UNIVERSITY OF VAVUNIYA

Newsletter



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01 ACADEMIC

Workshop on Knowledge to Nation-Building



Prof. Selva Selvanathan from the Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics, Griffith University, Queensland, Australia, conducted a two-day workshop for the academic staff of the University of Vavuniya on 12th January 2025. The workshop covered two key topics: "From Knowledge to Nation-Building: Academic and Diaspora Contributions to North-East Development" and "Academic Publications from Start to Finish." The programme aimed to strengthen academic research and publication skills while highlighting the role of academics and diaspora contributions in regional development.

Session on 'Quality Control'



The Staff Development Center of the University of Vavuniya organized a session titled "Quality Control: From Compliance to Results Orientation" for the academic, executive, and administrative staff of the University of Vavuniya on 5th March 2026. The session was conducted by Dr. S. Nathikesan, Lead Evaluation Officer, IFAD.

Talk On "Grid Stability In The Renewable Energy Era"



A Tech Talk on "Grid Stability in the Renewable Energy Era" and "Power Quality Improvement Using STATCOM" was conducted by the IEEE Student Branch of the University of Jaffna. The session, delivered by Snr. Prof. A. Atputharajah, focused on the role of FACTS devices, particularly STATCOM, in improving voltage stability and power quality in renewable energy systems. It was held on 14th March 2026 at the Faculty of Engineering, the event provided valuable technical insights for students and participants.

02 AWARDS AND AWARDING CEREMONIES

Hindi Language Course Certificate Awarding Ceremony



The Cultural Centre of the University of Vavuniya celebrated Vishwa Hindi Diwas and conducted the Hindi Language Course Certificate Awarding Ceremony on 18th February 2026, at the Smart Lecture Hall. The program began with a Hindi movie screening, followed by the main ceremony with the traditional lighting of the oil lamp. The Director of the Cultural Centre delivered the welcome address. The Vice Chancellor and the Chief Guest, Hon. Shri Sai Murali, Consul General of India, addressed the gathering.

The event featured cultural dances, Hindi poems, drama, and songs performed by students. Certificates and cash prizes were awarded to the winners of the Hindi Competitions.

The 4th Awarding Ceremony of the Centre for Distance and Continuing Education



The Centre for Distance and Continuing Education (CDCE) of the University of Vavuniya successfully held its 4th Awarding Ceremony on 22nd March 2026 at the Faculty of Technological Studies Lecture Hall, Pampaimadu. A total of 94 students received certificates from four programmes: Higher Diploma in English (Batch I), Diploma in Early Childhood Education (Batch I), Advanced Certificate in Media Literacy and Journalism (Batch II), and Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management (Batch III).

The ceremony was attended by the Vice Chancellor, university officials, academic coordinators, course coordinators, resource persons, and CDCE staff. The event celebrated the students' achievements and reaffirmed the University's commitment to lifelong learning and educational excellence.

Commencement of work 2026

The commencement of work for 2026 took place on 1st January 2026. The Vice Chancellor hoisted the National Flag, and the Registrar hoisted the University of Vavuniya flag. All permanent and temporary staff gathered at the roundabout near the Welfare Branch. The National Anthem was played, and the staff took the oath."



Ammachchi Canteen Reopening Ceremony



The Ammachchi Canteen in the University premises was reopened on 2nd January 2026. Mr. S. Sivasri, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Services, Northern Province, Ms. J. M. Muralitharan, Deputy Director of Agriculture, some other staff of the Dept of Agriculture, and staff of the UOV participated in the opening ceremony.

Annual Get together - 2025

The Annual get-together of the staff members of the University of Vavuniya was held on 7th January 2026 at Hotel Oviya, Vavuniya. Staff members and their family members participated and enjoyed the day.



Workshop on Solar Research, University of Vavuniya

An academic session for academics and researchers was held on 8th January 2026 at the Smart Lecture Hall, Faculty of Applied Science. The session was conducted by Prof. Govindasamy Tamizhmani, Research Professor (Engineering) at The Polytechnic School, Arizona State University, USA.



Donation of books from Y.M.H.A Vavuniya Suththanantha

The Vice Chancellor and the Acting Librarian of the University of Vavuniya visited the Suthanantha Young Men's Hindu Association on 8th January 2026 to collect books generously donated to the University by the Vavuniya YMHA. The programme was coordinated by the Acting Librarian, reflecting the University's commitment to strengthening its library resources and promoting knowledge sharing.



Certificate in Digital Skills and ICT Applications

The Inauguration Ceremony of the Certificate in Digital Skills and ICT Applications course conducted under the Centre for Distance and Continuing Education was held on 24th January 2026.



Thaipongal Ceremony – Montessori, UOV

The Montessori School of the University of Vavuniya celebrated Thai Pongal on 29th January 2026, with the participation of teachers, students, the Vice Chancellor, and the Director of Early Childhood Development. The celebration featured traditional Pongal cooking, colorful kolam designs, and the sharing of Pongal and refreshments, promoting Tamil cultural heritage, gratitude, and togetherness within the university community.





Conference on Boat and Marine Show



Dr. S. Wijeyamohan, Senior Lecturer, Department of Bio Science, and Coordinator of the committee for the establishment of the Faculty of Coastal and Marine Sciences, and Dr. K. Arjunan, Senior Lecturer, Department of Bio Science, have attended the Conference on 'Boat and Marine Show' held on 31st January 2026 at Kingsbury Hotel, Colombo. The intention for participation in the conference was based on the invitation given by Mr. Kaushal Rajapakse, Chairman of the Chamber of Marine Industries Sri Lanka, to establish associations among stakeholders relevant to the establishment of the proposed Faculty of Coastal and Marine Sciences.

The 7th International Thirukkural Conference - 2026



The 7th International Thirukkural Conference was held at the University of Vavuniya on 1st and 2nd February 2026. The conference was jointly organized by the Mauritius International Thirukkural Forum, the University of Vavuniya, and the Jaffna International Tamil Cultural Centre. The Governor commended the Vice-Chancellor, Snr.Prof. A. Atputharaja, for his leadership in bringing the prestigious event to Vavuniya and strengthening the University community ties. The event was attended by distinguished guests, including Consul General Shri Sai Murali, representatives of the organizing institutions, former Vice-Chancellors, scholars, and students. Featuring more than 40 research presentations over two days, and participation from international academics, making it a significant scholarly gathering.

First Memorial Lecture – Late Prof. Ambalam Pushpanathan



The Department of Management and Entrepreneurship, Faculty of Business Studies organised the First Memorial Lecture in honour of the late Prof. Ambalam Pushpanathan on 3rd February 2026. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. B. Nimalathasan on the theme "Entrepreneurial Mindset and Economic Transformation in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka." The lecture provided valuable insights to academics, students, and practitioners. The event was attended by family members of the late professor, along with faculty members, university staff, and students.

In recognition of Prof. Ambalam Pushpanathan's lasting contributions, Mrs. V. Pushpanathan donated LKR 2 million to the University of Vavuniya through a fixed deposit to establish two Gold Medals: one for the outstanding academic performer in the BBM (Honours) Entrepreneurship programme and another for the best overall academic performer of the Faculty of Business Studies. The programme concluded with a tree plantation initiative, commemorating his legacy while reaffirming the University's commitment to environmental sustainability.

Participation in the memorial oration – Vice Chancellor

Senior Professor A. Atputharajah, Vice-Chancellor, participated in the memorial oration of Eng. R. H. Paul held on 9th February 2026 at the Wimalasurendra Auditorium. The event was organized by the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka, through its Electrical, Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering Sectional Committee, bringing together professionals and academics to honor the contributions and legacy of the late Engineer.



Inauguration Ceremony of The Certificate in Sign Language



The Support Centre for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) of the University of Vavuniya inaugurated the Certificate in Sign Language programme on 14th February 2026 at the Park Road premises of the University. The event began with a welcome address by Mrs. V. Kajanthy, Director of SCPD, who highlighted the importance of inclusive education and the University's commitment to empowering persons with disabilities.

Distinguished guests, including Mr. S. A. Jude Leon, Director of CDCE, Dr. S. Suthakaran, Senior Medical Officer of the Vavuniya District General Hospital, and Mr. M. Sathiyakumar, Senior Lecturer from the University of Jaffna, addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of sign language in education, professional settings, healthcare, and inclusive learning environments. The Vice-Chancellor, Senior Prof. A. Atputharaja, officially declared the programme open and appreciated the efforts of SCPD and CDCE. The vote of thanks was delivered by Mrs. Y. Vithursana, Assistant Registrar of CDCE.

32nd International Conference on IT Applications and Management (ITAM32)



32nd International Conference on IT Applications and Management, in collaboration with the International ITAM Society, the University Business Linkage (UBL), the Centre for International Affairs (CIA), and the Korean key contributors the Korea Data Strategy Society, the Korea Internet e-Commerce Association, and the Korea Data Agency was held on 24th February 2026 at the University of Vavuniya. This prestigious global event brings together distinguished professionals, academics, researchers, and industry leaders from all over the world to exchange knowledge, showcase cutting-edge innovations, and foster strategic collaborations in the fields of Information Technology and Management.

Update on engagement with ONUR on anti-ragging strategies Harmony Centre, University of Vavuniya



The Harmony Centre of the University of Vavuniya, under the guidance of the Vice Chancellor, initiated collaboration with the Office for National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR) to develop structured and sustainable strategies to prevent ragging. Following initial discussions, ONUR visited the University on 25th February 2026 and engaged with university administrators, Deans, Proctors, Wardens, Marshals, student affairs officers, and Students' Union representatives.

The discussions focused on identifying best practices, addressing existing challenges, and strengthening institutional mechanisms to ensure a safe, inclusive, and harmonious university environment. This initiative marked an important step towards establishing a sustainable anti-ragging framework while promoting dialogue, reconciliation, and mutual respect within the University community.

Packaging Machinery Demonstration Session

The University of Vavuniya's valid centre organized a packaging machinery demonstration session on 20th March 2026, at Park Road premises. Technical experts would showcase the use of vacuum packagers and multifunction sealing machines, focusing on food packaging and preservation. The session is designed for Small and Medium Entrepreneurs to enhance their practical skills and business growth.



Tree Plantation and Donation Program

The Tree Plantation and Donation Program was organized to commemorate International Forest Day, aiming to promote environmental awareness and sustainability. The event was held on Friday, 20th March 2026 at the Garden Village Hostel, University of Vavuniya, Pampaimadu. The program was organized by the Landscape Division of the University in collaboration with the Range Forest Office, Vavuniya, which contributed saplings for the initiative. The plantation focused on environmentally beneficial species such as Pongamia pinnata (Pongam Oil Tree / Magul Karanda) and Phyllanthus emblica (Indian Gooseberry / Nelli). This initiative aimed to enhance green cover within the University premises while encouraging students and staff to actively participate in environmental conservation and sustainable practices.





Welfare Shop Opening Ceremony

The Student Welfare Shop of the Department of Project Management was officially opened on 20th April 2026. The event was attended by the Vice Chancellor, Dean, Head of the Department, Former Dean, and Senior Treasurer of the Project Management Club. The shop aims to provide refreshments and essential items to the university community while offering part-time employment opportunities for students, reflecting the faculty's commitment to student welfare and practical learning.



Inaugural Day Ssssions to the newly recruited works Aides

The inaugural programme for the newly recruited Works Aides was held on 4th May 2026 in the Board Room of the University of Vavuniya. A total of twelve Works Aides have been appointed.





Farewell Party to Ms. J. Sivarubini, Assistant Bursar (Contract Basis)

A farewell party was organized by the Executive Staff and the CDCE staff for Ms. J. Sivarubini, who served as an Assistant Bursar (on contract basis) from 3rd September 2024 to 8th May 2026. She resigned from the position upon securing permanent government employment.



Open Day 2026 Tech Wave



The IEEE Student Branch of the University of Vavuniya organized Open Day 2026 – Tech Waves on 20th May 2026 at Faculty of Applied Science, to introduce students to IEEE, its global community, membership benefits, and professional development opportunities. Guest speakers Ladhushaan Sathasivam, UI/UX Designer at IYKONS Business Services, and Mithushika Murugamoorthy, Demonstrator at the University of Vavuniya, shared their IEEE experiences and leadership journeys. An interactive Q&A session further encouraged student engagement and participation in IEEE activities.

04 PROGRESS OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Meeting with the Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology

A discussion was held with the Secretary to the Ministry of Science and Technology on 9th January 2026 regarding the preparations for the inauguration of the Incubation Centre. The Centre was declared open by the Honourable Ministers on 23rd January 2026.





Opening Ceremony of the Incubation Centre

The Ministry of Science and Technology, in collaboration with the UOV, opened the 'Incubation Centre' (Valid Centre) on 23rd January 2026 at the Park Road premises of the UOV. The ceremony was graced by Hon. Minister Sunil Handunneththi as the Chief Guest and Hon. Minister Prof. Chrishantha Abeysena, Minister of Science and Technology, as the Guest of Honour. This centre provides lab testing and packaging services for entrepreneurs.





Initiative for Industry Research Park at UOV

The University of Vavuniya – IYKONS Industry Research Park commenced operations on 23rd January 2026, marking a significant milestone in strengthening industry-academia collaboration in Sri Lanka's Northern Province. The initiative promotes applied research, industry-relevant skills, innovation, and regional economic development, contributing to Sri Lanka's transition towards a knowledge-based economy.





Taking over 32-acre land at Pampaimadu

The army land was handed over to the Regional Forest Officer (RFO) on 11th February 2026. This is used as hostel accommodation to our students. The same land was handed over to the University by the RFO for making arrangements to accommodate the students. The forest department is currently working on the temporary release of this land to the University and had a meeting with the Beat Forest Officer (BFO) to make some decisions based on elephant visits to our land.





CVCD Meeting at UOV

The 496th meeting of the Committee of Vice Chancellors and Directors (CVCD) was successfully held at the University of Vavuniya on 7th March 2026. The meeting brought together Vice Chancellors, Directors, and Rectors from state universities and higher education institutions across the country to deliberate on important matters concerning the development and administration of the university system in Sri Lanka. During the session, a range of issues were discussed, including policy implementation, academic development, research collaboration, and strategies to enhance the quality and accessibility of higher education. The University of Vavuniya, as the host institution, made the necessary arrangements to ensure the smooth conduct of the meeting, reflecting its growing role and contribution within the national higher education landscape. The event also provided a valuable platform for strengthening cooperation, sharing best practices, and fostering collective decision-making among university leaders.



05 SPORTS

University of Vavuniya Launches Technology Premier League (TPL) 2026

Technology Premier League (TPL) is a prestigious hard-ball cricket tournament, officially kicked off on 31st January 2026, organized by the Students' Union of the Faculty of Technological Studies in collaboration with the Physical Education Unit of the University of Vavuniya. The opening ceremony was graced by Senior Professor A. Atputharajah, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Vavuniya, who attended as the Chief Guest. His presence underscored the university's commitment to fostering a balance between rigorous academic pursuits and athletic excellence. Tournament Highlights and Expansion the TPL is more than just a cricket match; it is a platform designed to promote sportsmanship, leadership, and unity among technology students.



Vavuniya University Staff Carrom Tournament



The Physical Education Unit of the University of Vavuniya organized a Staff Carrom Tournament on 19th February 2026, with staff members participating in Singles and Doubles categories. Senior Professor A. Atputharajah, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Vavuniya, graced the prize-giving ceremony as the Chief Guest and presented trophies and certificates to the winners. He highlighted the importance of recreational activities in promoting sportsmanship, reducing workplace stress, and strengthening unity among university staff.

Inter-faculty Elle tournament



To mark Sri Lanka's Independence Day on 4th February 2026, the University of Vavuniya hosted an inter-faculty Elle tournament at the university grounds, organized by the Students' Union in collaboration with the Physical Education Unit. The event featured nine teams competing in a series of exciting and competitive matches. The 2nd year team from the Faculty of Technological Studies emerged as the champions. The tournament fostered sportsmanship, unity, and physical fitness while bringing together students from across faculties in a vibrant and spirited celebration.

Representing our university at the 13th Open I.S.K.D.J.S International Karate Cup – 2026



The 13th Open I.S.K.D.J. International Karate Cup, organized by the International Shotokan Karate-Do Japan School, was held on 21st February 2026. The event took place at the Indoor Stadium in Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka. This prestigious international tournament featured participants from several countries, including India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Palestine, Malaysia, Germany, Spain, and Bhutan. Students from the University of Vavuniya represented the institution at this international event. All bouts were officiated by qualified referees from the Sri Lanka Karate-Do Federation.

Kiliththaddu Tournament -2026

In honor of the upcoming 2026 Sinhala and Tamil New Year, the Physical Education Unit of the University of Vavuniya has organized a regional Kilithattu Tournament for school students across the Vanni region, including Vavuniya, Kilinochchi, Mannar, and Mullaitivu districts. To secure the necessary sponsorship and support for the event, a formal meeting was held on 23rd February 2026, with representatives from the Vanni Hope organization.



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