

Sri Lanka
Institute of
Architects



**Country Report
2018 / 2019**

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SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF SLIA 2018 /2019



1.0 BRIEF HISTORY

The Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) was formed on 17th September 1957, with a Constitution for functioning on the model of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). The Institute was incorporated under the “Sri Lanka Institute of Architects Law No. 1 of 1976”, enacted by the National State Assembly of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka . The above Act was amended in 1996 paving way for the creation of an Architects Registration Board with powers to register persons qualified to practice the Profession of Architecture in Sri Lanka.

2.0 COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

The Council consists of a total of (20) Twenty Members comprising Eight (08) Office Bearers and Four (04) Chairman of Boards dealing with Education, Professional Affairs, Publications and Management; who are elected for a term of two years whilst the balance members numbering eight are elected each year. The present Council was appointed in February 2019 and will be in office till February 2021.



THE OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE SESSION 2019/2020

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| Arch. Veranjan Kurukulasuriya | (FIA) | President |
| Arch. D.H. Wijewardena | (FIA) | Immediate Past President |
| Arch. Russell Dandeniya | (FIA) | Senior Vice President |
| Arch. Rohana Bandara Herath | (FIA) | Vice President |
| Arch. Ranjana Suraweera | (FIA) | Hony. Secretary |
| Arch. Dilummini De Mel | (FIA) | Hony. Treasurer |
| Arch. Salinda Rathugama | (AIA) | Hony. Asst. Secretary |
| Arch. Damith Premathilake | (AIA) | Hony. Asst. Treasurer |

3.0 CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH UP TO SEPTEMBER 2019

| Category | Number |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Honorary Fellow Members | 13 |
| Fellow Members | 134 |
| Associate Members | 1350 |
| Registered Members | 02 |
| Graduate Members | 129 |
| Student Members | 258 |

4.0 BUDGET OF THE INSTITUTE

The funds of the Institute are collected from the following sources.

- 4.1 Annual Subscription from Members.
- 4.2 Annual Exhibition (Trade and Products)
- 4.3 Regular Donors and Sponsors.

The expenditure of the Institute is authorized at the Procedure Committee and ratified by Council. The annual accounts audited by a private audit Firm are presented to the General Body at the Annual General Meeting and are ratified by the Membership.

5.0 CHAPTERS AND BRANCHES

SLIA has one Regional Chapter namely, Central Province (Kandy) which is currently in operation.

6.0 GENERAL MEETINGS

6.1 Annual General Meeting (AGM) -2019



The Annual General meeting was held on 23rd February & Architect Veranjan Kurukulasuriya was elected as new president of the SLIA for the year 2019/2020.

6.2 Quarterly General Meetings(QGMs)

The SLIA has three Quarterly General Meetings of the General Body, held in May, August and November of each year. Major issues and resolutions are taken up and passed at these Quarterly General Meetings.



7.0 CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) PROGRAMMES AND WORKSHOPS

This council has decided to have more CPDs' and workshops to enhance the knowledge of the Membership.



Accordingly, the following programmes on different subject areas were conducted and all programmes were well attended by the Members

| Date | Topic | Number Attended |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 23 rd October 2018 | "Design Flexibility & innovation through the use of steel " | 149 |
| 19 th July 2019 | "Challenges in creating "Inclusive " cities through Architecture and Urban Design " | 226 |
| 11 May 2019 | "Sustainable Building Design Certification " | 153 |

8.0 REGISTRATION AUTHORITY OF ARCHITECTS - THE ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION BOARD (ARB)

The Architects Registration Board was established under the provision of Sri Lanka Institute of Architects Amendment Act No 14 in 1996. The Act requires and mandates persons who are eligible to practice the Profession of Architecture in Sri Lanka to register themselves under the ARB. There are three categories of Registration - namely 'Chartered Architects', 'Architects', and 'Architectural Licentiates'. The Chartered Architects & Architects are members of SLIA.

Currently over 1350 persons are registered in the Board as at 1st September 2019. The Board is chaired by a Past President of the Institute. Ar. Rukshan Widyalkara.

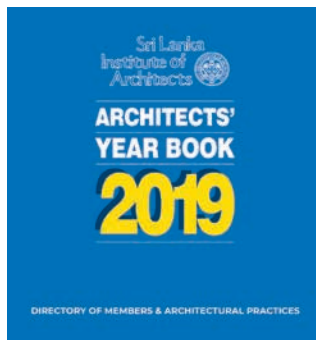
The names of members registered under the ARB are annually published in the government gazette. The ARB issues official rubber stamps annually to all members registered under the Board.

9.0 INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS OF THE INSTITUTE

SLIA has affiliations with the following international organizations.

1. ARCASIA – Architects Regional Council ASIA
2. UIA – Union of International Architects
3. CAA – Commonwealth Association of Architects
4. SAARCH – South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation of Architects

10.0 PUBLICATIONS



“YEAR BOOK”
The Members’ Directory
annually Published



THE ARCHITECT” is a
quarterly English Publication
circulated locally and internationally.



“BUILT ENVIRONMENT”
Scientific Journal



A Quarterly Journal
in Sinhala named “VASTU” .

11.0 MAJOR ACTIVITIES DURING THE SESSION 2018/2019

11.1 Inauguration of Annual Sessions 2019

Arch. Rita Soh, President of the Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA) 2019/2020 and Past President of the Singapore Institute of Architects participated at the Inauguration as the Chief Guest.

Around 1100 – 1200 Members and distinguished invitees were presented on the occasion. Eighty Three new Associate Members were presented with their scrolls of membership and four members were conferred the Fellow Membership.

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The Theme for A'19 was "Emergence: Entrepreneurial Architect" and was held from 20th to 24th February 2019

11.2 Launching of CPD Point System

CPD Point System was Launched by President together with Chairperson Professional Affairs Board Archt. Dilummini De Mel & Secretary Professional Affairs Board Archt. Shasa Wicramasinghe.



11.3 President's Dinner



11.4 SLIA Annual Awards

Annual awards were given to the winners at the SLIA Awards Night for the first time in SLIA's history, which was held on 13th October, 2018 at the Colombo Hilton.



11.5 Architects Awards Night - 2018

Architects' Awards Night 2018, chaired by Archt. Migara Alwis, FIA (SL), was held at the Grand Ballroom, Hilton Colombo on Saturday the 13th October 2018. The event was graced by Architect. Marina Tabassum, winner of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 2016. SLIA President, Archt. D.H. Wijewardena, Senior Vice President, Council Members, renowned Architects and representatives of other professions in the construction industry were present at this event. Main Sponsors for this event were JAT Holdings and True Value Green Products (Pvt) Ltd, and the co-sponsors were Sincon International (Pvt)Ltd and Sri Lankan Airlines.

11.6 National Conference 2019

The National Conference for Session 2018/19, based on the theme “EMERGENCE : Entrepreneurial Architect” was successfully concluded on 21st February 2019 held at the BMICH Main Assembly Hall, with the participation of 1231 attendees.

The Keynote Address was delivered by Ar. Nicholas Ho from Hong Kong, followed by presentations from Ar. Masaharu Rokushika from Japan, Archt. Yosuke Hayano from China and Ar. Borja Ferrater from Spain. Archt. Vinod Jayasinghe delivered a presentation to the local component of the Conference. Additionally, Archt. Ruchi Jeyanathan, Archt. Shashikala Ranasinghe, Archt. Kumudu Munasinghe and Archt. Muditha Prematilaka presented their projects in a new presentation method adopted in other parts of the world to conserve time at the conference.

Each conference attendees received a conference kit at the entrance. The event was sponsored by Melwire Rolling Pvt Ltd, Marazzi Groups, Abans PLC, Idea Group Pvt Ltd, Softlogic Holding PLC.



11.7 Architect 2019 – Members’ Work and Trade Exhibition

The Members Work and Trade Exhibition was held from the 21st February to 24th February 2019. The Chief Guests of this event were Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, MP, State Minister of Finance and Mass Media, and Ar.Rita Soh, President of ARCASIA and other International Architects.



11.8 Launch of Architect 2020

ARCHITECT 2020 was launched on 01st October, 2019 at Kingsbury Hotel in Colombo to which all Stall Holders and Sponsors were felicitated



12.0 OTHER ACTIVITIES

12.1 Establishing Associations under the Umbrella of SLIA

The SLIA established the Sri Lanka Project Managers Association, Sri Lanka Association of Interior Architects, Sri Lanka Association of Urban Designers and Sri Lanka Association of Architect Conservators.

The Associations will conduct courses for the benefit of the membership aimed at equipping members of SLIA with skills and qualifications in specific areas.

12.2 SLIA Disaster Assistance Unit of SLIA

The council of SLIA established a separate unit to undertake and assist the public in times of need. Since its inception all work carried out by the Disaster Assistance Unit (DAU) has been funded directly by the SLIA as CSR projects. DAU is a unit formulated under the resolution of the ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility (ACSR); a conglomerate of all recognized national architectural professional bodies in Asia.

SLIA has proposed the Government and seek a monetary fund allocation to build a Model Housing Village where the model houses, can withstand any type of natural disaster situation.



13.0 CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROJECTS

13.1 Awareness Programme For Buddhist Monks on Historical Buildings and Structures (Temple Architecture)

Several meetings were held including a workshop at the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka at which approx. 71 participated, which included members of SLIA and the Buddhist Clergy. Pertinent information was gathered in order to print a handbook to be used as a guideline for building construction and renovation. Compilation of the Handbook is in progress.

The committee also reported that a site has been identified for the construction of a Temple and a small island has been identified. Plans are a foot to construct a walkway and a bridge across the section of the lagoon between the mainland and the island. The preliminary design is in progress.

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A temple situated on a small island has been identified to be developed and planning to construct a walkway and a bridge across the section of the lagoon between the mainland and the island.



13.2 CSR - Halfway Home and Model Dwelling For Sri Lanka spinal Cord Network

SLIA was invited to be a stakeholder by providing consultancy services in the construction of a first Halfway home for the physically disabled in Sri Lanka located at Avissawella. The opening ceremony of the first Halfway home for rehabilitation of spinal code injured patients was held on 5th October 2018 at the current premises of Halfway Home at Avissawella Base Hospital. The chief guest of the event was the Chief Minister, Western Province, Hon. Isuru Devapriya. Invitees of SLIA participated for the opening ceremony.



14.0. SLIA SPORTS COMMITTEE

14.1 Cricket

Professional Cricket League

The Professionals Cricket League (PCL) was held on 23rd July 2019 to 04th August 2019. The following Professional Institutes participated in this year's tournament.

1. Architects (SLIA)
2. Engineers (IESL)
3. Doctors (SLMA)
4. Pilots (Aviators)
5. Lawyers
6. Town Planners

The Doctors and Lawyers were qualified for the finals and Doctor's Team emerged as the winners of the tournament.

15. Key Issues faced by the Profession of Architecture

Professionals of the Building Sector are currently faced with having to conform to statutes and documents stipulated by the Authority governing them which restrict their function. These statutes and documents are under consideration for necessary amendments and the process of remedial action collectively by the Professions is ongoing to change them.

15.1 Design and Build type of contracts

The design and build type of contracts are becoming the order of the day in the Government sector. This gives a low priority to design in building projects. However SLIA is liaising with the government and the procuring agencies to evaluate project proposals giving high weight for consultant's ability, which SLIA expects will produce a high standard of the built Environment.

15.2 Involvement of Foreign Architects

Major Government projects are being directly handled by foreign architects leaving little chance for the knowledge transfer. SLIA already placed its' protest and have discussed this with the Government on urgent basis.

The present Government is promoting Free Trade Agreement's with many countries. The Professionals including Architects have insisted that laws governing the professionals should be strengthened prior to signing any FTAs. Discussions are taking place with the Government agencies along with other professionals.

15.3 Buildings of National Importance

SLIA has requested the Government of Sri Lanka to conduct design competitions to select the best form of design for the buildings of National Importance. SLIA has taken this move as only few buildings with architectural importance were built during the past few years.

16.0 CONTACT DETAILS OF SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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