



# E-NEWSLETTER 2018

## National Institute of Social Development

### ABOUT US

The National Institute of Social Development (NISD) is the premier institution in Social Work education in Sri Lanka. We are recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) as a degree awarding Institute, under section 25A of the Universities Act No.16 of 1978. NISD is a statutory body functioning under the purview of the Ministry of Social Empowerment. NISD is committed to be an educational institution producing professional social workers to serve the social welfare system and to promote social development.

### Being a social workers means.....

- You will never be bored.
- You will always be frustrated.
- You will be surrounded by challenges.
- So much to do and so little time.
- You will carry immense responsibility and very little authority.
- You will step into people's lives and you will make a difference.
- Some will bless you.
- Some will curse you.
- You will see people at their worst and their best.
- You will never cease to be amazed at people's capacity for love, courage and endurance.
- You will see life begins and ends
- You will experience resounding triumphs and devastating failures.
- You will cry a lot
- You will laugh a lot
- You will know what it is to be human and to be humane

### PREMISES OF OUR OWN SEEDUWA NEW BULIDING



#### Vision of the NISD

To be a centre of excellence, nationally and globally in Social Work Education, Training and Research

#### Mission of the NISD

"To enhance human resource for Social Development through the preparation of competent manpower in social work at all levels, generate and disseminate new knowledge and technologies for social work practice, provide specialized services for social welfare and social development"

## National Institute of Social Development

Social Development Policy, Research & Publications Division,  
Ministry of Social Empowerment

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## School of Social Work

### Bachelor of Social Work New Intake

Bachelor of Social Work 2018/2019 degree programme was commenced on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018. The English Intensive Course is currently in progress.



### Parents Meeting of the students of Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)

The parents meeting of the students of Bachelor of Social Work batch 2017/2018 and batch 2016/2020 was conducted at the NISD auditorium on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018. The Main objective of this interactive discussion was to enhance and strengthen the relationship between parents and faculty members to provide the best education, care, safety and other facilities during the student's stay at NISD. This initiative was taken for the future development and related suggestions and recommendations of the parents were documented.

### Master of Social Work (Sinhala and Tamil Medium)

For the first time NISD has taken an initiative to provide an opportunity for students to obtain a Master Degree in their own language by commencing the Master of Social Work (MSW) Programme in both Sinhala and Tamil medium. As a result 2018/2019 Masters in Social Work (MSW) Sinhala and Tamil Medium programmes will commence from the first week of September 2018.

## Inauguration of Social Work Master's Degree Programme (English Medium)

The Master's degree programme 2018/2019 in English medium commenced on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at the National Institute of Social Development. This program is designed to provide advanced knowledge in social work encompassing a qualitative shift from knowledge acquisition to the development of analytical skills, critical appraisal and production of knowledge through critical inquiry. It aims to produce professionally qualified and managerially competent manpower to serve the social welfare system and thereby promote Social Development.

The programme consists of classroom lessons which include mainly of lectures, discussions student presentations, seminar discussions, observation visits of selected social and related organisations study. It also includes lessons on leadership appropriate to professional practitioners and persons in managerial positions.



## Workshop on Building Accessible Relationships with Teaching Faculty

"Building Accessible Relationships with Teaching Faculty" Workshop was conducted at the NISD with the main objectives of Identifying students at risk and supporting students in distress on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018. This programme was conducted by the Clinical Psychologist Ms. Roshan Dammapala. Another workshop on "Building Resilience of Students" was conducted for undergraduates and diploma students on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018 by Ms. Roshan Dammapala and Dr. Mahees Mohammed, Senior Lecturer, University of Colombo.



Workshop on Building Accessible Relationships with Teaching Faculty



Workshop on Building Resilience of Students

## School of Social Work Extra Curricular Activities



### Annual Pirith

Annual Pirith Chanting Programme organized by the BSW 2016/2020 students was held at NISD on 31<sup>st</sup> of June and 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2018 at the NISD Premises.



### New Year Festival

The New Year Festival "Sooriyapraphthiya" organized by the Bachelor of Social Work students of the School of Social Work was held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at Prison grounds.



### Ifthar at NISD

Annual Ifthar Programme organized by the Muslim Student Association of School of Social Work was held on 07<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at NISD.

## Research Division

### Positive Aging: Strengthening and Community Based Aged Care System in Sri Lanka

This research aims to bridge the gaps in the existing aged care system in Sri Lanka. Through this research it is expected to evaluate the benefits of the Community Based Aged Care and Institutionalized Aged Care and suggest a more effective system for Sri Lanka. The initial stages have been completed in this research and a steering committee has been appointed by the secretary to the Ministry of Social Welfare and Primary Industries. Steering committee consists of members representing Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Social Welfare and Primary Industries, Department of National Planning, Ministry of Education as well as University Professors. Data collection of this research will be done in coming months.

### Staff Development Workshop – 2018

The Social Development Policy, Research and Publications Division conducted a Staff Development Workshop for the academics of the institute on Professional Development in April 2018. The objective of the workshop was to develop staff competencies and to create a learning environment in the institute. This workshop focused on areas such as leadership, time management, knowledge management, network building and performance appraisal in order to enhance motivation of staff members. Mr. A.R.N.D. Ramanayake, Senior Lecturer, Department of Sport Science and Physical Education, University of Kelaniya contributed as the resource person of the workshop. The Director General, Additional Director General,(Academic), Director Research and Publications and academic staff from all three divisions participated in this workshop.



### E-Journal of Social Work

In modern digital era E-journals play a vital role in academic knowledge sharing. Under such concept, E-Journal of Social work was initially published in year 2017 and from 2018 it will be published as a biannual publication. First issue of the E-Journal 2018 was published in June as Volume II, issue No 01. This journal provides appropriate knowledge for interested parties on Social Work Interventions for prevailing social issues in Sri Lanka.

### Intellectual Discourse

The Social Development policy, Research and Publications Division of the National Institute of Social Development is organizing an "Intellectual Discourse" launching the academic and research based publications of the division on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2018 at the Sri Lanka Foundation (SLF) under the patronage of the Minister of Social Empowerment. Most commendable articles will be presented and conferred by the University professors as an academic forum with the participation of scholars and interested groups.



## Training Division

### Short Term Training Programme on Stress Management

A Short Term Training Programme was conducted for 40 Pre-school teachers employed under Civil Security Department at Kilinochchi Regional Training Centre on 07<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and scheduled to be conducted on 06<sup>th</sup> August 2018. This training programme aimed to develop the Communication Skills and Coping Skills of Pre-School teachers to overcome stress and maintain the work-life balance.

Another Short term Training Programme was conducted for 40 officers of the Divisional Secretariat of Thunukkai at Kilinochchi Regional Training Centre on Stress Management on 02<sup>nd</sup> & 03<sup>rd</sup> April 2018. Objective of the programme was to help the participants to successfully manage their stress.



Pre-school Teachers Training Programme

DS officers Training Programme

### Counseling Diploma Course at Thalawa Centre

The new intake of the Diploma in Counseling at Thalawa Centre commenced on 05<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The Director General of NISD, Officers of the Training Division, staff of Thalawa Training Centre, invitees from the Teaching Hospital Anuradhapura, representatives from NGOs, counselors and students participated in the Inauguration Ceremony.



Counseling Diploma Inauguration at Thalawa

### Certificate Courses in Counseling

The inauguration Ceremony of the Certificate Course in Counseling for the Instructors of the National Industrial Training Authority (NAITA) was held on 25/06/2018 at Rajagirirya.

Another certificate Course in Counseling in Tamil Medium for the Instructors of NAITA commenced on 02/04/2018 at Kilinochchi.

### Training Workshops for Field Supervisors

A special training workshop was conducted for thirty Field Supervisors of various Diploma programmes on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 at Ranna Regional Training Centre.



Another workshop was conducted on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at NISD main office. Twenty nine Field Supervisors participated in this training workshop and Professor Elizabeth Ruiz, Professor of Psychology from Illinois University contributed as a Resource Person of the workshop conducted at Colombo.

Another Training Programme has been scheduled in July 2018 for 30 Field Supervisors of the Eastern Province to train the Field Supervisors of the Tamil Medium Diploma Programmes.

### Guest Lecture on Teaching & Evaluation

Guest Lecture on Teaching & Student Evaluation was conducted on 01<sup>st</sup> June 2018 & 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018 by Prof. Elizabeth Ruiz, Associate Professor of Psychology & Counseling of Governors University of Illinois. The faculty members of the Training Division attended the Lecture. These lectures were conducted with the objective of developing the teaching competencies of Faculty Staff to uplift the quality of educational and training programmes conducted by the institute.



## High Flyers of NISD

“I must say that Bachelor of Social Work Degree program immensely helped me to excel in my career as the academic environment which always encourages undergraduates to stay engaged in self-learning and the gained experiences at NISD by interacting with different people were vital to move up faster in the voluntary/humanitarian field while representing my mother country at United Nations.”

Sachinda Dulanjana Witharana  
Hon. Speaker of Sri Lanka Youth Parliament and The Official Sri Lankan Youth Delegate to the 71<sup>st</sup> United Nations General Assembly



BSW degree experience opened up my perspective on life realities and broadened my horizon. It was substantive combination of both academic and practical experience working with communities, respecting diversity. I received a full scholarship to study in Australia's number one university, University of Melbourne and the opportunity to work in national, regional and international organizations in the Commonwealth, Australia, Asia Pacific and in Sri Lanka. My academic and professional success would not have been the same without the strong foundation received with the BSW degree.

W Sarah Ashaya Natali Soysa  
National Programme Analyst  
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)



“‘I have a dream...’ as said by M.L King in 1968, mine is to become an Academic Researcher. Four years in NISD was the trigger point in my career. The exposure and experiences from BSW given me different perspectives about what I really want to do. Moreover, it has been also absolutely amazing from the teachers I’ve met and friends I’ve made”.

Niroshan Ramachandran  
PhD Candidate/Graduate Teaching Assistant  
Department of Social Sciences,  
Edge Hill University,  
Lancashire, United Kingdom



“Social workers role is to help in improve outcomes in people's lives.”  
Therefore my career as a Social worker is much interesting and challenging role, occasionally receiving a lot of Children with Psychiatric problems, which can be negative when things go seriously wrong. But I’m happy to work as a member of the Multi-Disciplinary Team at the Unit with other health professionals. The only reason you’re hearing about this good bit of social work is because I managed to make a success of my life, and I wouldn’t have been able to do that without My Degree in Social Work.

Thennakoon Haluge Rasika Samanmalee  
Instructor in Social Work  
Department of Psychiatry  
Faculty of Medicine  
University of Colombo



## PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED BY NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

NAME OF THE PROGRAMME	ENTRY QUALIFICATION	TIME PERIOD/MEDIUM
<b>DEGREE PROGRAMMES</b>		
Master of Social Work	Bachelors Degree from a recognized university or Higher Education Institute	Two year/Part-time (English medium)
Bachelor's of Social Work	Minimum requirements for university admissions passing the G.C.E. (A/L)	Four year/ Fulltime (English medium)
<b>HIGHER DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES</b>		
Higher Diploma in Social Work	Passing 3 Subjects in G.C.E. (A/L) examination in any stream & Diploma in Social Work	Two year/Fulltime (English/Sinhala/Tamil)
Higher Diploma in Couselling	Completing a Diploma in Counseling	21 Months/Part-time (Sinhala/Tamil/English)
<b>DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES</b>		
Diploma in Social Work	Passing 3 subjects in G.C.E. (A/L) examination and 3 years working experience in social service & welfare sector	One year/Fulltime & Part-time (English/Sinhala/Tamil)
Diploma in Women Empowerment	Passing 3 subjects in G.C.E. (A/L) examination	One year/Part-time (Sinhala/Tamil)
Diploma in Counseling	Passing 3 subjects in G.C.E. (A/L) examination	21 Months/Part-time (Sinhala/Tamil)
Diploma in Social Care	Passing 3 subjects in G.C.E. (A/L) examination	18 Months/Part-time (Sinhala/Tamil)
Diploma in Child Protection	Passing 3 subjects in G.C.E. (A/L) examination	18 Months/Part-time (Sinhala/Tamil)
Diploma in Community Based Corrections	Passing 3 subjects in G.C.E. (A/L) examination	21 Months/Part-time (Sinhala/Tamil)
Diploma in Eldercare/ Gerontology	Passing 3 subjects in G.C.E. (A/L) examination	18 Months/Part-time (Sinhala/Tamil)
Diploma in Sign Language & Interpretation	Passing 3 subjects in G.C.E. (A/L) examination	One year/Part-time (Sinhala)
<b>CERTIFICATE PROGRAMMES</b>		
Certificate course in Social Work	Passing G.C.E. (O/L) examination	06 Months/Part-time (Sinhala/Tamil)
Certificate course in Counseling	Passing G.C.E. (O/L) examination	06 Months/Part-time (Sinhala/Tamil)
Certificate course in Child Focused Community Development	Passing G.C.E. (O/L) examination	06 Months/Part-time (Sinhala/Tamil)

### Our sincere thank goes to:

Ms. M.T.R. Shamini Attanayake – Director General (Covering), Additional Director General (Academic)

Mr. M.S.M. Asmiyas – Director (Social Development Policy, Research & Publications)

Mr. K.M.Y. Karunaratne – Director (School of Social Work)

Ms. V. Vasudevan – Director (Training )

Ms. L.K. Pushpakanthi – Director (Administration and Finance)

Ms. Dammika Hettiarachchi – Registrar

Ms. Ishari Gunaratne – Lecturer (School of Social Work)

Ms. H.M.S.Niroshani - Lecturer (School of Social Work)

Ms. Iresha samarasingha – Training Officer (Training Division)

Ms. B.A. Niluka Wijebandara - Research Officer (Research Division)

Ms. Chamari Thabrew - Research Assistant (Research Division)

Mr. Sahan premarathna - Officer - in- Charge (Thalawa Training Centre)

Mr. D. K. Indika Wijerathna - Computer Programmer

Mr. Chathura Sumanapala – Programme Coordinator

Mrs. Nayana Liyanage - Management Asisstant (Grade1)

Mr. Y. G Saman Jayalath - Audio Visual Assistant

Mr. Isuru Nimesh Madushanka -Managment Assistant

Mr. A.K.S. Alankara - Office Asisstant

Academic & Non Academic Staff

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