

[Continued..]

Massive Development in North to establish Sustainable Peace

News Desk – Media Unit – Office of Governor (Northern Province)

Language, Culture and Sports

Language

Background of the sector

Official Language implementation has been a problem since its inception in 1987. But there is a vast improvement & enthusiasm shown in this area since the end of war. Sinhala population has shown a great interest in learning Tamil while the Tamil population in north has shown similar interest in communicating in Sinhala.

Implementation of Trilingual Policy in Northern Province

Sinhala Language Improvement Training Programme for NP Staff

National Institute of Language Education and Training Programme (NILET) have jointly organized 11 days training programme on Sinhala Language Improvement at Pannai Regional Health Training Center from 14 December to 24 December 2011.

76 numbers of participants from each department of Northern Province took part at the training programme. On the closing day of the programme, Chief Secretary of Northern Province Mrs.R.Wijjaludchumi participated with Director General of NILET Mr. R.Prasad Herath and Course Coordinator of NILET Ms Careema Jayaweera.

On the last day, participants performed a Sinhala drama and entertained with other Sinhala programs.

Hostel for STEPS participants declared open – 28 November 2011

Skill through English for Public Servants known as STEPS is an English training programme conducted extensively for the government servants.

In order to accommodate the participants, a hostel in Kopay Teachers' Training College has been declared opened by Governor of Northern Province GA Chandrasiri on 28 November 2011. The hostel was renovated with PSDG.

The governor also discussed with the principal, teachers and students of Kopay Teachers' Training College and learnt their needs.

STEPS institute inaugurated in Jaffna

A STEPS (Skills through English for Public Servants) institute was ceremonially opened by Hon. Governor, Northern Province, GA Chandrasiri with the presence of Mrs. Jutta Zinnel, Country Director – GTZ on 19th October 2009.

The STEPS evolved from Performance Improvement Project of GTZ with the intention to promote the proficiency in English among the Public officers as the year 2009 was declared as year of English and ICT. The STEPS also extended its services to the Teachers who were teaching English and core subjects in English medium. This institute is located in a building refurbished by the NECORD at the J/Canagaratnam Maha Vidyalayam.

Management Development Training Institute (MDTI)

MDTI is an institution under the purview of Northern Province. It organizes various training programmes with regard to management development for the staff of the province to increase their skills and abilities. The institute contributes a significant part to give best output of the province.

Culture

Background of the sector

The Tamil people in Northern Province pay more attention to their culture. There is a marked improvement in cultural activities during the last 2 years. Steps were taken to provide infrastructure facilities during this period.

Cultural sector had an important role in regaining the wounded minds of the children and elders of the experience in the tense war and the reach of them to safer places, relief villages and camps. Many activities were performed to soothe the minds of children. Art competitions were conducted to relief the stress in their minds (a form of therapy). Children's plays were organized with the association of Department of Education and artists from south. By this children and elders were able to get rid of psychological impact. Artist in the relief villages were identified and performances were staged within the relief villages.

After the process of resettlement, the artists were identified by various workshops and performances and elderly artists are provided continues economic support. Encouraging the writers in the Province by selecting the books for awards continues. Programs to provide training to the traditional artists and performers were activated.

To exhibit the traditions in arts and theatre many programmes are conducted in the province and Colombo .Daya ta Kirula exhibition is utilized as a stage for exhibiting the traditional creations and performances. Many events are conducted under "Vadakkinn Vasantham "program.

Achievements and Performances

Year 2009

1. Books donated for displaced students and Art competition for National Environment
2. Ifthar Celebration held in HQ
3. Festival of lights

Year 2010

- 1 .Vadakkinn Vasanatham Cultural Program: With a view of fostering and promoting the cultural talents of the people of North and to popularise these arts outside North a Cultural show "Vadakkinn Vasanatham" staged at BMICH in January 2010, at which HE President Mahinda Rajapaksa was the Chief Guest.
2. Leading sculptures, artist and Smiths exhibited their creations at "Dayata Kirula" exhibition held At Pallekelle, Kandy
3. International Women's day observed on March 08 by honouring 10 women from Mannar for their achievement in various fields.

4. Books and musical instruments donated to Cultural and literary organisations
5. Participated in the colours night in collaboration with Department of Sports to felicitate artists and sports men/women excelled with talents.
6. Tamil Sinhala New year celebrated in Mallavi with sports events
7. Under the Indian –Sri Lankan Friendship program, a joint stage program presented by leading artists from India and Sri Lanka in Jaffna.
8. National War Heroes day celebrated at Kilinochchi
9. 18 artist selected from all the districts participated in the Bharatha Natyam training at Chennai University for 3 weeks and the performance of these artists staged at the Tamil Literary Festival in Kilinochchi

Year 2011

1. “Dawn of New Vasantham” Cultural festival held in Jaffna with the participation of leading artists from Jaffna.
2. Carnatic Music Festival celebrated in Jaffna by leading artists in Carnatic field.
3. Books purchased from selected writers from the Hon. Governors Fund
4. Tamil Literary Festival- 2011 in Mannar
5. Aadi Amavasi special pooja (Athma Anjali)
6. Industhani and Carnatic Music Fusion
7. Canatic Musical program of T.N.Krishnan

Future Plans 2012

1. Festival of Rural Arts
2. Collection of folk songs to Album
3. Collection of data on the music albums produced in Northern Province
4. Awareness to share the websites on Arts and Culture
5. Cultural exchange Programmes among different regions in Sri Lanka

SPORTS

BACK GROUND OF THE SECTOR

Sports Activities have shown another boost during the last 2 years. HE the President visited the North many times and inaugurated many sports programs during the past months. As icon on this whole process H E the President recently declared opened a swimming pool at Jaffna Central College which is the first swimming pool built in a school after 5 decades.

Through Sports, Youth tend to develop eminent qualities like tolerance, self-confidence and leadership, which would guide the entire life of the youth. Sports also contribute to overcome the challenges of the future world, Prepare the Social environment to achieve peace and development through the enhancement of goodwill and co-habitation worthy citizens were produced to the country through sports, which will contribute through physical perfection and mental satisfaction. Sports also contribute towards the formation of a generation of youth with the qualities of discipline, health and prosper. It will also prevent the drifting of the power of youth towards anti- social activities.

Past three decade the youth in the Northern Province hide in a black hole, now there are coming out and see the lighting of their future life. They have a strong body frame and hard working ability of mind; this is the important talent for the sports achievers. So this is the proper period to push them up to develop their ability and skills in sports, and create a mentality relaxed and healthy community.

Sport Achievements - National Sports Festival (2009- Mid 2011)

Total Medals won by Northern Province

<u>Events</u>	2009	2010	2011
Wrestling	---	---	Silver
Basket Ball (Women)	---	---	Bronze
Foot Ball (Men)	Silver	---	Bronze
Boxing	---	Bronze - 02	
Athletics Disc throw	Bronze	Silver – Men Bronze - Women	

Provincial Sports Festival-District wise participations

District	2009	2010	2011
Jaffna	☑	☑	☑
Vavuniya	☑	☑	☑
Mannar	☑	☑	☑
Kilinochchi	---	☑	☑
Mullaitivu	---	---	☑

Activities	2009	2010	2011
CBG			
Purchasing Furniture to distribute the Divisional Sports Officers and District Sports Officers	250,000	250,000	300,000
PSDG			
Vavuniya Badminton Hall	8,000,000		
Mannar Multi Sport Complex		8,000,000	10,000,000
Basket Ball court – Kilinochchi		1,000,000	1,500,000
Basket Ball court – Mullaitivu		1,000,000	1,500,000
Volley Ball court for each District (5 Dist. X 400,000)			2,000,000
Total	8,000,000	10,000,000	15,000,000

Allocation for Department of Sports (CBG and PSDG)

Special Programmes and Coaching Camp of Northern Province

1. “Kreeda Sakthy” Programme implemented by Department of Sports Development, Colombo. Jaffna, Mannar and Mullaitivu Districts participated in this Programme.
2. Under the guidance of Hon. Governor same coaching camps are conducted to participate for the National Level – Foot ball, Volley ball. Basket ball, Elle, Karath, Boxing, Net ball, Swimming and weight lifting.
3. On the direction of Hon. Governor Foot ball coaching camp conducted for sports officers and PTI teachers in Mannar and Point Pedro
4. In 2010 at Veerasingam Hall, Jaffna conducted Colours Night programme to awarded the winners who have got the Medals from National Sports Festival, Junior Meet, All Island School Meet, Athletic Association of Sri Lanka Meet.