

COMMUNITY



The first Ratha Festival of the Sri Maha Vishnu Temple in Kelaniya was held last Friday with the participation of Public Affairs and Public Relations Minister Mervyn Silva. This is the statue of Sri Maha Vishnu brought from India. Here, Minister Silva is seen with the chief priests of the temple, Somu Swamy and Gopal Swamy. *Picture by Vinula Amerasinghe*



National Languages and Social Integration Minister Vasudeva Nanayakkara was received by the Eheliyagoda Town Association recently. Here, the Minister being accompanied by members of the association to the National School Auditorium for a conference on the theme 'Ethnic harmony and human development'.



Education Minister Bandula Gunawardena was the chief guest at the annual prize giving ceremony of Lumbini Maha Vidyalaya, Colombo, recently. Here, a student receives a prize from the Minister. Principal Major J P P Liyangakumbura is also in the picture. *Picture by Nanda Ekanayake, Kotte Central group cor.*



Uva Province Chief Minister Sashindra Rajapaksa has made arrangements to pay a monthly salary to the kindergarten teachers in the province. Here, the teachers and children from a number of kindergarten schools are seen moving rhythmically to the beat of music, at a concert held at the Wellawaya sports ground.



Here, Higher Education Minister S B Disanayake with the Sri Lankan delegation representing Sri Lanka at the 17th World Festival of Youth and Students at Pretoria in South Africa. Higher Education Ministry selected participants from all universities and ethnic groups to represent this international event.



Ave Maria Convent, Negombo held its annual Christmas Carols at the School Hall recently. Here, Ave Maria Convent Senior students singing carols at the event. *Picture by H. Fernando, Negombo special cor.*



Uva Province Chief Minister Sashindra Rajapaksa participated in a special Dalada Pooja in Kandy recently. Here, he serves alms to Ven Thibbatuware Sri Sumangala Thera.



Minuwangoda People's Bank organized an event to distribute stationery items to the students of Yagodamulla junior school. This program was sponsored by the Buddhist Association of the People's Bank. Here Minuwangoda People's Bank Manager, Ganga Priya Senanayake hands over a gift parcel to a student. *Picture by Ivon Nissanka Divisapitiya group correspondent*



David Peiris Motor Company Negombo Branch recently presented the police with warning signs, intended for life survival measures being taken in the sea stretch, where swimming is dangerous. Here, IP Chanaka Wijerathna OIC Ethukala, Tourist Police receives warning signs from David Peiris Motor Company (Negombo) Sales Manager, Reshan Sylvester. *Picture by H Fernando, Negombo special cor.*



Maris Stella College Old Boys' Association Center built at a cost of Rs 35 million was inaugurated by OBA President Ajith Weerasinghe recently. Here OBA President and his wife being accompanied to the opening ceremony by Maris Stella Principal Rev Bro Sunanda Alwis. *Picture by H Fernando, Negombo special cor.*