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Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - EDITION 09, SEPTEMBER 2026

Welcome to the latest edition of the Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities' (FSLGA) monthly newsletter!

FSLGA is the National Association of Local Councils in Sri Lanka. Our work focuses on strengthening the capacities of elected councilors and administrators, providing technical assistance to councils to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery, strengthening the councils' legal and policy framework, and conducting research and studies to assess further improvements to local governance systems in Sri Lanka.

Recent Programmes

FSLGA Awards Winners for the Local Government Debate Tournament



After four months of district- and province-level rounds, the FSLGA Local Government Debate Tournament concluded with its national finals, held recently in both Sinhala and Tamil. For the third year, the tournament brought together councils from across the country for an engaging exchange of ideas and perspectives on local governance.

Following spirited debates among all four finalist councils, the Mathugama Pradeshiya Sabha emerged as the Sinhala-medium champion, with the Ruwanwella Pradeshiya Sabha as runner-up. In the Tamil-medium category, the Valikamam South West Pradeshiya Sabha secured the championship, while the Manmunai Pradeshiya Sabha was named runner-up. The debate topics focused on key aspects of local governance in Sri Lanka and were carefully curated to strengthen participants' technical knowledge, critical thinking, and confidence in engaging with important governance issues.

We warmly congratulate all participating councils and hope the tournament contributes to strengthening the capacities of councillors across Sri Lanka!

PMI-WILL Closing Event: Celebrating Four Years of Partnership & Learning



The PMI-WILL Project, jointly led by FSLGA and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), recently marked the successful completion of its five-year journey with a closing ceremony held on 25 September 2026 at Waters Edge Hotel.

The event was honoured by the presence of Her Excellency Isabell Martin, High Commissioner of Canada to Sri Lanka and the Maldives, who attended as the Chief Guest. The ceremony brought together local government officials, members, and representatives from across the country who participated in the project's capacity development and training programmes over the past five years. It was an opportunity to reflect on the knowledge, skills, and experiences gained through the project, while celebrating the dedication of everyone who contributed to its success.

FSLGA extends its appreciation to all partners and participants who have been part of this journey and contributed to strengthening the capacities of local government in Sri Lanka.

Service Initiative Launches in Gampola under the PMI-WILL Project



The official opening of the Service Initiative in Gampola Urban Council was held under the PMI-WILL Project, marking an important milestone in strengthening people-centered public services in Gampola. The initiative was jointly supported by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Global Affairs Canada (GAC), representing an investment of over Rs. 26 million.

Located at the Gampola Private Bus Stand, the newly established facility has been designed to provide greater comfort and convenience to residents, commuters, and visitors while supporting the Gampola Urban Council's commitment to delivering more accessible and inclusive public services.

The facility includes dedicated gender specific washrooms, a space for breastfeeding mothers, and a comfortable waiting area for passengers awaiting their buses. These thoughtful features make the facility a valuable addition to Gampola's public infrastructure and an important step towards creating a more inclusive and people-friendly city. This initiative was supported under the Partnerships for Municipal Innovations – Women in Local Leadership (PMI-WILL) project with support from Global Affairs Canada (GAC).

Final Monitoring Visits: Looking Ahead Together

As the PMI-WILL Project reaches an important milestone, Canadian volunteers, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) staff, and FSLGA staff recently

The visits provided an opportunity to see the outcomes of the Service Initiatives implemented by each council and to engage in discussions on their sustainability, continued impact, and the way forward. These conversations also offered valuable insights into how the initiatives can continue to respond to the evolving needs of local communities beyond the project period.

A key strength of the Service Initiatives is that each one was uniquely developed by its respective council, based on the specific needs and priorities of the communities they serve. This locally driven approach has helped ensure that the initiatives are practical, relevant, and responsive to the realities of each area. The final visits marked not only an opportunity to reflect on achievements, but also to look ahead and explore ways to sustain and build on these efforts.

Community sensitisation on Official Language Policy Workshops



Community sensitisation workshops on the Official Language Policy were held for several councils under the Preparing Sri Lanka's Local Governments for Fiscal Transition Project funded by the European Union and facilitated by the Commonwealth Local Government Forum. These capacity-building initiatives for the Kandy and Nuwara Eliya Municipal Councils are part of a broader programme aimed at enhancing good governance, institutional effectiveness, and financial management capacities of local authorities while preparing them for future fiscal transition processes.

Addressing Waste Management Challenges in Addarechchanai

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FSLGA recently visited the Addarechchanai Pradeshiya Sabha and its garbage dumpsite to better understand the environmental challenges associated with the disposal of mixed waste and explore possible interventions.

The dumpsite currently serves nine local councils in the area, highlighting the scale of the waste management challenge. Between January and June 2026 alone, approximately 4,900 tons of waste were discharged to this site. Beyond its environmental impacts, the dumpsite also poses a serious threat to the area's elephant population. Elephants are known to access the site and consume large quantities of non-biodegradable waste along with discarded food and other materials, creating serious risks to their health and well-being.

Through this visit, FSLGA aims to support local authorities in identifying practical and sustainable approaches to improve waste management while protecting both communities and the environment.

Gampola's Youth Ready to Take Climate Action



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several youth organisations interested in developing projects under the Gampola Youth Climate Action Fund. The session provided an opportunity for young people to learn more about the programme, explore potential project ideas, and discuss how they can contribute to building a more resilient and sustainable Gampola.

The call for proposals remains open, and we encourage youth groups in the Gampola area with innovative ideas to come forward and turn those ideas into action. For inquiries, contact 077 973 31 39

Upcoming Events

October 2026

- Service Initiatives Opening Ceremonies in Maskeliya, Koralai Pattu, and Nattandiya under the PMI-WILL Project.

Thank you!



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