



Udunuwara Wesirikanda Meditation Centre Director Ven. Polpitiye Kassapa Nayaka Thera called on the Most Ven. Uduagama Sri Buddharakkitha Mahanayaka Thera of the Asgiriya Chapter at the Asgiriya Viharaya and received his blessings recently. Here Ven. Kassapa Nayaka Thera making an offering to the Asgiriya prelate after receiving his blessings. Picture by Gamini Ramanyake



President Mahinda Rajapaksa testing a modern high definition MPEG film and television camera shown by journalist and President Cine-Vision Rohan Welilwita when he called on the President at Temple Trees recently. Welilwita said the camera will be used in the production of the film *Suzima* directed by him and produced by Deshamanya Dr. A.S.P. Liyanage.

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Parliamentary Affairs Minister M.H. Mohamed hands over *Pirikara* to Chief Incumbent of Gothawaya Paramitha Bodhinalu Viharaya Ven. Arama Dhammathilake Nayaka Thera to mark his 86th birthday. Ven. Rathgama Upandana Thera is also in the picture.



New Galle District MP Chandima Weerakkody addressing postal employees opposite the Galle Post Office at a reception held in his honour recently. Picture by Nimal Alagewatta



North Central Province Governor Karunaratne Divulgane inaugurating the National Youth Services Council Flag Day in Anuradhapura by purchasing the first flag from a youth at his office recently. Picture by Walter Dayaratne, Anuradhapura District special corr.



Healthcare and Nutrition Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva cuts a ribbon to open a new Sathosa sales centre at the Chettikulam IDP welfare centre recently. Ministers Bandula Gunawardena and Rishard Bathiyutheen were also present. Picture by T. Vnekarasa, Vavuniya special correspondent



Water Supply Minister Mahinda Amaraweera addressing a conference held at Sethsripaya Colombo to review progress of on going water supply projects in the Hambantota district recently.



The prize award ceremony to winners of the posters and drawing competition organized to commemorate World Day to Combat Desertification and the community environment workshop was held by Sawiya Development Foundation at the Galle Municipal Council Hall. The World Day theme this year was "Conserving land and water - Securing our common future". Here Agricultural Development Minister Hemakumara Nanayakkara presents the Rs. 5,000 prize certificate sponsored by Pentium 2000 and the kit of science books provided by National Science Foundation to the first place winner of the junior poster and drawings/competition. P.D. Sadaru Venojith of Dharmapala Vidyalaya, Sawiya Development Foundation Chairman Winston de Silva and Deputy Director (Research), Dr. Hemantha Wijewardana were also present.



Child Development and Women's Empowerment Minister Sumedha Jayasena and Southern Province Governor Kumari Balasuriya led the Sri Lanka delegation to the International Conference on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction 2009 held in Beijing, China. Forty eight countries participated in the conference organised by the All China Women's Federation with the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.



Ready-made garments worth Rs. 112.6 million donated by 34 B01 approved garment industries to the internally Displaced Persons in the IDP villages of Vavuniya were handed over to Nation Building Minister S. M. Chandrasena by the Ministry Secretary W. K. K. Kumarasiri at the Orugodawatta stores complex recently.



Water Supply Minister Mahinda Amaraweera unveils a name-board after inaugurating work on the Gurunnegeera Warayaya reservoir rehabilitation project in Angunukolapeessa recently. The project will provide irrigation facilities to 35 acres of paddy land in the area.



Journalist Antony Andradi who has completed 25 years as a journalist was feted at a ceremony at Beruwela recently. Here Western Provincial Council member Piyal Nishantha handing over a memento to Andradi during the felicitation ceremony. Picture by B.M. Mukthar - Beruwela Special Corr.



Uva Vidya Vidyalaya chess team won the silver and bronze medals at the Badulla District Chess Championship tournament. Here the team members with teachers Sujeeva Mendis and Evon Darlin. Picture by Ananda Hapugoda - Bandarawela Group

**Donation for Galle MC**

**SARATH MALALASEKERA**  
 The Municipalities in Netherlands donated Rs. 15,000,000 worth of equipment to the Galle Municipality Council.  
 Under the Municipalities of Sri Lanka project, Netherlands Municipalities Federation (VNG International) had donated three four-wheel tractors and trailers, road roller, mini hydraulic excavator, three three-wheelers, two mopeds, one hardy mae hydro cab hoist vehicle to the value of Rs. 15,000,000 to the Galle Municipal Council to provide a better service to the citizens of Galle District, said NAAL President S.P.C. Kumarasinghe. Kumarasinghe emphasised that the project execution was done by Netherlands Alumni Association of Lanka (NAAL) who co-ordinated the Galle - Velson Twin City Program for the last 14 years.



VNG International Project Manager Jaap Breuglen handing over the keys to Galle Mayor Methsiri de Silva. NAAL President S.P.C. Kumarasinghe, NAAL Vice President S. G. Panchi Hewa and Council Members Parakrama Dahanayake and Kumara Dhammika were also present.