



NEWSLETTER

Centre for the Study of Human Rights
University of Colombo

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Inaugural Seminar and Welcome Reception

Asia Pacific Master of Human Rights and Democratisation Programme
Centre for the Study of Human Rights
University of Colombo



New Director of CSHR

Professor Sharya Scharenguivel
(PROFESSOR OF LAW)

CSHR is pleased to welcome Professor Sharya Scharenguivel as its new Acting Director. She has served CSHR in the past in the capacity of Director, Acting Director and Deputy Director from 2003 to 2014.

Professor Scharenguivel is the Professor of Law of the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo. She is an eminent academic and a renowned researcher in the fields of child rights, women's rights, Sri Lankan legal systems, personal laws and family law.

She has published several books and articles. She has been honoured on several occasions with local and foreign awards and fellowships. She has held several executive and other positions in her professional life.

**EVERY
HUMAN
HAS
RIGHTS**



VISION

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

**C
S
H
R**

MISSION

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



Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

Helen Keller

Inauguration of the Asia Pacific Master of Human Rights and Democratisation - MHRD - 2016/2017

CSHR NEWS AND EVENTS

The inaugural seminar and welcome reception of the Asia Pacific Master of

Human Rights and Democratisation was held on 27

January at the Faculty of Law,

University of Colombo. The seminar was on "Justification for Constitutional Reform: Which way forward?" in which Mr. Gehan Gunatilleke

discussed *Constitutionalising Socio-Economic Rights*, Professor Sharya Scharenguivel on *Impediments in the*



Constitution to Realizing the Rights of Women and Children, and Mr. Niran Anketell on Justiciable Socio-Economic Rights: Some Concerns.



The event was graced by Ms. W.I. Nanayakkara, Dean, Faculty of Law; Senior Professor Ravindra Fernando, Acting Director, CSHR; Ms. Wasantha Senaviratne, Acting Deputy Director, CSHR; Ms. Rose Wijeyesekera, Head,

Department of Public and Comparative Law; and



distinguished invitees and academic staff of the Faculty of Law and Arts.

Five international students joined the CSHR this year and are



currently reading for the second semester along with the students of the local Master's programme.

Distance Learning Diploma in Human Rights and Democracy (DLDHRD) – 2017

DLDHRD is designed for people who are working at grassroot level, human rights activists and those who are interested in making a positive impact on the protection and promotion of Human Rights and Democracy in the wider

in both Sinhala and Tamil medium. The inauguration and introductory session of the DLDHRD 2017 were held on the 29th April at the

2015/16 batch was held on 10th September 2016.



Ceylon Room,
Faculty of
Law,
University of
Colombo. The

society. This course is offered

final examination for the

Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law for the Armed Forces



The Human
Rights and
Humanitarian
Law
Programme

for the 53rd batch of Junior Commanders was held from 20 -22 March at the CSHR. Resource persons of the programme

were those who are experts in the relevant fields. Each team comprised Junior Commanding Officers of the Sri Lanka Air Force and Sri Lanka Navy as well as two officers from the SAARC region, who completed their

Manage-
ment
Module
at the Air
Force

Training Academy in China Bay.



Inauguration of the Postgraduate Diploma in Child Protection and Rights (PGDCPR) - 2017



The inauguration of the Postgraduate Diploma in Child Protection and Rights was held on 27th January at the Ceylon Room, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo.

This is the first batch of students who are following the postgraduate diploma. This programme is targeted at the child protection sector, child rights and human rights activists, professionals engaged in protecting and promoting child rights and preventing child abuse in society. 'Rights of Children and their protection' has been a key topic of interest among academics, administrators, policymakers, NGOs, INGOs, donor community and interested members of civil society over the past several years. This programme is

intended to provide and develop necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes in the area of child protection,

issue in child protection and child rights training for a long time.

Professor Ravindra Fernando, former Acting Director of the CSHR, Dr Natasha Balendra, former Chairperson, National Child Protection Authority and Mr Sajeewa Samaranayake, Deputy Chairperson, National Child Protection Authority addressed the gathering at this event. In addition, Staff of the Faculty of Law and CSHR also participated at this event.



Students enrolled in this intake were from diverse

backgrounds, including child protection, law, probation, police and education.



rights and policy.

This course addresses the gap between theory and practice which has been a key



Inauguration of the Diploma in Human Rights based Policing

This diploma programme is a new programme designed especially for police personnel in Sri Lanka. The Diploma in Human Rights based Policing is offered both in Sinhala and Tamil languages. The inauguration of this diploma was held

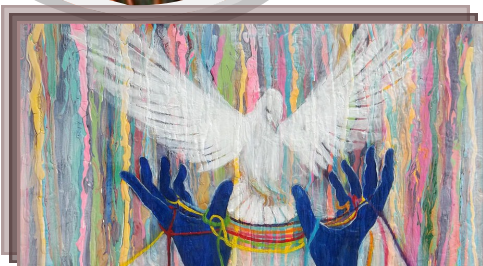


on the 27th of January at the Ceylon Room, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo. This programme is funded by the Sri Lanka Police Department. There are 43 students from the Sinhala medium and 7 students from the Tamil medium in the first batch of

students.



- Everyone has rights
- Everyone has the right to have rights
- Everyone has the right to learn what their rights are.





CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN RIGHTS
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

Address:

Centre for the Study of Human Rights

Faculty of Law

University of Colombo

94, Cumaratunga Munidasa

Mawatha

Colombo 03

Sri Lanka

Phone : (+94) 011-2500879

(+94) 011-2503017

Fax: (+94) 011-2598462

Email: cshr@sltnet.lk

cshr.humanrightscentre@gmail.com

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

**It is easier to build
strong children
than to repair
broken men.**

Frederick Douglass



Resource Centre

Located within the CSHR premises, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo

OPEN: Monday to Friday (8.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.)

Saturday (9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.)

Available References:

- **Approximately 3000 books in all three languages**
- **30 titles of journals, pamphlets, bulletins and newsletters**
- **UN, Amnesty International, ICRC and other reports**
- **Photocopy Service available**
- **Database available online**

COURSE CONDUCTED BY CSHR

- **Master of Human Rights and Democratisation Local Programme**
- **Master of Human Rights and Democratisation - Asia Pacific Regional Programme, in collaboration with The University of Sydney**
- **Distance Learning Diploma in Human Rights and Democracy**
- **E-Diploma in Human Rights**
- **Certificate Courses**
- **Postgraduate Diploma in Child Protection and Rights**
- **Diploma in Human Rights based Policing**

