Outbound & Confidence Building Training at Kithulgala

Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management is the pioneer institute in developing and providing talented & well-groomed man power to the current booming industry.

Since this institute was providing such a well moulded human resource to the world and country’s Travel, Tourism and Hospitality industry for number of years, they thought about developing its back bone by inculcating different talents and capabilities within their academics and non-academics too.

In order to succeed and achieve such a goal we were engaging on an outbound and confidence building programme with the assistance and guidance from the experts in outbound and confidence training “Ceylon Sports Adventures” Kithulgala. We were engaging in such activities in 3 groups as follows.

- First group September 30th & October 1st 2017.
- Second group November 11th & 12th 2017.
- Third group 30th November & 1st December 2017.

It was held with the participation of all provincial colleges of SLITHM with the main office. So, we always convey our gratitude to the SLITHM for the kindhearted courage gives to us.

Launching of ‘E-Newsletter’- SLITHM

On its successful publication, Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (SLITHM) has proudly organized the 1st “SLITHM-TALK” as a Newsletter. Being one of the most important events on SLITHM Publishing and providing an arena to share and communicate valuable knowledge, experience and news finding of community working in a variety of areas.
Editor’s Note

It gives us great pleasure to publish this second issue of ‘SLITHM Talk’ a creation of SLITHM Media Unit.

Even though we are responsible for the work of ‘SLITHM Talk’ we have to mention about the excellent co-operation extended by our dear Chairman Director General and members of the SLITHM.

We are proud because it will bring you a wonderful collection of information regarding the activities done and the interesting news of events submitted by you and our organization members.

Taking part in all the valuable activities of the SLITHM in numerous ways. Add knowledge and skills, develop changes in our attitudes will no doubt help and immensely in our career development.

Tourism and hospitality is booming in different ways in Sri Lanka. Being the training & educating Pioneer of Sri Lanka tourism it’s a great achievement of launching of ‘Travel Talk’ as the official News letter of SLITHM.

It showcases the unity, brother-hood and various efforts we take part away from our academic calendar. We believe that external expertise towards Tourism and Hospitality and networking with the Industrial stakeholders will bring much more opportunities and benefits for everybody.

We receive many comments from our readers and asking us to promote different events specially they carry out in provincial colleges. We thank you for your encouragement always.

Wish you all the best!

Cheers!

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The theme of the 1st issue of the SLITHM Newsletter was formulated to address the special events and programmes that happened from January to August 2017. Thus the theme reads, “SLITHM- TALK” of the SLITHM: Hospitality Training and Development towards sustainable Sri Lanka Tourism industry.

This has serious concern with educational responsibility of SLITHM, as the only government training institute of tourism and Hospitality. With increasing concerns over sustainable development, SLITHM with all provincial schools are expected to be engaged in more activities and service that support community and Human resource development.

Our Chief, administrators, Chairman Mr.Sunil Dissanayake and Director General Mr. Buddika Hewawasam who are prominent intellectuals with vast academic and administrative experience helped us to make this newsletter a success.

This newsletter presents an exceptional opportunity for discernment on industry, news events and activities by SLITHM. “SLITHM-TALK” Newsletter would not have seen the light of the day without the commitment and assistance from our precious publication committee members and other members of SLITHM, reviewers, editors and the publisher.

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Provincial Level Tourism Training & Education Stakeholders Meeting

The Provincial Level Tourism Training and Education Stakeholders Meeting organized by the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM) was held on 19 December 2017 at office premises.
Both World Tourism Day Celebrations 2017 and Sri Lanka Tourism Leader’s Quiz Competition were concurrently held on 27 September 2017 at Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM).

Tourism Leader’s Quiz Competition

Both World Tourism Day Celebrations 2017 and Sri Lanka Tourism Leader’s Quiz Competition were concurrently held on 27 September 2017 at Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM).

Christmas Carols Programme at SLITHM

3rd year Hospitality Management 012 Batch organized Christmas Carols programme on 22nd December 2017 at the College premises.

The event was successfully conducted and was appreciated by the Hon. Minister John Amaratunga, Mr. Buddhika Hewawasam, Director General of SLITHM and Mr. Malraj B.Kiriella, Director General of the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority.

SLITHM looking to raise hospitality training to world-class standards

The country’s premier hospitality training institution, the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management (SLITHM) is collaborating with the World University Service of Canada in curriculum development and many other areas. WUSC is currently managing two specially designed programmes in Sri Lanka in association with SLITHM, namely Advancing Specialised Skills for Economic Transformation (ASSET) and Uniterra, based on the shared values of improving quality education in the tourism sector.

SLITHM is the only state educational institution in the tourism and hospitality sector with eight schools across Sri Lanka and is committed to providing high quality education in travel and tourism by constantly adapting to the evolving needs of Sri Lanka’s tourism industry. The end result is that SLITHM graduates are provided with holistic training that equip them to provide the highest quality hospitality service.

In this regard WUSC and SLITHM had an extremely fruitful partnership in developing English syllabi at the craft, certificate, intermediate and advanced levels. These syllabi not only outline high quality English language education, but are also tailored toward the real needs of Sri Lanka’s tourism industry, with specific terminologies and pronunciation. In addition to English syllabi, WUSC’s involvement has allowed for the development of a French syllabus at the certificate level as well as content on French wines and cuisine with proper pronunciation and terminology.

SLITHM initiatives for ISO certificate
SLITHM takes hospitality training to Jaffna

In a strategic move to counter the shortage of trained hospitality industry personnel, the State-run Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (SLITHM) opened a new training facility in Jaffna recently. The new facility aims at training youth to take up lucrative jobs in the hospitality industry. Several hotels have opened up in the northern region in the recent past and many more are under construction at present. However, the hotel industry in the region has been faced with a dilemma due to the acute shortage of trained personnel to operate these hotels at an acceptable standard. “It is a well-known fact that unemployment is high in the north. At the same time hotels are finding it difficult to recruit qualified people to work in their hotels. This is a situation that requires urgent attention,” said Minister of Tourism Development, John Amaratunga who mooted the idea of setting up a SLITHM training facility in Jaffna.

Culinary Art 2017

The 17th edition of the ‘Culinary Art and Food Expo’ organized by the Chefs’ Guild of Lanka and supported by professional exhibition organizers, CDC Events and Travels Pvt. Ltd., is the country’s fastest-growing professional trade exhibition for the hospitality, food and beverage sector. It was held at the BMICH from July 28-30 and is one of the biggest culinary exhibitions in Asia, recognized by the Chefs’ Guild of Lanka affiliated to the World Association of Chefs’ Societies (WACS), which has a membership of 110 countries.

In order to enhance the talents of the future man power in the Hospitality, Travel & Tourism industry of the country the Food & Beverage faculty of the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management took part in the event. And with the never-ending commitment and the continuous guidance of the panel of Food & Beverage lecturers the below mentioned medals were won by the following under graduates of the SLITHM.

- M.Nimash Ravindu Fernando – Flambé Dessert – Silver Medal.
- Dillon Prashan Ranasinghe – Lion Beer Cocktail – Bronze Medal.
- Samitha Sulichana – Flambé Dessert – Bronze Medal.
- Thisara Madhushanka – Cocktail – Silver Medal.

Sri Lanka Tourism Toastmasters Club

Chairman and Director General of SLITHM had taken initiative steps to establish Sri Lanka Toastmasters Club with the joining hands of Sri Lanka Toastmasters and inauguration ceremony was held at the Auditorium of SLITHM on 23 November 2017.

Mr. Buddhika Hewawasam Director General of SLITHM delivered the welcome speech while mentioning the value of speech craft programme for Academic, non-Academic members and students of SLITHM. Mr. Ajantha Jayawardena District Director DTM gave the attractive Introduction to newly joined 25 participants and others who are anxiously waiting in the list.

Further Ms. Gayanika Gunasekara President Sri Lanka Airlines ABC addressed the audience highlighting the importance of communication and leadership skills enhancing the working capacity within the organization.

Advance Level Semester End Cocktail & Dinner Practical

Advanced Level semester end Cocktail & Dinner practical was held on 07th December 2017 with the participation of Industry professionals, Academics & sponsors. The cocktails & Dinner was prepared & served by the students of Advanced Level Food & Beverage operations & International Cookery.

Industry professionals commended very highly about the talents demonstrated by the students in their respective specialization areas. They also did a presentation on activities they have done during the course.
One of the world’s leading hospitality training institutions, the Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (ITH) in Salzburg, Austria has doubled its annual quota of scholarships for SLITHM students due to ‘high performance and commitment’.

With this development Sri Lanka’s premier hospitality industry trainer, Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (SLITHM) continues to lead the way in holistic hospitality training and education through its liaisons with leading foreign institutions.

These international connections which have been nurtured over a long period of time have opened up unique opportunities for SLITHM students to receive training in reputed foreign institutions. As a result, SLITHM’s foreign scholarship programme for high performers has spawned many well rounded hospitality professionals who today serve the country with distinction.

SLITHM has had a longstanding relationship with the Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (ITH) Salzburg, Austria. Being one of the leading hospitality educational institutions in Europe, its programmes are highly sought after and have won world acclaim.

ITH which is based in Salzburg, Austria offers 30 scholarships annually to Asian and African countries, allocating two scholarships for each country. ITH first made available these year-long scholarships to SLITHM way back in 2005 and since then many Sri Lankan students have benefitted from the experience and expertise gathered from one of Europe’s top hotel schools.

**National Bar Tenders’ Competition 2017**

Bar is a place where retail business of alcoholic beverages takes place. A human being who performs behind a bar counter is commonly known as a Barman or Bartender. It was the history and what majority of us practice and are aware of. But with the technological advancement, thinking and food & drinks revolutions took place and which is continuously taking place among different nations. These trends and traditions were changed and ever changing. As a result of similar circumstances bar tending became mixology and bar man became mixologist. It visualizes how talented that person is in mixing of different varieties of beverages in order to satisfy customers expectations.

So, in order to cut and polish such human talents the Food & Beverage Faculty of SLITHM played an unforgettable role while moulding up younger generation with a marvelous support given by the Ceylon Hotel School Graduates’ Association and the Rockland distilleries. The most successful achievement was one of the students (V.N.Keminda Heethawaka Arachchi) of SLITHM became the second runners up from the grand final event held in June 2017.

**“Sustainable Tourism for Development – Way Forward For Sri Lanka” Summit**

Sustainable Tourism For Development – Way Forward for Sri Lanka summit was held on 03 October 2017 at Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH).
SLITHM Anuradhapura Celebrates World Tourism Day
Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM) Anuradhapura celebrates the World Tourism Day 2018.

Pirith Chanting at SLITHM Anuradhapura
To invoke blessings on the Academy, its staff and trainees an all-night pirith chanting ceremony was held on 30 November 2018.

SLITHM Anuradhapura Carrom tournament
Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM) Anuradhapura successfully organized a carrom tournament recently.

Awareness programme for Halpe Central College, Bandarawela
Table Etiquette and Manners training programme was conducted for Bandarawela Halpe Central College students.

World Tourism Day celebrations 2017 - Kurunegala
Parallel to the World Tourism Day a walk was organized by the Wayamba Development Authority and Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (SLITHM) Kurunegala on 29 September 2017.

Hospitality training for Diyathalawa Army
Special Hospitality training programme was conducted for the Army Officers at Diyathalawa Camp.

Inauguration Ceremony for SLITHM - Koggala Students
An Inauguration Ceremony for Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM) - Koggala students was held recently at the college auditorium.

Battle of Hoteliers 2017
Battle of Hoteliers 2017 (SLITHM Inter-Class Cricket Tournament), an event organized by the Students’ Sports and Welfare Association 024 batch of Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management Koggala.
Tri-Series Cricket Tournament 2017
SLITHM Kandy Students’ Sports & Welfare Association C024 organized a Tri-Series Cricket Tournament on 02 November 2017. SLITHM Kandy won the trophy, SLITHM Kurunegala ended as the runners-up.

SLITHM - Kurunegala Student’s Batch Party
Student’s Batch Party – CL024 organized by the SLITHM – Kurunegala was held on 08 December 2018. Chief Guest of this occasion was Mr. Dehipagoda (Deputy Director/Educational) at the Vinola Hotel, Kurunegala.

Carrom Tournament - SLITHM - Rathnapura
Carrom Tournament Organized by Students Welfare Association, Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management, Ratnapura.

Halloween Night Practical - SLITHM-Kurunegala
Special Halloween Night Practical organized by the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management, Ratnapura Food and Beverage Students.

Inauguration Ceremony for SLITHM Students 2018
An Inauguration Ceremony for Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM) students commencing the Certificate level and Intermediate level under the Diploma in Hotel & Catering Operations was held on 10th January 2017 at the auditorium of SLITHM. An Informative keynote speech was made by Ms. Amal Goonetilleke, Regional Director – Sales, Sri Lanka & Maldives, Taj Hotels Resorts and Palaces. Mr. Sunil Dissanayake, Chairman of SLITHM and Mr. Malinda Ranwala, General Manager – Citrus Hotel, Waskaduwa also addressed the students with informative speeches. Similar ceremonies were also held at a number of provincial colleges of SLITHM.