winning video creatively presented the fascinating side of chemistry through engaging demonstrations and effective science communication.

This achievement was accomplished with the guidance and support of the Head of the Department and the academic staff. The project highlighted the students' creativity, teamwork, and dedication to promoting science in an innovative and enjoyable way. The participating students were Ms. A.M.S.K. Indurangi, Ms. A.M.I. Darshani, Ms. A.S. Wannige, Ms. H.M.N.S. Dissanayaka, Mr. P.S. Weerasuriya, Ms. H.M.HS. Bandara, Ms. G.D. Weerawansha, Ms. D.M.R.T.K. Dharmakeerthi, Ms. S.R.H.B. Senanayaka, Ms. D.J.G.R.D. Dissanayake, Ms. M.H.K.H. De Silva, Mr. M.V.R.D.C. Somarathne, Mr. K.C. Kuruppu, Ms. R.M.N.M. Sewwandi, Ms. M.N.F. Ilma, and Ms. M.A.F. Ashfa.

Winning Second Place at this prestigious competition is a memorable milestone for the students and serves as a motivation to continue promoting science education through creativity and innovation. The Department of Chemical Sciences congratulates the team on this outstanding achievement and wishes them continued success in future endeavors.

Research Publication at IChem Annual Sessions 2026







Ms. A.M.S.K. Indurangi, Ms. A.M.I. Darshani, and Ms. H.M.N.S. Dissanayaka from the Department of Chemical Sciences proudly achieved a significant academic milestone with the publication of their research abstract in the Proceedings of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon Annual Sessions 2026 (Volume 43, No. 02, May 2026). This accomplishment marks their first scientific abstract publication and reflects

their growing contribution to the field of chemistry and scientific research. The publication showcases the students' dedication to academic excellence, innovation, and the advancement of scientific knowledge. It also highlights their enthusiasm for engaging in research activities and sharing valuable findings with the scientific community. Reaching this milestone represents an important step in their academic and professional journey, inspiring them to continue exploring new opportunities in research and discovery.

This achievement was made possible through the guidance and encouragement of the academic staff, whose support played a valuable role throughout the research process. The Department of Chemical Sciences congratulates the students on this commendable accomplishment and wishes them continued success in their future academic and research endeavors.

Workshops and Training Programmes

Throughout 2025, the Department of Computing remained committed to developing industry-ready graduates through a wide range of student development, innovation, and academic enhancement initiatives. Workshops, mentoring programmes, and career guidance activities were organised to strengthen students' technical competencies, professional skills, leadership qualities, and employability. Flagship initiatives such as Elevate 2025, conducted in collaboration with ARICT, and the Tech Bridge – Industry Awareness Webinar connected students with alumni and industry professionals, providing valuable career guidance and networking opportunities. The Department further enhanced students' industry readiness through the Tech Boot Camp, a two-week intensive training programme conducted with the technical support of SquareHub (Pvt) Ltd. for 50 selected third-year undergraduates, while the "Bridging the Gap: Soft Skills for IT Career Development" workshop equipped over 120 first-year students with essential workplace competencies. Innovation and experiential learning were promoted through InnoOrbit Project Carnival 2025, which recognised outstanding undergraduate projects, and FASEXPLORER 2025, where students showcased their innovations to the wider university community. Student creativity was further encouraged through the 3rd edition of *Sulawath Suyamaya*, while the launch of the Department's official YouTube Channel strengthened its digital presence. Complementing these initiatives, continuous improvements in mentoring, project supervision, curriculum delivery, assessment practices, laboratory facilities, and quality assurance further enhanced teaching, learning, and graduate employability, reinforcing the Department's reputation for academic excellence and innovation.

FASEXPLORER 2025 Exhibition






Bridging the Gap: Soft Skills for IT Career Development





Agile Mastery – Empowering Teams for Project Success Workshop

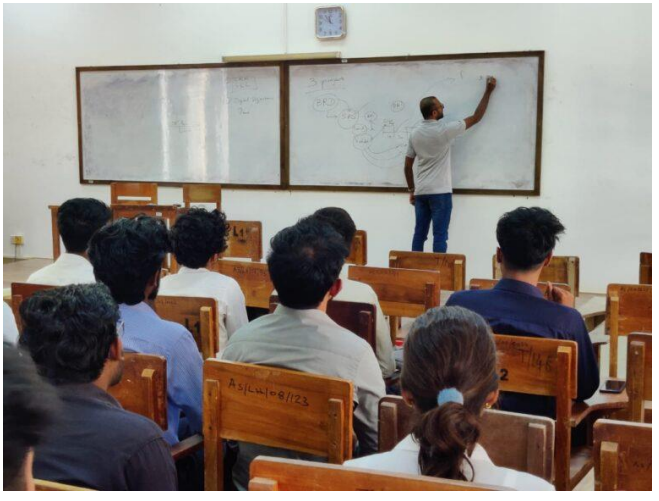
Student development remained a priority during the first half of 2026. The Department conducted the Agile Mastery workshop for 91 third-year undergraduates, strengthening Agile, Scrum, and project management competencies. In addition, nine mentoring sessions were completed to support first-year students' academic and personal development.





SquareHub: RUSL Incubation Programme

The Department launched the SquareHub–RUSL Incubation Programme in collaboration with SquareHub (Pvt) Ltd., providing 16 selected undergraduates with six months of industry mentoring, hands-on software development training, and entrepreneurial exposure to enhance innovation and employability.

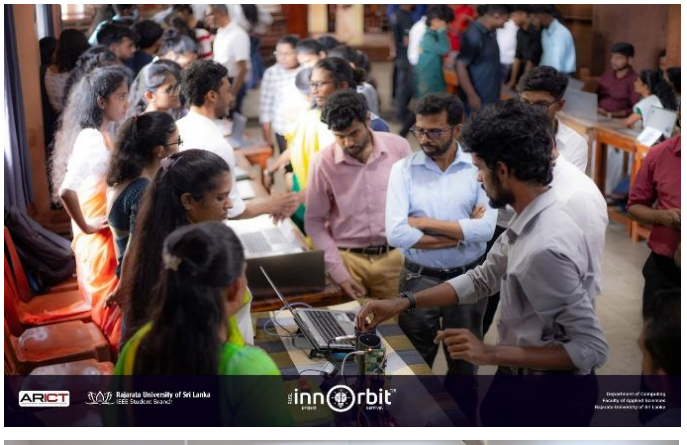



Grants "XAI-Driven Early Preeclampsia Prediction for First-Time Mothers in Low-Resource Settings"

The Department secured an LKR 20 million National Research Council (NRC) Target-Oriented Research Grant for the five-year project, *XAI-Driven Early Preeclampsia Prediction for First-Time Mothers in Low-Resource Settings*, strengthening research capacity and international collaboration.

Innovations (Patents and Other Recognitions) at Faculty of Applied Sciences

innOrbit Project Carnival 2026 showcased 33 third-year projects, with the Top 10 teams receiving recognition. The Department also celebrated the TechSnatchers team for winning the North Central Provincial Award – University Category (Best Innovative Product) at the SLASSCOM National Ingenuity Awards (SNIA) 2026.









Awareness Session on Dental Health

The Health Promotion Student Society (HPS) organised an awareness session on dental health and a dental clinic in collaboration with the Anuradhapura Dental Health Unit, targeting the undergraduates and academic staff of the Faculty of Applied Sciences on 13th and 22nd of May 2025.

Awareness Programme on Medicines

The Health Promotion Department organised an awareness programme on medicines in collaboration with the Pharmacy Department of the Teaching Hospital, Anuradhapura, targeting Health Promotion undergraduates, on 15th August 2025. The session focused on several key aspects, including patterns of

drug consumption, available drug brands, the marketing of pharmaceutical products, and the potential role of health promotion facilitators in mitigating drug-related issues within the community.





Awards Thriving at Faculty of Applied Sciences

Certificates were awarded to the Top Ten Undergraduate Projects, while innOrbit Project Carnival 2026 recognised outstanding student innovations and project excellence. Prof. Lalith Senarathna, Head of the Department of Health Promotion, was awarded the President's Award for Scientific Research by the National Research Council in 2025.

The following staff members were granted with below awards at the Research Excellence Awards Ceremony held in August 2025 by the RUSL.

- Top Ten Researchers with the highest h-index: Prof. Lalith Senarathna
- Top Ten Researchers with the highest number of indexed journal articles: Prof. Lalith Senarathna, Prof. Duminda Guruge, Dr. Manoj Fernando
- Top Ten Researchers having the highest number of indexed journal articles: Faculty of Applied Sciences- Prof. Lalith Senarathna, Prof. Duminda Guruge, Dr. Manoj Fernando, Mrs. H.P. Reyal
- Top Ten Researchers having the highest h-index: Faculty of Applied Sciences- Prof. Lalith Senarathna, Prof. Duminda Guruge, Dr. Manoj Fernando
- Top Ten Researchers having the highest number of citations, Faculty of Applied Sciences: Prof. Lalith Senarathna, Prof. Duminda Guruge, Dr. Manoj Fernando

Bronze Award for Best Undergraduate Energy Research

A team of young undergraduate researchers from the Department of Biology, Faculty of Applied Sciences, RUSL has been honoured with the 2025 Bronze Award for Best Undergraduate Energy Research by the Sri Lanka Energy Managers Association (SLEMA). Their pioneering project explores a sustainable future for energy by turning to the ocean's smallest photosynthetic inhabitants, cyanobacteria.



SLEMA Annual awards for the Most Outstanding Undergraduate Energy Research 2025

The team's research, titled "The use of Triglyceride-producing Marine photosynthetic Microorganism for laboratory scale biodiesel production," dives deep into the potential of marine microorganisms to produce biofuel. By cultivating microscopic marine life that naturally produces triglycerides, the students successfully developed a method for biodiesel production at a laboratory scale, offering a promising avenue for renewable energy.

Spearheaded by undergraduates Mr. R.M.S.L.B. Rathnayaka, Ms. P.M.A.C. Muhandiram, and Mr. A.W.H.I. Ambepitiya, and guided by their supervisor Dr. E.Y. Fernando, this project highlights the high-calibre research being conducted within the Department of Biological Sciences and the university's dedication to addressing global energy challenges. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the team for this well-deserved recognition.

International Collaborations at Faculty of Applied Sciences

Two postgraduate students from the Sahlgrenska Academy, Gothenburg University, Sweden, enrolled in a three-month internship at the Department of Health Promotion on 06th November 2025. They were enrolled under an existing MoU between the Department of Health Promotion and Gothenburg University.

Under the Moon: A Night to Remember - Entertainment Programme

"Under the Moon" was an enchanting entertainment event organised by the Health Promotion Student Society on 07th January 2025, at the Auditorium of the Faculty of Applied Sciences. The Vice Chancellor, academic staff, non-academic staff, and students participated in enjoying the evening. This spectacular evening that brought together the vibrant talents of both students and staff created an unforgettable celebration of music, dance, and drama. "Under the Moon" was not just an event; it was a celebration of collaboration, creativity, and artistic expression.











Charity Shop



The Health Promotion Student Society organised a charity shop at the University's main entrance on 21st January 2026 for the fourth time. There were four main corners at the shop, namely, the clothing corner, game corner, food stall, and the 'Mehendi' corner. The charity shop was conducted to exchange goods at a feasible price to undergraduates, staff members, and villagers. This also encouraged the reuse and responsible consumption for sustainable living.

PhD Research Featured in the International Society for Physical Activity and Health (ISPAH)

Ms. Prabuddhika Kandegedara, Senior Lecturer in Health Promotion at the Department of Health Promotion, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, and a PhD candidate at the University of Southern Queensland (UniSQ), Australia, has had one of her research photographs selected as the winning entry in the International Society for Physical Activity and Health (ISPAH) Monthly Photo Competition for June 2026.

The winning photograph was featured in the Global Highlights section of the ISPAH June 2026 newsletter. It was taken during the implementation of her PhD research, which focuses on the co-design of a school-based physical activity intervention to improve adolescents' physical activity levels and mental wellbeing.

The image captures students actively participating in the intervention at one of the study schools, highlighting the value of engaging young people in enjoyable, inclusive, and co-designed physical activity programmes. This international recognition reflects the quality and impact of the research while bringing greater visibility to innovative school-based health promotion initiatives originating from Sri Lanka.



FASTunes Music Society of RUSL Takes Its Sound to Swarnavahini's PM Show

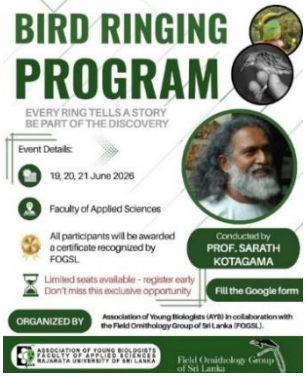


On 21st May 2026, the Fastunes Music Society of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (RUSL), had the privilege of performing live on Swarnavahini's PM Show.

The talented team of performers included Mr. Lapalu Liyanage, Mr. Janitha Sathsara, Mr. Binula Bandara, Ms. Sewwandi Ranathunga, Ms. Sawbhagya Kellar, and Mr. Priyanjan Samarakoon as vocalists. The instrumentalists were Mr. Ashen Charuka, Mr. Pubudu Dehigolla, Mr. Jinantha Banuka, Mr. Ruwin Hettiarachchi, Mr. Chamuditha Chanakya, and Mr. Chamidu Lakshitha.

The team was led by Dr. Ravindra Jayarathne, Academic Advisor and Senior Treasurer of the FASTunes Music Society. The performance showcased the musical talents and enthusiasm of the society, bringing the vibrant musical spirit of RUSL to a wider audience through national television.

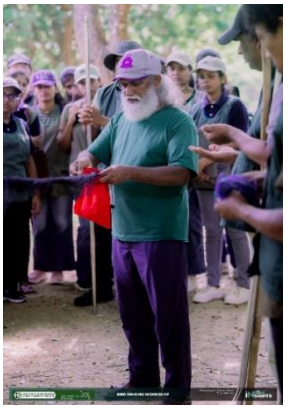
Bird Ringing Program: "Every Ring Tells a Story": A Three-Day Learning Experience at the Faculty of Applied Sciences



The Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, hosted a three-day Bird Ringing Program from 19th to 21st June 2026, organised by the Association of Young Biologists (AYB) in collaboration with the Field Ornithology Group of Sri Lanka (FOGSL). Themed "Every Ring Tells a Story, Be Part of the Discovery," the workshop brought together around 50 participants from Rajarata University, the University of Colombo, and FOGSL. The program was conducted by Prof. Sarath Kotagama, a leading figure in Sri Lankan ornithology, with coordination from Prof. Sriyani Wickramasinghe on behalf of the Faculty of Applied Sciences.

The program combined classroom lectures with extensive fieldwork, giving participants a well-rounded and engaging learning experience. A bird-watching expedition along Mihinthale Lake allowed participants to observe diverse resident and migratory species, while hands-on bird-ringing sessions within the faculty premises offered practical training in handling, ringing, and release techniques. Beyond technical learning, the workshop encouraged rich interaction among participants, who exchanged ideas and experiences across institutions. All attendees received a FOGSL-recognised certificate. The event highlighted the strong partnership between the Faculty and FOGSL, reinforcing experiential, field-based learning in shaping future biologists and conservationists.







Rajarata University of Sri Lanka Welcomes the 2024/2025 Intake (VX) of External BSc Degree Students in Biological and Physical Sciences



The Faculty of Applied Sciences at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka inaugurated the 15th batch of students in the Bachelor of Science External Degree Programmes in Biological Sciences and Physical Sciences on 25th March 2026 in the University's Main Auditorium. The ceremony, attended by Vice Chancellor Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilake and other dignitaries, highlighted the Faculty's commitment to quality higher education.

The event was hybrid, with around 50 students joining via Zoom. It featured a welcome address by Dean Dr. Manoj Fernando and an inspiring speech from the Vice Chancellor, who emphasised dedication in academic pursuits. A notable moment was the launch of the programme website by the Vice Chancellor, showcasing the degree programmes' strengths. Dr. W.M.G.A.S.T.B. Wijetunga delivered the vote of thanks. An orientation session followed, led by Prof. T.V. Sundarabarathy, which explained the online learning process. Dr. C.A. Thotawattage also conducted an introductory session on the Learning Management System (LMS), offering insights on system navigation and course offerings. The event was successfully organised by a dedicated committee, including Secretary Ms. M.S.V. Senevirathna, ensuring a smooth inauguration ceremony.

FASEXPLORE 2025 – විදු අරුණැල්ලෙන් නවමු ලොව දකින්නට: A Celebration of Science and Innovation

The Faculty of Applied Sciences at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka proudly hosted FASEXPLORE 2025, its first-ever educational exhibition, on 27th–29th June under the theme "විදු අරුණැල්ලෙන් නවමු ලොව දකින්නට". This groundbreaking event brought together the disciplines of Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Information Technology, and Health Promotion into one vibrant platform. Visitors experienced interactive experiments, demonstrations, and models designed to spark curiosity and highlight the real-world impact of science and technology. FASEXPLORE 2025 successfully fostered interdisciplinary learning, community engagement, and a renewed appreciation for scientific exploration, making it a milestone in the university's journey of innovation and outreach.

Appointments & Promotions

Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, extends its warmest congratulations to its faculty members on their recent academic, administrative, and coordinator appointments. These roles reflect their dedication to student development and the continuous progress of our institutional initiatives.



Dr. Naleen Jayaratna has been promoted to the position of Senior Lecturer (Grade I) in the Department of Chemical Sciences, effective from 15th November 2023.



Dr. K.A.S.H. Kulathilake has been promoted to the position of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Computing, effective from 1st June 2023.



Dr. Manoj Fernando has been reappointed as a member of the UGC Standing Committee on Gender Equity and Equality in 2025.



Mr. K.H.A. Hettige has been appointed as a Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Computing, effective from 5th May 2026.

GCE Advanced Level Accounting Teachers' Training Program

The Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully conducted the Advanced Level Accounting Teachers' Training Program on 7th October 2025. The resource person for the session was Prof. (Mrs.) J.S. Kumari, Head, Department of Accountancy and Finance. Mr. T.K.G. Sameera (Senior Lecturer), Mr. J.M.N. Wijekumara (Lecturer), and Mr. V.G.N. Sameera (Lecturer) from the same department also contributed to the program.

All Accounting teachers representing the North Central Province participated in this valuable training session. The program was coordinated by Prof. (Mrs.) J.S. Kumari, Head, Department of Accountancy and Finance, in collaboration with Mr. Asoka, Deputy Director (Commerce), North Central Province. This program marked an important step in strengthening school-university collaboration and enhancing the quality of Advanced Level Accounting education in the North Central Province. The Faculty of Management Studies, together with the Department of Accountancy and Finance, extends its sincere appreciation to all participating teachers and collaborators, and looks forward to continuing such initiatives to uplift accounting education in Sri Lanka.

University Quiz Competition organised by the University of Kelaniya in 2025

A team from the Department of Accountancy and Finance represented the Department at the Inter-University Quiz Competition organised by the University of Kelaniya in 2025, demonstrating strong academic knowledge, analytical skills, and teamwork. Their participation reflected the Department's commitment to academic excellence and intellectual engagement at the inter-university level.

Wisdom Warfare 2025 and 2026

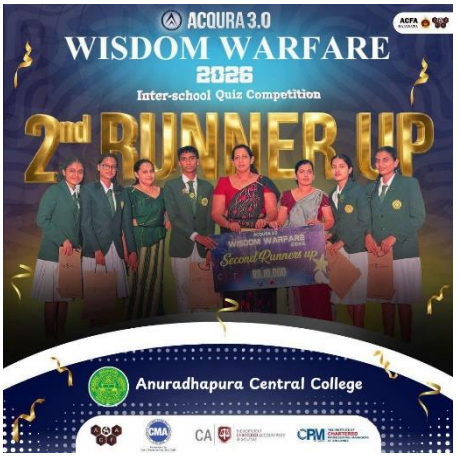


The Wisdom Warfare Inter-School Quiz Competition organised by the ACFA was an educational event designed to enhance students' knowledge and critical thinking skills. The competition brought together talented students from various schools in Anuradhapura District to engage in a friendly intellectual challenge covering a wide range of academic and general knowledge areas. The program aimed to promote learning, teamwork, and healthy competition while strengthening ACFA's role in encouraging academic excellence among school communities.















New Year Celebration 2025

The New Year Celebration of 2025, organised by the Department of Accountancy and Finance in collaboration with the Accountancy and Finance Association (ACFA), took place in April 2025 to commemorate the Sinhala and Tamil New Year. The event was marked by an exquisitely curated traditional food display, abundant with a variety of New Year sweetmeats and delicacies, each symbolising prosperity, harmony, and cultural richness. The thoughtfully arranged spread not only delighted the senses but also represented the spirit of unity and abundance that the New Year embodies. In addition to the gastronomic delights, the celebration included the performance of several time-honoured New Year rituals and customs. These traditional practices enhanced the event's cultural significance, fostering a warm and festive atmosphere that brought together participants in a shared expression of Sri Lanka's vibrant heritage. The occasion proved to be an invaluable opportunity for both students and staff to gather in unison, sharing in the joy and festivity of the season. The event fostered a deep sense of camaraderie, enabling everyone to engage with Sri Lanka's rich cultural practices and celebrate the nation's diverse traditions. Through this celebration, the Department and ACFA not only honoured the customs associated with the Sinhala and Tamil New Year but also reaffirmed the importance of preserving and promoting Sri Lanka's cultural legacy.

Aloka Poojawa





The ACFA hosted a profound and reverent Aloka Pooja Program at the revered Ruwanweliseya, one of Sri Lanka's most sacred Buddhist sites. This spiritual gathering was organised with the noble intention of invoking blessings for the success, well-being, and prosperity of both its members and the broader university community. The event was marked by a deep sense of devotion and respect, staying true to the cultural and spiritual heritage that forms the foundation of Sri Lanka's Buddhist traditions. Held at the majestic Ruwanweliseya, a site known for its historical and religious significance, the program brought together individuals in a shared moment of prayer and reflection. The ceremony was an embodiment of peace, mindfulness and unity, as participants sought divine guidance for their personal growth, academic success, and the flourishing of the association itself. The event was more than just a religious ritual; it was an expression of collective hope and goodwill for a future filled with harmony, understanding, and progress. Through this deeply meaningful occasion, the ACFA reaffirmed its commitment to fostering an environment of mutual respect and spiritual well-being, inspiring a sense of community and shared purpose among all who participated.

SAHASRA 2025 and 2026: Inter-Department Talent Competition

The Sahasra Inter-Department Talent Competition, organised by the ACFA, was a vibrant platform that showcased the diverse talents of students from different departments. The event aimed to encourage creativity, teamwork, and unity among undergraduates while providing an opportunity to display their artistic and performance skills. Through music, dance, drama, and other creative acts, Sahasra successfully brought together the university community, celebrating talent, enthusiasm, and the spirit of collaboration.













MATHAKA: The 5th Phase 2025



On 17th December 2025, the Accountancy & Finance Association (ACFA) of the Faculty of Management Studies at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully organised the 5th phase of *Mathaka*, a charitable initiative aimed at supporting underprivileged schoolchildren in the Anuradhapura District. This meaningful program focused on providing essential school supplies to students, enabling them to pursue their education with enhanced confidence and motivation. By distributing items such as books, stationery, and other vital resources, *Mathaka* addressed the educational needs of those who may otherwise have struggled to access such materials.

This initiative not only demonstrated ACFA's deep commitment to community engagement but also its determination to bridge educational disparities within the region. The collaborative efforts of ACFA members, along with the invaluable guidance from academic mentors and the support of generous donors, played a key role in ensuring the program's success. The resources were distributed in a fair, transparent, and highly organised manner, allowing the students to benefit in an equitable way. With the help of this well-coordinated effort, the children received not only the tools they needed for their education but also the encouragement to continue their academic journey with renewed enthusiasm and hope for the future.





Poson Series: උත්තමාකී මිහිඳුසර 2025

Donation Program: The Accountancy and Finance Association (ACFA) organised a Donation Program for the Mihindu Sewana – Psycho Social Rehabilitation Centre in Mihintale. The main objective of this program was to extend compassion and support to the residents of the centre by providing essential items and donations. Through the active participation of ACFA members, the event successfully promoted social responsibility, empathy, and community engagement. This meaningful initiative reflected ACFA's continuous commitment to serving society and uplifting the lives of those in need.







Dansala Program



The Poson *Dansala* Program, organised by the Accountancy and Finance (ACFA) department, was a heartfelt celebration of the spirit of giving during the Poson season. This year's *Dansala* aimed to offer refreshing treats to devotees and visitors, fostering a sense of kindness and joy throughout the community. The event was a grand success, with active participation from ACFA members, who worked together harmoniously to spread generosity. The ACFA members' efforts beautifully captured the essence of Poson, showcasing the profound values of unity, compassion, and selfless service. Their initiative went beyond mere celebration, deeply embodying the true spirit of Poson by fostering community service and promoting collective well-being. Through their generosity, they left an enduring impression on everyone involved, spreading warmth and goodwill, and reminding all who participated of the importance of togetherness and helping others in times of need.

Research Excellence

Prof. (Mrs.) J.S. Kumari and Mrs K.G.P. Senani of the Department of Accountancy & Finance, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, earned international recognition by winning the Silver Award in the Auditing Category at the ICAI International Research Awards 2025, India. Their paper titled "Examining Determinants of Auditors' Intention to Use CAATs in External Auditing using an Extended UTAUT Model: Evidence from Sri Lanka" was ranked second among 314 global submissions, highlighting research excellence and inspiring future scholarly contributions.

RUSL Research Excellence Awards 2025

The Department of Accountancy and Finance proudly celebrates its outstanding success at the RUSL Research Excellence Awards – 2025. Through the collective commitment and collaboration of our dedicated academic staff, the department secured multiple prestigious awards, reaffirming its front-running position within the Faculty of Management Studies. These remarkable accomplishments reflect our strong research culture, academic excellence, and unwavering pursuit of scholarly distinction.

The best young researcher of the Faculty of Management Studies
Ms. K.G.P. Senani

Vice Chancellor Awards presented to the top ten researchers from the Faculty of Management Studies.
2nd Place - Ms. T.D.S.H. Dissanayake
3rd Place - Prof (Mrs.) J.S. Kumari

Vice Chancellor Awards presented to the top ten researchers from the Faculty of Management Studies based on the highest h-index publications.
1st Place - Prof (Mrs.) J.S. Kumari
3rd Place – Ms. H.H. Dedunu

Vice Chancellor Awards presented to the top ten researchers from the Faculty of Management Studies by the highest number of citations.
1st Place - Prof (Mrs.) J.S. Kumari
4th Place - Ms. T.D.S.H. Dissanayake







Academic Achievements by The Students



Ms. A.J.D.A.H. Dilrukshi from the 2019 Batch achieved a perfect GPA of 4.00 and was awarded multiple gold medals for her outstanding academic excellence, including;

- BOC Gold Medal and Gold Coin for Overall Best Performance in the Faculty of Management Studies,
- Prof. Geoffrey C. Lloyd Gold Medal for Best Academic Performance in the Faculty of Management Studies,
- CA Sri Lanka Gold Medal for Best Overall Performance in the Department of Accountancy and Finance,
- Mr. E.N.A. Weirasinghe Gold Medal for Best Performance in Bachelor of Science Honours in Accountancy and Finance Degree,
- MBA Alumna Gold Medal for Best Student in Financial Accounting Subjects in Bachelor of Science Honours in Accountancy and Finance Degree,
- Department Gold Medal for the Best Performance in Auditing and Taxation Courses in the Bachelor of Science Honours in Accountancy and Finance Degree.



Ms. M.A.P. Apsana, from the 2019 batch, received a Gold Medal and a Cash Award offered by the SEC for her outstanding performance in Investment and Portfolio Management and Financial Management.

- Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka Gold Medal for Best Student in Investment and Portfolio Management
- Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka Cash Award for Best Student in Financial Management



Mr. D.M.H.D. Dissanayake, from the 2020 Batch, was awarded three gold Medals for his outstanding academic excellence.

- CA Sri Lanka Gold Medal for Best overall performance in the Department of Accountancy and Finance
- Mr. E.N.A. Weirasinghe Gold Medal for Best Performance in Bachelor of Science Honours in Accountancy and Finance Degree
- Department Gold Medal for the Best Performance in Auditing and Taxation Courses in Bachelor of Science Honours in Accountancy and Finance Degree



Ms. W.M.R.C.K. Welivita, from the 2020 batch, was awarded a Gold Medal and a Cash Award presented by the SEC for her outstanding performance in Investment and Portfolio Management and Financial Management.

- Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka Gold Medal for Best Student in Investment and Portfolio Management
- Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka Cash Award for Best Student in Financial Management.



Ms. A.U.K. Fernando, from the 2020 batch, was awarded a Gold Medal for her outstanding performance in the Financial Accounting Subject

▪ MBA Alumnae Gold Medal for Best Student in Financial Accounting Subjects in Bachelor of Science Honours in Accountancy and Finance Degree.





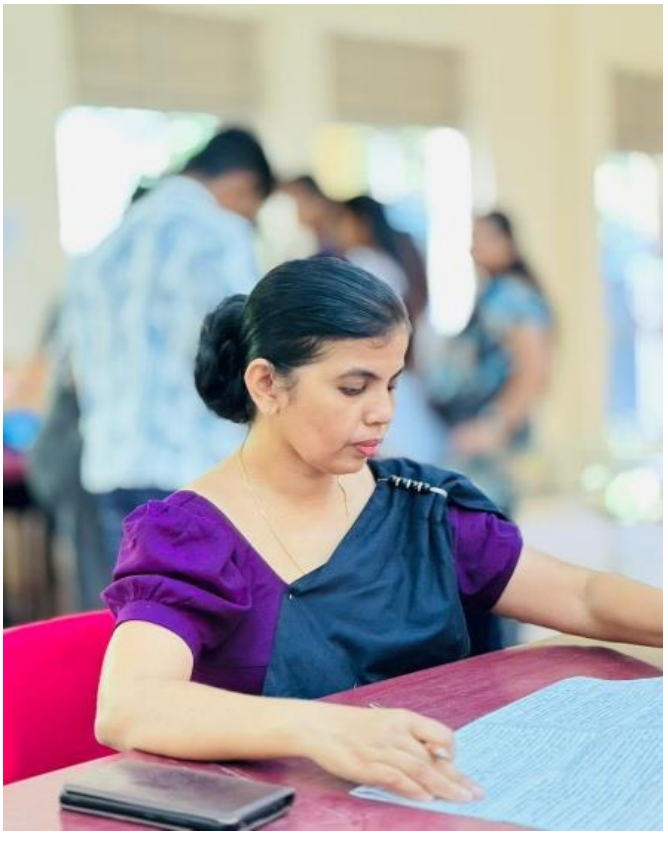
Research Clinic

A concept initiated by the Head of the Department, Prof. (Mrs.) J.S. Kumari, led the Department of Accountancy and Finance to organise a series of research support sessions for third-year undergraduates. Conducted with the active participation of the department's academic staff, these sessions were designed to provide practical guidance in developing students' research proposals and preparing them for their future research endeavours. All academic staff members contributed to this initiative, which was highly successful and well received by the participating students.











MBA – Intake XXIV Inauguration Ceremony



The Faculty of Management officially welcomed the MBA – Intake XXIV on 20th July 2025 at the faculty auditorium. The event marked the beginning of a promising academic journey for a new group of aspiring business professionals. The ceremony brought together faculty members, industry experts, alumni, and new students to celebrate this important milestone. Inspirational messages were shared by senior academics and guest speakers followed by the wishes of the Faculty of Management for the new intake every success as they embark on this exciting journey toward becoming future business leaders.

Bachelor of Business Administration (External) General Degree -Intake 11



The Faculty of Management Studies of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka proudly commenced the Bachelor of Business Administration (External) General Degree-Intake 11. This inaugural event was held on 7th March 2025 at the Faculty Auditorium, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. This significant milestone symbolises the beginning of a rewarding academic journey, paving the way for knowledge, discovery, and future achievements.

Sport Achievements at Faculty of Management Studies

Ms. H.M.A.S. Herath from the 2022 batch (ACFA Sports Coordinator) brought great honour to the University by winning the Gold Medal in Karate (Kumite – Women Under 55kg) at the 15th Sri Lanka University Games (SLUG) 2025. Her remarkable achievement is a testament to her dedication, discipline, and resilience, as she continues to balance her academic responsibilities with excellence in sports.

Mr. D.M.C.L. Dissanayake (Registration No: MGT/2023/184) of the 2022/2023 batch actively participated in Kabaddi, Elle, and Baseball and successfully represented his university in all these sports at the Sri Lanka University Games (SLUG) 2025. He served as the Captain of the Men's Kabaddi Team, demonstrating strong leadership and commitment.

Mr. D.S.E. Silva (Registration No: MGT/2022/204) of the 2021/2022 batch actively participated in Taekwondo and served as the Team Captain (Taekwondo) at the Sri Lanka University Games (SLUG) 2025, demonstrating strong leadership, discipline, and commitment to the sport.

Ms. S.N. Jayathungama (Registration No: MGT/2022/117) of the 2021/2022 batch actively participated in Women's Carrom and served as the Vice-Captain at the Sri Lanka University Games (SLUG) 2025, demonstrating strong leadership, dedication, and commitment to the sport.

S/N	Name	Registration Number	Batch	Sport
1	Mr. M.H.T. Dilshan	MGT/2023/066	2022/2023 batch	Weightlifting men
2	Mr. D.M.C.L. Dissanayake	MGT/2023/184	2022/2023 batch	Kabaddi, Elle, Baseball
3	Mr. S.H.V. Pethum	MGT/2022/158	2021/2022 batch	Volleyball, Basketball
4	Mr. D.S.E. Silwa	MGT/2022/204	2021/2022 batch	Taekwondo
5	Mr. B.S. Hirushan	MGT/2023/147	2022/2023 batch	Elle
6	Ms. W.A.D.S. Weerasingha	MGT/2022/198	2021/2022 batch	Elle women
7	Ms. H.M.A.S. Herath	MGT/2022/196	2021/2022 batch	Women Kumite below 55kg
8	Ms. J.M.I. Erangi	MGT/2022/398	2021/2022 batch	Swimming
9	Mr. S.P.M.C. Pathirana	MGT/2023/123	2022/2023 batch	Elle
10	Ms. P.B.M.K.H. Ranasinghe	MGT/2022/255	2021/2022 batch	Elle
11	Ms. K. Shajeevan	MGT/2024/368	2023/2024 batch	Basketball
12	Mr. K.G.H.E. Wijethunga	MGT/2023/208	2022/2023 batch	Volleyball/ Beach Volleyball
13	Ms. S.N. Jayathungama	MGT/2022/117	2021/2022 batch	Carrom Women
14	Mr. U.O.D. Kumarasiri	MGT/2022/354	2021/2022 batch	Rugby
15	Mr. R.W.N. Kumarathunga	MGT/2022/023	2021/2022 batch	Rugby
16	Mr. J.A.S.V. Weerasooriya	MGT/2022/173	2021/2022 batch	Basketball

A team from the Department of Accountancy and Finance represented the Department at the Inter-Department Elle Championship organised by the Department of Information Systems and secured the Runners-up position, demonstrating outstanding teamwork, dedication, and sportsmanship. Their

achievement reflects the Department's commitment to excellence in both academic and extracurricular activities.

A team from the Department of Accountancy and Finance represented the Department at the Inter-Department Volleyball Championship organised by the Department of Marketing Management and emerged as the Champions, showcasing exceptional teamwork, skill, and determination. Their victory reflects the Department's commitment to sporting excellence and active participation in university competitions.

SOLOROW English Club

The Department of Accountancy and Finance took a significant step towards enhancing its students' English language proficiency by launching the "SOLOROW English Club" on 26th March 2025. This initiative was designed to improve students' communication skills, boost their confidence, and equip them with the language proficiency necessary for success in both academic and professional spheres. The club, named "SOLOROW," serves as a platform for students to engage in activities that foster their linguistic abilities, facilitating their growth as effective communicators in English.



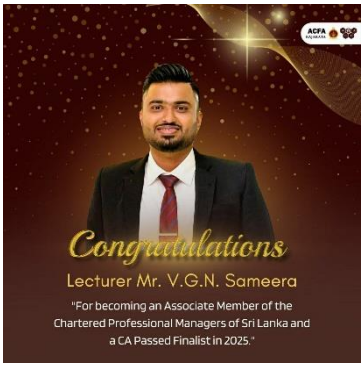




Under the leadership of Prof. (Mrs.) J.S. Kumari, the Head of the Department, the launch event saw significant enthusiasm and participation from both faculty and students. The event was highlighted by a generous contribution from the Rokidmo International Foundation, which donated a comprehensive set of English books to every student within the Department. This valuable donation was made possible by the unwavering support of Mr. Asanka Kuruppu, the Director of Rokidmo International Foundation, and Ms. Nishandhanee Samarakoon, the Director of Rokidmo.

Their thoughtful donation greatly enriched the Department's academic resources and provided students with essential materials for enhancing their English language skills. The support from the Rokidmo International Foundation not only underscored their commitment to education but also added an extra layer of meaning to the inauguration ceremony. The Department expressed its deep appreciation for this thoughtful gesture, which marked the beginning of a new chapter in fostering excellence in English language learning.

Professional Qualification Achievements



Mr. V.G.N. Sameera has become an Associate Chartered Accountant of CA Sri Lanka, thereby adding significant value to the Department of Accountancy & Finance at the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. He serves as LMS Manager, Research Coordinator, Coordinator - ACF Mentoring Programme, and Secretary of IRSM, in addition to being a member of the Curriculum Committee. These professional achievements and responsibilities demonstrate his strong commitment to the academic, administrative, and student development activities of the department.



Mr. D.M.H.D. Dissanayake obtained Associate Membership of the Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka (CMA Sri Lanka) during the year, marking a significant milestone in his professional journey. A distinguished alumnus of the Department, he holds the remarkable distinction of being the youngest graduate in the Department's history to attain this prestigious professional qualification. Currently serving as an Assistant Lecturer, he makes substantial contributions to both the Department and the Faculty through the effective execution of numerous academic, administrative, and student-development responsibilities.

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Annual Magazine: HR Glimmer 2025



"Empowering HR for Tomorrow" highlighted HR Glimmer 2025 - Volume 03 was presenting expert insights and research-based discussions on key HR trends such as AI in HR, the gig economy, sustainable HRM, human capital management, talent retention, hybrid organisations, employee well-being, high-performance work systems, and emerging HR practices, with Volume 03 launched on 04th April 2025. This magazine is an annual magazine launched by the department of HRM with the leadership of Dr. W.W.A.N. Sujeewa, Editor in Chief and Ms. H.M.R.D. Kularathne, Managing Editor. Glimmer 2025 magazine was designed by Ms. Tharushi Dilhara and Ms. A.M.S.N. Jayawardena, final year undergraduates of the department. The special feature is more than 50% of the articles were received from the outside academic staff members and HR Professionals.

Annual Magazine: HR Glimmer 2026



"HR 4.0: Transforming HR for the Future" highlighted HR Glimmer 2026 - Volume 04 was launched on 4th April 2026, presenting 20+ articles on three sections: Corporate HR Insights, Voices for Tomorrow, and Alumni Insights. This magazine is an annual magazine launched by the department of HRM with the leadership of Mrs. H.M.R.D. Kularathne, Editor in Chief and Ms. K.D.S. Kumarasiri, Managing Editor. Glimmer 2026 magazine was designed by Ms. Sachini Karunarathna, second-year undergraduate of the department. The special feature is more than 50% of th articles were received from the outside academic staff members and HR Professionals.

VOLATEELIA 2025: The Energised Night





VOLATEELIA 2025, successfully wrapped up on 30th May 2025, from a spark in 2022 to a blazing legacy in 2025, Volateelia showcased over 25 breathtaking performances, featuring dance, music, drama, character acts, and unique creative expressions. A historic milestone was achieved with the first-ever fashion show in RUSL history, "Nature's Mythos", alongside ARTLET 2025, an art and painting session held in celebration of National Creativity Day. Entirely created, led, and performed by our students and staff, Volateelia 2025 was a true celebration of creativity, unity, and passion. As part of its promotion, Siyatha TV aired a special preview on 27th May 2025 from 9.00 a.m. to 9.20 a.m., where Mrs. K.A.K.S. Rathnakara, Head of the Department of Human Resource Management, and Ms. Jennifer, Secretary of the Students' Association, shared insights and highlights of the upcoming event.

A Rewarding Day of Learning and Professional Engagement!



As part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Department of Human Resource Management and CIPM Sri Lanka, our undergraduates had the valuable opportunity to participate in a workshop series organised by CIPM. This one-day session was coordinated by the Head of the Department, Mrs. K.A.K.S. Rathnakara and the sessions provided practical insights, industry exposure, and professional knowledge that bridge the gap between academic learning and workplace realities.

SHE Shines' 2026



SHE SHINES 2026 was six-session women-focused initiative organised by the Department of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Conducted from 8th-13th March 2026, the programme focused on women's creativity, health and well-being, personal and career empowerment, and workplace rights.

The programme included creative activities, academic knowledge-sharing, cancer awareness, an empowerment session, a medical camp, and a session on ILO Convention No. 190 on violence and harassment at work.

A Day for Adventures



As part of the Outdoor Based Training (OBT) program, the third-year students of the Department of Human Resource Management embarked on an exciting adventure to Diamond Hill and Marble Beach, Trincomalee. The program provided an excellent opportunity for students to step beyond the classroom, strengthen teamwork, enhance leadership skills, and build lasting memories through outdoor experiences. From the breathtaking views of Diamond Hill to the serene beauty of Marble Beach, the day was filled with adventure, learning, and camaraderie. This OBT was coordinated by Mrs. H.M.R.D. Kularathne and Ms. A. Gamage.

Mastering Stress: An Interactive Session on Emotional Health





A special program on Stress Management and Well-being was organised by the 2022/23 batch as part of the Human Resource Development course. The session was conducted by Mr. Anura Ranjith Kumara, Professional Counsellor and it gave valuable insights into managing stress, maintaining emotional balance, and enhancing personal well-being through an engaging and interactive discussion.

HRM Students Gain Real-World Exposure Through Hands-on HRIS Training Session



We extend our sincere gratitude to Mr. Mahinda Pathirana, Chief Manager Customer Success - PeoplesHR, for conducting an insightful and engaging full-day HRIS Practical Workshop on 13th June 2026 for the HRM undergraduates of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and the University of Vavuniya. The workshop provided our students with valuable hands-on exposure to contemporary Human Resource Information Systems, bridging the gap between academic learning and industry practice. Your expertise, dedication, and willingness to share real-world knowledge have undoubtedly enriched the learning experience of our future HR professionals.

A Small Act of Kindness Can Make a Big Difference in Someone's Life



The Second Year Undergraduates of the Department of Human Resource Management successfully completed their CSR Project at Mihidu Sewana. As part of this initiative, a security door was installed for the Cooking Therapy Area, contributing to a safer and more supportive environment for its residents. The project concluded with a heartwarming tea gathering with the residents, creating memorable moments of connection, compassion, and community spirit.

Ambient Light 2025: Timeless Culture Meets Modern Light



The Department of Marketing Management, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, proudly presented Ambient Light 2025 under the theme "Timeless Culture Meets Modern Light." The event brought together students, academic staff, alumni, and well-wishers for a memorable evening that celebrated the beauty of Sri Lankan culture through a modern artistic lens. The programme featured a vibrant collection of performances that blended traditional dance, music, costumes, and cultural elements with contemporary creativity. Stunning stage designs and captivating lighting effects transformed the venue into a space where heritage and innovation came together, creating an unforgettable experience for everyone in attendance. Ambient Light 2025 was organised by the students of Rajarata Marketers, whose dedication, teamwork, and leadership played a vital role in the success of the event. Their efforts reflected the energy, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit that define the undergraduates of the Department of Marketing Management. More than a cultural showcase, the event strengthened the bonds within the university community by bringing together students, faculty members, sponsors, and guests in a shared celebration of art and tradition. Ambient Light 2025 stood as a proud reminder that cultural heritage remains timeless, and when combined with fresh ideas and youthful creativity, it continues to inspire future generations.







IDEATION 2025: Inspiring Voices, Innovative Minds





The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully hosted IDEATION 2025, its annual public speaking competition, on 28th October at the New Faculty Auditorium. The

event brought together talented undergraduates who demonstrated confidence, creativity, and the ability to inspire through the power of words. The competition provided students with a valuable opportunity to express their ideas, challenge perspectives, and strengthen their communication skills. Each speech reflected passion, originality, and critical thinking, creating an engaging experience for both the audience and the judges.

Ms. Fatheena Rafi emerged as the Champion of IDEATION 2025 with an outstanding performance that combined confidence, eloquence, and meaningful insights. Ms. Sanduni Umesha secured the First Runner-Up position, while Ms. Hansini Wijesuriya was named the Second Runner-Up for her impressive delivery and creative expression. The title of Most Popular Speaker was awarded to Ms. Arunodi Weerakkody in recognition of her remarkable connection with the audience.

IDEATION 2025 once again highlighted the department's commitment to nurturing well-rounded graduates who think critically, communicate effectively, and lead with confidence. The event served as a celebration of young voices and a reminder that great ideas become powerful when shared with passion and purpose.





SmartBiz 2025: Empowering Entrepreneurs for the Digital Future



The Department of Marketing Management, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised SmartBiz 2025, a digital marketing workshop aimed at empowering entrepreneurs in Mihintale and nearby communities. The programme was held on 19th November 2025 at the Mihintale Divisional Secretariat and attracted enthusiastic participation from local business owners, aspiring entrepreneurs, and innovators.

Organised under the theme "Work Smart. Grow Fast.", the workshop focused on helping participants understand the growing importance of digital marketing in today's business environment. The sessions provided practical knowledge on social media marketing, digital tools, online customer engagement, and effective communication strategies that support business growth and competitiveness.

The programme was facilitated by experienced academics and marketing professionals who shared current industry insights and hands-on approaches to navigating the digital marketplace. Participants actively engaged in discussions, exchanged ideas, and explored new opportunities for strengthening their businesses through digital transformation.

SmartBiz 2025 also served as a platform for networking and collaboration, fostering meaningful connections among members of the local entrepreneurial community. Through initiatives like this, the Department of Marketing Management continues to strengthen its commitment to community engagement and economic development by equipping entrepreneurs with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in an increasingly digital world.






Annual General Meeting 2025: Welcoming New Leadership and Celebrating Achievements

The Annual General Meeting 2025 of the SyD-MA Students' Association, Department of Marketing Management, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was successfully held on 29th December 2025 at the New Faculty Auditorium. The event brought together academic staff, students, and invitees to reflect on the department's achievements and outline its vision for the year ahead. A major highlight of the event was the election of the new office bearers for the upcoming term. Mr. Kavindu Madushan was elected as President, Ms. Hansini Wijesuriya as Secretary, Mr. Manusha Madumal as Vice President, Ms. Maheshika Dissanayaka as Vice Secretary, and Ms. Shehani Hewa Witharana as Treasurer. The newly elected team was warmly welcomed and encouraged to continue fostering a vibrant and dynamic student community.



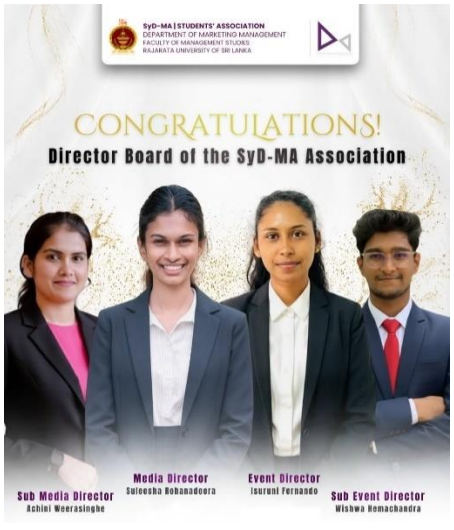


The occasion also recognised the dedication and contributions of the outgoing office bearers, media unit members, and batch coordinators through the presentation of appreciation letters. Their commitment and service played an important role in the success of departmental activities throughout the year.

Another memorable moment was the official launch of trendFluence, the department's student magazine, which showcased creativity, innovation, and academic engagement. The AGM 2025 marked both a celebration of past accomplishments and the beginning of a promising new chapter for the Department of Marketing Management.

trendFluence: A New Platform for Marketing Knowledge and Innovation

The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, proudly launched the inaugural volume of trendFluence, marking an important milestone in the department's academic journey. The publication reflects the department's commitment to promoting knowledge sharing, academic excellence, and stronger connections with the marketing industry.







As a platform for intellectual exchange, trendFluence brings together research-based articles, industry insights, and discussions on emerging trends that are shaping the modern marketing landscape. The magazine explores topics such as digital transformation, consumer behaviour, branding strategies, and innovative marketing practices, offering valuable perspectives for students, academics, and practitioners alike.

The first volume, published in 2025, also provides opportunities for young researchers and students to showcase their ideas and engage with real-world marketing issues. The inclusion of an ISSN further strengthens the publication's academic standing and highlights the department's dedication to producing quality scholarly work.

The Department of Marketing Management extends its sincere appreciation to the editorial team, contributors, and supporters whose efforts made this achievement possible. More than a magazine, trendFluence represents a shared vision of nurturing future-ready marketers and contributing meaningfully to the advancement of marketing knowledge in Sri Lanka.

MoU Signed Between SLIM and the Department of Marketing Management



The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, marked a significant milestone by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing (SLIM). The signing ceremony was held at the University Main Auditorium, reflecting a shared commitment to strengthening industry-academia collaboration and creating greater opportunities for students.

This partnership aims to enhance the professional development of undergraduate students by providing access to industry knowledge, networking opportunities, and professional recognition. A key provision of the agreement is the introduction of a concessionary fee structure for students of the Department of Marketing Management to pursue SLIM professional programmes, thereby facilitating access to industry-relevant qualifications at a reduced cost.





The collaboration also includes the establishment of a gold medal to recognise outstanding academic excellence among undergraduates, further encouraging students to strive for higher achievements and professional growth.

The MoU represents an important step in bridging academic learning with industry practice and reflects the department's commitment to producing future-ready marketing professionals. Through partnerships of this nature, the Department of Marketing Management continues to strengthen its contribution to marketing education and professional development in Sri Lanka.

Outbound Training Programme 2025: Building Leadership Beyond the Classroom



The 2023 batch of the Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully participated in an Outbound Training (OBT) Programme held at Dehippawa Holiday Resort. The programme provided students with a valuable opportunity to develop essential personal and professional skills in an engaging and collaborative environment.

The training activities were designed to strengthen leadership, teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and decision-making abilities. Through a series of interactive challenges and group exercises, students learned the importance of trust, cooperation, and adaptability while working towards common goals. Beyond skill development, the programme created a platform for students to build stronger relationships with their peers and foster a sense of unity within the batch. The experience encouraged participants to step out of their comfort zones, embrace new challenges, and develop the confidence needed for their future academic and professional journeys. The Outbound Training Programme reflects the department's commitment to producing well-rounded graduates who possess not only academic excellence but also the interpersonal and leadership qualities required in today's dynamic business

environment. The memories, friendships, and lessons gained through this experience will undoubtedly remain an important part of the students' university life.







FALOOZA 2.0: Celebrating Digital Creativity and Modern Marketing

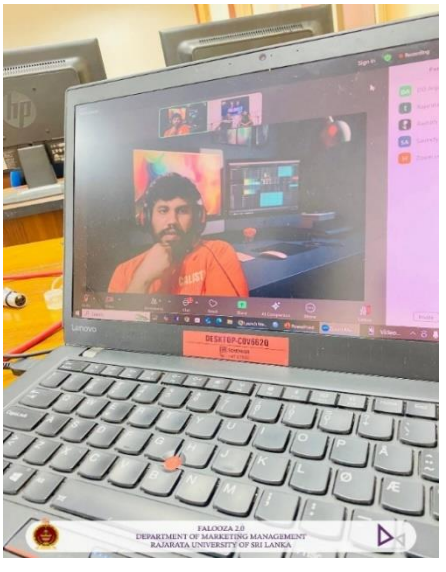


The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully concluded FALOOZA 2.0, continuing a unique initiative that celebrates digital innovation, creativity, and emerging trends in modern marketing. Organised by the department's undergraduates, the event has quickly become a flagship platform that connects students with the dynamic world of digital content creation. Building on the success of its inaugural edition in 2024, FALOOZA 2.0 was conducted as a virtual event, enabling participants from across the country to engage in meaningful discussions and learning experiences without geographical limitations. The programme featured interactive sessions with leading Sri Lankan digital content creators, including Mr. Rashitha Yapa, Ms. Thanuja Jayawardhane, Mr. Shanaka Weerarathna, Mr. Dinuka Nuwan, and Ms. Sumudu Wickramaarachchi.

The speakers shared valuable insights into content creation, audience engagement, personal branding, and the realities of building successful digital careers. Their experiences provided students with practical knowledge that complemented their academic studies and offered inspiration for future professional opportunities. FALOOZA 2.0 highlighted the department's commitment to industry relevance and innovation while strengthening connections between academia and the rapidly evolving digital marketing







landscape. The event continues to empower future marketers to think creatively, embrace new technologies, and confidently navigate the opportunities of the digital age.

Brand Fusion 2025: Bringing Marketing Ideas to Life



The third-year students of the Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised Brand Fusion 2025 on 17th June 2026, creating an inspiring platform to showcase innovation, creativity, and practical marketing skills.

The event featured a range of new product concepts developed entirely by student teams. From idea generation and product design to branding, pricing, target market analysis, and promotional strategies, students applied their classroom knowledge to real-world marketing challenges. The exhibition highlighted their ability to build and position brands while responding to consumer needs and market trends.

Brand Fusion 2025 provided an engaging environment that encouraged both healthy competition and collaboration. Through this hands-on experience, students strengthened their skills in brand development, consumer insight analysis, digital promotion, and strategic communication, gaining valuable exposure to the practical aspects of marketing management.





The event was attended by the Dean, Heads of Departments, academic staff, and students, whose presence and encouragement added great value to the occasion. The programme reflected the department's commitment to nurturing innovative, industry-ready graduates with strong entrepreneurial and leadership capabilities. Brand Fusion 2025 concluded on a high note, leaving participants inspired and better prepared to meet the opportunities and challenges of the modern marketing landscape.

Field Visit to Nature Secret: Learning Consumer Behaviour in Practice



The 2024 Batch of the Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, participated in an educational field visit to Nature Secret on 2nd January 2026 as part of the Consumer Behaviour course. The visit provided students with a valuable opportunity to connect classroom learning with real-world business practices.

The students and academic staff received a warm welcome from the Nature Secret team, who introduced the company's operations and shared insights into maintaining quality, customer trust, and excellence in the cosmetics industry. Participants observed the production process first-hand and gained a deeper understanding of raw material selection, manufacturing procedures, quality control measures, and industry safety standards.

The experience offered practical insights into important consumer behaviour concepts, including quality perception, brand trust, customer satisfaction, and ethical business practices. Students learned how maintaining high production standards and transparency in operations contribute to stronger consumer relationships and positive brand perceptions.

The visit also reflected Nature Secret's strong organisational culture through its hospitality and thoughtful engagement with students and lecturers. Overall, the programme was both informative and memorable, enriching students' academic knowledge while providing meaningful exposure to the practical aspects of consumer-focused business operations.





ADGEN Advertising Forum: Exploring the Future of Modern Advertising

The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully hosted the ADGEN Advertising Forum on 6th January 2026 at the New Faculty Auditorium. The event brought together students and academics for an engaging session focused on contemporary advertising and marketing practices.

Inspired by the concepts and insights presented in the book Essentials of Modern Marketing (EOMM), the forum provided participants with a deeper understanding of the rapidly evolving advertising landscape.



The discussions combined theoretical foundations with practical applications, helping students appreciate how modern marketing concepts operate in real business environments.

The ADGEN Advertising Forum encouraged creative thinking, strategic analysis, and innovation among undergraduates, while creating opportunities to explore current trends in advertising, branding, and consumer communication. Through interactive discussions and knowledge sharing, participants gained valuable perspectives that will support their future careers as marketing professionals.







The event reflected the department's ongoing commitment to academic excellence and industry relevance by creating platforms that connect classroom learning with professional practice. ADGEN 2026 successfully inspired the next generation of marketers to think creatively, communicate effectively, and adapt to the changing demands of the modern advertising industry.

A Proud Moment for the Department of Marketing Management



The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, proudly congratulates Dr. N.H.K. Cooray on her appointment as the Head of the Department. This significant achievement marks an important milestone for both Dr. Cooray and the entire university community.

Dr. Cooray is widely respected for her dedication to academic excellence, student development, and professional integrity. Throughout her career, she has made valuable contributions as an educator, mentor, and leader, inspiring students and colleagues through her commitment to teaching, research, and innovation. Her appointment reflects her outstanding service, academic strength, and vision for the future of marketing education. As she assumes this new responsibility, the department looks forward to continued growth, stronger industry engagement, and further academic achievements under her leadership.







The Department of Marketing Management expresses its sincere appreciation for Dr. Cooray's contributions and wishes her every success in this important role. Her leadership will undoubtedly guide the department towards new opportunities and accomplishments while continuing to inspire future generations of marketers. The entire department proudly celebrates this well-deserved achievement and looks ahead with confidence to a bright and successful future under her stewardship.

NOCTURNA 2026: A Magical Welcome to a New Generation



The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully hosted NOCTURNA 2026 on 10th March 2026 at the Faculty Auditorium. Organised by the 23/24 batch, the event warmly welcomed the new 24/25 batch under the enchanting theme, "An Enchanted Evening Awaits..."

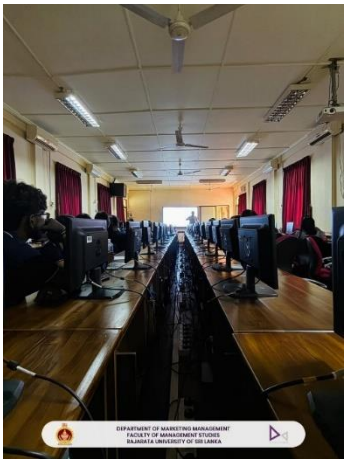
The auditorium came alive with creative Halloween-inspired decorations, featuring pumpkins, bats, and artistic displays that created a unique and memorable atmosphere. The vibrant setting added excitement to the occasion and reflected the creativity and enthusiasm of the organising team. More than a welcome ceremony, NOCTURNA 2026 celebrated friendship, unity, and the beginning of a new academic journey. The event provided opportunities for students to interact, build connections, and create lasting memories through engaging activities and shared experiences. The senior batch demonstrated remarkable teamwork and dedication in ensuring that the newcomers felt valued and embraced as members of the department family.



NOCTURNA 2026 highlighted the strong culture of inclusivity and student engagement within the Department of Marketing Management. As the 24/25 batch begins this new chapter, the event stands as a reminder that university life is enriched by meaningful relationships, shared experiences, and a supportive community that grows together.

Marketing Engineering & Analytics Session: Empowering Future Data-Driven Marketers

The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised an academic session on "Marketing Engineering & Analytics" on 5th March 2026 at IT Lab A. The programme aimed to enhance students' understanding of the growing role of data, technology, and analytical thinking in modern marketing practices.



The session was conducted by Dr. Hamid Hassan, Professor of Management at the FAST School of Management, National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences. Drawing on his expertise and industry insights, he highlighted how data-driven decision-making and analytical models are transforming the marketing profession and creating new opportunities for businesses.

Students gained valuable knowledge on the application of marketing analytics in solving real-world challenges, developing effective strategies, and responding to changing consumer behaviour. The interactive discussions encouraged participants to think critically about the role of innovation and technology in shaping the future of marketing.

The event provided an excellent platform for students to connect theoretical concepts with practical applications and strengthened their understanding of marketing engineering as an essential component of contemporary business practice. The Department of Marketing Management remains committed to organising such initiatives to equip undergraduates with the knowledge and skills needed to excel in an increasingly data-driven and competitive marketplace.

Media Mania: Inspiring Creativity and Media Skills

The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised Media Mania on 9th April 2026. The session provided students with a valuable opportunity to learn from industry professionals and gain insights into the evolving world of media and creative communication.



The programme featured an accomplished panel of speakers, including Mr. Duleeka Sathsara, Graphic Designer, Ms. Ravindya Wijerathne, TV and Radio Presenter, Mr. Suresh Dissanayake, Media Enthusiast, and Mr. Jeewaka Lakmal, Photographer. Drawing from their professional experiences, the speakers shared practical knowledge, career insights, and personal journeys that inspired students to explore opportunities within the media industry. The discussion highlighted several important topics, including graphic design, broadcasting, photography, personal branding, digital presence, and emerging media trends. Students gained a deeper understanding of the skills, creativity, and adaptability required to succeed in today's fast-changing media environment.

The interactive nature of the session encouraged active participation and meaningful discussions, creating an engaging learning experience for all attendees. Media Mania successfully bridged the gap between academic learning and industry practice while motivating students to develop their creative talents and professional capabilities. The event reflected the Department of Marketing Management's commitment to providing students with exposure to diverse career paths and industry-relevant knowledge beyond the classroom.

Service Marketing Session: Connecting Theory with Practice



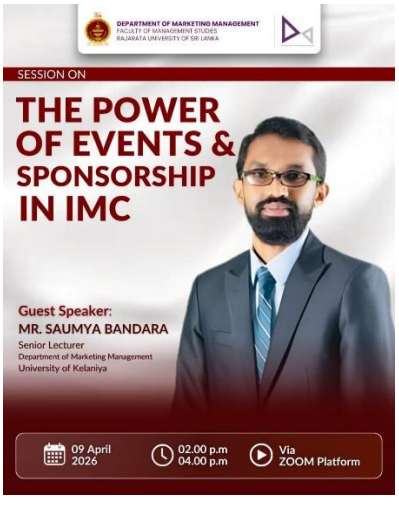
The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised an insightful online session on Service Marketing on 8th April 2026. The programme featured Mr. Nisal Gunawardane, Senior Lecturer at the University of Kelaniya, who shared his expertise and practical experiences with undergraduate students.

The session focused on key concepts in service marketing, including service quality, customer satisfaction, value creation, and customer relationship management. Through real-world examples and engaging discussions, Mr. Gunawardane highlighted the importance of delivering exceptional service experiences in today's highly competitive business environment.

Students gained a deeper understanding of the unique characteristics of services, such as intangibility, inseparability, variability, and perishability, and explored the strategies organisations use to manage customer expectations and improve service performance. The session also emphasised the role of customer feedback, employee training, and service design in building long-term customer loyalty.

The interactive format encouraged active student participation and created a meaningful learning experience that connected theoretical concepts with practical applications. The Department of Marketing Management continues to organise such academic initiatives to equip students with industry-relevant knowledge and prepare them to become customer-focused marketing professionals in an increasingly service-driven economy.

The Power of Events & Sponsorships in IMC: An Insightful Learning Experience



The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised an online academic session on "The Power of Events & Sponsorships in Integrated Marketing Communications (IMC)" on 9th April 2026. The session featured Mr. Saumya Bandara, Senior Lecturer at the University of Kelaniya, as the guest speaker.

The programme provided students with valuable insights into the growing importance of events and sponsorships as strategic tools in modern marketing communications. Mr. Bandara explained how brands use events to create memorable customer experiences, strengthen emotional connections, and build positive brand perceptions in an increasingly competitive marketplace.

The discussion also focused on the role of sponsorships in enhancing brand visibility and credibility. Students learned how organisations align sponsorship activities with their target audiences and broader marketing objectives to achieve long-term brand recognition and customer engagement.

Real-world examples from both local and international markets helped participants connect theoretical concepts with practical applications. The interactive session encouraged students to share their ideas and explore how events, sponsorships, digital marketing, and public relations work together to deliver an integrated brand message. The programme reflected the department's commitment to providing industry-relevant learning experiences and preparing future marketers with the knowledge and skills required to succeed in the evolving field of integrated marketing communications.

NEXTWAVE: Using Marketing to Inspire the Future of Agriculture



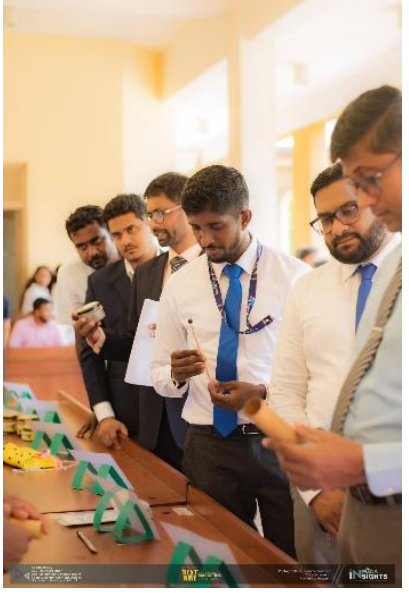
The SyD-MA Students' Association of the Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised NEXTWAVE, a national inter-university marketing competition aimed at changing perceptions of agriculture among Sri Lankan youth.

The competition encouraged undergraduates to apply modern marketing concepts, consumer research, branding strategies, and digital storytelling to reposition agriculture as an innovative, profitable, and respected career path. Students from several state universities participated, working in teams under the guidance of academic mentors.









Conducted from January to March 2026, NEXTWAVE consisted of workshops, research activities, branding initiatives, digital campaigns, and a grand finale held at Rajarata University. Participants explored the reasons behind the declining interest in agriculture among young people and proposed creative marketing solutions to address this national challenge.

The University of Moratuwa emerged as the overall champion, while Sabaragamuwa University secured the first runner-up position. Rajarata University earned third place and received the People's Choice Award for its outstanding digital campaign. NEXTWAVE demonstrated how marketing knowledge can contribute to solving real-world issues and promoting sustainable national development. The event reflected the department's commitment to innovation, industry engagement, and empowering students to create meaningful social impact through marketing.

Innovation Comes Alive at Rajarata: New Product Development Exhibition 2026



The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised the New Product Development Exhibition 2026, showcasing the creativity and entrepreneurial spirit of the 2025 Batch students. Held in May 2026, the exhibition provided a dynamic platform for students to transform innovative ideas into market-ready products and gain valuable practical experience.

A total of 49 newly developed products were presented, reflecting students' ability to identify consumer needs and develop creative solutions. The exhibition featured a diverse range of products, including food and beverages, eco-friendly innovations, beauty and wellness items, household solutions, fashion accessories, and lifestyle products. Each creation demonstrated originality, strong branding concepts, and an understanding of current market trends.

The event attracted academic staff and students from across the faculty, with lecturers and the Head of the Department commending the dedication, teamwork, and enthusiasm displayed by the participants. Products were evaluated based on creativity, practicality, presentation, and market potential, leading to the selection of the five most outstanding innovations. More than an academic exercise, the exhibition served as a valuable learning experience that strengthened students' skills in product development, branding, communication, and entrepreneurship. The success of the event once again highlighted the innovative mindset and future potential of the young marketers of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

















Outbound Training Programme 2026: Adventure, Teamwork, and Personal Growth



The 2024 Batch of the Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully completed a two-day Outbound Training Programme on 7th and 8th May 2026 at CHE Adventure Park, Hanwella. The programme aimed to strengthen leadership, teamwork, communication, confidence, and problem-solving skills through a range of challenging outdoor activities.

Students enthusiastically participated in activities such as water rafting, cable crossing, rope balancing, hiking, navigation exercises, and target shooting. These experiences encouraged participants to step outside their comfort zones, face challenges with determination, and develop resilience in unfamiliar situations.

A key highlight of the programme was the strong spirit of teamwork displayed throughout the event. Every activity required cooperation, trust, and effective communication, helping students build stronger relationships and a deeper sense of unity within the batch. The experience also provided opportunities for personal growth, allowing students to develop self-confidence and leadership skills while enjoying the natural environment.

The Outbound Training Programme was more than an adventure. It was a valuable learning experience that combined fun, teamwork, and self-discovery. The memories and lessons gained during these two days will continue to support students in their academic journeys and future professional lives.







STRATEX: Inspiring Strategic Leadership for Sustainable Growth

The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised STRATEX, a knowledge-sharing session on "Strategic Leadership for Sustainable Growth." The event provided students with an excellent opportunity to learn from industry experience and gain practical insights into leadership and business strategy.







The session was conducted by Mr. Amal Piyathilake, Managing Director of VMJM Masters (Pvt) Ltd., who shared his professional experiences and perspectives on leading organisations in a rapidly changing business environment. Held at the New Faculty Auditorium, the programme attracted enthusiastic participation from students eager to explore the principles of effective leadership and sustainable growth. During the session, Mr. Piyathilake emphasised the importance of innovation, adaptability, ethical decision-making, and a clear organisational vision in achieving long-term success. He encouraged students to develop essential leadership qualities such as critical thinking, communication, teamwork, and resilience, which are increasingly important in today's competitive marketplace.



The interactive discussions enabled participants to connect academic theories with real-world business practices and gain a deeper understanding of contemporary management challenges. STRATEX once again reflected the department's commitment to industry engagement and experiential learning, inspiring students to become future leaders capable of driving sustainable growth and creating positive change in society.

Power BI Essentials: Visualising Data for Impact



The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, recently organised an insightful session titled "Power BI Essentials: Visualising Data for Impact." Hosted by Rajarata Marketers, the programme introduced students to the growing importance of data visualisation in modern business and marketing environments.

The session was conducted by Ms. Yamuna Wickramasinghe, who guided participants through the fundamentals of Power BI and demonstrated how organisations can transform raw data into meaningful insights through interactive dashboards and visual reports. Students gained a practical understanding of how data visualisation supports informed decision-making, performance evaluation, and strategic planning.

The interactive discussions highlighted the role of Power BI in areas such as marketing analytics, sales reporting, and business performance tracking. Participants explored how visual storytelling helps organisations identify trends, solve problems, and communicate information effectively to diverse audiences.



The session emphasised that the ability to interpret and present data has become an essential skill for today's marketing professionals. By introducing students to industry-relevant tools and applications, the Department of Marketing Management continues to prepare undergraduates for the demands of an increasingly data-driven business landscape and equip them with practical competencies that extend beyond the classroom.

Trending AI Use Cases in Marketing & Education: Exploring the Future of Innovation



The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised an insightful session titled "Trending AI Use Cases in Marketing & Education." Hosted by Rajarata Marketers, the event provided students with an opportunity to explore the growing influence of artificial intelligence across two rapidly evolving fields.

The session was conducted by Mr. Chamaka Ranasinghe, an IT Professional and Educator with extensive academic and industry experience. Through practical examples and engaging discussions, he demonstrated how AI technologies are transforming marketing practices, enhancing customer engagement, automating business processes, and supporting data-driven decision-making.

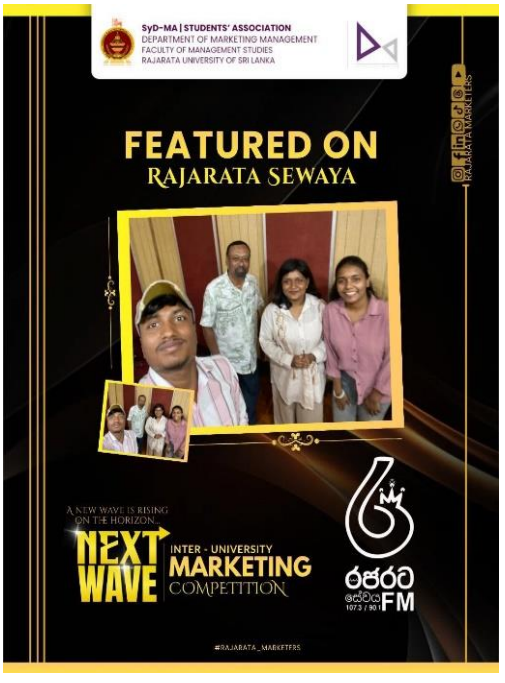
The discussion also focused on the role of artificial intelligence in education, highlighting its potential to personalise learning experiences, improve accessibility, and create more effective teaching and assessment methods. Students gained valuable insights into how emerging technologies are shaping the

future workplace and the skills required to thrive in an increasingly digital world. The interactive nature of the session encouraged participants to reflect on the opportunities and challenges presented by AI while connecting theoretical concepts with real-world applications. The programme reaffirmed the department's commitment to equipping future marketers with industry-relevant knowledge and preparing them to lead confidently in a technology-driven business environment.



Next Wave Gains Momentum Through Rajarata Sewaya FM

The Students' Association of the Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, recently featured on Rajarata Sewaya FM as part of the promotional campaign for the Next Wave Inter-University Marketing Competition. The media engagement marked an important step in expanding the reach and impact of this flagship initiative.



During the programme, members of the organising committee shared the vision and objectives of Next Wave, highlighting its role in providing a platform for undergraduates across Sri Lanka to showcase their creativity, strategic thinking, and marketing expertise. The discussion also emphasised the importance of encouraging innovation, teamwork, and practical application of marketing concepts among future professionals.

The collaboration with Rajarata Sewaya FM enabled the organising team to connect with a wider audience, creating greater awareness about the competition and inspiring students from different universities to participate. The programme served as an effective channel for promoting the values of leadership, collaboration, and academic excellence that underpin the event.

The Department of Marketing Management extends its sincere appreciation to Rajarata Sewaya FM for its valuable support and partnership. Such collaborations strengthen the connection between universities and the wider community while providing students with greater exposure and opportunities to showcase their talents on a broader platform.

Stress Management and Conflict Handling Workshop

An online workshop on Stress Management and Conflict Handling was conducted on 27th December 2025 by Mrs. Zaharine Hameen, General Manager – Marketing at Aitken Travels (Pvt) Ltd. The session was organised for the 2021/2022 batch of students and focused on providing practical strategies for managing workplace stress and resolving conflicts effectively. The workshop helped students develop essential skills for maintaining professionalism and emotional balance in challenging work environments.

Quantitative Data Analysis Workshop

A workshop on Quantitative Data Analysis was conducted on 15th December 2025 by Mrs. H.M.R.D. Kularatna, Senior Lecturer, Department of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The session was organised for the 2021/2022 batch of students

and aimed at strengthening students' knowledge of quantitative research methods and data analysis techniques. It enhanced their analytical and academic research skills.

Use of Open Educational Resources Workshop

An Online workshop on Use of Open Educational Resources was conducted on 27th October 2025 by Dr. T. Prathipan, Acting Librarian of Uva Wellassa University. The session introduced students to freely available academic resources that support learning, teaching, and research. It encouraged students to utilise open-access materials effectively for their academic development.

Occupational Health and Safety Workshop

An online workshop on Occupational Health and Safety was conducted on 05th January 2026 by Squadron Leader Mr. Vishwa Atukoorala of the Air Force Academy, China Bay. The session was organised for the 2021/2022 batch of students and highlighted the importance of maintaining safe and healthy working environments. It provided practical knowledge on workplace safety standards and risk prevention.

Lumina Event





The "Lumina" event was an educational workshop organised and conducted by the 2022/2023 batch of Tourism and Hospitality Management students. The programme aimed to enhance students' practical event management skills, including planning, organising, coordination, execution, and evaluation. It was conducted for 20 Advanced Level students from A/ Ranpathvila Maha Vidyalaya to improve their awareness of tourism and hospitality industry career pathways and opportunities. The event was successfully held on 29th December 2025 at the Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, and achieved its intended objectives with positive feedback from participants.

Field Visit to Ritigala, Geba Resort and Athraya Spa



A field visit was conducted on 29th January 2025 to Ritigala, Geba Resort and Athraya Ayurvedic Spa. The visit was organised to provide students with practical exposure to resort planning concepts, sustainable resort development, and wellness tourism practices. Through on-site observations and discussions, students gained valuable insights into location selection, design elements, operational planning, and the integration of natural and cultural resources in resort development.

Effective Communication Workshop

A workshop on Effective Communication was conducted on 24th October 2025 by Mrs. H.M.R.D. Kularatna, Senior Lecturer, Department of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The session focused on developing students' communication skills, including verbal and non-verbal communication, essential for academic and professional success.

Field Visit to Anuradhapura Heritage Sites





A field visit was conducted on 4th January 2026 to key heritage sites in Anuradhapura, including Mihintale, Ranmasu Uyana, Isurumuniya, the Abhayagiri Monastery Complex, and the Jetavanarama Museum. The visit aimed to provide students with practical exposure to cultural heritage tourism and enhance their understanding of heritage conservation and site management.

World Tourism Day Awareness Programme

In celebration of World Tourism Day 2025 under the theme "Tourism and Sustainable Transformation," an awareness programme was conducted on 23rd September 2025 at the Provincial Council Auditorium for approximately 300 school students from Anuradhapura schools. The programme was organised in collaboration with the North Central Provincial Council Tourism Ministry and the Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Professor W.H.M.S. Samarathunga and Senior Lecturer Mrs. K.T.N.P. Abeywickrama served as resource persons, delivering an informative session on tourism industry career pathways and opportunities. The main celebration event was held on 27th September 2025 at the Kumbichchan Kulama Lake area under the patronage of the Governor of the North Central Province.

Sri Lanka MICE Tourism Conclave 2025



The Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management successfully participated in the Sri Lanka MICE Tourism Conclave 2025, held at BMICH on 24th May 2025, BMICH. The event brought together key stakeholders from the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE) sector to promote innovation and industry development. Students from the department actively engaged in various sessions and presented innovative ideas relevant to the advancement of Sri Lanka's MICE tourism industry. Their participation

was recognised with awards, reflecting their academic excellence, creativity, and professional competence in the field of tourism and hospitality.

Sancharaka Udawa Travel and Tourism Fair 2025



The Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management successfully participated in the *Sancharaka Udawa* Travel and Tourism Fair 2025 on 23rd–24th May 2025, one of the leading tourism industry exhibitions in Sri Lanka. The department presented its exhibition stall under the theme "Visit Rajarata," promoting the tourism potential of the Rajarata region while showcasing departmental academic activities, student initiatives, and industry collaborations. The participation provided a valuable platform for networking with tourism industry professionals, strengthening institutional visibility, and enhancing students' practical exposure to real-world tourism operations and marketing practices.

Sancharaka Udawa Travel and Tourism Fair 2026

The Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully participated in the *Sancharaka Udawa* Travel and Tourism Fair 2026 held on 15th and 16th May 2026 at BMICH. The university was represented, with a strong focus on promoting indigenous medicine and Ayurvedic treatments in Sri Lanka. The exhibition highlighted the richness of Sri Lanka's traditional healing heritage and emphasised the growing potential of wellness tourism. Through this participation, the department showcased cultural authenticity, sustainable tourism practices, and enhanced its visibility within the national tourism industry.



Research Workshops and Academic Discussions with Professor Heike Schänzel



The department successfully organised a series of research-focused workshops and academic discussions with Prof. Heike Schänzel, an internationally recognised scholar in tourism studies. The session conducted on 12th March 2025 engaged academic staff in meaningful discussions on research collaboration, emerging trends in tourism and hospitality, and opportunities for interdisciplinary academic development. The follow-up session held on 13th March 2025 was conducted for students, with a special focus on family tourism, contemporary research methodologies, and academic writing skills. These

sessions significantly contributed to enhancing research capacity and academic engagement within the department.

Grooming and Personal Hygiene Workshop

A workshop on Grooming and Personal Hygiene was conducted on 31st December 2025 by Mrs. K.T.N.P. Abeywickrama, Senior Lecturer, Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The session emphasised the importance of personal grooming, hygiene practices, and professional appearance in the tourism and hospitality industry.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with DMS Software Private Limited





A Memorandum of Understanding was successfully signed between the Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, and DMS Software Private Limited at the Senate Hall of the university on 28th August 2025. This collaboration aims to strengthen industry–academic linkages and promote the integration of digital technologies in tourism education. The partnership is expected to enhance student learning opportunities, foster innovation, and support the development of technology-driven solutions for the tourism and hospitality sector.

Annual Avurudu Celebration 2025



The annual Avurudu celebration was successfully organised by the students of the Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, reflecting the rich cultural heritage of Sri Lanka. The event featured traditional games, cultural performances, and festive activities that promoted unity and cultural appreciation among students. It also provided a platform for students to develop event management,

leadership, teamwork, and organisational skills, while strengthening community spirit within the department.

Annual Avurudu Celebration 2026





The Annual Avurudu Celebration 2026 was successfully conducted as an annual event of the Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management. The program celebrated Sri Lankan New Year traditions through cultural activities, traditional games, and student performances, while continuing to strengthen cultural values, teamwork, and student engagement within the department.

Dutch–Ceylon Conference on Reimagining Sri Lanka Tourism

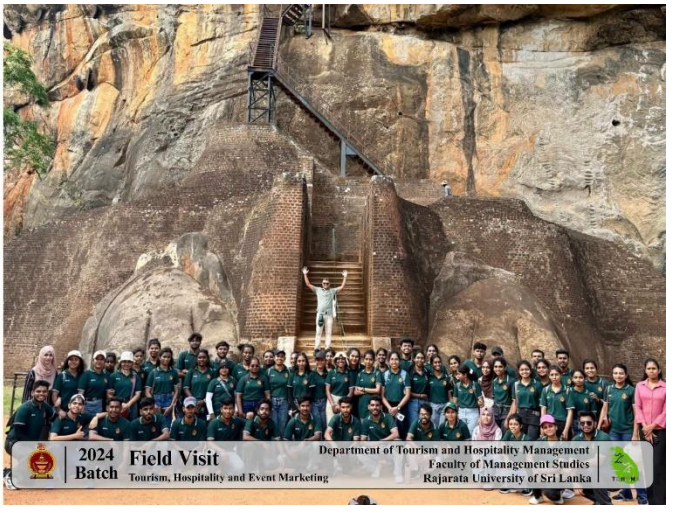




The Dutch–Ceylon Conference on Reimagining Sri Lanka Tourism was successfully inaugurated on 02nd March 2026 at the Postgraduate Institute of Management, Borella, marking the commencement of a one-month international field study and research collaboration between Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and Breda University of Applied Sciences (BUAS), Netherlands. The conference brought together academics, students, and tourism industry professionals to exchange ideas on the future of Sri Lanka's tourism sector, with a strong emphasis on sustainability, innovation, and international collaboration. The inaugural session featured insightful presentations by distinguished academics and leading tourism professionals, followed by an interactive networking session that encouraged knowledge sharing between students from both universities. The event provided a valuable platform for fostering academic partnerships and strengthening links between higher education and the tourism industry.

Field Visit to Sigiriya UNESCO World Heritage Site

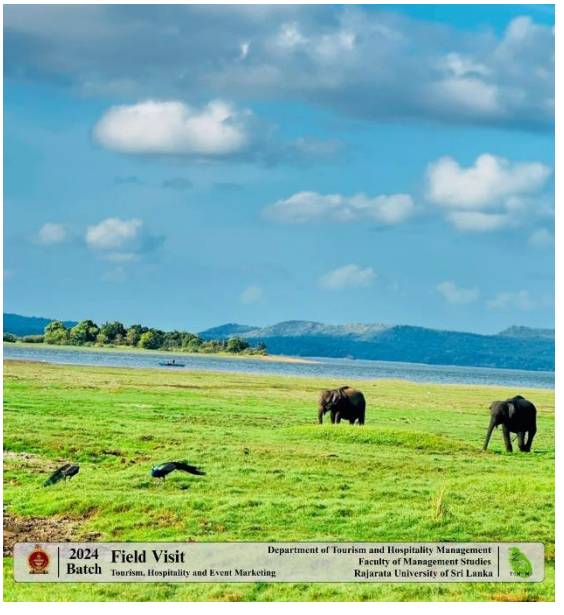




A field visit was conducted on 06th June 2026 to Sigiriya UNESCO World Heritage Site with the 2024/2025 batch students. The visit was organised to enhance students' understanding of heritage tourism through direct exposure to one of Sri Lanka's most iconic cultural attractions. By exploring the site's historical, archaeological, and cultural significance, students gained valuable insights into heritage conservation, visitor management, interpretation, and the importance of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in promoting sustainable tourism.

Field Visit to Minneriya National Park Safari





A field visit was conducted on 06th June 2026 to Minneriya National Park with the 2024/2025 batch students. The safari provided students with an opportunity to observe Sri Lanka's rich biodiversity, particularly its renowned wild elephant population, in their natural habitat. The visit enhanced students' understanding of wildlife tourism, protected area management, biodiversity conservation, and the role of national parks in supporting sustainable tourism and environmental preservation.

Workshop by Visiting Professors from Breda University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands

A workshop was conducted on 13th October 2025 by Prof. Erdinç Çakmak and Prof. Jos van der Sterren from Breda University of Applied Sciences (BUAS), Netherlands, for the students of the Department of

Tourism and Hospitality Management. The session provided valuable international perspectives on contemporary tourism education, research, and industry practices while encouraging students to broaden their global outlook.





The visit also included a productive discussion with the academic staff of the department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Faculty of Management studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, focusing on strengthening academic partnerships and exploring opportunities for future collaboration in teaching, research, and student exchange programmes.

Assumption of Duties by the Newly Appointed Dean, Faculty of Management Studies



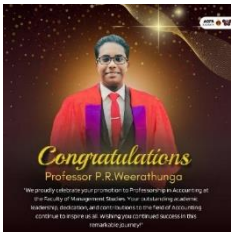
Prof. H.M.B.P. Ranaweera officially assumed duties as the 9th Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies at the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka at a ceremonial event held on 08th April 2026 at the Dean's Office.

The occasion was graced by distinguished members of the University community, including the Vice-Chancellor, Deans of Faculties, Librarian, Registrar, Bursar, Heads of Departments, as well as academic, administrative, and non-academic staff of the faculty.

Appointments & Promotions



Dr. (Mrs.) J.S. Kumari has been promoted to the position of Professor in Accounting in the Department of Accountancy & Finance, effective from 6th March 2025.



Dr. P.R. Weerathunga has been promoted to the position of Professor in Accounting in the Department of Accountancy & Finance, effective from 27th June 2024.



Dr. (Mrs.) R.M.N.C. Swarnapali has been promoted to the position of Professor in Accounting in the Department of Accountancy & Finance, effective from 20th August 2025.



Ms. G.M.H.P.K. Rathwatta has been promoted to the position of Senior Lecturer (Grade II) in the Department of Accountancy & Finance, effective from 15th February 2025.



Mr. J.M.N. Wijekumara has been promoted to the position of Lecturer in the Department of Accountancy & Finance, effective from 15th February 2025.



Mrs. H.M.R.D. Kularathne has been appointed as Senior Lecturer (Grade II) in the Department of Human Resource Management, effective from 1st October 2025.



Mr. M.A.I.T. Marasinghe has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Business Management, effective from 1st January 2026.



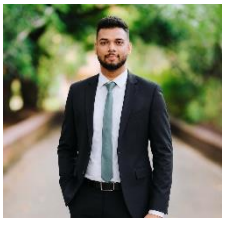
Mrs. S.M.D.N. Jayawardane has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Business Management, effective from 1st January 2026.



Mr. T. Sukirthan has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Business Management, effective from 1st January 2026.



Ms. H.M.N.S. Subasinghe has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Information Systems, effective from 3rd March 2026.



Mr. M.W.U.K. Iroshana has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Marketing Management, effective from 3rd March 2026.



Mr. L.A.M.N.U. Bandara has been appointed as an Instructor in Computer Technology in the Department of Information Systems, effective from 15th June 2026.

Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, extends its warmest congratulations to its faculty members on their recent academic, administrative, and coordinator appointments. These roles reflect their dedication to student development and the continuous progress of our institutional initiatives.

Department of Community Medicine Supports National Leptospirosis Response Through Free Diagnostic Services

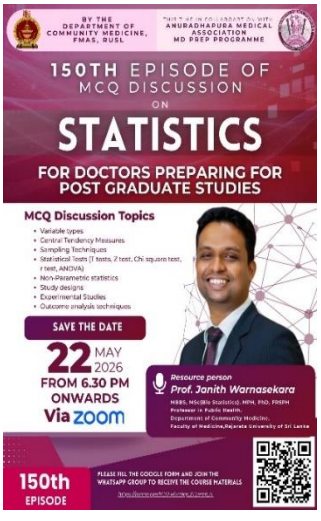
The Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, played a key role in supporting the national response to the leptospirosis outbreak by providing free diagnostic testing through its Public Health Research Laboratory. During the flood-related outbreak after November 2025, the laboratory extended its operating hours from 9.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. to facilitate the timely processing of samples received from healthcare institutions across the country.



Diagnostic services included quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) testing using whole blood samples and the Microscopic Agglutination Test (MAT) using serum samples, enabling rapid and accurate confirmation of leptospirosis. All the laboratory testing was done free of charge, and the initiative strengthened the country's laboratory diagnostic capacity and supported clinicians in making timely treatment decisions during the public health emergency.

This service reflects the Department's continued commitment to public health, translational research and national disease surveillance. By collaborating closely with healthcare institutions and providing high-quality diagnostic support, the Department contributed significantly to national efforts to mitigate the impact of the leptospirosis outbreak and protect affected communities.

Statistics MCQ Discussion Series Reaches 150th Episode



The Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, marked the 150th episode of its Statistics MCQ Discussion Series on 22nd May 2026. The programme was conducted in collaboration with the Anuradhapura Medical Association as part of its continuing academic support for medical practitioners preparing for postgraduate examinations. The session, conducted by Prof. Janith Warnasekara, Professor in Public Health, Department of Community Medicine, covered key concepts in biostatistics, including measures of central tendency, sampling techniques, statistical tests, study designs, experimental studies and outcome analysis techniques. More than 700 live Participants, interactive discussion strengthened participants 'understanding of statistical principles and enhanced their examination preparedness through problem-based MCQ discussions.

The Statistics MCQ Discussion Series has become a well-established academic initiative of the Department, providing regular, accessible and high-quality educational support to postgraduate medical trainees across Sri Lanka. Reaching its 150th episode reflects the Department's sustained commitment to postgraduate medical education, capacity building and the promotion of evidence-based practice.



A Life-Saving First: Rajarata University Pioneers the SCOOP Protocol Workshop for Nurses and Doctors

The Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences (FMAS), Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, marked a significant milestone in surgical and emergency care education by conducting the "When Minutes Matter — SCOOP Protocol Workshop" on 19th May 2026 at the Main Auditorium, Teaching Hospital, Anuradhapura.

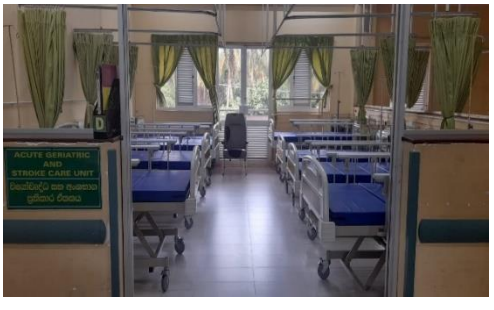
Organised by the Department of Surgery, the workshop focused on the emergency management of post-thyroidectomy neck haematoma, a rare but life-threatening complication that can rapidly compromise the airway. The SCOOP protocol provides healthcare teams with a structured approach to recognise and manage this critical emergency promptly.



The programme was led by Dr. Kithsiri Senanayake, Consultant General and Endocrine Surgeon and Senior Lecturer in Surgery, together with Dr. Ishara Jayarathna, Registrar in Surgery. International expertise was shared by Dr. Shad Khan, Consultant Endocrine and General Surgeon, Clinical Lead and Governor of Oxford University Hospitals, United Kingdom, alongside Dr. Vishaka Kerner, Consultant Anaesthesiologist, Teaching Hospital Anuradhapura.

A unique feature of this initiative was the dedicated training provided to both nursing officers and medical officers, making it the first formal introduction of this life-saving procedure to nurses in Sri Lanka. Through simulation-based learning, participants gained practical skills and confidence to respond effectively when every second matters.

Only PGIM-Accredited Geriatric Training Unit Upgraded



Geriatric unit of the professorial medical unit (wards 61/62) was upgraded with 16 adjustable beds worth 3 million rupees with the help of a donation. This is the only PGIM accredited postgraduate training Centre for geriatric medicine in the country and the only such unit with dedicated beds for elderly care.

Department of Community Medicine Promotes Public Health Awareness During the Flood Emergency

Following the widespread flooding and public health challenges associated with Cyclonic Storm Dithwa in Sri Lanka during November and December 2025, the Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, launched a series of evidence-based public health awareness campaigns through its social media platforms.

The initiative provided timely health information on preventing leptospirosis and other waterborne diseases, emphasising the importance of personal hygiene, safe drinking water, food safety and environmental sanitation during flood conditions. The Department also promoted the importance of continued breastfeeding during emergencies, offering practical guidance to mothers to ensure optimal infant nutrition and reduce the risk of infections.













By disseminating reliable and scientifically accurate health information during the disaster, the Department contributed to strengthening community awareness and encouraging preventive health practices among affected populations. This initiative demonstrates the Department's ongoing commitment to public health advocacy, disaster risk communication and community engagement through the effective translation of scientific evidence into accessible health information.

Beyond Medicine: Building a Faculty, One Moment at a Time

Every academic year is woven not only from lessons learned and milestones achieved, but also from the moments that inspire, unite, and leave lasting memories. It is through these shared experiences that a faculty becomes more than a place of learning - it becomes a community. With this vision, the Medical Students' Union, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organised a series of meaningful events, each thoughtfully designed to promote well-being, celebrate diversity, strengthen friendships, and enrich student life. Among these initiatives were a Dhamma Sermon, a Christmas Carol Celebration, the Sinhala and Tamil New Year Festival, and the *Padura*, each reflecting a unique aspect of our faculty's vibrant spirit.







Providing students with an opportunity to find peace and mental rejuvenation amidst the demands of medical education the Dhamma Sermon was conducted. It was also held as a merit-sharing ceremony in appreciation of those who donated their bodies for medical education.







Reflecting the faculty's commitment to religious harmony and mutual respect, the Christmas Carol Celebration beautifully embraced the spirit of coexistence by celebrating Christian traditions alongside Buddhist observances. The Sinhala and Tamil New Year Festival brought together students from different batches through traditional games, laughter, and friendly competition, strengthening the bonds that unite our faculty. Along with this vibrant series, the '*Padura*' transformed the stage into a celebration of talent, where music, dance, and drama came together in an unforgettable evening of creativity and fellowship. Together, these initiatives illustrate how the Medical Students' Union fosters not only academic excellence but also gratitude, unity, cultural appreciation, and the shared values that define our medical community.

Faculty Milestones: FMAS Commemorates Its Journey with Solemn Anniversary Celebrations

The Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences (FMAS) of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka proudly commemorated its journey of shaping medical excellence since its inception on 11th September 2006. Marking nearly two decades of academic milestones and unwavering commitment to healthcare education, the Rajarata Medical Students' Association organised a series of religious events to celebrate the faculty's anniversary.



A spiritual all-night Pirith chanting ceremony followed by a morning alms offering was held on 13th and 14th September 2025 at the faculty premises. The primary objectives of these ceremonies were to invoke blessings upon the faculty's future endeavors, seek spiritual well-being for the dedicated academic and non-academic staff, and extend blessings to the current student body.

Significantly, the event also served as a profound tribute to a vital group of stakeholders: the relatives of anatomical donors who generously donated bodies for cadaveric dissection, an irreplaceable cornerstone of the students' clinical education. The event saw widespread participation from the Dean, faculty academic and non-academic staff, current undergraduates, and esteemed alumni. By honoring both spiritual traditions and the ultimate gift of body donation, the anniversary highlighted the faculty's deep-rooted values of gratitude and community connectivity.







Kampana 2025: A New Rhythm of Talent, Unity, and Social Responsibility



The year 2025 marked a memorable milestone in the cultural journey of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences (FMAS), Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, with the successful organisation of "*Kampana* 2025", the first-ever large-scale musical evening conducted by the Rajarata Medical Students 'Union. More than a musical event, Kampana became a celebration of creativity, fellowship, and the diverse talents of the FMAS community.

Held on 31st August 2025 at the Faculty premises, the event transformed the surroundings into a vibrant space filled with music, lights, and unforgettable memories. The evening featured performances by renowned guest artists including Dhyan Hewage and Dr. Amila Edirisinghe, along with talented academic staff and students. The Faculty Orchestra added further brilliance to the occasion, creating a platform where the artistic abilities of the medical community could shine beyond the boundaries of academic life.

Kampana 2025 was significant not only as an entertainment programme but also as the beginning of a tradition that could become a unique identity of FMAS. It brought together students, alumni, academic staff, and well-wishers, strengthening the sense of belonging within the Faculty. Adding greater value to this initiative, the event was organised in collaboration with the objectives of the Athwela programme, focusing on supporting underprivileged school communities. A portion of the funds collected through Kampana was donated to improve sanitation facilities at Sri Sarananda Vidyalaya, demonstrating that the event successfully combined talent, celebration, and service to society.





Serving Communities Through Compassion and Care

Beyond the boundaries of medical education, the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences (FMAS), Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, has continuously demonstrated its commitment to serving society through meaningful community engagement initiatives. Guided by the values of compassion, responsibility, and service, the Faculty community actively responded to the needs of people during challenging times while extending healthcare support to communities in need.







During the flood situation that affected several areas, the Rajarata Medical Students 'Union, together with the Faculty community, initiated humanitarian programmes to support displaced families. As part of the *Isiwara Yathra* – Health Initiative, essential medicines, dry rations, and school supply packages were distributed among affected communities in areas including Kahapathilagama, Nochchikulama, and Mudhiruppuwa. Educational support was also provided to children residing in temporary displacement camps. Furthermore, medical assistance and first-aid programmes were conducted in flood-affected areas such as Meegalewa and Medawachchiya, providing health assessments, treatments, necessary medications, and preventive care against flood-related illnesses.







Adding to these efforts, the Faculty successfully conducted its flagship annual outreach project, the "*Jeewaka Yathra*" Medical Camp, on 29th June 2026 at the sacred Ruwanweli Maha Seya premises, Anuradhapura, coinciding with the Poson Full Moon Poya Day. This large-scale initiative provided free healthcare services to nearly 1000 pilgrims, including medical consultations, treatment, essential medicines, emergency care, and ambulance services. The success of *Jeewaka Yathra* was strengthened through the collaboration of Teaching Hospital Anuradhapura, Faculty academic staff, and FMAS alumni. Through these initiatives, FMAS continues to demonstrate that medicine extends beyond clinical practice, it is a lifelong commitment to humanity and community well-being.

Additional Initiatives

The "*Sisil Beema Dansala*" further reflected the generosity and unity of FMAS students. In addition, the overarching *Athwela* programme supported Advanced Level students from less privileged backgrounds through educational guidance and assistance. Through these collective actions, FMAS continues to demonstrate that medical education extends beyond hospitals and classrooms into meaningful service to society.







A Landmark in the Final MBBS Merit List 2025

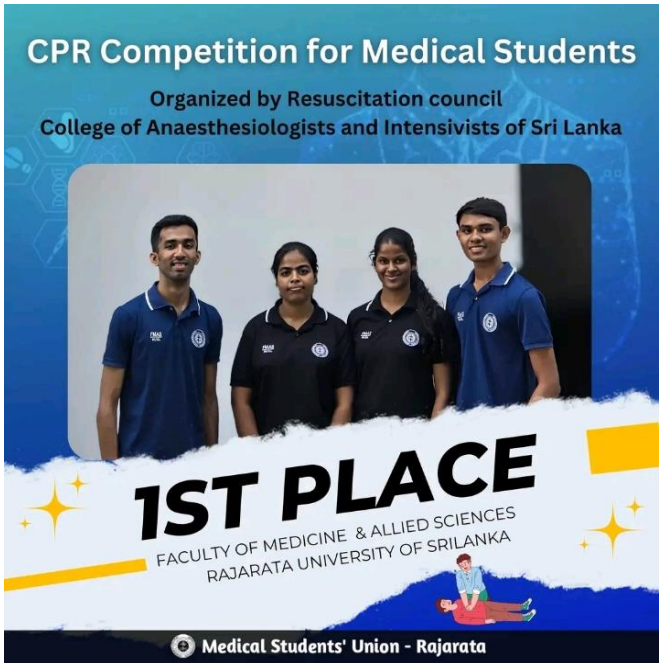
The story of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, reached a proud new chapter with the release of the 2025 Final MBBS Merit List. Among the names that brought honour to the faculty, Mr. Charith Samarasooriya stands out, securing an exceptional 3rd place at the national level. This achievement marks one of the highest distinctions ever attained by a student from the faculty, symbolising how far it has come.





This success did not stand alone. It was strengthened by the presence of six more graduates from the faculty within the top 100. These graduates, from the faculty's 13th batch, who were conferred their degrees at the 25th General Convocation held last year, represent not only individual brilliance but also a collective effort shaped by supportive peers and dedicated academic staff. What makes this milestone even more meaningful is the journey behind it. Established just two decades ago, the faculty continues to grow alongside long-established institutions, steadily building its place within the national academic landscape. This steady progress is now translating into remarkable national-level recognition, marking not just a moment of pride, but a clear statement of the faculty's rising place in the future of medical education in Sri Lanka.

FMAS Triumphs at National CPR Competition



The Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, achieved a remarkable victory by securing first place at this year's CPR Competition for Medical Students. Organised by the Resuscitation Council of Sri Lanka together with the College of Anaesthesiologists and Intensivists of Sri Lanka, the event brought together medical undergraduates from across the country to demonstrate their competence in lifesaving skills.

The winning performance of the faculty team reflected not only exceptional technical proficiency in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), but also a strong commitment to teamwork, clinical precision, and excellence under pressure. Their success highlights the importance of practical training and preparedness in medical education.

This achievement was made possible through the dedicated guidance of Dr. Vishaka Kerner, Consultant Anaesthetist, and the support of the Department of Anaesthesiology at Teaching Hospital Anuradhapura. The team also benefited from the generous assistance of Dr. Hemal Senanayake, Consultant Physician, and the Department of Medicine, who provided essential facilities for practice and preparation. This accomplishment stands as a proud moment for the faculty, reflecting its growing strength in both academic and clinical training, while inspiring future batches to strive for excellence in patient care.

Rajarata Medical Students Secure 2nd Place at Inter-Medical Faculty Chemical Pathology Quiz - 2026



Bringing pride to the institution, a talented team of undergraduates representing the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, secured 2nd Place at the prestigious Inter-Medical Faculty Chemical Pathology Quiz 2026.

The competition, which challenged the clinical knowledge and analytical skills of medical students from across the island, concluded with the final rounds held at the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM). Exhibiting exceptional dedication, rigorous preparation, and strong teamwork, the

Rajarata delegation excelled through intense rounds of advanced clinical biochemistry and diagnostic case studies. This remarkable milestone highlights the high standard of academic excellence maintained within the faculty and serves as an inspiration to the entire student body. The faculty extends its warmest congratulations to the winning team for their outstanding achievement on the national stage.

Sports Achievements

The year 2025 marked a remarkable chapter in the sporting journey of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences (FMAS), Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, with achievements that reflected determination, unity, and the true spirit of teamwork.



Among these accomplishments, the FMAS football team emerged as the Champions of Sports Fiesta 2025, showcasing exceptional skill and resilience throughout the tournament. The team recorded five consecutive victories against strong opponents, including Vavuniya Doctors, Sri Jayawardenepura Medical Faculty, Jaffna Doctors, Moratuwa Medical Faculty, and Ruhuna Medical Faculty in the final. With an outstanding record of 5 wins and 0 goals conceded, the team demonstrated discipline, strategy, and unwavering determination. The Faculty also celebrated success in volleyball, where both men's and women's teams secured victories against the Sabaragamuwa Medical Faculty. Beyond competitive achievements, events such as the annual cricket clash provided students with an opportunity to relax, build friendships, and relieve the mental pressures of demanding medical education. Through these accomplishments, FMAS continues to promote a balanced student life where excellence extends beyond academics into sportsmanship, unity, and personal growth.













Appointments & Promotions

Faculty of Medicine & Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, extends its warmest congratulations to its faculty members on their recent academic, administrative, and coordinator appointments. These roles reflect their dedication to student development and the continuous progress of our institutional initiatives.



Dr. Ayesh Hettiarachchi was appointed Senior Lecturer in the Department of Community Medicine, effective from 2nd February 2026.



Dr. Amali Jayaweera was appointed as a Probationary Lecturer in the Department of Anatomy, effective from 5th April 2026.



Dr. Damith Siriwardhana, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, was appointed as a Lecturer in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, effective from 1st July 2026.

Senehase Athwala: A Touch of Compassion for the Elderly

Among the most anticipated outreach programmes of the year is "Senehase Athwala," the flagship social responsibility initiative of the Medical Students 'Union, scheduled for the second half of 2026. This heartfelt project will be carried out at the Shanthi Sewana Government Elderly Home, a place that holds a long-standing and deeply valued connection with the FMAS community. At its core, *Senehase Athwala* is driven by a simple yet profound purpose, to enhance the psychosocial and emotional wellbeing of the elderly residents. Recognising that companionship and human connection play a vital role in mental health, medical undergraduates will dedicate their time to engage with the residents through conversations, storytelling, and recreational activities. These interactions aim to bring comfort, joy, and a renewed sense of belonging to those who often experience loneliness in their later years. Beyond emotional support, the initiative will also focus on improving the living environment of the elderly home. Volunteers will carry out a comprehensive cleaning and rejuvenation programme across the premises, ensuring a cleaner, safer, and more uplifting space for the residents. In addition, students will prepare and serve nutritious meals, symbolising care not only through words but through meaningful action. Organised annually, *Senehase Athwala* stands as a beautiful expression of empathy in practice, an initiative where future medical professionals step beyond textbooks to understand the human side of healing.

"*Kampana* 2026" The Legacy Continues



As one chapter concludes, another begins with even greater promise. Building upon the extraordinary success of its inaugural edition, *Kampana* 2026 is set to rise as a more ambitious and expansive celebration. The vision for the upcoming event extends beyond repetition, it aims for evolution. *Kampana* 2026 is anticipated to deliver a grander musical experience, featuring an even more diverse lineup of artists, enhanced stage production, and a richer festival atmosphere. The elements that made *Kampana* 2025 unforgettable; music, food, games, and unity, will return with greater scale and refinement, creating a more immersive and dynamic experience for all attendees. At its heart, the upcoming *Kampana* will continue to be driven by the same spirit of unity that defined its beginning. Students from all batches will once again come together, contributing their efforts to shape an event that belongs to the entire Faculty. This continuity of collective dedication ensures that *Kampana* remains not just an event, but a tradition built on shared ownership and pride. Importantly, *Kampana* 2026 will carry forward its commitment to social responsibility. Through its continued alignment with initiatives such as the *Athwela* programme, the event will strive to expand its positive impact, supporting communities beyond the university and reinforcing the Faculty's dedication to service. *Kampana* is no longer just a night of celebration, it is a growing legacy. With each passing year, it strengthens its identity, deepens its impact, and unites generations of students under one powerful rhythm. As anticipation builds, *Kampana* 2026 stands not only as an event to look forward to, but as the next step in a journey that has already begun to shape the history of FMAS.

Archaeological Outreach: Invited Lectures and Global Recognition



Dr. Thilanka M. Siriwardana delivered a series of invited lectures at the Central Cultural Fund – Polonnaruwa Project, the Royal Asiatic Society of Sri Lanka, and the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, presenting his research on "Retracing the Livelihood of the Ancient Coastal Dwellers of Tropical Sri Lanka." He also conducted a specialised session for researchers of the CCF Anuradhapura Jetavanaya Project on the application of archaeomalacology remains in archaeological research. His recent research on the prehistoric settlement of "Velanai" Island has received wide national and international recognition following its publication in the *Journal of Island and Coastal Archaeology*, attracting attention from major science communication platforms and archaeology media, thereby highlighting the global significance of Sri Lankan archaeological research.

Folk Culture in Kabithigollawa Division: Tradition and Transformation

The Department of Languages at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka is currently researching the folk culture of Kabithigollawa Division, focusing on its traditions and transformations. As part of this initiative, the department organised a series of workshops to enhance the research capabilities of academic staff.



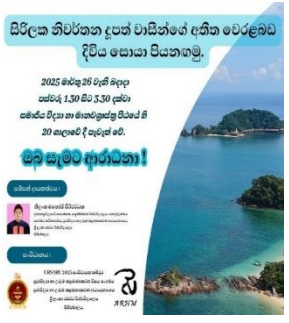






The first workshop, held on 5th June 2025, was led by Professor Manoj Samrathunga. The second workshop will be held on 27th August 2025, featuring Dr. Mohammed Ismath Ramzy from the University of Malaya. These workshops, supported by a grant, focus on various research methodologies, providing faculty with the latest research tools and fostering collaboration and professional development.

Discovering the Past Coastal Life of the Tropical Islanders of Sri Lanka



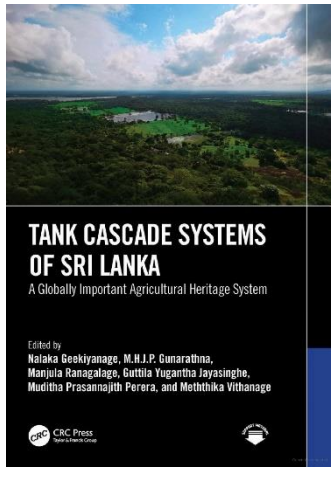
A Lecture Session was conducted on 03rd of March 2025, from 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., at Hall No. 20, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The session was organised by the Society of Archaeology and Heritage Management, Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management. The lecture, titled "Discovering the Past Coastal Life of the Tropical Islanders of Sri Lanka," focused on archaeological perspectives of coastal communities. The lecture was delivered by Senior Lecturer Mr. N.D.T.M. Siriwardena, Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

Initiatives in Waste Management and Academic Excellence

In 2025, Dr. M.M.S.A. Marasinghe, as Waste Management Coordinator, led key initiatives to advance environmental responsibility and academic excellence. On 20th November, she conducted a Hospital Waste Management Awareness Programme at the National Nephrology Hospital, Polonnaruwa, engaging doctors, nurses, officers, and PHI officers in best practices for safe waste handling and disposal. For students, Dr. Marasinghe conducted a session on Waste Management Orientation Programme for the new intake of the Department of Environmental Management, promoting sustainable practices such as segregation, minimisation, reuse, recycling, and environmentally sound disposal. The interactive session empowered students as future environmental leaders.

Further strengthening institutional quality, on 31st December, he facilitated an Internal Quality Assurance Workshop for the Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities. The workshop, attended by Vice-Chancellors, the Dean, Department Heads, and Unit Coordinators, reviewed departmental progress and reinforced strategies to enhance academic standards and continuous improvement. Through these initiatives, Dr. Marasinghe has significantly contributed to cultivating sustainability awareness, professional development, and a culture of excellence within the University.

A Global Publication on Tank Cascade Systems in Sri Lanka



Prof. Manjula Ranagalage made a significant scholarly contribution as an editor of the internationally published volume Tank Cascade Systems of Sri Lanka: A Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System, released by CRC Press in 2025. As a member of the editorial team, Prof. Ranagalage contributed his expertise in environmental analysis, spatial assessment, and sustainability studies to strengthen the scientific rigour of the publication. His involvement supported the integration of geospatial and environmental perspectives in analysing Sri Lanka's traditional tank cascade systems and their relevance to climate resilience and sustainable agriculture. The publication, spanning 556 pages, brings together multidisciplinary research in Earth Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Environment and Agriculture, and Environment and Sustainability. Through this contribution, Prof. Ranagalage has enhanced global academic recognition of Sri Lanka's indigenous water management systems as a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System, reinforcing their relevance to contemporary environmental and policy discourse.

Exploring the Cooling Effects of Urban Wetlands in Colombo City, Sri Lanka

In 2025, Mr. N.S.K. Herath played a pivotal role in the study titled "Exploring the Cooling Effects of Urban Wetlands in Colombo City, Sri Lanka". As a key member of the research team, Mr. Herath was responsible for coordinating field data collection, analysing remote sensing datasets, and validating temperature measurements across multiple urban wetland sites. His expertise in geospatial analysis enabled the team to accurately map temperature variations and identify areas most affected by the urban heat island effect. Mr. Herath's contribution was instrumental in demonstrating how urban wetlands can significantly reduce ambient temperatures and improve environmental quality in Colombo City. Through his work, Mr. Herath has provided valuable insights that support sustainable urban planning and wetland conservation

initiatives, reinforcing the importance of integrating natural ecosystems into urban development strategies.

Community Awareness on Disaster Risk Reduction

Dr. W.M.S.B. Wanninayaka of the Department of Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, actively contributed to community awareness on disaster risk reduction. An article titled "Cyclone, Flood, Landslide: Managing the Impact of a Cascade of Events" was published in a national English-language newspaper, highlighting the interconnected nature of climate-induced disasters and emphasising integrated risk management, early warning systems, land-use planning, and community preparedness. A Sinhala-language feature was also published to reach a broader local audience, focusing on flood risks and community-level preparedness. These outreach efforts demonstrate Dr. Wanninayaka's commitment to translating academic expertise into public knowledge, enhancing community resilience, and promoting disaster awareness and social responsibility.





International Research Forum on Ancient Water Management System in Sri Lanka



The International Research Forum on Ancient Water Management Systems in Sri Lanka: Integrating Traditional Knowledge for Sustainable Development, organised by the Department of Archaeology & Heritage Management, Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, according to the concept of Prof. Nuwan Abeywardana (Head of the department), was successfully held on 11th March 2025, at university premises of Mihintale.

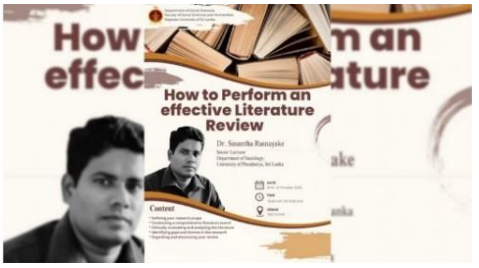
The event was honoured by Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, Acting Vice-Chancellor of RUSL, as the Chief Guest, while Prof. Dr. Wiebke Bebermeier (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany) delivered the Keynote Speech, highlighting the impact of human activities on environmental changes. This event strengthened Sri Lanka's sustainability efforts by integrating traditional and modern water management, fostering interdisciplinary research, and highlighting heritage-based tourism.



Guiding Undergraduates in Research Excellence

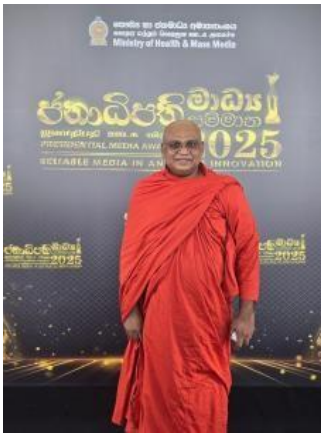






The Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised a research-oriented lecture series aimed at strengthening students' academic writing and research skills. The series included three insightful sessions: "How to Perform an Effective Literature Review" by Dr. Susantha Rasnayake, "How to Write a Research Proposal" by Prof. Dhammika Herath, and "Grounded Theory as an Approach to Qualitative Inquiry" by Dr. Thushara Kamalrathne, all from the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya. Conducted on 10th October 2025 at Hall 20, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, the lectures provided our undergraduates to guidance on literature reviewing, proposal writing, and qualitative research methodologies, significantly enhancing their research competence and academic confidence.

Ven. Prof. Olaganwatte Chandasiri Thero Serves as Judging Panel Member at the 2025 Presidential Media Awards



Ven. Prof. Olaganwatte Chandasiri Thero, Head of the Department of Languages at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, has been invited to serve as a Judging Panel Member at the prestigious 2025 Presidential Media Awards. This unique opportunity recognises Ven. Prof. Chandasiri Thero's significant contributions to academia and the media sector.

His role in the judging panel highlights his expertise and influence in promoting academic excellence and media integrity in Sri Lanka. Ven. Prof. Chandasiri Thero's involvement in this distinguished event underscores his commitment to fostering knowledge and enhancing the relationship between media and academia.

Outreach Activities Series on Knowledge Dissemination and Social Responsibilities

On the 2025 Poson Poya Day, the Tourist Guides Association organised a special tourist guide program, while Mass Communication students organised a beach cleaning program, and the final year Education Science Unit organised a *Sisu Diriya* program.

Dr. M.A. Prasad Kumara participated in a conference held at the P.G. Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture, and Archaeology, Utkal University, Odisha, India. Prof. M.K.L. Irangani and Mr. H.G.C. Sampath participated in the annual prize distribution ceremony of Thirappane National School and Mihintale National School. All academic staff members of the Department of Humanities actively participated in several conferences to present their research and published full research papers in the Index and Refereed Journals.







Rajarata University Undergraduate Represents Sri Lanka at UNFCCC COP30 in Brazil

Mr. K.A.J. Sadun Jayasuriya, a fourth-year undergraduate of the Environmental Management Honours Degree Programme, Department of Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, delivered a Youth Speech at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP30) and represented South Asian Youth Leaders at the 20th United Nations Conference of Youth (COY20) that was held from 6th to 8th November, 2025, in Belém, Brazil, under the theme of 'Empowering Youth for Climate Action and Equity in the Amazon'.



This is a historic milestone, as Mr. Jayasuriya becomes the first Sri Lankan undergraduate to participate in the United Nations Climate Change Conference as a Youth Speaker. This remarkable accomplishment highlights the global recognition of Rajarata University's commitment to sustainability and youth leadership. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Jayasuriya and wish him continued success on his inspiring journey towards a more sustainable and resilient future!

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Workshop

The Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully held a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Workshop on 22nd August 2025.The program aimed to strengthen the practical skills of Sociology undergraduates as amateur researchers

in participatory development methods. The workshop blended enriching activities, including insightful guest lectures about PRA methods, field visits and collaborative group assignments.







The sessions were conducted by two expert facilitators, Mr. Priyantha Kumara (T-Field Child Development Federation) and Mr. Naveen Dharmawardhana (Institute for Participatory Interaction in Development – IPID), who shared valuable insights and hands-on experiences. A practical field component at Mihinthale Village allowed students to apply PRA tools such as transect walks, community mapping, seasonal calendars, and focus group discussions. This real-world exposure helped bridge lecture room learning with community-based practice. The Department expresses its gratitude to the facilitators and the Mihinthale community for their contribution to making the workshop a meaningful practical learning experience for our undergraduates.

Lunch Time Talk of Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management



The first session of the "Lunch Time Talk" was held on 22nd of January 2025, from 12.00 p.m. to 1.00 p.m., at Hall No. 20, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Senior Lecturer Dr. W.M.T.B. Wijepala shared his experiences at CollAsia 2024, Thailand.

The second session of the "Lunch Time Talk", was held on 22nd of April 2025, from 12.00 p.m. to 1.00 p.m., at Hall No. 20 of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. Dr. Ariane de Saxce, Research Associate for South and South-East Asia at the German Archaeological Institute, Commission for the Archaeology of Non-European Cultures (Bonn), joined the session as the guest speaker and delivered a lecture titled "Results of the Recent Collaborative Projects between Rajarata University and the German Archaeological Institute."

The third session of the "Lunch Time Talk" was held on 27th August 2025, from 12.00 p.m. to 1.00 p.m., at Hall No. 20. The session was delivered by Senior Lecturer Mr. N.D.T.M. Siriwardena and featured a lecture

entitled “Listening to the Land: Three Years in Aboriginal Australia,” providing insights into Aboriginal heritage and land practices.

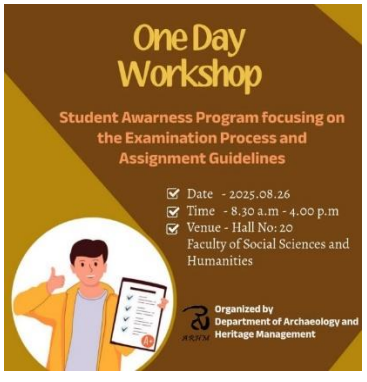
The fourth session of "Lunch Time Talk" was held on 21st of January 2026 from 11.30 a.m. to 12,30 p.m., at the Archaeology Laboratory. The event was hosted online by the Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mr. Thilina Buddhima Pallethanne, Senior Site Supervisor, AOC Archaeology PLC, Edinburgh, UK, joined as the speaker and delivered a talk titled " From Excavation to Employment: Entering the World of UK Commercial Archaeology."



The fifth session of the "Lunch Time Talk" was held on 26th January 2026 from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. at Hall No 20, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Prof. Shakir Ullha, Head of the Department of Archaeology, Hazara University, Mansehra, Pakistan, joined as the guest speaker and delivered his talk on "Dawn of Buddhism in Gandara"

Student Awareness Program Focusing on the Examination Process and Assignment Guidelines

The one-day workshop titled “Student Awareness Program Focusing on the Examination Process and Assignment Guidelines”, organised by the Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was successfully held on 26th of August 2025. The workshop was conducted by Senior Lecturer Mr. N.D.T.M. Siriwardena.







Quality Assurance Awareness Workshop Promoting Academic Excellence Among Students



The Department of Environmental Management organised a QA Awareness Workshop titled “Awareness on Quality Assurance (QA) for Students”, hosted by the Faculty Quality Assurance Committee (FQAC) of the Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Held at the Faculty Examination Hall, the workshop aimed to enhance students’ understanding of quality assurance, academic integrity, and continuous improvement in higher education. Presentations by Dr. J.M.S.B. Jayasundara, Prof. P.S.K. Rajapaksha, and Dr. M.M.S.A.

Marasinghe highlighted QA frameworks, student responsibilities, and the learner's role in maintaining academic standards. The programme encouraged students to embrace academic excellence and actively contribute to a culture of quality within the Faculty and University.

Research and Capacity Development Programme







The Department of Humanities conducted workshops on Video Editing and Artificial Intelligence for the students of Mass Communication. Training sessions were conducted on Field Map Creation, Health Communication, Public Speaking, Radio Media Studies, Traditional Food Cooking and Marketing (Food Festival), and Traditional Knowledge in Nuwara Kalaviya. The Research and Capacity Development Programme was conducted for the young academic staff.

Valentine's Day Programme

The Department of Social Sciences at the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organised an engaging Valentine's Day program on 13th, February 2025, exploring the theme "Cinematic Love and University Love" for the undergraduates of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, in faculty premises. Guest speaker Mr. John Dinesh, acclaimed actor and former Temporary Assistant Lecturer at the University of Kelaniya, shared insightful reflections that enriched the audience's understanding of love in both artistic and academic settings. The session fostered meaningful dialogue and brought the university community together in the true spirit of Valentine's Day.





Women's Day Workshop



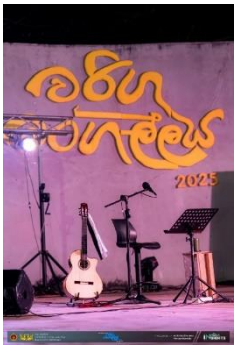
The Department of Social Sciences at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organised a two-day workshop for the undergraduates of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities to celebrate International Women's Day 2025 under the title of, "Gender, Prevention of Gender-Based Violence and Mental Health", with the great guidance of the Head, Dr. Prabash Siriwardhana. It was held on 11th–12th March 2025, at Hall 20, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, in collaboration with the National Committee on Women, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs. The Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Prof. E.M.S. Ekanayake and the Dean Faculty of Applied Sciences Dr. Manoj Fernando and the other Heads of the departments of the faculty.

The first day featured distinguished resource persons such as Dr. Asitha Kosala, Medical Officer of Health Kekirawa, addressed the audience about the topic of 'Sex and Gender'. Mrs. Jeewa Ranasinghe (Attorney at Law), Assistant Deputy Director, North Central Province Legal Eid Commission of Sri Lanka provided an insightful lecture on 'Gender-based violence and Sri Lankan Law'. The Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences Dr. Manoj Fernando, also delivered the lecture to the audience based on the workshop title. Day two focused on practical activities aimed at enhancing students' mental well-being.



The sessions were conducted by Ms. Thushini Vithanage and Mr. Ruwan Hettiarachchi, Psychological Counselling Officers from the National Committee on Women. Across both days, undergraduates gained valuable knowledge, enjoyed meaningful discussions, and benefited from the refreshments and meals provided by the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs. The workshop concluded successfully, providing an enriching learning experience for all participants with a valuable participation certificate.

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The Opening Ceremony of the 8th Cultural Festival, වරිග මංගල්ලය 2025, proudly organised by the Arts Committee of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was ceremonially held on 11th August 2025.

The event commenced with the lighting of the traditional oil lamp, followed by a series of eye-catching and vibrant performances that reflected the cultural diversity and artistic talents of the university community. The ceremony featured traditional dance, music, and drama items, harmoniously blending the rich heritage of Sri Lanka with the creative expressions of the younger generation. Distinguished guests, academic

staff, and a large gathering of students graced the occasion, creating an atmosphere filled with pride, festivity, and togetherness. The festival not only celebrated cultural richness but also highlighted the unity, creativity, and enthusiasm of the Rajarata University student body.

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities Hosts 5th Undergraduate Research Symposium



The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities at the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully held its 5th Undergraduate Research Symposium (URSSH-2025) on 27th January 2026. Hosted under the theme "Advancing Knowledge: Empowering Undergraduates to Overcome Future Challenges," the event provided a dedicated academic platform for final-year students to present findings from their BA (Hons) dissertations and research projects.

Organised under the guidance of Faculty Dean Prof. E.M.S. Ekanayake, the inauguration was graced by Acting Vice Chancellor Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara as Chief Guest. Prof. Mohamed Mahees from the University of Colombo delivered the keynote address, offering valuable insights to emerging researchers. The successful symposium was steered by an organising team led by Chair Dr. L.M.A.P. Gunawardhana, Co-Secretaries Mr. D.M.T.U.K. Dissanayaka and Mr. D.P.A.B.N. Vishwanath, and Treasurer Mr. H.A.B.W. Hettiarachchi, reinforcing the university's commitment to fostering future scholarly excellence.







The 10th Undergraduate Research Symposium



The 10th Undergraduate Research Symposium (URSARU 2025), organised by the Society of Archaeology & Heritage Management, Department of Archaeology & Heritage Management, Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was successfully conducted on 23rd December 2025 at the faculty premises. The symposium, held under the theme "Culture Reflection in Art and Science of Creative Thinking," provided a platform for students to showcase their research, fostering academic growth and deepening the understanding of Sri Lanka's rich archaeological and cultural heritage.

Professor T.G.A. Thalwatte Received an Exceptional Award



Prof. T.G.A. Thalwatte received an award for Research Editorial Work, while Mr. Asitha Mallawarachchi was honoured with an award for Research-Based Publication, at the Bauddhaloka Literary Festival.

Fellowship Awarded to Professor P.S.K. Rajapakshe from York Environmental Sustainability Institute



Prof. P.S.K. Rajapakshe of the Department of Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, has been awarded a prestigious fellowship from the York Environmental Sustainability Institute (YESI), University of York, United Kingdom on 10th June 2025. This fellowship recognises Prof. Rajapakshe's significant contributions to environmental management, sustainability research, and policy-relevant studies. Through the fellowship, Prof. Rajapakshe engaged in collaborative research, academic discussions, and knowledge exchange with scholars at the University of York, thereby strengthening international collaboration and enhancing research capacity in the field of environmental sustainability.

This achievement significantly enhances the reputation of the Department and the academic standing of the Faculty. As part of this international academic engagement, Prof. Rajapakshe delivered invited talks at the University of Huddersfield and the University of Leeds, United Kingdom. His presentation, titled "From Nature to Policy: Leveraging Ecosystem Services and Natural Capital for Sustainable Development – Sri Lankan Experience and Pathways for Future Research," stimulated fruitful discussions and opened avenues for potential international research collaborations.

Chinese Ambassador Scholarships 2025: Honouring Academic Excellence at Rajarata University

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (RUSL) held the Chinese Ambassador Scholarship Awarding Ceremony on 27th November 2025, under the theme "Bridging Excellence and Compassion." The ceremony, graced by H.E. Mr. Qi Zhenhong, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Sri Lanka, and Dr. P.H.G.J. Pushpakumara, Vice Chancellor of RUSL, celebrated academic excellence and cultural exchange.



The scholarship, funded by the Chinese Embassy with LKR 4.2 million (42 lakhs), supports students who excel academically and have financial need. The award prioritises Chinese-language undergraduates and BA (Hons) undergraduates from five other departments in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. This event marked a significant step in strengthening Sino-Sri Lankan relations and enhancing educational opportunities for Sri Lankan students.

Cultural Diplomacy: Japanese Ambassador's Visit



On 10th February 2025, H.E. Mr. Akio Isomata, Ambassador of Japan, visited Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and held a meeting with the undergraduates studying Japanese. The occasion provided a valuable opportunity for academic collaboration and discussion. During the meeting, the students were warmly congratulated on their academic excellence and achievements, with due recognition given to their dedication, hard work, and success in their respective programmes.





Blood Ties: Uniting Communities for a Cause

The second Blood Donation Program, organised by the Society of Archaeology and Heritage Management, Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was successfully held on 19th of February 2025.




Lighting the Path of Multilingual Expression: The Launch of Lumina



The Department of Languages, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, has launched Lumina (ISSN 3084-9535), a multilingual e-magazine aimed at promoting linguistic diversity and intercultural dialogue. The first issue, Volume 1, Issue I, was published on 08th May 2025, reflecting the Department's commitment to creativity and multilingual education at RUSL.

Lumina offers a platform for student contributions in Sinhala, English, Hindi, Chinese, French, and Japanese. It features essays, poetry, short stories, reviews, artwork, and short documentary videos. All submissions go through an academic review process to maintain quality.





"අත්තවු" CSR Project



As part of its commitment to community engagement and social responsibility, the Sociological Association of the Department of Social Sciences successfully implemented the first step of the "අත්තවු" CSR project as a social work initiative on 29th August 2025. This project was carried out for the benefit of students of Mihinthale 'Ukkulankulama Rural School' in Anuradhapura District, with the guidance and supervision of the Head of the Department and the Senior Treasurer of the Sociological Association. Under this initiative, the Association mobilised contributions from well-wishers and collected essential school accessories to support students from rural backgrounds. In addition, a Ceiling fan was donated to the school's main hall, contributing to the improvement of the learning environment. This initiative reflects the Sociological Association's dedication to applying sociological values in practice and fostering meaningful connections between the university and surrounding rural communities.





Celebrating Poson: *Bhakthi Geetha* Programme 2026

The Department of Languages, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, successfully hosted the Poson *Bhakthi Geetha* Programme on 1st July 2026, bringing together academic staff, non-academic staff, and students for an evening of piety, harmony, and togetherness in celebration of the Poson season.



The programme was approved and guided by the Vice Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Senior Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilake. The event was graced by the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Prof. E.M.S. Ekanayake, and the Head of the Department of Languages, Ven. Prof. Olaganwatte Chandrasiri Thero, as well as members of the academic and non-academic staff and students. The event also drew participation from the general public, who immersed themselves in the serenity of the *Bhakthi Geetha* performances.

The programme featured both group and individual *Bhakthi Geetha* performances, showcasing the musical talents and devotional spirit of the participants, with each rendition reflecting the spiritual essence of the Poson season. As the evening unfolded, the devotional songs echoed throughout the Rajarata University premises, filling the surroundings with a sense of peace and religious reflection.

Diyaketa Pahana 3rd Phase: A Night of Melody and Celebration

On 15th October 2025, the Department of Languages at the Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka hosted the *Diyaketa Pahana* - Third Edition (2025) Singing Ceremony at the Faculty of Management's Art Theatre. The event, organised by the Department of Languages under the supervision of Prof. Ven. Olaganwatte Chandasiri Thero, featured Mr. Indika Liyanage, an artist, as a special guest.







The ceremony celebrated student talent, with Mr. Nipun Sandip from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities winning the most popular singing star award, and Mr. Aditya Bandara from the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences securing the top singing talent award. The event fostered creativity, healthy competition, and unity within the university.

"*Varam*-2025" Cultural Event



The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka hosted two vibrant cultural showcases this season. The BA (Hons) in History Degree Programme students organised "*Varam* 2025," featuring traditional performances, folk elements, and cultural storytelling. Meanwhile, Postgraduate Education Science students presented "*Rasoghaya* 2025," celebrating creative expression through drama and dance. Both events highlighted the university's rich commitment to preserving and promoting Sri Lankan cultural heritage among its student community.

"*Salaniya*" Cultural Show 2025



The Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised "*Salaniya*" (සළනිය) Cultural Show 2025 on 15th October 2025 at the 'Epiphany Auditorium of the Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. This vibrant cultural event was graced by the Dean of the Faculty, Heads of Departments, Senior Assistant Registrar (SAR), along with all academic and non-academic staff, and was open to all undergraduates of the University.

Introduced as a pioneering initiative by the Head of the Department, Dr. Prabash Siriwardana, "*Salaniya*" marked the first cultural talent show of its kind organised by the Department of Social Sciences. The successful execution of the event was made possible through the generous support of local and foreign sponsors, whose contributions played a vital role in enhancing the quality and scale of the programme. Beyond entertainment, the event integrated sociological and tourism perspectives, highlighting themes of cultural identity, diversity, tradition, modernity, globalisation, and social transformation. Through music, dance, drama, and artistic performances, "*Salaniya*" provided a meaningful platform for undergraduates to express creativity while reflecting a "Society in Transition," fostering unity, cultural appreciation, and intellectual engagement within the university community.



The Intersection of Sports and Academics



Ms. I.M. Dilrukshi, a BA (Hons) in Mass Communication undergraduate at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, has brought recognition to the university by securing third place in the Women's Below 73 kg Taekwondo category at the SLUG 2025 Inter-University Sports Tournament. Competing against skilled athletes from universities across the country, Ms. Dilrukshi demonstrated exceptional discipline, technique, and determination throughout the tournament. Her achievement reflects the growing sporting talent within the Faculty and the university's continued commitment to nurturing student excellence in both academic and athletic pursuits alike.

Research Grants Awarded to Professor D.M.S.L.B. Dissanayake

Prof. D.M.S.L.B. Dissanayake of the Department of Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, has been awarded comparative research grants funded by RUSL and Serving as Principal Researcher. This grant aim to strengthen research capacity, promote innovative inquiry, and support evidence-based knowledge relevant to national and regional development. This achievement highlights the Department's commitment to fostering a strong research culture and enhances the Faculty's academic standing.

Appointments & Promotions

Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, extends its warmest congratulations to its faculty members on their recent academic, administrative, and coordinator appointments. These roles reflect their dedication to student development and the continuous progress of our institutional initiatives.



Dr. W.M.T.B. Wijepala officially assumed duties as the Head of the Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management, effective from 1st June 2026.



Prof. Ajith Thalwatta officially assumed duties as the Head of the Department of Humanities, effective from 7th July 2026.



Prof. Dilan Gunawardane officially assumed duties as the Head of the Department of Information Technology, effective from 1st June 2026.



Dr. Prabash Siriwardhana officially assumed duties as the Head of the Department of Social Sciences, effective from 3rd July 2025.



Prof. C.R. Withanachchi has been promoted to the post of Senior Professor in Archaeology, effective from 02nd February 2025.



Prof. D.T. Mendis has been promoted to the post of Senior Professor in Archaeology, effective from 05th July 2025.



Rev. Galkulame Uparathana, Senior Lecturer Gr. II, has been appointed as the new Senior Student Counsellor, effective from 10th December 2025.



Dr. Thilanka M. Siriwardana, of the Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management, has been promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer (Grade II), effective from 12th June 2025.



Ms. T.M.C.D. Senarathna of the Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, has been promoted to the position of Senior Lecturer in Tourism Management, effective from 7th June 2024.



Ms. Pavithra Darshani Wickramage has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Social Sciences, effective from 22nd February 2026.



Mrs. Deepthika Abeysinghe has been appointed as a Lecturer (Unconfirmed) in the Department of Humanities, effective from 2nd February 2026.



Mr. G.A.K. Niroshan Jayalath Abeyrathne has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Unconfirmed) in the Department of Economics, effective from 2nd February 2026.

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Top of the Court: Banuka Abeysinghe Leads Sri Lanka University Badminton Team



The Faculty of Technology proudly congratulates Banuka Abeysinghe on representing Sri Lanka at the Asian University Badminton Championship 2026, held in New Taipei City, Taiwan, from 8th to 15th June 2026.

Following national selections conducted in March 2026, twelve outstanding university badminton players, six men and six women were selected to represent the Sri Lanka University Badminton Team. Banuka achieved the distinguished honour of being appointed Captain of the Sri Lanka Men's University Badminton Team.



Banuka's selection as captain from among university badminton players across Sri Lanka is a significant personal achievement and a proud recognition for the Faculty of Technology and the University. It reflects his sporting excellence, leadership abilities, discipline and commitment. The championship brought together university athletes from more than ten Asian countries, including Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Nepal, the Philippines and Thailand.

Through this international experience, Banuka competed against leading university players in Asia, strengthened his leadership skills and promoted Sri Lankan university badminton on an international platform. Banuka expressed his sincere appreciation to the University, the Physical Education Unit, and the Faculty of Technology for the guidance, encouragement and support provided in helping him achieve this dream. The faculty community warmly congratulates Banuka on this remarkable accomplishment and wishes him continued success in his academic and sporting career.

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka Represented at the Seminar on Green Industry Development and Environmental Protection Technology Development for Developing Countries, People's Republic of China



Eng. W.D.C. Weerasinghe from the Department of Materials Technology, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, represented the university at the "Seminar on Green Industry Development and Environmental Protection Technology Development for Developing Countries", held in China from 20th May to 9th June 2026. This seminar was facilitated by the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China. Eng. Weerasinghe was the sole representative from Rajarata University of Sri Lanka at this international programme.

The seminar brought together participants from across Asia to explore sustainable industrial practices, green technologies, and environmentally responsible approaches to industry development. The programme provided a valuable opportunity to engage with international experts, academics, and industry practitioners, broadening perspectives on green industry concepts and their practical applications.





During the visit, Eng. Weerasinghe also engaged with academic institutions and researchers in China, strengthening international networks and exploring avenues for future collaboration relevant to the Faculty of Technology's research agenda. This participation reflects the Faculty of Technology's commitment to international engagement and continuous professional development, reinforcing Rajarata University's presence within the broader regional academic and research community.

Faculty of Technology Secures NSF Technology Grant 2026 for Vanilla Postharvest Research

The Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, has secured funding under the National Science Foundation (NSF) Technology Grant 2026 (Grant No. TG/2026/Tech-D/05), valued at LKR 6.46 million, awarded in June 2026.

The grant supports a collaborative research project undertaken jointly by the Departments of Bioprocess Technology and Materials Technology, Faculty of Technology, titled "Development and Optimisation of Vanilla Curing Chambers and Postharvest Handling Techniques to Enhance Vanillin Yield, Shelf-Life, and Process Efficiency." The project is led by Prof. T.C. Bamunuarachchige as Principal Investigator, with Dr. H.K.S. de Zoysa and Eng. W.D.C. Weerasinghe serving as Co-Investigators.

The research aims to develop and optimise innovative curing chamber systems and postharvest handling techniques to maximise vanillin yield and shelf-life, addressing a critical gap in Sri Lanka's vanilla processing sector. This interdisciplinary collaboration reflects the Faculty of Technology's growing research capacity and its commitment to applied research with direct relevance to Sri Lanka's agricultural and industrial development.

President's Award for Scientific Research 2025



The Faculty of Technology proudly congratulates Dr. Lahiru Jayasuriya, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, on receiving the President's Award for Scientific Research 2025. This prestigious national award recognises his outstanding contributions to scientific research and reflects the Faculty's commitment to research excellence. We extend our heartfelt congratulations and wish him continued success in his future research endeavours.

EXTRU 2025: Innovation and Technology Exhibition



The Faculty of Technology at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully hosted EXTRU 2025, an interactive exhibition focused on technology, innovation, and practical applications of student research. The event provided a vibrant platform to showcase the creativity and technical expertise of the university's undergraduate community.

EXTRU 2025 highlighted a wide range of student-led projects, demonstrating advancements in areas such as engineering technology, information systems, and sustainable innovation. The exhibition featured live demonstrations, models, and interactive displays, allowing visitors to engage directly with the innovations on display.

Undergraduate Research Symposium 2025





The Undergraduate Research Symposium 2025 (URSoT 2025) was successfully held on 30th April 2025 at the Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The symposium provided a vibrant platform for undergraduate students to present their research findings and demonstrate their innovation and academic excellence.

Department of Materials Technology Initiates Collaboration Discussion with Suzhou University of Science and Technology, China

Eng. W.D.C. Weerasinghe, Lecturer, Department of Materials Technology, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, held an informal discussion with the Dean of the School of Environmental Science and Engineering, Suzhou University of Science and Technology (SUST), China, during his visit to China in May–June 2026.

The discussion explored potential areas of future collaboration between the Faculty of Technology, RUSL, and SUST, with shared research interests providing a strong foundation for academic and scientific exchange. Suzhou University of Science and Technology is a recognised institution with established strengths in environmental science and engineering, offering complementary expertise to the Faculty of Technology's ongoing research activities.





This engagement reflects the Faculty of Technology's growing interest in building international academic networks and fostering research partnerships that extend beyond national boundaries. Such collaborations are expected to open pathways for joint research, academic exchange, and knowledge sharing between the two institutions, contributing to the broader internationalisation efforts of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

Faculty of Technology Represents at Key of Techno Exhibition 2025

The Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, participated in the Key of Techno Exhibition held at Divulankadawala President College on 30th September 2025, as part of its ongoing commitment to community outreach and knowledge dissemination.





The Department of Materials Technology led the Faculty's overall participation, under the coordination of Eng. Damith Weerasinghe. Staff and students from three departments actively contributed to the exhibition: the Department of Materials Technology, coordinated by Eng. Damith Weerasinghe; the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, led by Eng. T. Kugaranan; and the Department of Information and Communication Technology, led by Mr. Husni Mohamed. Through innovative displays, interactive demonstrations, and hands-on experiments, the participating departments showcased the practical applications of their respective fields, inspiring school students to explore technology as a pathway for higher education and career development.

The exhibition served as a vibrant platform to expose school students and the surrounding community to university-level innovations, bridging the gap between higher education and the wider community. This direct engagement with students and teachers reinforced the Faculty's role as a partner in shaping future generations and its collective dedication to knowledge sharing, social responsibility, and community engagement.





Department of Materials Technology Project Secures EUR 9,000 Grant Funded by the European Union and BMZ for Sustainable Packaging Innovation



AquaFiber, a biodegradable food container innovation developed from water hyacinth and banana stem by Eng. Damith Weerasinghe and Mr. Bhathiya Dharmarathna from the Department of Materials Technology, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, has been selected for the Circular Economy in the Food Sector Incubator Programme 2025, funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and implemented by GIZ Sri Lanka, Expertise France, FAO, and Hatch Works.

AquaFiber demonstrates how waste materials can become part of the solution, converting invasive water hyacinth and banana stem, an agricultural waste, into commercially viable compostable food packaging that offers a practical alternative to single-use plastics while protecting local ecosystems. The selection entitles the team to a dedicated programme budget of EUR 9,000, fully covered by GIZ, alongside six months of structured mentoring, hybrid prototype development and product testing support, and access to financing and investment pathways. Supported by the EU's Global Gateway, this recognition positions AquaFiber among promising startups reducing Sri Lankan plastic pollution, reflecting the Materials Technology Department's growing role in commercialising sustainable research.





Department of Materials Technology Showcases Water Hyacinth Composite Innovation at Disrupt Asia Innovation Festival 2025



The Department of Materials Technology, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, represented the university at the Disrupt Asia Innovation Festival 2025, held on 19th September 2025 at TRACE Expert City, Colombo. Eng. Damith Weerasinghe and Mr. Bhathiya Dharmarathna represented the Department at the Inclusion Pavilion, which featured innovative work from universities across Sri Lanka.

The department showcased its composite board developed from water hyacinth, a sustainable solution that addresses the challenge of this invasive aquatic plant by converting it into a commercially viable, value-added product. The showcase demonstrated how university-led research can generate practical, market-ready innovations with direct relevance to industry and environmental sustainability.





The festival attracted over 5,000 participants, including global and local speakers, startups, investors, and venture capitalists, providing a significant platform for Rajarata University to gain high visibility within Sri Lanka's broader innovation and startup ecosystem. This participation strengthened the link between the university's research output and industry, reinforcing the Department of Materials Technology's commitment to translating academic innovation into real-world impact.

Receipt of Three RPC Grants and One UBL Mini Grant for the Department of Materials Technology

The Department of Materials Technology has recently secured three University Research and Publication Committee (RPC) grants and one University Business Linkage (UBL) grant for ongoing research projects that are successfully progressing:

RPC Grants

1. Band gap engineering via doped green calcium oxide nanocatalyst for enhanced photocatalytic dye degradation
    - Principal Investigator: Dr. R.A. Jayarathna
    - Grant No. RJT/R&PC/2026/R/FOT/01
    - Amount: Rs. 500,000.00

2. Analysing the Effect and Correlation of Initial Cooling and Ageing Processes on the Mechanical and Microstructural Properties of Extruded Aluminium 6063 Alloy
    - Principal Investigator: Eng. W.D.C. Weerasinghe
    - Grant No. RJT/R&PC/2026/R/FOT/04
    - Amount: Rs. 585,000.00
3. Fabrication of a Ceramic Water Filtration System Incorporated with Chitosan Derived from Waste Shrimp Shells for Heavy Metal Removal
    - Principal Investigator: Ms. H.M.L.R. Fernando
    - Grant No. RJT/R&PC/2026/R/FOT/09
    - Amount: Rs. 500,000.00

UBL Grant

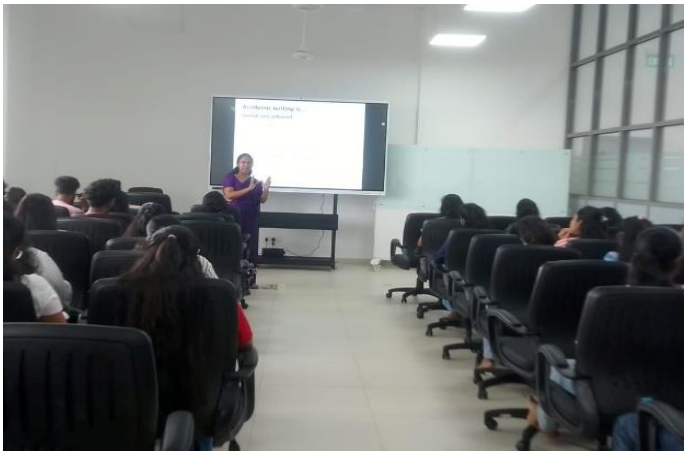
Development and Characterisation of a Biopolymer Film from Banana Corms for Food Packing Application

- Principal Investigator: Eng. W.D.C. Weerasinghe
- Grant No. RJT/UBL/FOT/2026/04
- Amount: Rs. 700,000.00

Strengthening Research Competencies Among Students and Staff

The Department of Food Technology organised and conducted a two-day workshop titled "Data Analysing Using Statistical Methods", aimed at final-year students of the Faculty of Technology and staff members. The workshop was successfully held on 17th and 25th June 2025 at the lecture hall G 501, New Technology Building. The workshop was funded by the Asian Development Bank under the Science and Technology Human Resource Development Project, Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka (CRG grant number R3/RJ3).





In addition, the Department of Food Technology organised a series of Academic Writing Workshops aimed at enhancing the research and scholarly writing competencies of fourth-year undergraduate students. The first workshop was conducted on 20th February 2026 at the Faculty of Technology Library Auditorium. The second session, titled "Effective Use of Research Databases", was held on 13th March 2026 at the same venue, providing students with practical knowledge and skills.

The Association of Food Technology Rajarata University (AFRU) Excels at ProFood ProPack Exhibitions 2024 and 2025



Undergraduates from the Department of Food Technology at Rajarata University showcased their innovative products at the ProFood ProPack Exhibition 2024, held from 23rd to 25th August at the BMICH in Colombo. During the awards ceremony held in March 2025, the Association of Food Technology, Rajarata University (AFRU), won the award for the most commercially viable product and the first runner-up award in the category of best green innovation.

Building on this success, the Department of Food Technology participated in the exhibition for the third consecutive time. Under the guidance of the academic staff, undergraduates showcased their innovative products at the ProFood ProPack Exhibition 2025, held from 22nd to 24th August at the BMICH in Colombo. Additionally, a group of undergraduates from the same department participated in the inter-university quiz competition held in parallel with the exhibition. This event provided a valuable opportunity for the undergraduates to network and build connections with industry professionals as well as students from other universities. The awards ceremony for the ProFood ProPack Exhibition 2025 was held in March 2026, where the Department of Food Technology further demonstrated its excellence in innovation and product development by winning two awards for the first runner-up in the category of Best Innovation Promoting Food Safety and Best Green Innovation. The awards were presented at the ceremony held on 10th March 2026 at Cinnamon Grand, Colombo.

Highlights of Academic Progress and Student Activities in the Department of Food Technology



In accordance with accreditation guidelines, the Food Technology curriculum was revisited and reworded. As part of this process, two workshops were organised for the academic staff of the Department of Food Technology. The resource persons for these workshops were Prof. Renuka Silva, a Lead Expert from the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, and Prof. S.B. Nawarathne, a Senior Expert and retired Professor from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The first workshop was conducted on 16th, 17th, and 18th May 2025 at the L1 Lecture Theatre of the Faculty of Technology. In parallel, a stakeholder meeting was organised to gather insights on the relevance and effectiveness of the current programme. Representatives from the private and public sectors, academia, alumni, and current undergraduates participated in this meeting, which was held in hybrid mode. The second workshop was held on 20th, 21st, and 22nd June 2025 at the L1 Lecture Theatre.

The undergraduates of the 2020/2021 batch from the Department of Food Technology successfully completed their 24-week industrial training in November 2025. During this period, they gained hands-on experience across various sectors of the food industry, including dairy processing, spice processing, and seafood processing, as well as at research institutions such as the National Institute of Post-Harvest Management. The viva voce examination for their industrial training was held in January 2026. In addition, the final-year research project presentations of the 2019/2020 batch were successfully held on 22nd and 23rd December 2025.





Research Grants and Scholarly Achievements of the Department of Food Technology

The Department of Food Technology successfully secured two University Research Grants (RJT/R&PC/2025/R/FOT/05 and RJT/R&PC/2025/R/FOT/06) in 2025, both of which are currently in progress. During 2025, the Department also successfully completed an ADB-funded research project. The findings of this study were disseminated through three conference abstracts and two indexed journal publications, demonstrating the Department's continued commitment to research excellence and scholarly dissemination.

Department Staff Participate in International Workshop on Agrivoltaic-Based Community Energy Solutions



In March 2025, Dr. Lahiru Jayasuriya, Eng. T. Kugaranan, Mr. D.M.D.L. Bandara, and Mr. Y. Kabileswaran from the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology participated in an international workshop on Agrivoltaic-Based Community Energy Solutions. The workshop provided hands-on exposure to Sri Lanka's first semi-transparent solar PV agrivoltaic pilot project, enhancing participants' knowledge of renewable energy technologies and supporting future teaching, research, and collaboration in sustainable energy.

Fibre Splicing Techniques Workshop 2026 Enhances Students' Practical Skills

The Fibre Splicing Techniques Workshop 2026, organised by the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology in collaboration with the Association of Electrical and Electronic Technology (ASEET), was held on 18th March 2026. Through hands-on activities and live demonstrations, students gained practical experience in fibre optic splicing and enhanced their knowledge of modern telecommunication technologies and industry practices.



Department Staff Participate in CNFC NanoFrontiers Scientific Forum



In June 2025, staff members of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, participated in the CNFC NanoFrontiers Scientific Forum organised by the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. The forum provided valuable insights into recent advances in nanotechnology while promoting knowledge exchange, professional networking, and future research collaborations.

Workshop on EV and PHEV Systems Enhances Students' Knowledge in Electric Mobility

The Workshop on Electric Vehicle (EV) and Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) Systems, organised by the Association of Electrical and Electronic Technology (ASEET), introduced students to modern electric mobility technologies. The session covered the fundamentals, real-world applications, and recent advancements in EVs and PHEVs, enhancing students' knowledge of emerging automotive technologies.



Technology Awareness Workshop for School Students



The Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, organised a technology awareness workshop for Grade 11 students to motivate them to select the Technology stream for their future studies. During the programme, students visited laboratories of the five departments of the faculty and gained valuable insights into different technology fields, academic pathways, and career opportunities.

Practical Skills Development Workshop for Engineering Technology Students

Staff members of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, conducted a practical skills development workshop for Engineering Technology students. The workshop enhanced students' practical knowledge through hands-on activities and laboratory sessions, strengthening their technical competencies and industry-oriented skills.



Final Year Students Present Research at SICET 2025



Final-year students from the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, presented their research at the 4th SLIIT International Conference on Engineering and Technology (SICET 2025) held at SLIIT, Malabe. The conference provided valuable exposure, enabling students to share their research, interact with academics and industry professionals, and enhance their presentation and communication skills.

Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology Students Recognised at ICIET 2025



Two final-year student groups from the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology (EET) presented their research at the International Conference on Innovation and Emerging Technologies (ICIET 2025). One group received the Best Oral Presentation Award in the Communication and Networking Technologies track, highlighting the department's commitment to research excellence and innovation.

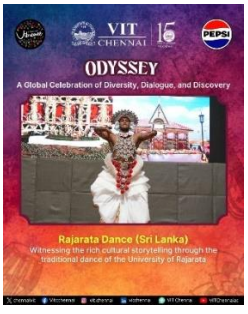
Receipt of National and International Research Grants

The Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology has successfully secured several prestigious national and international research grants, reflecting its commitment to advancing research, innovation, and global collaboration.

1. ERASMUS+ International Credit Mobility Programme
    - Project: International Credit Mobility between the Division of Energy Systems at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden and Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
    - Grant Amount: SEK 350,000
    - Grant Period: 2024–2027
2. I AM COMPACT Research Project
    - Project: Expanding Integrated Assessment Modelling: Comprehensive and Comprehensible Science for Sustainable, Co-Created Climate Action
    - Grant Amount: EUR 35,000
    - Grant Period: 2022–2025
3. Collaborative Research Grant (CRG/R2/RJ2)
    - Project: Implementing a Micro-grid Pilot Project at the Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
    - Grant Amount: USD 500,000
    - Grant Period: 2022–2025
4. Drone-Based Density and Disease Identification in Paddy Fields of the Mihintale Area for Improved Cultivation
    - Principal Investigator: Eng. T. Kugaranan
    - Funding Agency: Rajarata University Research Grant
    - Award Year: 2026

5. Development of a Drone-Based Navigation Analysis System for Aircraft Instrument Landing System Calibration
    - Principal Investigator: Mrs. Nishadi Prasanthika
    - Co-Investigator: Eng. T. Kugaranan
    - Funding Agency: Rajarata University Research Grant
    - Award Year: 2025
6. Development of a Raindrop Renewable Energy System Based on Piezoelectric with Solar Panel
    - Principal Investigator: Eng. T. Kugaranan
    - Funding Agency: Rajarata University Research Grant
    - Award Year: 2025

Students Participate in Vibrance 2026 International Cultural Fest at VIT, India



Four students from the Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, participated in Vibrance 2026, the international cultural festival organised by Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), India, from 18th to 21st February 2026. The students actively took part in cultural and sports activities, representing the university while gaining valuable international exposure and fostering cross-cultural understanding.

International Conference on Microbes and Microbial Technologies (ICMMT 2025)



The Department of Bioprocess Technology, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, successfully organised the first International Conference on Microbes and Microbial Technologies (ICMMT 2025) on 27th to 28th October 2025. This landmark event was held in collaboration with Qujing Normal University, China, and the Tropical Microbiology Research Foundation. The conference served as a vibrant global platform for academics, researchers, professionals, and students to share innovative findings and discuss emerging trends in microbial sciences and biotechnology. The event covered a wide range of themes focusing on the role of microbes in health, agriculture, environmental sustainability, and industrial biotechnology. Through insightful keynote speeches, presentations, and panel discussions, participants explored practical solutions to pressing global challenges such as food security, climate change, and public health.







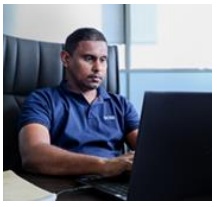
The event successfully concluded by fostering valuable networks for future joint research initiatives, highlighting the department's commitment to advancing scientific knowledge and elevating the university's visibility in the global research community.

Appointments & Promotions

Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, extends its warmest congratulations to its faculty members on their recent academic, administrative, and coordinator appointments. These roles reflect their dedication to student development and the continuous progress of our institutional initiatives.



Dr. H.K.S. de Zoysa has been appointed as the new Head of the Department of Bioprocess Technology, effective from 3rd September 2025.



Dr. Akila Harishchandra has been appointed as a Senior Lecturer (Grade II), in the Department of Bioprocess Technology, effective from 2nd, February 2026.



Dr. Shalini Thiruchittampalam has been appointed as a Senior Lecturer (Grade II), in the Department of Bioprocess Technology, effective from 12th February 2026.



Ms. W.A.A.H. Kalhari has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary), in the Department of Bioprocess Technology, effective from 24th February 2026.



Ms. Rasangi Aluthge has been appointed as a Lecturer (Unconfirmed), in the Department of Bioprocess Technology, effective from 15th June 2026.



Eng. T. Kugaranan has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary), in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, effective from 6th February 2025.



Mr. M.I.U. Marashinghe has been appointed as a Temporary Assistant Lecturer, in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, effective from 10th February 2025.



Ms. M.I. Pallewelagedara has been appointed as a Temporary Assistant Lecturer, in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, effective from 10th February 2025.



Mr. M.R.D.P. Thilakarathne has been appointed as a Lecturer (On Assignment Basis), in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, effective from 1st September 2025.



Mr. A.M.M.H.I. Bandara has been appointed as a Lecturer (On Assignment Basis), in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, effective from 1st September 2025.



Eng. (Ms.) R.M.A.S. Ariyarathne has been appointed as a Lecturer (On Assignment Basis) in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, effective from 1st September 2025.



Dr. R.A. Jayarathna has been promoted to the position of Senior Lecturer (Grade II) in the Department of Materials Technology, effective from 25th August 2025. She has also been appointed as Career Guidance Coordinator, Chair of the Faculty Research and Publication Committee (RPC), and Faculty Coordinator of the Gender Equality and Equity (GEE) Cell at the Faculty of Technology, effective from 1st January 2026.



Ms. H.P.G.P.A. Sewwandi has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Materials Technology, effective from 10th April 2025 and as the Industrial Training Coordinator of the Faculty of Technology, effective from 16th October 2025.



Ms. A.L. Maduwanthi has been appointed as a Temporary Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Materials Technology, effective from 4th February 2026.



Mr. H.G.E.M.R.S.J. Ekanayake has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology, effective from 23rd February 2026.



Mrs. P.G.I. Uthpalani has been appointed as a Lecturer (Unconfirmed), in the Department of Materials Technology, effective from 2nd February 2026 and as the Faculty Library Coordinator for the Faculty of Technology, effective from 1st March 2026.



Ms. W.I. Sandamali has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Materials Technology, effective from 2nd February 2026.



Mr. G.G. Susan Bhathiya has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Materials Technology, effective from 2nd February 2026.



Eng. W.D.C. Weerasinghe, Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Materials Technology, has been appointed as the Deputy Proctor of the Faculty of Technology, effective from 9th June 2025.



Eng. (Ms.) H.M.I.K. Herath, Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Materials Technology, has been appointed as the Faculty Coordinator of the International Relations Unit, Faculty of Technology, effective from 21st February 2025.



Dr. D.S.W. Rajapaksha has been appointed as a Temporary Senior Lecturer, effective from 2nd June 2025 and as a Senior Lecturer (Grade II) in the Department of Food Technology, effective from 2nd February 2026.



Ms. B.E.A.U. Bulathgama has been appointed as a Lecturer (Unconfirmed) in the Department of Food Technology, effective from 2nd February 2026.



Mrs. C.C. Akmeemana has been appointed as a Temporary Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Food Technology, effective from 8th May 2025.



Ms. H.M.L.R. Fernando, Lecturer (Unconfirmed) in the Department of Materials Technology, has been appointed as the Faculty Coordinator of the University Business Linkage (UBL) Cell at the Faculty of Technology, effective from 16th October 2025.



Mrs. I.P.A.U.N.K. Illippangama has been appointed as a Temporary Senior Lecturer, effective from 6th January 2025 and as a Senior Lecturer (Grade II) in the Department of Food Technology, effective from 2nd February 2026.



Ms. J.M.Y. Jayasundara has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Food Technology, effective from 16th April 2026.



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