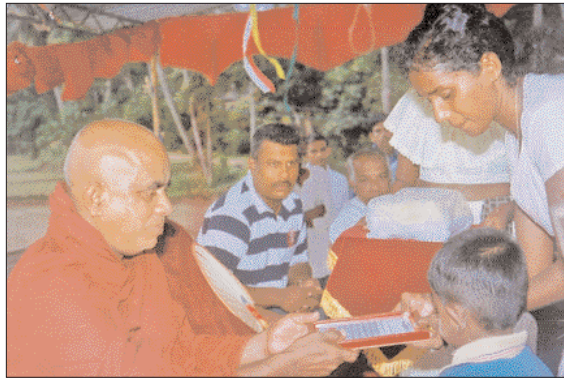




'American Vansha Kathava', a book written by Former Ambassador to the Netherlands and Philippines Karunasiri Gamage was presented to Prime Minister Ratsiraj Wickramanayake recently at his office. The book has been written to educate Sinhala readers about the United States of America and its leaders from Presidents George Washington to Barack Obama.



The Bodhiphituwala Sri Bodhi Praja Mula (community) organization at Minuwangoda held a special ceremony to pay tribute to families of war heroes who had sacrificed their lives in defence of the nation, at its head office at Bodhiphituwala recently. Here Ven. Thoranagoda Sumanasiri Thera, Viharadhipathi, Galkanda Siriniketha Piriven Maha Viharaya making a presentation to Mrs. Sasikala Sandayani, the wife of war hero Sergeant E.M. Vijerathna. *Picture by Irvan Nassika, Divulapitiya Group Correspondent*



Computers were provided to Grama Niladharis in the Kandy District by Minister of Public Administration Dr. Sarath Amunugama at a ceremony organised by the District Secretary of Kandy held at the Kandyan Arts Centre, in Kandy. Here Minister Dr. Sarath Amunugama handing over a computer to one of the selected Grama Niladhari. *Picture by S.M. Jiffrey Abdeen Kandy South Group Correspondent*



Trade Marketing Development, Co-Operatives and Consumer Services Minister Bandula Gunawardena cuts a ribbon to open a BMC outlet in Anuradhapura recently. NCP Chief Minister Berty Premalal Dissanayake and Petroleum Resources Minister Duminda Dissanayake are also in the picture. *Picture by Anuradhapura Additional District Group Corr.*



A road in the Pussellawa area was developed spending Rs. one million under the Jathika Saviya Program recently. Here the Minister of Plantation Industries D.M. Jayaratna opening of the road. *Picture by J.M. Hafees, Akurana group corr.*



An awareness program on plants under the 'Api Wawamu - Rata Nagamu' concept organised by the Environmental Society of the Muslim Ladies College, Colombo 4 was held at the school premises recently. Here student Zumara Zaman Thaha explains a point to Minister of Petroleum and Petroleum Resource Development A.H.M. Fowzie who was chief guest at the opening ceremony. Principal of the MLC Binthara Wazeerdeen looks on. *Picture by Ruzak Farook.*



The Az Zahara Association Centre was opened at Wattala recently. Here a religious dignitary from the Islamic Republic of Iran Ayatollah Noorollahian cutting a ribbon to open the Centre. Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran Dr. Seyed Riza Marandi, Manager, Riza Azizan and Haris Jaleel are also in the picture. *Picture by Ruzak Farook*



Minister of National Integration and Reunification Vinayagamurthi Murailidaran addressing the gathering after opening the Shrine Room at Elakala Maha Vidyalaya, Bentota. Director of Education Bentota Education Circuit L.D. Wimalawera and Principal, Elakala MV, I Jayaratne also participated. *Picture by Richmond Wijesekera, Bentota Group Correspondent*



A 'Vidhatha' resource centre costing Rs. 16 million was opened by NECCDEP in Palamunai. Here Minister of Water Supply and Drainage A.L.M. Athaulah and Eastern Provincial Minister M.S. Uthumalebbe opening the building. *Picture by M.S.M. Haniffa, Olivil. Spl. Corr.*



A livelihood program has been launched with the co-ordination of the Sarvodaya movement and Cord Aid Organization at Kitul village in the Batticaloa district for the benefit of the displaced families. Here a push bicycle and a milk can being handed over to a beneficiary by Sarvodaya Executive Director, Dr. Vinni Ariyaratna and UNICEF representative, Azadur Rahman. Executive Assistant, Sarvodaya, E.L.A. Kareem was also present. *Picture by M.I. Farook, Batticaloa District Group Correspondent.*



The National Welfare Art Circle organised the World Photographic Day 2009 celebration which was held at the P.D. Sirisena Playground, Maligawatte, Colombo recently. Here Secretary of the Art Circle M.J. Deen presenting a souvenir to Presidential Advisor A.H.M. Azwer. ITN Director Hashim Omar and Nainar Imran are also in the picture. *Picture by Ruzak Farook.*



An exhibition of crafts organised by the National Crafts Council was held at the Janakala Kendra Complex, Battaramulla recently. Here Chairman of the National Craft Council Buddhi Keerthisena (third from left) explains about an exhibit to Minister of Rural Industries S.B. Navinne. *Picture by Nanda Ekanyaka, Kotte Central Group corr.*



Minister of Religious Affairs Pandu Bandaranyake cutting the ribbon to open the Ministry's first holiday home at Kurundankulama in Anuradhapura amidst seth pirith chanted by the Maha Sangha. NCP Governor Karunaratne Divulgane and Chief Minister Berty Premalal Dissanayake were also present (Right). The new circuit bungalow situated at Kurundankulama along the Anuradhapura, Mihintale main road.



A special SII Campaign was conducted for children of Adarsha Pre- School, Kurungela under the Religious Development Concept of Kurungela Pradeshiya Sabha Chairman, Patrick Karunasinghe. Under this program special religious activities were conducted for children. Here Pre-school teacher in charge Mercy Ranasinghe serving Dana to a child who observed sil. *Picture by Stanley Senewratne, Kurungela North Group Corr.*