

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2020



**CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN RIGHTS**  
**UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO**

**CENTRE FOR THE  
STUDY OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

**Annual Report  
2020**

CSHR

Faculty of Law

University of Colombo

94, Cumaratunga Munidasa Mawatha

Colombo 3, Sri Lanka

Tel: 94-11-2500879

94-11-2503017

Fax: 94-11-2598462

Email: [cshr@sltnet.lk](mailto:cshr@sltnet.lk)

[cshr.humanrightscentre@gmail.com](mailto:cshr.humanrightscentre@gmail.com)

Website: <http://cshr.cmb.ac.lk>

## Contents at a glance...



**Our Profile**



**What We offer**



**Special Events**



**CSHR Team**

### ***Our Vision***

*To create a nation with a rights consciousness in which the dignity and rights of all people are respected*

### ***Our Mission***

*To be a centre of excellence for human rights education and research using a multidisciplinary approach*

## **Our sincere gratitude to you**

*Our journey would not have been possible without our valuable donors -National Child Protection Authority, Department of Police, Department of Prisons, Air Force, the University of Mahidol, The International Bridges to Justice (IBJ), civil society organisations and partners who collaborated with the CSHR in spreading the message of human rights among the wider community.*

## Message by the Director



It is with great pleasure that I present this message for the Annual Report 2020.

This year has been a laid back year for CSHR to a certain extent since the adverse conditions emerged due to Covid-19 have affected our capacity building programmes; yet we have been able to successfully conduct our Education Programmes through the use of the new technological methods without delays in the timeline of the academic calendars. Against widespread expectations of a decline in numbers in student enrolments; academic programmes of CSHR were able to get increased its revenues on a strong performance, through continued growth in student enrollments in all the programmes. The high regard in which our academic programmes are held ensures that even during this financially unstable period, they comply to be a part of our student community with much enthusiasm. To provide them with a high quality service we have revised By-laws of all the academic programmes to comply with the UGC approved SLQF standards.

One of the spotlight events of this years' calendar is the launch of the Rights Case Law Database which was part of the "Advance Transitional Justice and Rule of Law in Sri Lanka" Project carried out in collaboration with the International Bridges to Justice. The database is a vital and much needed legal resource for legal rights advocates to access primary source of law in order to maintain the highest level of representation for their clients and to protect the rights of accused.

My heartfelt gratitude to the Vice Chancellor, the Dean of the Faculty of Law and the members of the Board of Management for their continued support of the CSHR during the pandemic period and all throughout the year; to all the other partners and persons who worked alongside with the CSHR to ensure the success of its activities, and finally to the staff for their hard work towards the success of all programmes.

**Professor Wasantha Seneviratne**

*Centre for the Study of Human Rights, Head-Department of Public and International Law  
Faculty of Law, University of Colombo*

## Message by the Acting Deputy Director



It is with great pleasure I pen this message for the Annual Report of 2020 of the Centre for the Study of Human Rights.

During the year, CSHR conducted a number of educational programmes in propagating human rights concepts and basic principles towards protecting and promoting human rights even though we had many challenges due to the global pandemic. With the participation of the Academic coordinators of all the educational programmes CSHR revised By-laws of all the academic programmes to comply with the UGC approved SLQF standards to ensure high quality and updated curricular of the programmes.

As a centre of disseminating human rights education CSHR launched the “Rights Case Law Database” which shares legal resource for legal rights advocates to access primary source of law in order to maintain the highest level of representation for their clients and to protect the rights of accused.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge with appreciation the support from all our partners and the staff in realizing our mission to propagate human rights values across Sri Lanka. I wish to thank the funders of CSHR, Professor Chandrika N Wijeyarathne, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Indira Nanayakkara, the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Professor. Wasantha Seneviratne, Director, and the members of the Board of Management for their valuable support.

**M. A. M. Hakeem**

*LL.B. (Hons.)(University of Colombo), LL.M. (Malaya), Attorney-at-Law*

*Senior Lecturer, Department of Public and International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo*

# Contents

Our Profile.....	5
Human Rights Education.....	6-10
Master of Human Rights and Democratisation - Asia Pacific and Local.....	6
Postgraduate Diploma in Child Protection and Rights.....	8
Distance Learning Diploma in Human Rights and Democracy – DLDHRD.....	9
E Diploma in Human Rights.....	9
Diploma in Human Rights based Policing.....	9
<b>Certificate Programmes.....</b>	<b>10</b>
Capacity Building.....	12
Programme on Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law for Junior Commanders of the Air Force.....	12
Knowledge Sharing.....	13-14
Resource Centre.....	13
<b>Special Events.....</b>	<b>15-16</b>
Commemoration of the International Women's Day - 2020.....	15
Launch of the Computerized Case Law Database.....	16
Commemoration of the International Human Rights Day- 2020.....	16
<b>CSHR Team.....</b>	<b>17-20</b>
Institutional Development.....	17
Administrative Pillars.....	18
Our Team.....	19



## Our Profile

Centre for the Study of Human Rights (CSHR), was established in 1991 in response to extensive human rights violations in Sri Lanka at the time period. It was set up as a non-profit organisation within the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo, with the objective of making the public aware of their rights and remedies for the violation of rights. CSHR has been a pioneer of human rights education for nearly 30 years with its mandate of Human Rights Education, Research and Capacity Building.

The CSHR continues to believe in the primary goal of Human Rights Education as a vital component in building a Human Rights culture throughout society; where the principles of peace, respect for diversity, and economic and social justice are maintained. This goal is pursued through the content and methods employed in the educational programmes of the CSHR. This view places importance not only on the content of the programmes, but also on ways that education seeks to build up attitudes and behaviour patterns which reflect a culture of Human Rights. CSHR offers Advanced training programmes, Certificate Courses, Diploma programmes Higher Diploma, Postgraduate programme and Masters under CSHR Education Programmes.

In terms of Research, the CSHR carries out practically applicable research in relation to rights and also conducts research for other Government and Non-Government Organizations. CSHR also works towards strengthening the capacity of those in Government and Non-Government sectors with the aim of protecting and promoting their rights as well as making them aware of rights of their stakeholders. Over the years, the CSHR reached out to many groups such as secondary school students, rural and plantation communities, the university community, armed forces, police and prison officers, quazis, media personnel, prison inmates and the general public among others.

CSHR also facilitates capacity building programmes in disseminating human rights knowledge and knowledge services through its Resource Centre rich in a wide range of human rights resources. The beneficiaries include students, academics, researchers and the general public. Membership of the resource centre is free of charge for all the registered students of the CSHR.

CSHR also focuses in Institutional Development facilitating the capacity building of the staff to improve their knowledge, skills and capacities towards disseminating programmes to CSHR's partners effectively and efficiently.

The CSHR's goal is to create a nation with a rights consciousness in which the dignity and rights of all people are respected.

## What We Offer

- Human Rights Education
- Capacity Building
- Human Rights Research
- Knowledge Sharing

### HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

Human Rights Education is one of the thematic areas under the CSHR mandate. The education programmes were launched back in 1996 with the intention of providing the basic knowledge on Human Rights to the general public to suit the country's need at the period. In par with its vision CSHR make use of formal educational programmes that cater to different educational levels with the aim of enhancing the understanding of the multidimensional nature of human rights. Target groups of these programmes consists of state actors, undergraduates, graduates, private sector entities, officers of law enforcement agencies, security forces and the general public. The duration of these programmes vary from a minimum of three months to one year. CSHR adopts diverse, innovative and student oriented instructing modes in disseminating knowledge and student evaluation. The following educational programmes were carried out during the year.

#### **Master of Human Rights and Democratisation – APMA Programme**

The Master of Human Rights and Democratization (MHRD) is an interdisciplinary intensive one-year postgraduate degree that reflects the inseparable links between human rights, democracy, peace and development in the region. Designed for mid-career professionals and highly motivated undergraduates, the degree offers students a unique opportunity to engage first-hand with regional and international human rights issues, and to interact with internationally renowned human rights academics, practitioners and experts.

The one year Asia Pacific Master's degree programme was launched in 2010 in collaboration with partner universities of the Asia Pacific region, including the University of Sydney (the coordinating partner), Mahidol University (Thailand), Universitas Gadjah Mada (Indonesia) and Kathmandu School of Law (Nepal) and the Ateneo de Manila Law School (the Philippines).

The Inauguration of the Asia Pacific Master's Degree Programme on Human Rights and Democratisation - 2019/20 was held at the Centre for the Human Rights, Faculty of Law on 7 February, 2020.

The Asia Pacific Master of Human Rights and Democratisation programme is co-funded by the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation.

## **Master of Human Rights and Democratization (Local) Programme**

The local Master's degree programme was introduced in 2014 parallel to the Asia Pacific programme to cater to the local student community who prefer to extend their knowledge on Human Rights in Sri Lanka. The Master of Human Rights and Democratisation (MHRD) programme conducted by the Centre for the Study of Human Rights (CSHR), is a multidisciplinary programme of study (a Master of Arts degree) catering to mid-career professional from diverse academic and professional backgrounds. The degree offers students a unique opportunity to engage first-hand with regional and international human rights as well as democratisation issues, and to interact with internationally acclaimed academics, practitioners and experts.

The programme is linked to the Asia Pacific Regional Programme, currently coordinated by the University of Mahidol in Thailand, and hence, students have the opportunity to interact with a group of international students from the Asia Pacific Region (including South Asia) in the Second Semester. Thailand.

Inauguration of the Master of Human Rights and Democratization 2020/2021 was conducted successfully on 9<sup>th</sup> of October on Zoom Video Conferencing Platform followed by the Inauguration on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October through the same platform. 41 students were enrolled for the local Master's degree programme this year.

On behalf of the Centre for the Study of Human Rights, Faculty of Law, the University of Colombo Director, Finance Officer, Academic Coordinator and the Coordinator of MHRD participated in the steering committee meeting held on Thailand held on 11 January to 12 January 2020.

The students engaged in three field visits as part of their learning process. The students visited the parliament and listened to a formal sitting on 19<sup>th</sup> February. They also paid a visit to the Attorney General's Department on 3<sup>rd</sup> of March and participated in an information session on the functions, mandate and responsibilities of the AG's Department in Sri Lanka. The students participated in a civil society protest to abolish micro-finance loans that affect women's human rights in Sri Lanka on 27<sup>th</sup> of February.

Amidst the covid-19 situation, second Semester lectures for both local and international students were held via zoom. Special Online Examination was held with the approval of Senate of the University of Colombo on 28, 29 May 2020 for 5 International using Zoom and Moodle Learning Management System Platforms.

Six students from both programmes graduated at the convocation held on 31<sup>st</sup> of December.

***Special seminar on fieldwork, data collection, and analysis under Covid 19 conducted by Dr. Eva Ambos, an Anthropologist from Tubingen University, Germany***

Since many of the students had queries about their thesis and data collection, a special seminar was held on fieldwork, data collection, and analysis under Covid 19. It was conducted by Dr. Eva Ambos, an Anthropologist from Tubingen University, Germany who is currently in Sri Lanka for her post-doctoral research. All students actively participated and many issues they face in relation to their thesis were addressed in the discussion.

***MHRD Lockdown Journal***

During the lockdown period there were 5 international students in SL. Academic Coordinator kept in touch with them regularly, as some of them were going through depression. They were asked to capture what they see during their lockdown and selected photos were uploaded in Facebook as the "lockdown journal". The purpose was to keep them engaged and to see positive sides of a depressing moment. Two students were self quarantined by the area PHI and Director, Deputy Director and Academic Coordinator were in touch with them regarding their daily necessities. Four students were facilitated to leave the country in coordination with their respective embassies.



Steering committee meeting



Inauguration of the Asia Pacific Master's Degree Programme on Human Rights and Democratisation



Field visits of the Asia Pacific Masters in Human Rights and Democratisation



visit to the Parliament



Observing a civil society protest

## **Postgraduate Diploma in Child Protection and Rights**

The One year postgraduate degree programme is for Academics, Government officers and law enforcing officers who deal with issues pertaining to children, personnel who engage in work in the child protection sector, child rights and human rights activists, journalists, teachers and other interested persons and professionals engaged in protecting and promoting child rights and preventing child abuse in the society and the interested members of civil society. Basic understanding of concepts of child rights, evolution of child rights, related international and domestic legal framework and practical application of child rights are discussed through the curriculum of the programme. The programme is conducted in English, Tamil and Sinhala mediums.

The Inauguration of the batch of 2020/21 Programme was successfully held through the Zoom online conference on 18<sup>th</sup> of July 2020. 72 students were enrolled in the programme for this year. Lectures were conducted via Zoom weekly Saturday and Sunday for all three mediums (Sinhala, Tamil and English) throughout the year.

## **DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES ON HUMAN RIGHTS**

### **Distance Learning Diploma in Human *Rights and Democracy* – *DLDRD***

The objective of this programme is to provide academic understanding of the core principles of Human Rights and Democracy with unique consideration to current the trend. Distance mode of education will enable participants who are working at the grass root level to enhance the necessary skills to further their profession, towards making a positive impact on the protection and promotion of Human Rights and Democracy in the wider society.

The inauguration of the batch of 2020/21 was held through Zoom on 17<sup>th</sup> of December. 40 students registered for the Sinhala Medium while 26 students enrolled for the Tamil Medium.

### **E Diploma in Human Rights**

The objective of this one year diploma programme is to provide an opportunity of studying human rights to those who have not had an opportunity of obtaining a structured understanding of human rights issues and whose activities will have a positive impact on the promotion and protection of Rights.

Inauguration and Orientation of the E Diploma in Human Rights first Batch of 2020/21 was held through Zoom on 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2020. 30 students enrolled for this programme. The Orientation was conducted by the Moodle Administrator along with the first lecture on Introduction to Human Rights, referencing and assignment writing conducted by Dr. Nishara Mendis. Three lecture sessions covering Module 2, 3 and 4 were conducted through zoom during the year.

The second batch of the year 2020/21 was inaugurated along with the other Diploma Programmes on 17<sup>th</sup> of December with the enrollment of 39 students.

## **Diploma in Human Rights based Policing**

This Diploma was designed based on the findings of the project on Enhancing Human Rights Protection (EHRP) implemented by the CSHR and the Kathmandu School of Law, Nepal, in collaboration with the University of Sydney, Australia. This programme intends to formulate the tested strategy into a formal training programme designed especially for Police personnel in Sri Lanka. The programme is offered in both Sinhala and Tamil mediums with funding from the Department of Police.

Workshops on Stress Management and Communication Skills were held on 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of September respectively in the CSHR Class Room with the participation of 44 officers. The objective of workshops was to empower the participants to Adapt professionalism in policing through enhanced skills such as effective communication, stress management.

The inauguration of the batch of 2020/21 was held through Zoom on 17<sup>th</sup> of December. 40 students enrolled for this programme.

## **CERTIFICATE PROGRAMMES**

### **Certificate in Law and the Citizen (Sinhala medium) and Certificate in Human Rights and Fundamental Rights (Tamil Medium)**

The certificate programmes of CSHR are conducted over a period of 3 months targeting the employees of public and private sector, human rights activists and other interested candidates, who are keen to know the basics of human rights and fundamental rights.

Principles and Norms of Human rights, Domestication of Human Rights are the main topics of the Certificate in Law and the Citizen while Civil, Criminal Law Systems and Courts systems were discussed through the Certificate in Human Rights and Fundamental Rights programme.

The Inauguration ceremony of both programmes was held at the Centre for the Human Rights, Faculty of Law on 12<sup>th</sup> of September.

### **Certificate in Human Rights and Fundamental Rights –Puttlam (Tamil Medium)**

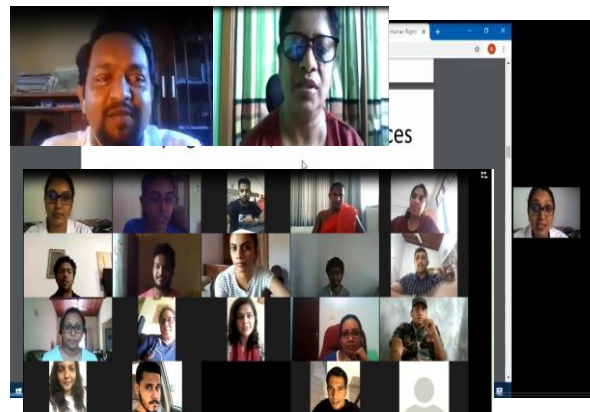
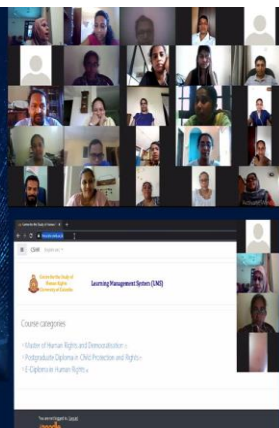
The target groups of this 3 months programme are the employees of public and private sector, human rights activists and other interested candidates, who are keen to know the basics of human rights and fundamental rights. This course designed based on Puttlam district and funded by FRIENDS Organization (NGO).

The Inauguration ceremony was held in Puttlam and 82 students were enrolled in this programme.

## Inauguration of the Postgraduate Diploma in Child Protection and Rights

Postgraduate Diploma in Child Protection and Rights  
2020/2021

**INAUGURATION**

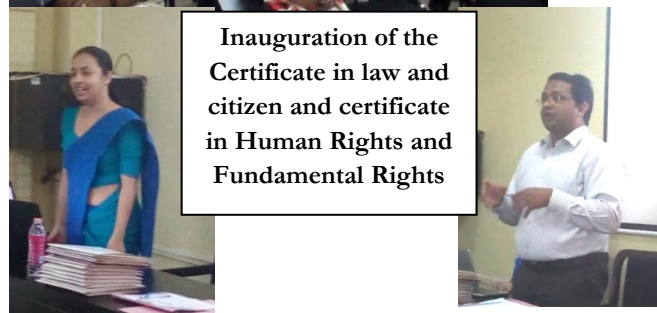


## Inauguration and orientation of the E Diploma in Human Rights Batch 1

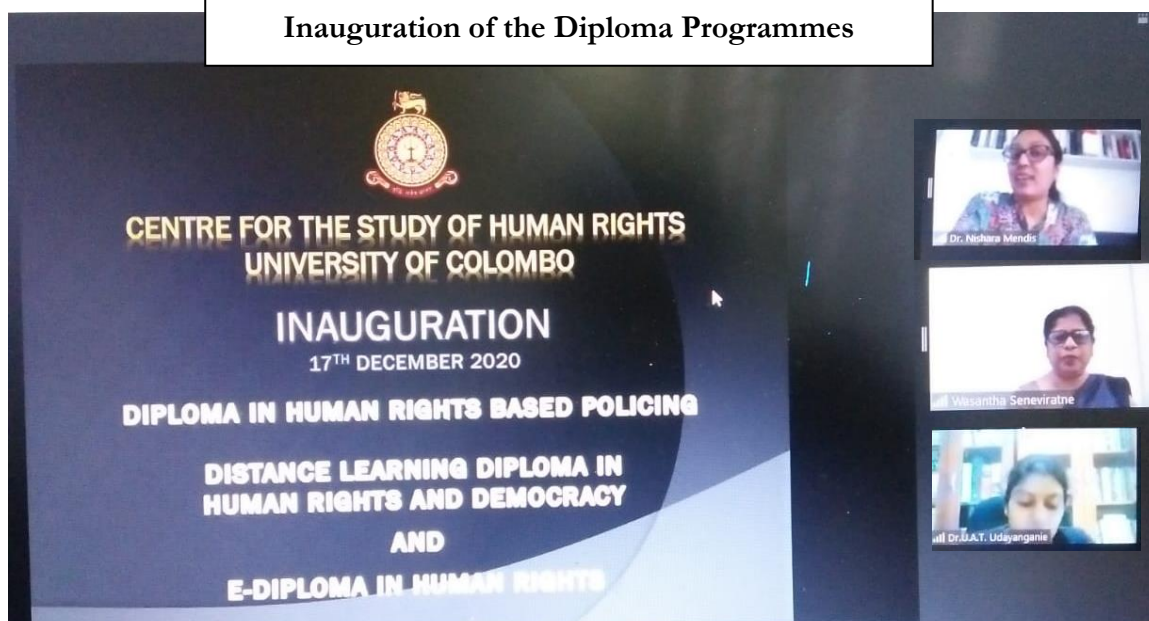
## Workshop on Stress Management Diploma in Human Rights Based Policing



## Inauguration of the Certificate in law and citizen and certificate in Human Rights and Fundamental Rights



## Inauguration of the Diploma Programmes



## CAPACITY BUILDING

### Programme on Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law for Junior Commanders of the Air Force

Since 2008, The CSHR has been conducting three 3 Day programmes annually for the Junior Command and Staff Course of the Air Force, where officers of the Army and Navy also participate. This programme is collaboratively conducted by the Centre for the Study of Human Rights (CSHR) and Sri Lanka Air Force. The programme conducts four times a year as per the request made by Sri Lanka Air Force. The aim of this programme is to provide considerable theoretical and practical knowledge on International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law for both Sri Lankan and foreign middle ranked armed forces officials who are nominated by the relevant authorities.

63<sup>rd</sup> Junior command and staff training programme was held at the CSHR on 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> of February.



## KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Through knowledge sharing CSHR aims to provide multicultural and multidisciplinary knowledge services to keep pace with knowledge on human rights by creating awareness among diverse groups of persons at different levels. During the year, CSHR provided knowledge to students, academics, researchers and other persons through its Resource Centre, located within its premises.

## CSHR RESOURCE CENTRE

The number of books in the Resource Centre increased over the year with 142 new books being added to the collection. The number of books available for referencing added up to approximately 3,946.

The usual number of core journals was subscribed to, so that latest periodical information was received.

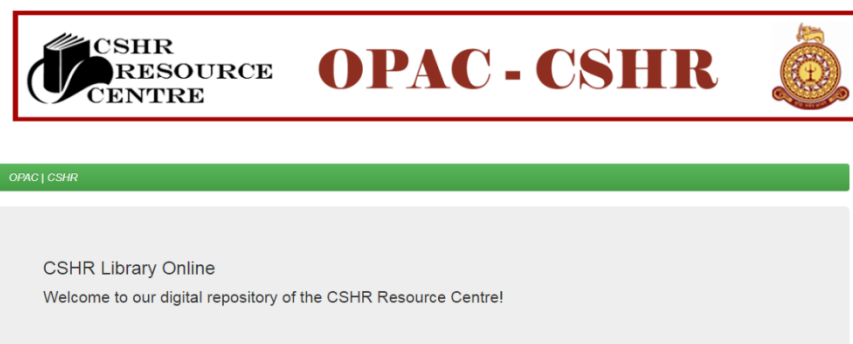
The updated newspaper clippings service in Sinhala, Tamil and English fulfilled the requirement of latest information needed on a wide range of topics. In addition to the undergraduates, other visitors to the Resource Centre, both local and foreign, found the resources available, useful. The material available was also used for the various education and capacity building programmes conducted by CSHR throughout the year.

## Donations

A generous donation of publications of late Professor C G. Weeramantry which is nearly 1,166 books and 53 journals was received. It contains resources belonging to various subjects such as Law, Human Rights, Social Science, War, Peace, Nuclear, Religion, Political Science, Literature, etc;.

Former Sri Lanka Human Rights Commission staff member Ms. Anuradha Perera also donated books from her collection on Human Rights, Refugee & Internal Displaced persons.

## Online Database and E-Resources Module



All information on books received and location of journal articles was made available on the library online database and updated throughout the year. The Resource centre database was hosted as an online

catalogue with a searching facility so that the readers, the university community and the general public could search and locate publications available at the CSHR Resource centre for referencing; the database is available at <http://opac.cshr.cmb.ac.lk:8080/jspui/>

Apart from the online catalogue the resource centre maintained an Open Access E- Resources module on the CSHR Learning Management System consisting of important resources belonging to various Human Rights Categories which is available to general public for access. The E-Resources Module is available at <https://lms.cshr.cmb.ac.lk/course/view.php?id=44>.

### **Resource Centre Users**

The following memberships were given to all Resource Centre users during the year, for a scheduled period, with the exception of undergraduates having to make a payment. A total number of 212 new undergraduate members joined the Resource Centre as detailed below.

#### **Undergraduate memberships from the University of Colombo**

Faculty of Law	217
Faculty of Arts	5
Total	222

#### **Other Memberships**

One day	10
Six months	01
Total	11

The number of users attending the Resource Centre for the year was 2,494 as users have been requested to sign in only once for the day.

Due to the Covid-19 situation the CSHR Resource centre was closed from 13<sup>th</sup> March to 29<sup>th</sup> June. Adhering to all health and safety measures it was opened for a short period of time on 29<sup>th</sup> of June for the Final Year students of the Faculty of Law and again was closed from 05<sup>th</sup> of October following the second wave of the pandemic.

### **Book Borrowing Facility**

Books are permitted to be borrowed only by staff of the Faculty of Law. Twelve members of the staff borrowed and returned 40 books during the course of the year.

### **Photocopy Service**

The smooth running of the photocopy service was a great asset to the students during assignment time, when the demand for photocopies was high. A total number of 818 orders were received during the year.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY – 2020

The international Women's Day 2020 celebration was held on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of March in collaboration with National Saving Bank (NSB), Bambalapitiya. A Guest Talk on "Body Politics: Paradoxes between Gender Rights and Cultural Conformity" by Professor Subhangi M.K Herath, Senior Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of Colombo was organized on 11<sup>th</sup> of March to address the theme of the International Women's Day 2020 - "I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights for an Equal Future". A panel discussion moderated by Ms. Chathurika Akurugoda was conducted on 12<sup>th</sup> of March with the participation of many civil society organizations, students and government authorities on the theme of "Legal, Physical and Psychological Protection of a girl Child in Sri Lanka".



## LAUNCH OF THE COMPUTERIZED CASE LAW DATABASE

The database was founded to provide criminal free access to defense lawyers, human rights defenders, judges, prosecutors, law students and other interested parties the judgments delivered on Fundamental Rights cases by the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka. It is a vital and much needed legal resource for legal rights advocates to access primary source of law in order to maintain the highest level of representation for their clients and to protect the rights of accused.

The objectives of the database are to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge on fundamental rights cases documented in Sri Lanka. The database will provide access to primary sources of law to assist advocates in properly understanding the status of the law to effectively act in the best interests of their client and improve the quality of their advocacy.

The benefit of the database will be to facilitate the access to primary legal resources for legal rights advocates. The beneficiaries of the database include criminal defendants, criminal defense lawyers, human rights advocates, state prosecutors, judges, and law students.

The database was launched by the Vice Chancellor, Senior Professor Chandrika N Wijeratne at the Board Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September with the participation of Ms. Ashley Brown of the International Bridges to Justice and the Board Members.

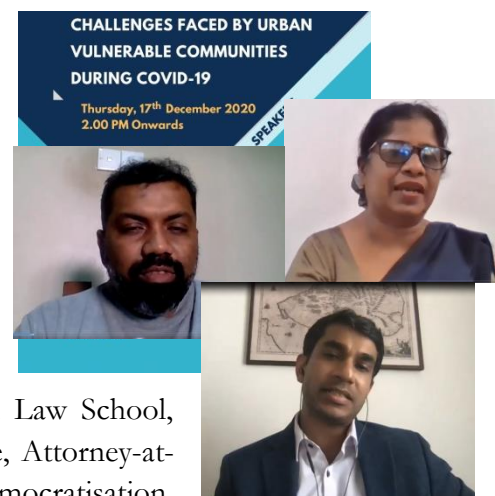
This project is conducted in collaboration with the IBJ (international bridges to justice).



## COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY – 2020

In commemoration of the International Human Rights Day the CSHR organized a Webinar on the topic of “Challenges Faced by Urban Vulnerable Communities during COVID-19” on

17 December 2020 from 2.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. on Zoom. The panel of speakers consisted of Professor Wasantha Seneviratne, Director-CSHR and Head, Department of Public and International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo, Dr. M. T. M. Mahees, Senior Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo. President of the Arts Council of University of Colombo and Dr. Gehan Gunatilleke, Visiting Fellow, Harvard Law School, USA. The Discussion was Moderated by Ms. Kaushalya Ariyaratne, Attorney-at-Law, Academic Coordinator, Master of Human Rights and Democratisation, Centre for the Study of Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo. Over 100 participants from various capacities participated in the programmes.



## CSHR TEAM

- Institutional Development
- Administrative Pillars
- Our Team

### INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### Workshop on Revising Bylaws and Course Modules

A workshop to revise By-Laws and Course modules was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 9.00am at the Lecture Hall, Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute (HARTI).

All the By-Laws and curricular of the existing CSHR Educational Programmes were aligned to meet the SLQF standards. Mr. M A M Hakeem, Acting Deputy Director, CSHR presented the “Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework “descriptively informing the guidelines to the Academic Coordinators. The Project Coordinators paired with their respective Academic Coordinators in this task with the aid of the SLQF Handbook. All the by-laws were tabled at the Academic Committee meeting held in December.



## **ADMINISTRATIVE PILLARS**

**Members of the Board of Management**

### **CHAIRPERSON**

**Senior Professor Chandrika N Wijeyaratne**  
**Vice Chancellor, University of Colombo**

### **MEMBERS**

**Professor Wasantha Seneviratne**  
**Director, CSHR**  
**Head, Department of Public and International Law,**  
**Faculty of Law, University of Colombo**

**Professor Indira Nanayakkara**  
**Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo**

**Deshabandu Jezima Ismail**  
**Former Chancellor, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka**

**Ms Manouri Muttetuwegama**  
**Barrister, Attorney-at-Law**

**Mr Prasantha Lal De Alwis**  
**President's Counsel**

**Deshamanya Dr Radhika Coomaraswamy**

**Mr Geoffrey Alagaratnam**  
**President's Counsel**

**Mr Nigel Hatch**  
**President's Counsel**

**Professor Neloufer de Mel**  
**Department of English, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo**

**Dr Chandani Liyanage**  
**Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo**

**Emeritus Professor Ravindra Fernando**  
**Professor of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology**

## **Academic Committee**

Professor Indira Nanayakkara, Dean, Faculty of Law  
Professor Wasantha Seneviratne, Director, CSHR  
Mr MAM Hakeem, Acting Deputy Director, CSHR  
Professor Neloufer de Mel, Department of English  
Mr. Prasantha Lal De Alwis, President's Counsel

## **Finance and Administrative Committee**

Professor Indira Nanayakkara, Dean, Faculty of Law  
Professor Wasantha Seneviratne, Director, CSHR  
Mr MAM Hakeem, Acting Deputy Director, CSHR  
Mr Nigel Hatch, President's Counsel

## **OUR TEAM**

### **DIRECTOR**

#### **Professor S. S. M. W. Seneviratne**

LL.B. (Hons.)(University of Colombo), M.Phil (University of Colombo), Attorney-at-Law  
Head, Department of Public and International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo

### **ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

#### **Mr M. A. M. Hakeem**

LL.B. (Hons.)(University of Colombo), LL.M. (Malaya), Attorney-at-Law  
Senior Lecturer, Department of Public and International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo

### **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

#### **Acting Administrative Officer | Finance Officer**

**Thushari Hewage** ICASL Intermediate

#### **Assistant Finance Officer**

**Shamila Nadarasa** ICMA Intermediate

#### **Secretary**

**Kunthala Sewwandi Fernando**

Advanced Diploma in Secretarial Proficiency and Company Administration

#### **Office Assistant**

**Luxman Wijelal**

## **PROJECT STAFF / RESEARCH STAFF**

### **Project Manager**

#### **Maduka Perera**

BSc (University of Peradeniya), MEcon (University of Colombo), Dip PM (PMS)

### **Project Coordinators**

**Lekha Herath** LL.B, Attorney-at-Law, MA in Sociology (University of Kelaniya)

**W A Sumudu Thilanka** BA (Hons) in Sociology and Social Work (University of Colombo)

**Sabitha George** BA (Hons) in Geography (University of Jaffna)

### **Assistant Project Coordinator**

**Pavithra Rajendran** LL.B(Hons) University of Colombo

### **Administrative Assistants**

**Tharanga Gunasekara** MAAT, NVQ Level 4 in ICT Technician

**Nisansala Gurusinghe** Advanced Diploma in Business Management, NVQ Level 4 in ICT Technician

### **Moodle Administrator**

#### **Thilini Chandrasekera**

BSc. Special (Hons) IT (SLIIT), Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations (BCIS)

## **RESOURCE CENTRE STAFF**

### **Documentation and Information Officer**

**Mahesha Abeywickrema** ALA (Sri Lanka), Postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Sciences (University of Colombo), Dip in Journalism (University of Colombo)

### **Library Attendant**

**Ruwan Chandrasena**

## **ACADEMIC COORDINATOR**

### **Master of Human Rights and Democratization**

**Kaushalya Ariyaratne** LL.B (Colombo), MA (Keele), Attorney-at-Law