

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

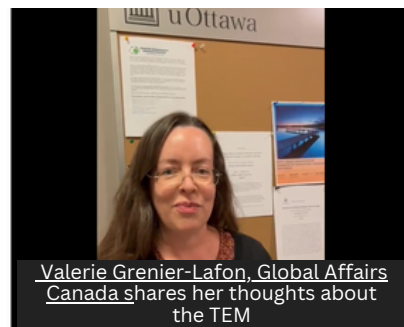
Enhancing Translation and Interpretation Services in Sri Lanka



Visiting the University of Ottawa



Visiting to Glendon College



Valerie Grenier-Lafon, Global Affairs Canada shares her thoughts about the TEM

Academics from the University Grants Commission and Four State Universities participate in Technical Exchange Mission(TEM) to Canada

Designed to support the delivery of BA in translation program in the four partnering universities, the TEM delegates included the Secretary of the University Grants Commission and representatives from the Universities of Jaffna, Kelaniya, Sabaragamuwa and Eastern. TEM Sessions were arranged at the School of Translation and Interpretation at Ottawa University, the Canadian Translation Bureau, the Translation and Interpretation Programs at Glendon College (York University) and the Secretariat to the Quality Assurance Council of Ontario Universities.



ජාතික භාෂා සමානාත්මතා අයිතිවාසිකම් ව්‍යාපෘතිය
தேசிய மொழிகள் சமத்துவ மேம்பாட்டுத் திட்டம்
National Languages Equality Advancement Project

TECHNICAL EXCHANGE MISSION TO CANADA

FOR UNIVERSITIES

SEPTEMBER 30 – OCTOBER 09, 2022



සාමාන්‍ය මධ්‍යම පාලන මණ්ඩලය
සාමාන්‍ය මධ්‍යම පාලන මණ්ඩලය
A bilateral project supported by the Government of Canada



In partnership with
Canada

Learn [more](#) about the delegates experiences

Working together to professionalize Interpretation Services in Sri Lanka

NLEAP organises Inaugural Curriculum Development Committee Meeting



The availability of professionally qualified and skilled Interpreters is critical to the effective implementation of the Official Languages Policy of Sri Lanka. NLEAP in partnership with the University Grants Commission convened the Inaugural Curriculum Development Committee Meeting to discuss the development of the syllabus for the Diploma in Interpretation. Joining the two-day session hosted at the University of Jaffna were academics representing the four partner universities that already offer the Bachelor of Arts Translation Degree Programme (Jaffna, Kelaniya, Sabaragamuwa and Eastern).

[Read more](#)

Department of Translation Studies, University of Jaffna

Dr Kannathas, Head of the Translation Department of Jaffna University, shares some insights Introduction to the Department.

Translation is a professional course of study that aims to produce Translators to be employed in the courts, parliament and government departments in order to assist implementation of Official Language Policy (OLP). Universities of Jaffna, Kelaniya, Sabaragamuwa and Eastern Universities of Sri Lanka offer a special four year Bachelor of Arts Degree in Translation Studies. University of Jaffna is one of the pioneer participants in the National Languages Equality Advancement Project (NLEAP), a bilateral project funded by the Government of Canada. Through NLEAP, University of Ottawa provided Technical Assistance (TA) to University of Jaffna in 2011 to produce English-Tamil Translators with adequate knowledge in Sinhala.

Continued on page 3

University of Jaffna celebrates International Translation Day Exhibition, Magazine Launch and Book Release to commemorate International Translation Day



Launch of UOJ's Annual magazine "Translator-Issue V" containing the articles of students and lecturers related to translation, and release of books translated by the Department.



Students presented important aspects of Translation through exhibit models, documentary and short film. Certificates were issued to the students who won in the competitions conducted to mark the International Translation Day.

[Read more](#)

"If you talk to a (wo)man in a language (s)/he understands, that goes to (his)/her head.
If you talk to (him)/her in (his)/her language, that goes to (his)/her heart."

Nelson Mandela

NATIONAL LANGUAGES DIVISION (NLD)

Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government

Building the Capacity of Public Institutions to protect and promote the Language Rights of all Sri Lankan Citizens

NLEAP with the National Languages Division hosts a series of Language Planning Workshops

NLEAP along with the National Languages Division (NLD) of the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Offices and Local Government (The Ministry) hosted a series of Language Planning Workshops. 74 Public Institutions that followed the Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop on the Language Planning Process participated in the workshops.

[Read More >](#)



Southern Province - 06 Institutions



Northern Province - 18 Institutions



North Western Province - 17 Institutions



Eastern Province - 16 Institutions



[Participants of the Way forward workshop held in the Central Province in September share their insights and experiences](#)
[Click to Watch >](#)



Main Stakeholders of the Language Sector meet to take stock of NLEAP Progress and Future Activity

Preliminary Project Steering Committee Meeting to discuss NLEAP Activities

NLD, with the support of NLEAP, organised a working session with its partner institutions, DOL, OLC and NILET, on the 28th of November, to review NLEAP activity to date and discuss the Annual Work Plan for 2023. The meeting is in anticipation of the Project Steering Committee scheduled to be co-hosted by the Governments of Sri Lanka and Canada in early 2023.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES COMMISSION

Enhancing Research Management Capacities to Safeguard Language Rights

NLEAP conducts workshop on Research Management for the Official Languages Commission (OLC)

NLEAP recently conducted a mentoring workshop on Research Management for the OLC team. The training, 'How to Conduct a Research Study Successfully', focused on enhancing the team's knowledge and operational capacity for effective Research Management. A well-managed research strategy would not only help the OLC Team to effectively monitor the implementation of the OLP, but also serve to inform and shape future policy making on Language Rights.

[Read More >](#)

DEPARTMENT OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Enhancing Management of Translation and Interpretation Services in the Public Sector

NLEAP Spearheads the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Translation

The Department of Official Languages (DOL) with the support of NLEAP, convened an Advisory Committee on Translation (ACT). ACT is an initiative set up under the purview of DOL to have oversight on policies relevant to translation and interpretation services in the public sector. The mandate of the ACT is to provide policy direction and appropriate actions to government policy makers to enhance translation and interpretation services in the country.

[Read More >](#)



Working together to enhance the Management of Translation and Interpretation Services in the Public Sector

NLEAP hosts workshop for Senior Translators in the Public Sector on the Draft Translation and Interpretation Management Plan (TIMP)

The Department of Official Languages, with the support of NLEAP, hosted a workshop for Senior Translators in the Public Sector to present the Draft TIMP. The TIMP was designed in response to the multiplicity, complexity and urgency of state sector translation and interpretation requirements DOL is mandated to fulfill.

[Read More >](#)



GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

The importance of maintaining a Gender Perspective in the Medium-Term Strategy for Official Languages Policy Implementation

NLEAP organises workshops for Partner Institutes to build awareness about the gender components in the Strategy Framework for Languages Policy

Ensuring that both women and men enjoy their Language Rights in a gender sensitive manner is an imperative for the main stakeholders and policy makers in the Language Sector - NLD, OLC, DOL and NILET. One of the main objectives in the Strategy Framework for the Implementation of the Official Languages Policy (SFI OLP) is to enhance the capacity of government institutions to deliver bilingual services in a gender-sensitive manner.

[Read More >](#)

Department of Translation Studies, University of Jaffna. (Cont. from page 1)



Translation, the newest discipline, was added as the 17th department to the Faculty of Arts of University of Jaffna in 2020.

We are indebted to former coordinators Prof. M. Saravanapavan Iyar and Dr. K. Srikaneshan of the Department of English Language Teaching who dedicated their years of service to develop the department.

Students-Intake

From 2011 to 2014 Students were allowed to select Translation Studies as an Honours Degree Programme based on their own interest, and the degree was provided under the title 'Bachelor of Arts Honours Degree Programme in Translation Studies'. In 2015, the curriculum was revised in collaboration with University Grants Commission (UGC) and NLEAP, with the Technical Assistance (TA) provided by Prof. Luise von Flotow of University of Ottawa. Since then UGC has selected students through a competitive examination to enroll for the BA (Hons) Translation Studies. The degree programme creates opportunity for multiple streams of students from the 25 administrative districts to be qualified as professionally trained Translators.



Course-Design

The department offers a range of innovatively designed programs with constantly updated curricula to meet the needs of major stakeholders in the country. The curriculum includes course units on the following standards: Theories of Translation, English & Tamil Language oriented course units, Tamil & Sinhala Language oriented course units, Translation and Linguistics, Translation & Technology, Translation Practice, Research Course Units, and Professional Training. It is noteworthy that, the Department of Translation Studies at the University of Jaffna is one of the academic centers in Sri Lanka where the theoretical framework of Translation is taught along with the practical framework as an independent discipline. The department at present offers a special degree program through internship and research work.

Employability

The Department of Translation Studies ensures a hundred percent employability. Graduates are employed as Probationary Lecturers, Translators in the Central Bank of Ceylon, the University Grants Commission, the Ministry of Education of Northern Province, the Jaffna Municipal Council, the Chief Secretary's Secretariat of Northern Province, and in several Government Sectors.

Further, a certain number of graduates serve as English Teachers, and other Graduates are employed as Development Officers. Notably, number of students enrolled in each batch has been increasing from batch to batch. It shows the demand for the study program in our country. Currently, 149 students are following the Degree Programme and the department has produced seven batches of graduates, successfully.

NLEAP's Assistance for the Degree Program

NLEAP, in partnership with the University of Ottawa, continues to support the Academics of the Universities to continuously review and update the curricula for Translation Studies. Recently, NLEAP with the assistance of Jeff Staflund, an internationally renowned specialist in interpretation, provided TA to the four universities to develop a curricula for a Diploma in Interpretation (Sinhala-Tamil Language). One critical aspect of the Official Languages Policy Implementation Strategy is to address gender based barriers to accessing Language Rights, to promote Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE). The 'Language and Gender' course unit added to the Translation Curricula reflects this priority. The multiple seminars and workshops organised by NLEAP, with the support of International and local specialists, on GEWE within Language Rights, contributed significantly to the development of this course.

The Department of Translation Studies in Jaffna appreciates the many visits from the Canadian High Commission and NLEAP team which signifies the continued support extended by the Government of Canada to enhance and improve Translation and Interpretation studies in Sri Lanka.



National Languages Fund

Visits to National Languages Fund Beneficiaries



PALM Foundation

NLF Partner PALM Foundation in Nuwara Eliya promotes community integration and reconciliation through Second Language Learning and Language Rights awareness.



Sri Lanka Central Federation for the Deaf

NLF Partner SLCDF promotes of the implementation of the Official Languages Policy through Sign Language.



Up-Country Social Action Centre (UPSAC)

UPSAC supports national reconciliation amongst plantation communities by building awareness about the Official Languages Policy (OLP).

NLF Partner Activity Highlights



CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (CHRC)

Reconciliation through Learning

CHRC hosted 3 Award Ceremonies in Kurunegala to award certificates to 1300 Adult Learners who completed the 50hr Second Language Learning Course. The Second Language Learning Courses that taught Tamil to Sinhala communities, and Sinhala to Tamil communities, were open to all people in Kurunegala who were above 18 years of age.

[Read More >](#)



UVA SHAKTHI

Promoting the Official Languages Policy by service providers and multi ethnic community involvement in Language Rights in the Badulla District

Children from the Daham Pasal, Catechism School, Hindu Araneri Padasalai and Islamic Sunday School in Badulla District join in workshop promoting bilingualism and respect for each others cultures.



NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL

Language to Reconcile

The Certificate awarding ceremony for 43 adult learners in Batticaloa District who successfully completed 90 hours of Second Language Learning - Sinhala was held in November. Awardees included LIRC members, DIRC members, Religious Leaders, Government Officers, Community Police Officers and CBO members from the district.



MEDIA STUDIES FORUM (MSF)

Empowering Citizens through Knowledge of Language

MSF organised a workshop with the participation of the Department of Official Languages, on 23rd November 2022 in Badulla to promote inter-ethnic harmony through enhanced awareness about the Official Languages Policy & Language Rights.

VILUTHU

Inner | Viluthu | Changing Lives through Language

ing Lives through Language Rights - Chandanika's

ing Lives through Language Rights - Nizamiya's

ing Lives through Language Rights - Sabriya's

ing Lives through Language Rights - Sarala's



Changing Lives through Language Rights

Watch these inspiring women share how they impacted their communities through awareness of, and advocacy for, Language Rights.

[Click to watch](#)



ශ්‍රී ලංකා රජය
இலங்கை அரசாங்கம்
Government of Sri Lanka

කැනේඩියානු රජයේ අනුග්‍රහය ලද ද්විභාෂී ව්‍යාපෘතිය
கனடிய அரசாங்கத்தினால் அனுசரணை வழங்கப்படும் இருதரப்பு செயல்நிட்டம்
A bilateral project supported by the Government of Canada



කැනේඩියානු රජය
கனடிய அரசாங்கம்
Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada

