



The family of Army Private Dayaratne attached to the third Vijayaba Infantry Regiment who died in action in Vavuniya has been gifted with a newly built house in the Bingiriya Ranaviru Housing scheme by the Seva Vanith Unit of the Vijayaba Regiment. Here late Dayaratne's wife Mrs. R.C.L. I. Kumari and her children getting ready for the house warming ceremony soon after they received the house. Commander Vijayaba Regiment Maj. Gen. R.V. Samaratunga, Bingiriya SLFP Chief Organizer Munidasa Premachandra and Seva Vanitha Unit officials were also present on the occasion.



Ven. Prof Kamburugamuwe Vajira Thera and President's Co-ordinating officer on Islamic matters Hassan Moulana at a dialogue on religious amity held between Islamic and Buddhist clergy at the Islamic Centre, Maligawatte on Monday June 18. President of the Islamic Centre, former Minister M.H. Mohamed was also present on the occasion. Picture by Ashraff A Samed Dehiwala – Mt Lavinia special corr.



The Mahajana Eksath Peramuna (MEP) Head office was recently shifted to No. 351/A/2 Pannipitiya Road, Thalawathugoda. Here, Water Supply and Drainage Minister and MEP Leader Dinesh Gunawardena at the opening ceremony. MEP Chief Secretary Karunathilake Dissanayake, Vice President Somaweera Chandrasiri, Deputy Secretaries ES Hewage, Maithree Wijesinghe, Treasurer Jayaratne Ranasinghe, Urban Council members Jagath Pathirana, Nishantha Wimalachandra and Pradeep Liyanage were also present. Picture by Colombo Central Thinakaran Correspondent Mohamed Imthiyaz

Writer felicitated



The Sinhala-Tamil Writers Forum felicitated Mrs Pathma Somakanthan who is a retired school Principal and a prolific writer in both English and Tamil for the tremendous service she has rendered in the spheres of Tamil literature, Hindu religion, Hindu culture and even about women who have contributed in numerous ways for the emancipation and liberation of women nationally and internationally. She started her journalistic activities in 'Suthanthi-

ran' tabloid newspaper after winning first place in a short story competition. She has since then written several short stories and articles pertaining to art and culture. She is an author of several Tamil and English books for children and also a book titled 'The Stories from Hindu Mythology' in English. She has also contributed nearly 100 articles in the 'Thinakkural' Sunday newspaper on womens affairs and has been honoured and

felicitated by several women's organizations in India and Canada and also presented with awards and titles for her contributions in the literary world. Somakanthan is also associated with the Colombo Tamil Sangam, Colombo Hindu Women's Association and several other women's organizations. Furthermore, she is a very good speaker, debater and orator and most sought after personality to preside in literary and religious meetings. - CM



Leelaratne Kankanamge's latest books 'Lapa Nomavan Sanda Sema' and 'Sandawatha' were launched at a ceremony presided by Higher Education Minister S.B. Dissanayake at the National Library and Documentation Board Auditorium, Colombo recently. Here the author presenting the copies of the two books to Minister Dissanayake during the ceremony.



Southern Provincial Chief Minister Shan Wijayalal de Silva who opened a Dharma Mandiraya at the Galmadugoda Purana Viharaya, Galle presenting awards to Daham Pasal students. Deputy Galle Mayor Kelum Seneviratne was also present. Picture by Galle Special Corr D. Siriwardhana



A Special World Environment Day Programme under the 'Tree of Life' initiative was conducted by Jetwing Hotels with a series of programmes, such as, exhibitions, contests and presentations on climate change at Loyala College, Negombo on June 5. Here, the Guest of Honour at this year's programme, film personality and Jetwing Eternal Earth Programme Patron Iranganie Serasinghe inspecting some of the exhibits created by schoolchildren at Loyala College, Negombo. Picture by H Fernando Negombo Special Correspondent



The past students Association of Vidyadupa Maha Vidyalaya, Mattegoda felicitated 52 teachers who served the school between 1980 and 1990. Here, the most senior teacher of the group Kusalawathie Alwis (92) receiving a memorial plaque from a past student. Picture by Wehelle Piyathilaka, Maharagama Special Correspondent