

SRI LANKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1996

AND

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND AUDITORS' REPORT

FOR 1996

March 1997

**Professional Centre,
275/75, Baudhaloka Mawatha,
Colombo 7**

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1996

PROLOGUE

Many an institution in the world has had a modest beginning and the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) was no exception. The SLLA which was formed in 1960 by a few enthusiastic librarians was then called the Ceylon Library Association (CyLA). Subsequently it was incorporated by an Act of Parliament (Act No.20 of 1974) and since then came to be called the Sri Lanka Library Association. Due to the dearth of qualified library personnel at the time of its formation, unlike today, even students who enrolled for the SLLA courses were accommodated as members. Subsequently, about one and a half decades later, the SLLA decided to confine its membership to fully-fledged librarians. This wise move paved the way for the SLLA to become a truly professional body. Ever since, the SLLA has grown from strength to strength, both in terms of professional advancement and achievements. Its membership has grown steadily year by year. Today the SLLA stands as the sole professional association which represents the discipline of Library and Information Science as well as those engaged in this profession.

HIGHLIGHTS DURING 1996

- ▶ For the first time in the annals of the SLLA, a Distance Education Programme in Library and Information Science (DEPLIS) was commenced in January 1996 for the benefit of library personnel in the Republic of Maldives culminating with a workshop in Male held in November and an examination in December 1996.
- ▶ A very successful Library Day, mooted by the Professional Affairs Committee was held island-wide on 08 November 1996 with the participation of a large number of local authorities and Provincial Education Departments.
- ▶ Under its Fellowship Programme, the SLLA was able to award two more Fellowships at the 36th Annual Sessions.
- ▶ After several years of deliberations, consultations and hard work, the Curriculum Development Committee has been able to complete the new curriculum for the SLLA courses, for possible adoption with the next batch of students.
- ▶ The SLLA has obtained E-mail facilities in order to be in line with the rapid advances in Information Technology. We have also obtained institutional membership of NARESA for the benefit of the COLA students.
- ▶ A Library Technicians' Course commenced in Kalutara at the beginning of 1996 was nearing completion and arrangements are being made to commence one in Ratnapura.
- ▶ On 05 September 1996, the Central Region organized a very successful seminar on library legislation.
- ▶ At our request, the Sri Lanka National Library Services Board assigned ISSNs to the two publications of the SLLA, the Sri Lanka Library Review and the SLLA Newsletter.

SLLA 36TH ANNUAL SESSIONS

The 36th Annual Sessions of the SLLA, with the theme "Twenty-first Century Information Management" which preceded the 36th AGM, were held on 22 March 1996 at the Auditorium of the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute. The Hon. Minister of Media, Tourism and Aviation, Mr. Dharmasiri Senanayake was the Chief Guest at this event while Mr. Edward H. Anderson, Representative of the Asia Foundation was the Guest of Honour. The Technical Session consisted of two presentations as listed below:

- ▶ "Marketing of Information Services" by Dr. K. U. Kamalgoda
- ▶ "Changing Role of Information Supply" by Mr. Erik Vajda

Mrs. S. C. Weerasinghe and Mr. L. R. Amarakoon also made presentations based on their Fellowship dissertations.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the SLLA stood at 276 at the time of the 36th AGM. Our current membership stands at 280 made up as follows:

Life Members	100
Others	<u>180</u>
	280
	===

A break-down is given below:

Fellows	04
Associates	191
Personal Members	<u>185*</u>
	280
	===

[Personal members are those who possess professional qualifications other than the Fellowship or the Associateship of the SLLA].

In addition, there are 05 Honorary Life Members, 05 Honorary Fellows (who are not on the current membership list, including one deceased), 01 Honorary Associate and 01 Institutional Member. Among the current members, we also have 04 Honorary Fellows.

During the year under review, 16 new members were enrolled, but non-renewal of their membership subscriptions by many members has kept our current membership at the present total. It is unfortunate that many members have defaulted despite the usual notice sent. It need not be emphasized that non-renewal of membership fees in respect of any year precludes them from nominating a person or from being nominated as an office bearer within that year, in terms of the Rules and Regulations of the SLLA. They are also precluded from voting.

OFFICE-BEARERS

The office-bearers elected at the last Annual General Meeting, as listed below, functioned throughout the year:

President	Mr. P. Vidanapathirana
Vice Presidents	Mr. J. A. Amaraweera Mrs. Daya Ratnayake
General Secretary	Mr. Wilfred Ranasinghe
Assistant Secretary	Mrs. Deepali Talagala
Education Officer	Mrs. Nanda P. Wanasundera
Asst. Education Officer	Mr. Punchi Banda Gallaba
Treasurer	Mr. Anton D. Nallathamby
Publication Officer	Mrs. Swarna Jayatilleke
Librarian	Mr. J. Ratnayake

Council

Apart from the office-bearers elected at the last AGM, the undermentioned representatives and members comprised the Council:

Mrs. Shamini Tennekoon	Representing the Western Region
Mrs. Ira Mudannayake	Representing the Central Region
Mr. K. Manickvasagar	Representing the Northern Region
Mr. W. A. Weerasooriya	Representing Academic Libraries
Mr. M. Gunaratne Banda	Representing School Libraries
Mrs. G. N. Fernando	Representing Special Libraries
Mr. M. B. M. Fairouz	Representing Government Department Libraries
Mrs. P.A.N. Chandramala	Representing Public Libraries
Mr. N. U. Yapa	Appointed by the Council
Mr. Harrison Perera	Appointed by the Council

Messrs. N. U. Yapa and Harrison Perera were appointed to the Council at its first meeting held on 26 April 1996.

It is unfortunate that the Southern Region was not represented in the Council due to the fact that a Southern Region Group had not been formed. Attempts to form a Southern Region Group a couple of years ago had not been successful.

All office-bearers and Council members held office throughout the year under review.

Seven (7) meetings of the Council were held during the year under review, including three meetings held prior to the last AGM.

Executive Committee

As provided for in the Rules of the SLLA, all office-bearers together with Messrs. N. U. Yapa and Harrison Perera who were appointed by the Council comprised the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee met on five (5) occasions excluding two meetings held prior to the last AGM. No meetings of either the Council or the Executive Committee were postponed for want of a quorum.

OTHER COMMITTEES

In order to facilitate the activities of the SLIA, it has been customary for the Council to appoint several regular and ad hoc committees. The Council appointed the undermentioned committees at its first meeting. These committees met as and when necessary.

Education Committee

The undermentioned members comprised the Education Committee during the year under review.

Mrs. Nanda P. Wanasundera (Education Officer)
Ms. C. L. M. Nethsinghe
Mr. N. U. Yapa
Mrs. D. Ratnayake
Mrs. Sumana Jayasuriya
Ms. K. Kamalambikai
Mr. H. Tilakabandu
Mr. J. Ratnayake
Mr. P. B. Gallaba (Asst. Education Officer)
Prof. Russell Bowden (Co-opted)

A detailed account of the Education Programme is included later in this Annual Report.

Fellowship Board

Instead of two groups that functioned in the previous couple of years, viz. the Fellowship Board and the Fellowship Committee, the Council decided to have only the Fellowship Board which consisted of the following members:

Mr. J. A. Amaraweera (Convenor)
Ms. C. L. M. Nethsinghe
Mrs. Ishwari Corea
Prof. Russell Bowden (co-opted)
Mr. S. Rubasingham

Curriculum Development Committee (CDC)

The undermentioned members served on the CDC:

Mrs. Sumana Jayasuriya (Chairperson)
Ms. C. L. M. Nethsinghe
Prof. Russell Bowden (co-opted)
Mr. N. U. Yapa
Mrs. Nanda Wanasundera

A brief account of the CDC activities is incorporated in the report on the SLLA education programme submitted by the Education Officer.

Associateship Committee

Mr. P. Vidanapathirana (President)
Mrs. Nanda P. Wanasundera (Education Officer)
Mr. Wilfred Ranasinghe (General Secretary)

Committee on Information Technology

Mr. N. U. Yapa (Convenor)
Mrs. Deepali Talagala
Mr. J. A. Amaraweera
Mr. J. Ratnayake
Mr. L. R. Amarakoon

A report submitted by the Convenor of this Committee pertaining to its activities during the year under review is included elsewhere in this report.

Professional Affairs Committee

Mr. H. M. Gunaratne Banda (Convenor)
Ms. C. L. M. Nethsinghe
Mrs. Dilmani Warnasuriya
Mr. Wilfred Ranasinghe
Mr. L. A. Jayatissa

Publication Committee

Mrs. Swarna Jayatilleke (Publication Officer)
Mr. Wilfred Ranasinghe
Mr. J. A. Amaraweera
Mrs. Deepali Talagala
Mr. L. R. Amarakoon

Finance Committee

Mr. P. Vidanapathirana (President)
Mr. Anton Nallathamby (Treasurer)
Mr. Wilfred Ranasinghe (General Secretary)

Due to one reason or another, it was not possible to form a Social Affairs Committee as in previous years. No major activities in this connection are also reported.

SLLA EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The outstanding achievement of the period under review, March 1996 through February 1997, is the successful completion of the DEPLIS programme – the outreach education programme to the Republic of the Maldives. Mr. N. U. Yapa, Coordinator of the programme, had an immense amount of work to get through from setting down the project proposal to releasing the results of the examination

conducted in December 1996. A detailed account of DEPLIS is provided elsewhere in this report.

Courses of Study

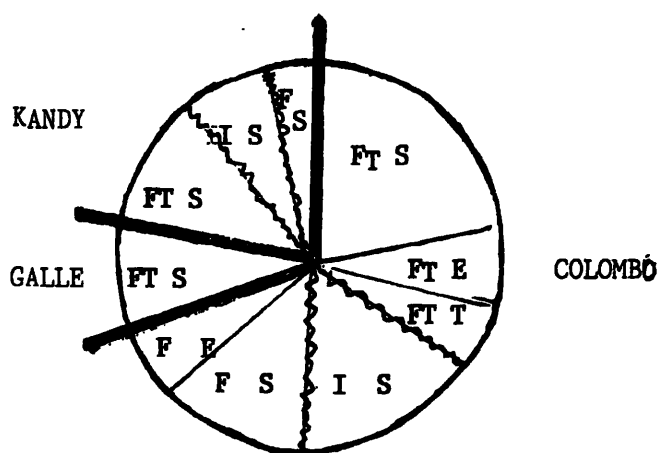
Progress in the usually conducted courses of study within the country moved steadily and surely in the centres indicated below.

Unfortunately, though the Jaffna Centre Coordinator, Mr S. Manickavasagar, maintained regular contact with the Education Officer, the escalation of the war in the North in June put paid to this. Contact between the SLLA and its Jaffna centre has not been restored to date. It is hoped that conditions will improve soon. The commencement of an intermediate course was being planned when the situation deteriorated.

Centres	Courses		No. of Students
Colombo	First	Sinhala	60
		Tamil	16
		English	17
	Intermediate	Sinhala	64
	Final	Sinhala	44
Galle	First	Sinhala	28
Kandy	First	Sinhala	40
	Intermediate	Sinhala	25
	Final	Sinhala	12

Coordinators of the three centres are : Galle - Kapila Sirisena; Kandy - Daya Ratnayake; Colombo Nanda Wanasundera (Education Officer) and P. B. Gallaba (Assistant Education Officer).

The proportion of student numbers is made clearer in the chart below :



FT S First year - Sinhala
 FT E - do - - English
 FT T - do - - Tamil
 I S Intermediate - Sinhala
 F S Final - Sinhala
 F E - do - - English

Lecture venues have continued to be Vidyaloka Vidyalaya in Galle; Girls' High School in Kandy and the Faculty of Law/University of Colombo.

Grateful appreciation is extended to the respective authorities who have accommodated our classes on Sundays. Special mention needs to be made of the minor staff who helped by working on their off-day to assist us.

Examinations Conducted and Results

Examination	Dates Held	No. of Students	No. Successful	%Pass
First exam *	18 & 19 May 1996	94	49	52.1
First (repeat)	02 & 03 Nov.1996	74		
Intermediate (repeat)	27 & 28 April 1996	36		
Intermediate *	11 & 12 Jan. 1997	53	22	41.5
Final *	24 & 25 Feb. 1996	48	23	47.9

NOTE: The numbers given as those who sat the exams marked thus * are those sitting all four papers, excluding repeaters.

In the repeat examinations no percent pass rate is given for the obvious reason that very few students sit all four papers.

Details of the final examination are given below:

Colombo Centre

Total number who sat four papers - Sinhala medium	23
Number who passed the exam (first attempt) -do-	12
Percent pass	52.2 %
Total number who sat four papers - English medium	08
Number who passed the exam	04
Percent pass	50.0 %

Kandy Centre

Total number who sat four papers - Sinhala medium	17
Number who passed the exam	07
Percent pass	41.2 %

All examinations were held in the Faculty of Law/University of Colombo. Supervision and invigilation were undertaken by the EO, AEO, K. Kamalambikai and P. A. N. Chandramala. These two are thanked very sincerely for their unstinted help and readiness to assist with no thought for the sacrifice they make.

Examination standards have been bettered. Exam papers generally are computer typeset and

photocopied. Standards of discipline too are excellent, invigilation being strict.

Prize winners, as listed below, are congratulated most heartily. Not only do they have to study hard, revise diligently and top their respective batches, but they need to pass muster at Education Committee (EC) meetings where awards are discussed with needle-sharp keenness. Criteria have been set by the EC. This year, instead of the Gold Medal being awarded, the EC proposed an award for best achievement. The gold medal, they agreed, needs to be awarded to an outstanding student and for excellent examination results. The winner of the award this year obtained an average percent above 60% but the lack of distinction passes made him miss the gold medal.

The Bloc Memorial Prize for the best achievement in the First examination :

Sinhala medium	W.D.I.P. Dissanayake and M.M.S. Abeywickrema
Tamil medium	H. Safeena
English medium	No award
Intermediate examination:	
Sinhala medium	I.D.A.C. Wijyaratne and H.P.K. Satharasinghe
*English medium	No award
*Tamil medium	No award
Final examination (*No courses held)	Trevine Bastianz

Evaluation

Evaluation of lecturers by students continued with students filling in grades for various criteria such as guidance, punctuality etc. The grades given are tally counted by the EO and a feed-backs sent to each lecturer, including the best and weakest results for purposes of self comparison.

List of Lecturers

A list of lecturers of the SLLA courses is given below:

Ms. Abeygunasekera, C.	Ms. Jayasuriya, Sumana	Mr. Senadheera, A.
Mr. Alwis, A. T.	Mr. Jayatissa, L. A.	Mr. Silva, G. A. P. J.
Mr. Amarakoon, L. R.	Mr. Jayawardena, M. D. H.	Mr. Sirisena, Kapila
Mr. Amaraweera, J. A.	Mr. Kalaichelvan, N.	Ms. Talagala, Deepali
Ms. Chandramala, P. A. N.	Ms. Kamalambikai, K.	Ms. Tennakoon, Shamini
Ms. Chandrapala, C.	Mr. Kamaldeen, S. M.	Ms. Talakada, S.
Ms. De Alwis, Menik	Ms. Liyanage, R.	Mr. Tilakabandu, S.
Mr. De Silva, Gamini	Ms. Mudannayake, Ira	Mr. Tilakaratne, N. M. C.
Mr. Dodawatte, D. G. S.	Ms. Muthuwatte, P.	Mr. Vidanapathirana, P.
Mr. Fairouz, M. B. M.	Ms. Nanayakkara, Amara	Ms. Wanasundera, Nanda
Ms. Fernando, Janaki	Mr. Perera, Harrison	Dr. Wimalaratne, K.D.G.
Mr. Gallaba, P. B.	Ms. Perera, Indrani	Ms. Warnasuriya, Dilmani
Mr. Gamage, Sanath	Mr. Ranasinghe, Wilfred	Mr. Weerasuriya, W. A.
Mr. Gunaratne Banda, H. M.	Ms. Ratnayake, D.	Mr. Yapa, N. U.
Mr. Gunasekera, T. D. D.	Mr. Ratnayake, J.	
	Mr. Rubasingham, S	

Guest Lectures

Prof. Russell Bowden addressed all classes in the Colombo Centre on 19 December, his topic being Professionalism – an introduction. Mr Upai Yapa condensed and translated to Sinhala what Prof. Bowden said that morning, dipping into his long years of experience in the field, his expertise and exposure to international librarianship. The address went down extremely well, language not apparently being a barrier to comprehension as evidenced by the lively discussion and many questions that ensued.

Non-Violent Conflict Resolution Workshops (NVCR)

Nanda Wanasundera conducted NVCR workshops with the intermediate and final level students, combining the English and Sinhala medium classes in two batches. She conducted a workshop with the Kandy Centre first year students on 16 January and two with the first year students in Colombo in February.

These have gone down very well since the workshops are activity based and fun. Ideas and facts of importance are imparted and thought out through participation in role play and discussion.

Library Tours

First year students, during their in-service training period, visit libraries other than the ones they are allocated to. The EO arranges guided tours to the National Archives and the National Library.

Colombo Centre first year students will be visiting the Peradeniya University Library and the D. S. Senanayake Public Library on 22 February. Kandy students will make a trip to Colombo to visit the British Council, National Library and National Archives, and the CISIR Library.

The SLLA partly subsidises these study tours. All heads and staff of the libraries visited are thanked very much for their cooperation in accommodating the guided tours.

Mr. Harrison Perera this year too, invited all first year students to the British Council and demonstrated the IT facilities available in addition to affording them a tour of the library.

Distance Education Programme in Library and Information Science (DEPLIS)

The following paragraphs constitute a report on DEPLIS, prepared by its Coordinator, Mr. N. U. Yapa.

At the request of the Maldivian Library Association (MLA), the SLLA organized a distance education programme to train library personnel in the Republic of Maldives. They had no professionally qualified librarians and with a view to establishing the library profession in the country, the Director-General of the National Library of Maldives (NLM), Ms. Habeeba H. Habeeb, on behalf of the MLA sought the assistance of the SLLA for professional development. The SLLA agreed to conduct the professional Course in Library and Information Science as a distance education programme. DEPLIS was organized to conduct the First Year Course of the SLLA in distance education module.

DEPLIS was designed by Mr. N. U. Yapa who was later appointed to coordinate the programme. Mrs. Dharma Diyasena, who was serving the National Library of Maldives as a Library Consultant, was appointed by the Maldivian government to coordinate DEPLIS in Male. The idea of a Distance Education Programme of this nature was originated by Mrs. Diyasena a few years ago and the SLLA is thankful to her.

An Advisory Committee consisting of Ms. C. L. M. Nethsinghe, Ms. Nanda Wanasundera, Ms. Sumana Jayasuriya, Mr. S. M. Kamaldeen and Mr. N. U. Yapa monitored the programme and appointed lecturers, editors and evaluators.

Based on the project report submitted by the SLLA, the Maldivian government solicited funds from the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Colombo. US\$ 6000/- were granted by the Netherlands government for DEPLIS.

DEPLIS which was inaugurated in Male on 03 January 1996 had three main components:

- ▶ Postal course (10 months)
- ▶ DEPLIS seminar (3 days)
- ▶ Examination (SLLA First Year)

The programme was designed for 25 students. However, at the request of the NLM, the number was increased to 31. By July 1996 the number dropped down to 19 students. Further three students dropped out by November 1996.

The postal course was conducted from January to October 1996. It had 48 lessons in four subjects. Lecture notes prepared by SLLA professionals were distributed according to a pre-arranged schedule which specified the date of distribution and the date of submission of students' assignments. The students had to complete 48 assignments in ten months. The assignments submitted by the students were marked by SLLA lecturers and returned to students.

A Students' Seminar was organized in Male from 18 – 20 November 1996. Ms. Sumana Jayasuriya, Ms. Nanda Wanasundera, Mr. S. M. Kamaldeen Mr. Wilfred Ranasinghe and Mr. N. U. Yapa served as resource persons. The seminar facilitated the students to discuss their problems and assignments with the lecturers. A total of 16 students attended the seminar.

The First Examination was held in Male on 07 and 14 December and 15 students sat the examination. A marking centre was organized at the SLLA office to evaluate the answer scripts.

Six students passed in all four papers while six were referred in one paper. The SLLA intends to organize a repeat examination in April 1997.

DEPLIS is a unique example of library cooperation at the international level where a library association of one country conducts a professional course on behalf of a library association in another country.

Library Technicians' Course (LTC)

A Library Technicians' Course (LTC), the third in the series since its inception in 1994, was conducted in Kalutara, 18 students comprising the batch. Lectures were conducted in the Kalutara Public Library. The next course will target the Sabaragamuwa Province and will be based in Ratnapura.

A seminar to cover various aspects of Library and Information Science as taught at the first level of the regular SLLA course and not covered in the Negombo and Kurunegala courses, was conducted in early February. Those who successfully complete the qualifying exam scheduled for March will be eligible to be awarded first year exam certificates.

A brief report submitted by the Coordinator of the LTC, Mr. J. Ratnayake is given below:

The Third LT Course commenced at Kalutara (in the Public Library) in March 1996 which is now nearing completion and the examination is scheduled to be held within two months of completion of the course.

Issue of certificates to Negombo and Kurunegala batches of students has been completed. A qualifying test for these students will be held shortly in order to issue the First Year Examination certificate to them as recommended by the National Library Services Board.

It is planned to conduct the next LT Course in Ratnapura and the necessary arrangements are in progress.

Curriculum Development

The new curriculum was completed and discussed at a meeting of lecturers in order to accommodate suggestions and any omissions. The final copy will be ready in March 1997. Much concerted effort and concentrated thinking and discussion went into the project by the committee of five members chaired first by Kamalika Peiris, followed by Clodagh Nethsinghe and Sumana Jayasuriya.

Prof. Russell Bowden was co-opted to the project an year ago. His input was very valuable, as he has had much experience in curriculum development. He also acted as the catalyst, whipping up enthusiasm.

The revised curriculum brings our courses of study closer aligned to developments in the field of Library and Information Science and parallel, as far as possible, to syllabuses followed in developed countries.

Education Committee Meetings

EC meetings have been convened on average every two months. The Education Officer is indebted and appreciative of the commitment of most of the EC members who guide and advise the EO and act as a valuable supervisory body in ensuring the best for the student body.

Here again, Prof. Bowden has been very helpful, an invited member, but punctilious about attendance at meetings.

One important matter that was thoroughly examined was the cost effectiveness of the courses of study, with the Treasurer being invited to two meetings and requested to have a break-down of income and expenses presented to the EC by the Accounts Clerk. Since administrative costs of the SLLA office are almost totally borne by the education programme, which situation is not healthy, the EC felt that the annual subscription of members be increased and ways and means of fund raising be considered and implemented. More importantly, a government grant should be sought. Most of the courses were shown to be incurring losses; in the final run the fact emerged that only the computer courses were truly viable and profit ensuring.

The Entry requirements stipulated by the SLLA were compared with the entry requirements of other courses such as those conducted by CIMA and the Institute of Chartered Accountants. The entry requirements to join the SLLA course of study were found to compare favourably and to be of comparative standard.

The Education Committee was also very concerned about the various courses in Library and Information Science being run by universities and institutions. They propose that the National Library Services Board evaluate the ongoing courses and the syllabuses followed; so also courses that may commence or be contemplated in the future.

Conclusion

The education programme has continued to be, as far as possible, student-centred. The SLLA students travel from far to attend lectures, have problems of their own, particularly with regard to employment. To help in this sphere a file of probable employers is maintained in the SLLA office and job offers/calls for applications channeled to prospective candidates. A salient point that needs to be mentioned here is that all the institutions that sent in their new recruitment requirements so far, stipulated competence in English and prefer those who have followed the courses in English. Hence the necessity for upgrading the standard of English of our students and probable upgrading of entry requirements is felt.

The Education Officer and the Assistant Education Officer take this opportunity to thank centre coordinators, all lecturers in the three centres - some of whom make the tiring journey to Kandy or Galle, sacrificing their entire Sunday; and all members of the Education Committee. Very special thanks are extended to the staff of the SLLA office who gave immense help to successfully run the education programme.

MEMBERSHIP OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

SLLA's membership of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), the Commonwealth Library Association (COMLA), and the Organization of Professional Associations (OPA) was continued. In the case of COMLA and OPA, our relationship is one of being a founder member of these two organizations.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Professional activities of the SLLA, in addition to its education programme, encompass the following: -

Information Technology

The report submitted by the Convenor of the Committee on Information Technology (CIT), Mr. N. U. Yapa is reproduced below:-

Introduction

The CIT was appointed to promote the use of information technology in the development of the library profession. The Committee paid special attention to the organizing of professional development programmes relating to the application of micro CDS/ISIS software.

Committee Members

The members who served on this Committee are listed under the caption "Other Committees".

Sri Lanka ISIS Users' Club SLISIS

The SLISIS was formed to promote the use of micro CDS/ISIS which is the most popular library software in Sri Lanka. SLISIS provided a forum for ISIS users in Sri Lanka to discuss the application of ISIS for developing information systems.

SLISIS membership

Two types of membership viz. personal and institutional were offered. Institutional members could nominate two staff members who would represent the institute SLISIS activities. In 1996 there were 6 personal and 8 institutional members.

SLISIS Meetings

Three meetings of the SLISIS members were held during 1996. Members were given the opportunity to submit problems relating to the use of ISIS. Programmes planned by the CIT were discussed at these meetings. Demonstrations of user databases were also arranged.

The following meetings were held:

- ▶ 09 February, 1996 - 9.30 a.m. at the OPA
Inauguration of COLA '96 and distribution of certificates to COLA '95 participants
- ▶ 16 August, 1996 - 9.30 a.m. at the OPA
Mrs. Deepali Talagala, Director Information, NARESA demonstrated the transfer of text data files to ISIS databases.
- ▶ 01 November, 1996 - 9.30 a.m. at the OPA
Participants of the COLA demonstrated the ISIS systems developed by them.

The second quarterly meeting had to be cancelled due to the power crisis that prevailed in the country at that time.

Panel of ISIS Experts

A panel was appointed to assist in SLISIS activities. The following persons served on this panel:

Mr. N. U. Yapa
Mr. B. G. N. Kumarasinghe
Mr. W. R. Fonseka
Mr. W. Amaradasa
Mr. J. A. Amaraweera
Mr. L. R. Amarakoon
Mrs. Deepali Talagala

ISIS Clinics

ISIS clinics meant to solve the problems of ISIS users were held regularly at the SLLA office. These technical problem solving sessions were conducted by members of the Panel of ISIS Experts. SLISIS members were admitted free of charge.

Workshops

ISIS workshops were organized to train and educate ISIS users. SLISIS and SLLA members were offered a special participation fee. Two workshops were held during 1996:

Workshop on Basic ISIS	19-21 January, 1996 at the OPA
Workshop on Advanced ISIS	06-08 September, 1996 at the OPA.

Course on Library Automation (COLA)

The fourth Course on Library Automation was held from February to October 1996. There were 30 participants. SLLA and SLISIS members were offered a special course fee. COLA examinations were held on 01 September and 15 November. The participants made their systems presentations at the SLISIS meeting held on 01 November 1996.

Associateship

The Council has decided to award Associateships to the following members who have submitted their applications after the last AGM. They will receive their certificates at the forthcoming Annual Sessions:

Mr. R. M. R. Diyaelagedera
Ms. G. R. J. Chandralatha
Ms. H. C. Gunasekera
Ms. Savitri Jayasinghe
Ms. Pushpamala K. Perera
Ms. E. A. Kusuma
Ms. D. G. M. Yapa

Librarian of the year award

Last year there was no award because the only nomination received by the Committee did not measure up to the required criteria. In the course of the year under review, the Council has decided to make a change in regard to this award by revising the criteria. Messrs. P. Vidanapathirana, N. U. Yapa and Mrs. Deepali Talagala comprised a Committee appointed by the Council for this purpose. The consensus of the Committee is that the award should be made on the basis of the contribution made by a member towards professional development.

Library day

On the recommendation of the Professional Affairs Committee, the SLLA organized a Library Day on 08 November 1996. The main event in this connection was held with the patronage of the British Council at its auditorium. The Director of the British Council, Mr. Peter Ellwood was the Chief Guest on this occasion while Prof. Priyani Soysa, Director-General of NARESA was the Guest of Honour. Four presentations were made at this gathering as listed below:

- ▶ "Developing Reading Habits in Sri Lanka"
by Mr. W. B. Dorakumbura (Librarian, University of Sri Jayawardhanapura)
- ▶ "Strategies in Sharing Information through INTERNET"
by Mr. Gihan Seneviratne (Lecturer, University of Colombo)

- ▶ "Utilization of IT Resources for Exchange of Information in Developing Countries" by Mrs. Deepali Talagala (Director/Information, NARESA)
- ▶ "Information, Libraries and Productivity" by Prof. Russell Bowden (Former President, Library Association, London)

As the government had declared the year 1996 as the National Productivity Year, this element was also introduced to the main event held at the British Council.

The Library Day was celebrated island-wide at our request by a large number of local authorities as well as Provincial Departments of Education. We wish to express our gratitude to them. The SLLA has decided to celebrate the Library Day every year hereafter.

A colour poster was issued by the SLLA, in Sinhala, English and Tamil, to mark the Library Day with financial support from the National Institute of Education. Mr. Gunaratne Banda, the Convenor of the Professional Affairs Committee was instrumental in securing the financial support. The poster was distributed among schools, local authorities, libraries and members, nominally priced at Rs.20/- per copy. We are thankful to the Sri Lanka National Library Services Board for purchasing 500 copies of this poster.

A brochure in colour compiled by the Publication Officer was also distributed among the members as well as the various local bodies which organized activities in connection with the Library Day. Wide media publicity was given to the Library Day in the national newspapers, TV and the radio. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Shamini Tennekoon who handled this aspect.

CENTRAL REGION GROUP

Given below is a report on the activities conducted by the Central Region Group, submitted by its Representative on the SLLA Council, Ms. Ira Mudannayake:

The members of the SLLA in the Central Region formed a Regional Forum of the Central Province on 08 August 1996. The main objective of the Regional Forum is to develop and strengthen relationships among the member Librarians with a view to carrying out activities aimed at professional development. The following office-bearers were appointed:

Mrs. R. Liyanage	President
Mrs. P. Ratnamudalie	Secretary
Mrs. R. Morapaya	Treasurer and Representative of Government Libraries
Mrs. M. Nagahawatte	University Libraries
Mrs. N. Jayasuriya	Public Libraries

Seminar on library laws and the library Statute of the central province

This seminar was held on 05 September 1996 at the Kandy Public Library Auditorium. It was jointly organized by the Public Librarians' Association of Sri Lanka and the Regional Forum of the Central Province. The objective of the seminar was to make known the library laws and regulations available in Sri Lanka and to introduce the Central Province Library Statute.

The seminar was well attended by Librarians serving in different sectors in the country such as government, public, school and academic libraries. Prof. C. M. Madduma Bandara, Vice Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya was the Chief Guest. Speakers at this seminar were as follows:

Mrs. D. Ratnayake	Librarian, Public Library, Kandy
Mr. Henry Samaranayake	Chairman, Sri Lanka National Library Services Board
Mr. Ananda Weeraratne	Commissioner of Local Government, Central Province
Mr. Upali Amarasiri	Director, Sri Lanka National Library Services Board
Mr. Harrison Perera	Chief Librarian, British Council, Colombo

The discussion panel consisted of:

Mr. N. T. S. A. Senadheera (Librarian, University of Peradeniya),
Mr. P. Vidanapathirana, (President/SLLA and Acting Librarian, University of Sri Jayawardhanapura),
Mrs. D. Ratnayake (Librarian, Public Library, Kandy)

The welcome address and the vote of thanks were delivered by Mrs. R. Liyanage and Mr. C. C. Abeysinghe respectively.

GOVERNMENT LIBRARIANS' GROUP (GLG)

Given below a brief report submitted by the Representative of Government Librarians:

The Committee of the Government Librarians' Group met on two occasions to discuss various matters relating to the welfare and betterment of the Librarians in Government service and also to pursue action wherever necessary.

Along with the President the Committee also met officials of the Sri Lanka National Library Services Board, in deputation, to discuss the implementation of the recommendations of the "Committee appointed by the Director of Establishments to look into the service problems etc. of Government Librarians".

On behalf of the GLG, the President of the SLLA participated in several discussions with the relevant Committee in regard to the salaries of Government Librarians. He also took part in discussions relating to the drafting of a Service Minute. The Sri Lanka National Library Services Board also took part in these discussions. The SLLA made suggestions on the draft minute received from the Ministry of Public Administration.

We have also requested the Ministry of Public Administration for an opportunity to further discuss the salary anomalies of Government Librarians as well as the proposed Service Minute.

PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY

Given below is a report on publications and publicity submitted by the Publication Officer:-

It is a source of pleasure to record that, during the year under review, the Sri Lanka National Library Services Board assigned ISSNs to the two serial publications of the SLLA as follows:-

Sri Lanka Library Review	ISSN 1391-2526
SLLA Newsletter	ISSN 1391-2534

Two issues of the SLLA Newsletter (Vol.11, Nos.1-4) were published and distributed among the SLLA

members as well as a large number of libraries of local government authorities which organized various activities in connection with the Library Day on 08 November 1996.

Action is being taken to release Vol.11 (Nos.1 & 2) of Sri Lanka Library Review before the forthcoming Annual Sessions.

LIBRARY

The Librarian, Mr. J. Ratnayake has reported as follows:

Work connected with the computerization of library records is in progress. A complete collection of Computer Project Reports of COLA students is now available in the library.

Action is in progress to purchase a collection of new books for the library. It is a source of pleasure to announce that a complete collection of bibliographies and indexes submitted by Intermediate levels students is available in the library for reference.

SLLA SECRETARIAT

All members of the office staff, as listed below, were on duty throughout the year under review:

Mrs. V. S. N. de Alwis	Administrative Secretary
Miss Edna Malkanthi	Accounts Clerk
Miss W. A. Wilma	Library Assistant
Mr. K. U. R. Perera	Office Aide/Messenger

Mrs. Dhammika Nissaka, Clerk/Typist resigned on 25 September 1996 and Miss Kaushalee Morawaka was recruited on 19 November 1996 as a replacement. The SLLA owes a word of thanks to all of them for their faithful service.

SLLA REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

SLLA members who served on the Committees of other organizations are as follows:

National School Library Committee of SLNLSB	Mr. P. Vidanapathirana
Public Library Advisory Committee of SLNLSB	Mr. P. Vidanapathirana
Publication Advisory Committee of SLNLSB	Mr. P. Vidanapathirana
Committee for Promotion of Reading Habits (SLNLSB)	Mr. Wilfred Ranasinghe
OPA Executive Council	Mrs. Nanda Wanasundera
OPA Forum	Mr. Anton Nallathamby

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Council has received the ready cooperation and support of all office-bearers and many members of the SLLA towards the implementation of the activities of the SLLA. All of them, too numerous to be mentioned, deserve a word of thanks.

Several institutions and business organizations have helped the SLLA by way of handsome donations to make our Annual Sessions a success. Special mention needs to be made of the undermentioned organizations which readily came forward to co-sponsor our 37th Annual Sessions:

- ▶ Sri Lanka National Library Services Board
- ▶ Natural Resources, Energy and Science Authority of Sri Lanka (NARESA)
- ▶ The British Council

On behalf of the Sri Lanka Library Association we wish to place on record our grateful thanks to all these institutions.

EPILOGUE

The SLLA can be proud of its significant contribution to the profession of librarianship in Sri Lanka, looking back in retrospect. These achievements can be attributed to the cooperation received from most of the members in general and the dedication, the spirit of team effort and the acumen of the respective office-bearers in particular.

**SRI LANKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1996**

ACCUMULATED FUND	Notes	1996	1995
Balance as at 01.01.1996		1,552,680.75	1,445,348.00
ADD: Income Over Expenditure		<u>197,899.76</u>	<u>107,332.00</u>
		<u>1,750,580.51</u>	<u>1,552,680.00</u>
RESERVES			
Building fund		16,304.14	14,785.00
DEFERRED LIABILITIES			
Provision for Gratuity		<u>89,070.00</u>	<u>68,717.00</u>
		<u>1,855,954.65</u>	<u>1,636,182.00</u>
REPRESENTED BY			
Fixed Assets	Note 01	320,264.61	302,431.00
Investment	Note 02	<u>922,491.87</u>	<u>812,173.00</u>
		<u>1,242,756.48</u>	<u>1,114,604.00</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock of Publications			863.00
Receivables and prepayments	Note 03	46,655.82	45,285.00
Cash and Bank balance	Note 04	<u>577,395.75</u>	<u>487,969.00</u>
		<u>624,051.57</u>	<u>534,117.00</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	Note 05	10,853.40	12,538.00
		<u>10,853.40</u>	<u>81,255.50</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>613,198.17</u>	<u>521,578.00</u>
		<u>1,855,954.65</u>	<u>1,636,182.00</u>

**SOMESWARAN
JAYEWICKREME & CO:**

Chartered Accountants
222, Galle Road,
Colombo 4.

**AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
SRI LANKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

We have examined the Balance Sheet of Sri Lanka Library Association as at 31st December, 1996, and the related Statement of Income and Expenditure Account for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards.

In our opinion except for the facts disclosed in Note 10 to the accounts so far as appears from our examination and according to the best of our information and explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Association the said Balance Sheet and related Income and Expenditure Account have been properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and fair view of the of affairs of the Association as at 31st December, 1996.

SOMESWARAN JAYEWICKREME & CO.,
Chartered Accountants,
Colombo 4.

4th March, 1997.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR

ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1996

INCOME

Membership subscription and Associateship		24,900.00	24,400.00
Course fees and examination fees	Note 06	1,290,556.16	798,355.00
Registration fees		29,700.00	19,600.00
		-----	-----
		1,345,156.16	842,355.00
Less: Direct Expenses	Note 07	721,709.68	519,942.00
		-----	-----
		623,446.48	322,413.00
Add: Other Income	Note 08	296,545.95	401,636.00
		-----	-----
		919,992.43	724,049.00
Less: Administration expenses	Note 09	722,092.67	616,717.00
		-----	-----
Excess of Income over Expenditure		197,899.76	107,332.00
		=====	=====

SRI LANKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. GENERAL

The Balance Sheet and the related statement of Income and retained earnings of the Association have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and applied consistently on a historical cost basis. The revenue is recognised on a cash basis, regardless of the period to which they relate where appropriate the policies are explained in the succeeding notes.

2. ASSETS AND BASIS OF THEIR VALUATION
FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation on fixed assets has been provided on written down value of the asset at the following rates.

Furniture and Fittings	10%
Office Equipment	10%
Book Shelves and Books	10%

Full year's depreciation is provided on Fixed Assets purchased during the year and no depreciation is charged in the year of disposal.

SRI LANKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT					
COST	Leasehold Building	Furniture & Fittings	Office Equipment	Book shelves & Books	Total
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Balance as at 01.01.96	47,500.00	16,285.14	172,414.43	66,232.20	302,431.77
Additions During the year	0.00	2,250.00	45,890.00	0.00	48,140.00
Balance as at 31.12.96	47,500.00	18,535.14	218,304.43	66,232.20	350,571.77
DEPRECIATION					
Depreciation for the year	-	1,853.51	21,830.43	6,623.22	30,307.16
WRITTEN DOWN VALUE					
Balance as at 31.12.96.	47,500.00	16,681.62	196,474.00	59,608.98	320,264.61
Balance as at 31.12.95	47,500.00	16,285.00	172,413.00	66,232.00	302,431.00

02. INVESTMENTS

Organisation of Professional Association	1,000.00	1,000.00
National Savings Bank - Fixed Deposit	921,491.87	811,172.92
	922,491.87	812,173.00

03 RECEIVABLES AND PREPAYMENTS

Withholding tax	45,055.82	40,285.00
Staff debtors	1,600.00	5,000.00
	46,655.82	45,285.00

03a STAFF DEBTORS

Motercycle loan	-	3,000.00
Staff advances	1,600.00	2,000.00
	1,600.00	5,000.00

04 CASH AND BANK BALANCES

Bank of ceylon - Torrington square		
A/C NO: 4530200979	17,822.31	68,782.00
Bank of Ceylon - Saving account	435,602.65	396,002.00
Bank of Ceylon - Saving account (DEPLIS)	104,166.65	-
Stamp Imprest	1,500.00	1,500.00
Petty cash control	2,000.00	2,000.00
Building fund account	16,304.14	19,685.00
	577,395.75	487,969.00

05 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Audit fees	5,750.00	5,750.00
Janitorial	-	1,400.00
Compositive service charges	3,156.00	4,060.00
Municipal Rate	664.00	1,328.00
Unclaimed wages	1,283.40	
	10,853.40	12,538.00

06 COURSE FEES AND EXAMINATION FEES

First year course 96	305,000.00	290,600.00
Intermediate course	205,695.00	171,000.00
Final year course	155,250.00	64,720.00
Computer course (COLA) 96	124,300.00	130,500.00
COLA 97	23,600.00	15,000.00
First year course 1995	26,420.00	16,640.00
Examination	141,465.00	109,895.00
Library technician course	11,400.00	-
Distance Education programm in Library and Information Science (DEPLIS)	297,426.16	-
	1,290,556.16	798,355.00

07 DIRECT EXPENSES

Lecturers' fees		236,049.50	161,518.00
Examination expenses		41,690.00	51,714.00
Advance ISIS Workshop		24,860.50	17,938.00
Integrated set of Information sector			
Users Club		0.00	5,550.00
Hall hire & arranging charges		22,200.00	21,370.00
Advertisements		26,384.00	33,695.00
Printing & Postage		8,110.00	0.00
Seminar and Guide Tour		1,967.50	10,311.00
Co-Ordinators' fees		0.00	1,725.00
Library Technicians' course		16,550.00	54,840.00
Course on library Automation		68,514.00	87,500.00
Integrated set of Information sector			
in sinhala workshop		0.00	17,787.00
Hellis information workshop		0.00	37,775.00
Gearing for the future seminar		0.00	4,741.00
Basic ISIS workshop		18,100.00	2,756.00
Course on Library Automation	97	4,000.00	10,725.00
Special seminars & workshops		5,000.00	0.00
Library Day		44,400.00	0.00
Distant Education Programme on			
Library and Information Science (DEPLIS)		203,884.18	0
		721,709.68	519,945.00

08 OTHER INCOME

Annual general meeting		1,514.00	11,530.00
Sale of publication		8,265.00	7,097.00
Sale of applications (Miscellaneous)		13,894.00	10,920.00
Library bureau		200.00	11,000.00
Basic ISIS workshop 01		0.00	30,700.00
Basic ISIS workshop 02		16,026.50	9,300.00
ISIS Users club		12,750.00	15,500.00
Advertisements		9,000.00	16,000.00
Ronio income		0	210.00
Advance ISIS workshop		51,362.50	37,183.00
Institute membership		1,000.00	0.00
Donation		5,000.00	50,000.00
Sale of posters		3,980.00	0.00
Interest		173,553.95	139,344.00
Sundry income		0.00	300.00
Annual Trip		0.00	5,500.00
Hellis information workshop		0.00	57,053.00
		-----	-----
		296,545.95	401,637.00

09 ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

Salaries and Wages			234,771.54	229,021.00
Overtime			29,458.82	27,710.00
Employees Provident Fund			28,192.80	27,590.00
Employees Trust Fund			7,048.20	6,898.00
Bonus for office staff			15,840.00	10,991.00
Library Bureau			0	8,100.00
Allowances to office bearers			25,500.00	18,250.00
Travelling			14,028.00	12,126.00
Printing			87,530.00	67,013.00
Postage			12,271.00	9,729.00
Telephone charges			22,054.77	12,677.00
Stationery			21,238.30	5,199.00
Press registration			250.00	250.00
Subscription to other Institutions			32,200.83	20,086.00
Staff tea allowances			8,126.50	6,158.00
Gratuity			20,352.50	6,583.00
Bank charges			2,760.00	1,933.00
Repairs & Maintenance			6,755.00	0.00
Audit fees			5,750.00	5,750.00
Sundry Expenses			4,258.50	4,155.00
Depriciation			30,307.16	28,326.00
Annual general meeting			67,610.00	54,594.00
Janitorial			1,200.00	2,400.00
Office expenses			2,050.00	9,525.00
Photocopying			4,286.50	5,852.00
Insurance			479.00	0.00
Machine service aggrement			5,160.00	9,316.00
Municipal Rates			2,656.00	1,992.00
Service charge			9,792.00	6,966.00
Ex & Council expenses			8,765.00	8,997.00
Stock write off			862.50	0.00
Fellowship Programme			0.00	3,500.00
Social affairs'			2,700.00	0.00
Newspapers			3,366.00	0.00
Annual Trip			0.00	1,294.00
Audit expenses			4,471.75	3,738.00
			722,092.67	616,719.00

**SOMESWARAN JAYEWICKREME & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.**

10. a. The Balance Sheet of the Association reflects only the written down value of the assets. Sufficient information was not provided as to the cost and accumulated depreciation of Fixed Assets as required by Sri Lanka Accounting Standard No. 8 "Accounting for Depreciation"

b. Accounting Policy over revenue recognition of the Association reads as "Revenue is recognized on a cash basis regardless of the period to which they relate". The resultant impact of the above policy is that the Company recognized "Cash received in advance" as revenue. Therefore the profit for the period is overstated to that extent.

TREASURER'S REPORT

1. The net income for the year was Rs. 197,899/= compared with Rs. 107,332/= of last year. The Association has earned an increase in income of approximately 84%.

Income from Membership subscriptions has not significantly changed as we have earned Rs. 24,900/- for this year compared with Rs. 24,400/- last year.

2. The income from course fees and examination fees for the year after deducting the expenses relating to them was Rs. 568,847/- compared with Rs. 278,413/- of last year. The percentage increase is approximately 104%.

3. Other income for the year was Rs. 296,545/- compared with Rs. 401,636/- of last year. The percentage decrease is approximately 26%.

4. Administration overheads for the year were Rs. 722,092/- compared with Rs. 616,717/- of last year. The percentage increase is approximately 17% which is attributable to inflation.

5. The Association has Rs. 921,491/- in fixed deposits as at 31st December 1996 at National Savings Bank, and Rs. 539,769/- in a savings account at Bank of Ceylon. The interest capitalised to fixed deposits during the year was Rs. 110,318/=.

6. The fixed assets purchased during the year amounted Rs. 48,140/=.

In conclusion we would like to mention that there has been a significant increase in profits which have been invested in the savings account.

Anton D Wallathamby
Treasurer.