

Alternatives

THE CPA NEWSLETTER

No 24/2,
28th Lane -
Off Flower Rd,
Colombo 7
Sri Lanka
Vol 4 Issue 4
(Oct-Dec 2006)
04 Pages - Issued Free



Hon Secretary to the Ministry of Media and Information B Ganegala, with students at the Workshop on Mass Communication



"My esteemed counterparts from the South : do not depend on the Media- bring your people and come to the North and East and see with your eyes how much the people are suffering here without even the bare essentials in life."

-M.Subhashini, Student,
Eastern University

at the Inter University Debate Series Workshop on Political Science, part of the Series on **Democracy and Good Governance**, Kandy, 13th-15th Oct 2007

Democracy and Good Governance Inter University Debate Series Workshop on Political Science-

The Inter University Debate on **Political Science**, brought together 122 students from leading National Universities, 13th - 15th Oct. Topics discussed included- *The Present Human Rights Situation in Sri Lanka* presented by Dr. P. Saravanamuttu, *Sri Lanka's Federalism Debate: Ruling Elites to Laymen* by Pradeep Peiris, *Political Communication in Sri Lanka* By Dr. A. Athugala, Senior Lecturer, University of Kelaniya and *Recent Trends in Muslim Politics in Sri Lanka* by Dr. Vellaithamby Ameerdeen-Senior Lecturer, University of Peradeniya
(>>Page 3)

CPA held a **Seminar on the Law Making Process**, 28th Nov in Colombo, examining the constitutional and legal mechanisms for law making, the practice of law making in Sri Lanka and how they compare with the principles of good governance. It further explored the degree of consultation that goes into law making in Sri Lanka, and compared the law making mechanism in place in India and the United Kingdom. Rohan Edrisinha, Director, CPA and Head of its Legal and Constitutional Unit, made a presentation *on the Law Making Process and Good Governance*, and Cyrene Siriwardhana, Director, CPA, made a presentation on the law making process in the United Kingdom.
(>>media coverage Page 3)

- Rohan in UK.....Pg2
- Bhavani in New York.....Pg2
- Dr Nesiiah in New Delhi.....Pg 2
- Staff Profiles.....Pg 2
- Anti Corruption Day Activities.....Pg 3
- In the Press.....Pg 3
- Calender of Events.....Pg 4
- Latest Publications.....Pg 4



CPA's Anti Corruption Programme organised a number of events to mark Anti Corruption Day Dec 9th as a joint initiative between CPA, the
(>>Page 3)

CONTACTING CPA

<http://www.cpalanka.org>
cpa@cpalanka.org

Overall Coordinator of CPA Units:

Dr. Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu
Executive Director
sara@cpalanka.org

Governance and Anti Corruption Programme (GACP)

contact Sriyanie
sriyanie@cpalanka.org
cmev@cpalanka.org

Legal Unit

Contact Person
Rohan Edrisinha

cpalegal@diamond.lanka.net

Media Unit

Contact Person
Sasha Ekanayake
sasha@cpalanka.org

Outreach Unit

Contact Person
Lionel Guruge
lionel@cpalanka.org

Peace and Conflict Analysis Unit

Contact Person
Mirak Raheem
mirak@cpalanka.org

Polling Unit

Contact Person
Pradeep Peiris
cpapoll@diamond.lanka.net

Vibhasha Programme

Contact Person
T.Sures
sures@cpalanka.org

Our Address

24/2, 28th Lane,
Off Flower Road
Colombo 7
Sri Lanka
Tel: 94-11-565304-6
Fax: 94-74-714460

Kethishwaran Jeewarathnam

who previously worked as a Co ordinator at Devasarana Centre , Kurunegala joined the Outreach Unit November 2006. His responsibilities include translation and monitoring of Tamil Medium workshops and he is Field Coordinator for the Programme on Awareness Raising for Local Government Representatives and Civil Society Leaders 2007, in charge of Central Province

EVENTS ATTENDED



5th – 7th Oct. Rohan Edrisinha, Director, CPA and Head of the Legal and Constitutional Unit, attended a conference on "Decentralization, Federalism and Conflict" organized by the Centre for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE), at the University of Oxford, U.K,



Nov 28th Oct- 01st Nov Bhavani Fonseka, Senior Researcher, Legal Unit attended the UN Conference on Millennium Development Goals held in New York, U.S.A. and represented CPA at a workshop organized by the UNDP Regional Centre on Socio-Economic Study on HIV/AIDS held **27th & 28th Nov.**

17th -19th Nov Rohan Edrisinha, Director CPA and Head Legal and Constitutional Unit, attended a conference on **Comparative Constitutionalism** organized by the South Asia Studies Dept of the Johns Hopkins University, held in London. He presented a paper on *Constitutionalism and Multi-culturalism in Sri Lanka ; Lessons for South Asia.*



Nov 16th Dr Devanesan Nesiah, Consultant, Peace and Conflict Unit, visited New Delhi, to speak at the Symposium convened by the National Press Council of India on Press Freedom Day. Dr Nesiah represented the Press Institute and the Press Complaints Commission of Sri Lanka. See :<http://presscouncil.nic.in/npd.htm>,



7th -8th Dec Dr Devanesan Nesiah, consultant, Peace and Conflict Analysis Unit, presented a paper titled "Towards a North Eastern Consensus" at the International Conference "Reviewing the Past and Reshaping the Future" held by The Eastern University, on the occasion of its Silver Jubilee. He also chaired the session on the theme of Good Governance.

Nov 14-15th Dr Saravanamuttu, ED ,CPA participated in the World Bank's SAR Regional Management Retreat, held in Bhubaneshwa, India. The discussion was on Conflict in South Asia. Dr Saravanamuttu also participated in a meeting on the UNDP study on Electoral Violence held in Bangkok, **Nov 16th- 17th**

Staff Profiles, CPA



M.H.M Ajmeer worked with CPA as a CMEV provincial Co ordinator in the last Local Government Election and joined the Governance and Anti Corruption Programme as a Consultant – Training. He monitors the Tamil Medium programmes and co ordnates Tamil Medium trainers. He also works in designing and developing training materials. Ajmeer has a Bachelors Degree in Arts from the University of Peradeniya.



Sundaram Kamaladevi previously employed at Swadeshi Printers joined the Outreach Office as Data Entry Operator October 2006



H.K.Sujith Kumara worked with CMEV as Co ordinator for Sabaragamuwa Province in the 2005 Presidential and 2006 LA Elections and has joined the Governance and Anti Corruption Programme .He has a General Degree from Ruhuna University



Staff Retreat



Directors and Staff of CPA participated in a **Strategic Visioning Session** at the **CPA Staff Retreat** marking the end of the tenth year of CPA's operation, **9th- 11th Dec** at "Kani Lanka", Kalutara.

Meneka, Tusitha, Hasantha and Amila at the Sessions

(>>Page 1)

ANTI CORRUPTION DAY events

Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery and Corruption(CIABC) and Janawabodha Kendraya of Negombo



Governance
and Anti-
Corruption
Programme



Among the events were a street Drama on Bribery and Corruption at the Central Railway Station , Fort , Colombo, an informal Opinion Survey Campaign, the Anti Corruption March and the distribution of leaflets ,calendars, booklets, caps and T Shirts bearing the theme "LETS COMBAT CORRUPTION FOR A PROSPEROUS TOMORROW"

(>>Page 1)

Democracy and Good Governance

A dialogue on similar lines held 20th - 22nd on Mass Communication, brought together 80 students from 6 universities. The Inter-University Co ordinator for this event was Dr Chandrasiri Rajapakshe of Kelaniya University and the chief guest at the opening ceremony was the Hon Secretary to the Ministry of Media and Information B Ganegala who spoke on the

need for quality training for aspiring journalists and congratulated CPA on taking the initiative to make an honest effort to host a programme which benefits students and society as a whole.

Other speakers included Rohan Samarajiva, Mohan Samaranayake, Thilak Jayaratne , Dr Ariyaratne Athugala and Sunanda Deshapirya

New Logo for CPA ...



Following its recent Communications Strategy Workshop, CPA selected a new logo to carry across its image of a progressive provider of alternative solutions in the areas of conflict resolution and good governance. A rich shade of brown was selected to signify its non partisan approach, and all languages were represented.

A further development was internal restructuring of Units in CPA into five (5) Units and three (3) Programmes which takes the place of the previous structure of six (6) Units.

As of January 2007 the Outreach Unit will be located at new premises at
32/7 Flower Rd Colombo 7

CPA in the Media ...

Media given unlimited freedom — Secy., Media Ministry

by Cyril Wimalasurendre
KANDY — Media in Sri Lanka has been granted unlimited freedom. The government has not imposed any limitations or controls, Media Ministry Secretary B. Ganegala said the inauguration of a media workshop for university students in Kandy on Friday (20).

The workshop titled Media and Mass Communication was organised by the Centre for Policy Alternatives. The venue was Hotel Tourmalene, Kandy. Undergraduates of at least 10 univ

print or electronic media. The media
ected
id.
and
ns of
dead
were

Government says no censorship

once imposed with the appointment of a Commission
Authority would
journalists would
for four-
America
Privat
government said yes
terday it had no intention
posing any regulations
dia and their re
Media Ministry

Law making process apart, says Ronnie

By Aruna Zuhair
The country's legislative process has crumbled with the rapid deterioration in parliamentary standards over the last few decades. Presidential Advisor and former Finance and Planning Minister Ronnie de Mel said recently.
Addressing a seminar organised by the Centre for Policy Al

or to adjustment.
"The political leader of the governing party is not in the House and that has become an excuse for the political leader of the Opposition to keep away," he said, explaining that he was not making reference to anyone in particular, but referring to the leaders who had emerged after the enactment of the present Constitution.

Editor
Ronnie's lament
parliamentar

Most discerning
will, no doubt,
Advisor and f
ning Minister Ronnie
country's legislative
the deterioration in
the past few decade
Policy Alternative
late 1980s and too
the notes the
start

Calendar of Events

For more updates on latest and upcoming CPA events, visit

http://www.cpalanka.org/calendar_events.html

Oct

6th- 8th As part of the **Inter Community Student Exchange Programme 2006** Students of Kurunegala / Medamula MV, Hindu Vidyalaya and Gokeralla MV visited Bloomfield College Nuwara-eliya.

6th- 8th CPA's Media Unit, in collaboration with Practical Action, conducted a **Workshop on Disaster Reporting** for journalists from Colombo and Hambantota

11th – 12th Unit Heads, Co-ordinators and Directors of CPA participated at a **Workshop on Communications Strategy** in Kalutara.

13th -15th **Workshop on Political Science** as part of the the **Inter University Debate Series on Democracy and Good Governance**

20th -22nd **Workshop on Mass Communication** as part of the **Inter University Debate Series on Democracy and Good Governance**

17th Negombo **Regional Workshop on Awareness Raising on Anti Corruption** held by the Anti Corruption Programme

19th -22nd Voices of Reconciliation Programme of CPA's Media Unit held a **Training of Trainers Workshop** as part of their Gender Equity Programme

22nd Galle **Regional Workshop on Awareness Raising on Anti Corruption**

23rd Matara **Regional Workshop on Awareness Raising on Anti Corruption**

27th Akkaraipattu **Regional Workshop on Awareness Raising on Anti Corruption**

27th-29th As part of the **Inter Community Student Exchange Programme 2006** Students from Karagaskada MMV, Springvalley Tamil MV, and Haliaia Tamil MV, Deltota, visited Kandegedara Sarniya MV, Badulla at the latter venue .

28th Ampara **Regional Workshop on Awareness Raising on Anti Corruption**

Nov

3rd- 5th As part of the **Inter Community Student Exchange Programme 2006** Students of Badulla Passara Tamil Central College and Badulla Lunugala MV, were hosted by Anuradhapura Harischandra MV

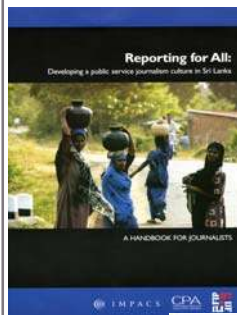
11th -12th Vavunia **Regional Workshop on Awareness Raising on Anti Corruption**

18th -19th Trincomalee **Regional Workshop on Awareness Raising on Anti Corruption**

This free newsletter is published by the Centre for Policy Alternatives, No.24/2, 28th Lane-Off Flower Road, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka. noolaham.org | aavanaham.org

LATEST PUBLICATIONS

Reporting for All
Handbook for Journalists



CMEV Report on the Presidential Election 2005



Centre for Monitoring Election Violence (CMEV)

"Madhya Bhoomikawa"
On Suicide Sensitive Journalism



"SAMADANA NOKKU"

Media Monitor Aug Oct
available tri-lingually.



Selected Changes in State Policy resulting from Civil Society Activism (Sinhala)



25th -26th Hambantota **Regional Workshop on Awareness Raising on Anti Corruption**

26th – 28th **Workshop on Economics** as part of the **Inter University Debate Series on Democracy and Good Governance**

28th. Seminar on the Law Making Process

December

1st- 3rd **Workshop on Sociology** as part of the the **Inter University Debate Series on Democracy and Good Governance**

2nd-3rd (Sinhala Medium) & 25th- 26th (Tamil Medium) Two workshops on **Awareness Raising on Gender Equity** by VOR project for female print and electronic media personnel , Colombo

9th Events to mark Anti Corruption Day including a street Drama ,an informal Opinion Survey Campaign, and the **Anti Corruption March**

9th- 11th **Strategic Visioning Session at the CPA Staff Retreat** marking the end of the tenth year of CPA's operation, at "Kani Lanka", Kalutara.

Newsletter Design and Compilation
by Chandrika Gadiewasam
chandrika@cpalanka.org
(Contents of this newsletter may be reproduced and/or re-published with due accreditation to CPA)