

Higher Education for the Twenty-first Century

World Bank Assisted Project

Higher Education for the Twenty First Century (HETC) Project is a credit given to the Government of Sri Lanka by the International Development Association (World Bank) for the period of 5 years from 2011 to 2016 to enhance the capacity of higher education system and to deliver quality higher education services in line with equitable, social and economic development needs of the country.

The HETC project is organized with the following components:

- Developing a Sri Lanka Qualification Framework and Quality Assurance and Accreditation System for Higher Education in Sri Lanka
- Promoting relevance and quality of teaching and learning in all 15 Universities
- Strengthening the alternative higher education by developing the Advanced Technological Institutes of the SLIATE
- Strengthening human resources of the higher education system

University Development Grants (UDGs)

The aim of this sub-component is to strengthen the economic and social relevance of university programmes. To achieve this, the UDGs support activities to

- enhance ICT skills of students;
- improve English Language skills of students;
- strengthen the soft skills of students;
- promote ethnic cohesion among students and staff;
- improve quality and relevance of External Degree Programmes (EDPs)

The University of Jaffna received a grant of 70 million rupees under UDG in stage-1 and carried out the following activities during the year 2012 to achieve the objectives of the grant.

- A training programme in *Learners' motivational strategies, recognising classroom learning issues and counseling* was conducted for the ELTC staff by Prof. Manik Gunasekera and Prof. Archana Parakrama on 28.05.2012.
- Eleven digital copiers were procured to create environment for students to develop their soft skills in each faculty.
- One Duplo machine was procured to establish a cell for soft skills development under the Career Guidance Unit.
- An activity to promote ethnic cohesion was conducted on 12.12.2012 during the educational tour of students of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Jaffna to the University of Peradeniya.
- Assistance was provided for the inter-faculty sports competition held on 28.03.2012.
- Few sports equipment were procured for the Physical Education Unit to promote sports activities among students.
- Assistance was provided for the *Light festival* celebrated on 12.12.2012 by the students of the Vavuniya Campus.

The University of Jaffna has received a grant of 20 million rupees to improve the quality and relevance of External Degree Programmes (EDPs).

Quality & Innovation Grants (QIGs)

The objective of this sub-component is to make additional resources available to support strategic and innovative plans to enhance the quality of teaching and research. Two study programmes of the University of Jaffna, namely Business Administration (Window One) and Bioscience (Window Two) have received grants of 20 million rupees and 25 million rupees respectively under QIG (Round 1).

Human Resource Development (HRD)

This sub-component has been developed to support human resource development in the higher education sector by assisting the higher education institutes to strengthen the quality of their academic-staff through suitable postgraduate programmes, and all staff through short term training programmes.

The list of academic staff members of the University of Jaffna, who received the HRD grant in 2012 to pursue postgraduate courses at various universities, is given below:

Name	Faculty / Unit	Degree Sought
Ms. N. Karunaharan	Arts	MPhil leading to PhD
Mr. J. Robinson	Management Studies & Commerce	PhD
Ms. R. Yogendrarajah	Management Studies & Commerce	PhD
Mr. T. Yoganathan	Medicine	MPhil leading to PhD
Ms. T. Gnanakarunyan	Medicine	MPhil
Mr. A. Thevakaran	Science	PhD
Mr. S. Sabaanath	Sports Science	PhD
Ms. L. Pradheeban	Agriculture	PhD
Dr. (Ms.)K. Muruganathan	Medicine	PhD
Dr. S. Kannathan	Medicine	PhD
Ms. S. Sivagurunathan	Arts	MPhil leading to PhD
Dr.(Ms) V. Shanmugarajah	Siddhamedicine	MPhil leading to PhD
Ms. S. Balasingham	Arts	PhD
Ms. J. Nimalan	Applied Science, Vavuniya Campus	PhD
Ms. K. Kalainathan	Business Studies, Vavuniya Campus	PhD
Mr. K. Rathitharan	Arts	PhD
Ms. B. Ganesharajah	Science	PhD
Ms. M. Baheerathan	Arts	MPhil leading to PhD

A short term training programme on *Personality Development* was conducted from 05-16 November 2012 by the SLIDA.

Appointments

Dr. (Mrs.) M. Senthilnathanan and Mrs. T. Raveendran were appointed in 2012 as the Director/OTS and Deputy Coordinator/UDG-Ethnic Cohesion respectively (in place of Prof. K. Kandasamy & Prof. T. Velnamby) to carry out the activities of the HETC Project smoothly.