



BASL NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA

1ST AUGUST 2025

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31ST MARCH 2026

INTRODUCING A NEW FORMAT FOR BASL NEWS



Lawyers Stand Together: BASL Calls for Justice & Rule of Law

On 16th February, members of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka staged a nationwide protest and refrained from appearing in courts as a collective response to the murder of an attorney and his wife in Akuregoda. The incident triggered serious concerns within the legal community about the safety of lawyers and the broader protection of the Rule of Law in Sri Lanka.

Thousands of lawyers across the country decided to withdraw from court proceedings for a day as a mark of protest. The decision was made during the Special General Meeting of the BASL, reflecting the gravity of the situation resulting in the strong stance taken by the legal profession.

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The Inaugural BASL Human Rights Oratorion 2025

The Inaugural BASL Human Rights Oratorion, held in collaboration with the Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA), took place on 23rd October 2025 at the Dr. H.W. Jayewardene, QC Auditorium of the BASL with the participation of then senior most Justice of the Supreme Court of India and present Chief Justice of India Hon. Justice Surya Kant.

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Celebrating 50 Years of Legal Excellence

As part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka, "The BASL Golden Jubilee Ball 2025", took place on 17th October at Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo. The event brought together members of the legal fraternity for an evening of celebration, fellowship, and reflection on the Association's longstanding contributions to society.

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BASL Special General Meeting: After 14 Years

After 14 years, a Special General Meeting of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka was convened on 15th February at the Dr. H.W. Jayewardene, QC Auditorium in response to the tragic murder of Mr. Buddhika Mallawa Arachchi AAL and his wife on 13th February. During the meeting, the membership unanimously resolved to refrain from appearing in court across the island on 16th February 2026 as a collective professional response.

Continued on page 2th...

29th National Law Conference 2025

The 29th National Law Conference 2025 was conducted on 19th September 2025 at the Earl's Regency Hotel, Kandy. The NLC was a vibrant and highly anticipated gathering which brought together legal professionals, academics, and policymakers to engage in meaningful dialogue about contemporary legal issues and the future direction of the law under the theme of "Building a Resilient Sri Lanka"

Continued on page 3...

Junior National Law Conference 2025

As part of its efforts to strengthen the professional development of young legal practitioners, the Bar Association of Sri Lanka organized the Junior National Law Conference 2025 through its Junior Bar Committee. The programme aimed to enhance guidance between senior and junior members of the legal profession.

Continued on page 4...

217 Programmes Conducted During 2025/2026

Continuous Professional Development	
National Law Conference	01
Junior National Law Conference	01
BASL National Symposiums	02
Certificate Courses	06
Nithi Neethi Programmes	16
BASL Webinars	88
BASL Workshops	22
BASL Seminars	16
BASL Legal Symposiums	02
BASL Mini Symposiums	08
BASL Other Symposiums	03
BASL Junior Orientation	04
Junior Bar Forums	02
BASL Special Leadership Sessions	02
	173
Corporate Social Responsibility	
Legal Awareness Programmes	06
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	12
Social & Member Networking	
BASL Neethi Ranga	01
BASL Golden Jubilee Dance	01
BASL Member Networking Initiatives	10
BASL Legal Nights	03
	15
Other	
BASL Orations	02
BASL Felicitation Events	02
BASL Remembrance Day	01
Sports Events	02
Other Programmes	01
BASL Library Book Discussions	09
	17
Total	217



Felicitation for Former Chief Justice Murdu Fernando, PC & Chief Justice Preethi Padman Surasena



In a memorable celebration of service and leadership, the legal fraternity recently came together to honour Former Chief Justice Her Ladyship Murdu Fernando, PC and Chief Justice His Lordship Preethi Padman Surasena at a special felicitation dinner organised by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka. The event, held at the Imperial Monarch in Kotte, brought together over 800 members of the legal profession.

Continued on page 5...

BASL SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING: AFTER 14 YEARS

Pursuant to this resolution, across 90 branches its members refrained from appearing in courts throughout the country on 16th February 2026, the first working day following the General Meeting. Members further expressed their appreciation for the expeditious convening of the Special General Meeting held for the first time in fourteen years and organized within less than forty-eight hours which enabled the Association to deliberate and arrive at a firm and unified decision at a moment of considerable significance for the profession. Less than seventy-two hours of the incident, the legal community had mobilized an unprecedented island-wide professional action, drawing the attention of the State and the wider public to the gravity of the circumstances.



The Association also conveyed its sincere appreciation to the Presidents, Secretaries, officers, and members of the Regional Bar Associations across the island whose commitment and cooperation ensured the effective implementation of the decision. Also, to the Judiciary, the Law Officers Association of the AG's Department, and other Professional Bodies that appreciated the grave situation. The BASL reaffirmed its commitment to engage with all relevant state institutions and authorities until justice is secured for the late attorney and his wife, while also acknowledging with gratitude the solidarity and cooperation demonstrated by its membership during this critical moment for the legal profession.

FOUR PRINCIPAL DECISIONS TAKEN DURING THE MEETING

1. To compel the Government to take urgent and robust measures to bring an end to the current culture of brutal killings and to ensure public security
2. All Attorneys-at-Law to refrain from appearing in all Courts throughout the country on Monday, 16th February 2026;
3. To call upon the Law Enforcement Authorities to forthwith apprehend the perpetrators of these brutal killings and to expeditiously take steps according to law;
4. To express the utmost displeasure of the BASL, with regard to the public circulation and attempts of narrative creation through unverified information attributed as having been communicated by the Police.

LAWYERS STAND TOGETHER: BASL CALLS FOR JUSTICE AND RULE OF LAW

Alongside refraining from Court work, Lawyers protested islandwide. Participants voiced their demands for justice and accountability. In Colombo, Lawyers gathered outside the Superior Courts Complex and marched towards the BASL Headquarters.

During the protest, BASL called on authorities to conduct a swift and transparent investigation and to ensure the immediate arrest of those responsible for the crime. Alongside the main protest held in Colombo, an islandwide protest was also carried out, with branch associations joining in coordinated demonstrations and work stoppages. Through this collective action, the BASL emphasized the urgent need for justice, swift investigations, and stronger measures to ensure the protection of lawyers across the country. The demonstrations across the Country conveyed a powerful message of the unity and the strength of the legal profession.



Rule of Law Committee
Chairman: Mr. Senani Dayarathne, AAL
Co-Chairman: Shiraz Noordeen, AAL
Convenors
 Mr. Migara Doss, AAL
 Mr. Iresh Senavirathne, AAL
 Mr. Jayantha Dehiaththage, AAL



THE INAUGURAL BASL HUMAN RIGHTS ORATION 2026

The oration was delivered by Hon. Justice Surya Kant, the senior-most Judge of the Supreme Court of India, on the theme "Strengthening a Legal Aid System to Achieve Human Rights of Marginalised and Minorities: The Indian Case Study." The event was organised by the BASL Human Rights Committee and marked a significant milestone in promoting dialogue on access to justice and the protection of fundamental rights. The oration highlighted the importance of an effective legal aid system in ensuring the realisation of human rights, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised communities.

The BASL appreciates the work of the BASL Human Rights Committee comprising Chairman Mr. Lakshan Dias, Co-Chairs Mr. Prasanna Arahampath and Mr. Rohana Muthumala and Convenors Ms. Swasthika Arulingam and Co-Convenors Mr. Akram Waseem, Mr. Rajeendra Kandegedera and Mr. Lakshan Wijewardena.

Subsequently, the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka had the distinct honour of welcoming Justice Surya Kant. The occasion was further graced by the presence of Prof. (Dr.) S. Sivakumar, President of Commonwealth Legal Education Association, and Dr. Vikram Singh Arya, Vice-President of the Association. Notably, Justice Surya Kant later assumed office as the 53rd Chief Justice of India on 24th November 2025.



NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT & SECRETARY 2026/2027

The nominations for the posts of President and Secretary for the year 2026/2027 were accepted by the Presiding Officer, Hon. Viraj Dayaratna, PC, Solicitor General, on 13th January 2026 at the BASL Secretariat. Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya submitted his nomination for the post of President, while Mr. Nalin Chandika De Silva submitted his nomination for the post of Secretary.

Since only one candidate each handed over the nominations for the posts of President and Secretary, The Hon. Solicitor General declared that Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya was elected uncontested for the post of President and Mr. Nalin Chandika De Silva was elected uncontested for the post of Secretary for the year 2026/2027.



BASL CORPORATE PARTNERS - 2026





APPOINTMENT OF MR. NALIN CHANDIKA DE SILVA AS SECRETARY

Mr. Nalin Chandika De Silva will succeed Mr. Chathura A. Galhena as Secretary of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka upon the completion of Mr. Galhena's successful two-year term at the end of March 2025. Mr. Nalin Chandika De Silva was elected uncontested as the Secretary of the BASL for the year 2026/27. He served as the Treasurer of the BASL during the period of 2019 - 2021. The Association congratulates Mr. Nalin Chandika De Silva and extends its appreciation to Mr. Galhena for his dedicated service during his tenure.



Mr. Chathura A. Galhena



Mr. Nalin Chandika De Silva

NATIONAL LAW CONFERENCE 2025

The National Law Conference 2025, conducted from 24th to 26th October 2025 at the Earl's Regency Hotel, Kandy. The Conference centered on the theme "Building a Resilient Sri Lanka." The primary objective was to equip the legal community to address evolving legal and sociological challenges alongside prevailing economic hardships.

The Conference was distinguished by the presence of Justice Suriya Kant as the Guest of Honour and Justice Preeti Padman Surasena as the Chief Guest. Notably, for the first time, a delegation of senior advocates from India participated, with several contributing scholarly papers. The inauguration ceremony featured a keynote address by Justice Suriya Kant. The event hosted over 250 delegates, representing the bar, tri-forces, police, state sector and corporate sector. Ten moderated technical sessions were conducted, featuring eminent panellists from the judiciary, legal practice, academia and private sector.



Session 1

Hon. Justice Yasantha Kodagoda, PC
Dr. Harshana Suriyapperuma
Mr. Harsha Amarasekera, PC
Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya
Mr. Deshal de Mel
Moderator - Dr. Nadeesh de Silva, AAL

Session 2

Hon. Justice Mahinda Samayawardhena
Dr. Romesh De Silva, PC
Mr. Palitha Kumarasinghe, PC
Mr. Chandaka Jayasundere, PC
Senior Advocate Mr. Santhaan Krishnan
Moderator - Mr. Harith de Mel, AAL

Session 3

Hon. Justice Mahinda Samayawardhena
Dr. Romesh De Silva, PC
Mr. Palitha Kumarasinghe, PC
Mr. Chandaka Jayasundere, PC
Senior Advocate Mr. Santhaan Krishnan
Moderator - Mr. Harith de Mel, AAL

Session 4

Hon. Justice Buwaneka Aluwihare, PC
Mr. Saliya Pieris, PC
Mr. Sarath Jayamanne, PC
Mr. Mohan Weerakoon, PC
Moderator - Mr. Asela Serasinghe, AAL

Session 5

Hon. Justice Gamini Amarasekara
Mr. Samantha Ratwatte, PC
Moderator - Mr. Niranjan De Silva, AAL

Session 6

Hon. Justice Janak De Silva
Prof. Kokila Konasinghe
Mr. Anandalal Nanayakkara, AAL
Dr. Ravindranath Dabare, AAL
Prof. S. Sivakumar
Moderator - Mr. Revan Weerasinghe, AAL

Session 7

Dr. Harsha Cabral, PC
Hon. Justice Ruwan Fernando
Prof. Sampath Puchihiwewa
Moderator - Mr. Milhan Ikram Mohamed

Session 8

Hon. Chief Justice P. Padman Surasena
Dr. Hans Wijayasuriya
Dr. Thusitha Abeysekera
Mr. Asela Waidyalankara
Senior Advocate Aruneshwa Gupta
Moderator - Mr. Sehan Soyza, SSC

Session 9

Hon. Justice S. Thurairaja, PC
Prof. A. Sarwesvaran
Ms. Manoli Jinadasa, AAL
Moderator - Mr. Isuru Lakpura, AAL

Session 10

Hon. Justice Arjuna Obeyesekere
Mr. Prasantha Lal De Alwis, PC
Mr. Ali Sabry, PC
Mr. Jagath Wickramanayake, PC
Moderator - Mr. Lasitha Kanuwanarachchi, AAL

National Law Conference 2025 Committee

Chairperson

Mr. Priyantha Alagiyawanna, AAL

Co-Chairperson

Mr. Buddhika Serasinghe, AAL

Convenors

Mr. Pandula Wanniarachchi, AAL
Mr. Charana Kankegamage, AAL
Mr. Nadeesh Rangana De Silva, AAL
Mr. Deshani Bandara, AAL
Mr. Emal Gunasekara, AAL

Members can access NLC 2025 Day 01, 02 and 03 through this QR



**BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - SERIES 5
WHY CORPORATE SECTOR?**

EPISODE 6



Ms. Karanthika Jayathilake AAL

EPISODE 7



Ms. Sonali Wijekoon AAL

EPISODE 8



Mr. Thejaka Perera AAL

EPISODE 9



Mr. Keerthi Pathiraja AAL

EPISODE 10



Ms. Harshanee Deshapriya AAL

EPISODE 11



Ms. Shalini Samarakody AAL

EPISODE 12



Ms. Dilini Jayasuriya AAL

EPISODE 13



Ms. Eresha Kumburulanda AAL

EPISODE 14



Ms. Kumarini Seneviratne AAL

EPISODE 15



Mr. Tishan Subasinghe AAL

MODERATED BY



Mr. Shehara Herath AAL

THE JUNIOR NATIONAL LAW CONFERENCE 2025

The Junior National Law Conference 2025

The BASL, through its Junior Bar Committee, successfully conducted the Junior National Law Conference 2025 as a flagship professional development initiative. The residential conference was held from 14th to 16th November 2025 at Jetwing Blue, Jetwing Beach, and Jetwing Sea, bringing together approximately 400 junior practitioners from across Sri Lanka by marking the largest gathering of the junior bar to date. The event complemented the Social Impact Campaign held on 4th September 2025, a strategic initiative to advance professional development and engagement among junior lawyers.

The conference was graced by the Attorney General Parinda Ranasinghe and Supreme Court Justice S. Thurairaja as Guests of Honour. The conference held under the theme "Raise the Bar," aimed to enhance professional standards while reinforcing the ethical and social responsibilities of legal practitioners.

Gala Night 2025 marked the concluding social highlight of the flagship conference. It was held under a Masquerade theme, creating an elegant and engaging atmosphere that encouraged networking and camaraderie among participants.



Junior Bar Forums #1 and #2

Junior Bar Forum #1 organized in partnership with the Junior National Law Conference 2025, was convened at the BASL auditorium on 26th September 2025. Junior Bar Forum #2 was held on 27th March 2026. The events brought together law students, apprentices, and junior practitioners, serving as a platform for professional dialogue, mentorship, and engagement within the legal community. The initiative reflects a continued commitment to strengthening the institutional development of the junior Bar and supporting the professional formation of emerging future members.



Junior Bar Standing Committee 2025/26

Chairperson

Mr. Thishya Weragoda, AAL

Co-Chairperson

Mr. Shahipriya Jayasekara, AAL

Convenors

Mr. Sanjaya Marambe, AAL
Mr. Iresh Seniviratne, AAL
Mr. Rajitha L. Abeywardena, AAL
Mr. Ruven Weerasinghe, AAL
Mr. Osura Vindula, AAL
Mr. Gamindu Karunasena, AAL

Junior National Law Conference Executive Committee

Chairman: Mr. Ruven Weerasinghe
Co-Chairman: Mr. Yuwin Matugama
Secretary: Ms. Andrea Wijewansa
Treasurer: Ms. Jemiah Sourjah

Heads of Logistics

Mr. Malintha Jayasinghe
Mr. Naveen Jayamanne

Heads of Finance

Mr. Nisala Seniya Fernando
Ms. Tiffahny Hoole

Heads of Sessions

Mr. Gamindu Karunasena
Ms. Umayangi Indatissa

Heads of Media and Content

Mr. Sanjaya Marambe
Ms. Stefania Perera

Committee Members: Media

Ms. Gayani Rambukwella
Mr. Ayeshmantha Gayan
Ms. Kalani Dassanayake
Mr. Shenal Fernando
Mr. Pasan Karunarathn
Ms. Chamodi Wijewera
Ms. Venuri De Silva

Committee Members: Logistics

Mr. Osura Perera
Ms. Hiruni De Almeida
Mr. Rajinda Kandedegara
Mr. Sathyajith Munasinghe
Mr. Samadhi Mahagodage

Committee Members: Sessions

Mr. Rodney Vaz
Mr. Sandun Batagoda
Ms. Dinithi Jayasinghe
Ms. Ajra Azhar
Mr. Lakshan Abeywardena

Committee Members: Finance

Mr. Zul Luthufi
Mr. Matthew David
Ms. Aaysha Hassen

Members can access JNLC 2025 Day 01, 02 and 03 through this QR



BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 4.2
MITIGATING CARDIOVASCULAR RISK FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF LAWYERS

Dr. Upul Wickramarachchi
Mr. Migara Doss

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 4.3
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Mr. Harinda Fonseka
Ms. Purnima Pilapitiya AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 4.4
PSYCHOLOGY OF CONFLICT IN FAMILY LAW

Dr. Theonie Anthonisz
Ms. Mokshini Jayamanne AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 4.5
RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT
BALANCING FAMILY AND LEGAL CAREERS

Mr. Arosha Rajapakse
Ms. Thanuja Jayawardane AAL

FELICITATION FOR FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE MURDU FERNANDO, PC AND CHIEF JUSTICE PREETHI PADMAN SURASENA

The BASL hosted the traditional felicitation dinner in honour of former Chief Justice Her Ladyship Hon. Murdu Fernando, PC, and the present Chief Justice His Lordship Hon. Preethi Padman Surasena on 24th September 2025 at Imperial Monarch Hotel. The event was attended by Minister of Justice Hon. Harshana Nanayakkara, Attorney General Hon. Parinda Ranasinghe PC, and many other dignitaries. The occasion brought together over 800 Members of the legal fraternity to honour the distinguished service and contributions of the Chief Justices to the judiciary and the administration of justice in Sri Lanka.



INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION

The 35th Presidents of Law Associations in Asia (POLA) Summit 2025 – New Delhi, India

The 35th Presidents of Law Associations in Asia (POLA) Summit was held in New Delhi, India, from 28th to 29th August 2025 at the India Habitat Centre, hosted by the Bar Association of India. The Summit brought together Presidents and representatives of leading law associations across Asia to engage in discussions on contemporary legal developments and challenges faced by the legal profession in the Asia-Pacific region. The summit theme of “Developments in Law: Concerns and Challenges for the Legal Profession in Asia-Pacific,” addressed key topics including the growing impact of artificial intelligence on legal practice, the protection of human rights, and the continued strengthening of the Rule of Law within the region. President of BASL, Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya represented Sri Lanka at the summit.



LAWASIA Conference 2025 - Hanoi, Vietnam

The 38th LAWASIA Conference was held in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 11th to 13th October 2025 at the Hanoi Daewoo Hotel. The conference was organised by LAWASIA in collaboration with the Vietnam Bar Federation and brought together legal professionals, judges, academics, and policymakers from across the Asia-Pacific region. The conference focused on the theme “Transacting in the Asia-Pacific in Legal, Cultural and Environmental Challenges.” The sessions explored key issues relating to regional trade, cross-border legal practice, dispute resolution, and sustainability in the evolving economic and legal landscape of the Asia-Pacific. Sri Lanka had the second largest delegation with 43 Members.



BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.1
REI VINDICATIO ACTIONS

Mr. Seevali Amithrigala PC | Mr. Charitha Jayawickrama AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.2
FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

Mr. Asthika Devendra AAL | Mr. N. K. Ashokbharan AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.3
LAW OF EVIDENCE

Mr. Prasantha Lal De Alwis PC | Mr. Thanuka Nandasiri AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.4
INTRODUCTION TO ICT LAW

Dr. Sunil Abeyaratne AAL | Mr. Mehran Careem AAL

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF LEGAL EXCELLENCE: BASL GOLDEN JUBILEE 2025

BASL Golden Jubilee Commemoration with Colombo Stock Exchange: Bell Ringing Ceremony

As part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the BASL, a commemorative bell-ringing ceremony was held at the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) on 7th October. The event symbolised the longstanding partnership between the legal profession and the financial sector in supporting Sri Lanka's institutional and economic development.

The CSE was represented by its Chairman Mr. Dimuthu Abeysekera, Chief Executive Officer Mr. Rajeeva Bandaranaike, and members of the senior management team. The BASL delegation was led by President Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya and Secretary Mr. Chathura Galhena, together with members of the BASL Executive Committee and members of the legal profession. The event concluded with the ceremonial ringing of the market-opening bell, serving as a symbolic gesture of collaboration between the legal and financial sectors and underscoring the role of both institutions in fostering confidence, stability, and development in Sri Lanka.



BASL Golden Jubilee Ball 2025

The BASL Golden Jubilee Ball 2025 was held on 17th October at the Cinnamon Grand Colombo as part of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka's golden jubilee celebrations. The event brought together members of the legal fraternity for an evening of celebration, fellowship, and reflection on the Association's long-standing contribution to the legal profession and the administration of justice in Sri Lanka. The programme featured live music and entertainment, creating a memorable and engaging atmosphere for all attendees.

During the event, Cinnamon Grand Colombo also launched a special Loyalty Programme in partnership with BASL, offering exclusive benefits to members of the Association. The event was meticulously coordinated by the BASL Golden Jubilee Dance Committee, chaired by Mr. Asela Rekawa, with the support of Co-Chairpersons Ms. Thanushka Gunawardena and Mr. Lakmal Rathnayake. Convenors Mr. Krishan Fernandopulle, Ms. Tharika Ruwanpura, and Mr. Ruven Weerasinghe, along with the wider committee, ensured the evening's success. The theme, inspired by "A Night at Caesar's Palace," added grandeur to the golden jubilee celebration.



**STATEMENTS ISSUED - REPRESENTATIONS OF NATIONAL RELEVANCE
1ST AUGUST 2025 - 31ST MARCH 2026**

1. **Letter Dated 1st August 2025** - Appointment of the remaining member to the Right to Information Commission
2. **Letter Dated 19th August 2025** - Amendments to the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance
3. **Statement Dated 25th August 2025** - Pertaining to Comments Seen on Social Media and Other Platforms on Matters that Come Within the Purview of the Judicial Service Commission and the Judiciary
4. **Statement Dated 04th September 2025** - Pertaining to Certain Observations Made in Relation to Attorneys-at-Law
5. **Fundamental Rights Application bearing No. SC/FR/101/2025 filed by the BASL** - following the suicide of a second-year student of the Sabaragamuwa University, allegedly after being subjected to severe ragging at the University Premises on or around 26th April 2025 - Leave to Proceed and Interim Orders Granted on 18th November 2025
6. **Letter Dated 19th December 2025** - Concerns relating to the functioning of the Right to Information Commission
7. **Statement Dated 19th December 2025** - Intimidation of an Attorney-at-Law at the Kaduwela Municipal Council

8. **Letter Dated 22nd December 2025** - Appointment of Civil Society representatives to the Constitutional Council
9. **Letter Dated 22nd December 2025** - Regarding failure to Appoint a Permanent Auditor General
10. **Letter Dated 29th December 2025** - Promotion of Judicial Officers (Magistrates/District Judges, Judges of the High Court and Court of Appeal)
11. **Statement Dated 20th January 2026** - Regarding the Office of Attorney General
12. **Statement Dated 13th February 2026** - Statement Regarding the Assassination of an Attorney-at-Law and His Wife
13. **Briefing Dated 15th February 2026** - The Decisions taken at the Special General Meeting of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka on 15th February 2026

The full text of these Statements / Representations have been previously circulated among the members. Further, the members can also access the same through the following QR code:



CEREMONIAL / SPECIAL SITTINGS 1ST AUGUST 2025 - 31ST MARCH 2026

- **1st August 2025** - To enable the Bar to welcome His Lordship Justice Rohantha Abeysuriya, PC as the President of the Court of Appeal, His Lordship Justice Dr. D. F. H. Gunawardhana and His Lordship Justice A.K.M. Patabendige as Judges of the Court of Appeal
- **22nd September 2025** - Special Welcome to His Lordship Justice Hari Prasad Phuyal, Senior Judge of the Supreme Court of Nepal (Court No. 502)
- **23rd October 2025** - Special Welcome to His Lordship Justice Surya Kant, the Senior Most Judge of the Supreme Court of India (Court No. 502)
- **21st, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th November & 02nd December 2025** - Admission of over 530 Attorneys-at-Law to the Supreme Court of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

- **12th February 2026** - To enable the Bar to welcome His Lordship Justice K.M.G.H. Kulatunga as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
- **19th March 2026** - Farewell Honouring His Lordship Justice S. Thurairaja, PC, on the occasion of his retirement from the Supreme Court
- **31st March 2026** - Farewell Honouring Her Ladyship Justice Kumudini Wickramasinghe, on the occasion of her retirement from the Supreme Court

The Members can access the Ceremonial Speeches by the BASL President Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya through the following QR code:



**BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.5
MONEY RECOVERY UNDER DEBT RECOVERY ACT**

Justice Priyantha Jayawardena, PC Mr. Shehan Gunawardena AAL

**BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.6
PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE UNDER THE CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE**

Mr. Sapumal Bandara AAL Mr. Krishan Fernandopulle AAL

**BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.7
ARTICLE 11 OF THE CONSTITUTION**

Mr. Upul Kumarapperuma PC Mr. Sanjaya Marambe AAL

**BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.8
WRIT APPLICATIONS**

Mr. Senany Dayaratne AAL Mr. Jayathu Wickramasuriya AAL

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR LEGAL PRACTITIONERS

SYMPOSIUMS

The 2nd BASL Legal Symposium at Udawalawe

The 2nd BASL Legal Symposium was held in Udawalawe from 8th to 10th August 2025. The symposium brought together members of the legal profession for a series of discussions and knowledge sharing sessions on matters of legal practice and professional development. The event was attended by many senior members of the legal profession, providing a valuable platform for engagement and professional exchange. On Day 01, Mr. Dushyantha Silva and Mr. Milinda Wattedegedera spoke on the conservation of Leopards and thereafter Session 1 was conducted by Hon. Udesh Ranatunga, High Court Judge, Session 2 was delivered by Mr. Upali Mohotti, PC. Session 3 was led by Mrs. Shiranthi Gunawardena, SIA. Session 4 featured a discussion with BASL President Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya. On Day 2, Session 5 was conducted by Mr. Priyantha Alagiyawanna and Session 6 was delivered by Hon. Ranga Dissanayake, Director General of CIABOC.



2nd BASL National Data Protection Symposium

The BASL Second National Data Protection Symposium was held on 6th January 2026 at the Cumulus Ballroom, Cinnamon Life, Colombo, under the theme "Safeguarding Privacy in the Age of Intelligence: From Legal Compliance to Ethical Innovation.". The Keynote Address was delivered by His Lordship Justice Arjuna Obeyesekera, Judge of the Supreme Court. The Symposium was Chaired by Mr. Revan Weerasinghe, AAL.



Symposium on Hire Purchase and Leasing in Collobaration with the Sri Lanka Women Lawyers' Association

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Women Lawyers' Association, conducted a symposium on Hire Purchase and Leasing on 23rd August 2025 at the BASL Auditorium. The programme addressed important legal and practical aspects relating to hire purchase, finance leasing, recovery procedures, and vehicle related claims under the applicable legal framework. The session featured resource persons Mr. Upali Mohotti, PC, Mrs. Shiranthi Gunawardena, SIA and Mr. Chaminda Hettiarachchi, AAL, Director Legal of Central Finance PLC.



BASL Webinars & Legal Symposiums Committee 2025/26

Chairperson
Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya, AAL

Co-Chairpersons
Mr. Chathura Galhena, AAL
Mr. Pasindu Silva, AAL
Mr. Ruwan Asiri De Silva, AAL

Convenors
Mr. Rushika Wijewardena, AAL
Mr. Pandula Wanniarachchi, AAL
Mr. Oshan Ubhayarathna, AAL
Mr. Samantha Sudeshpriya, AAL

Mr. Matthew David, AAL
Ms. Yohani Yoharajah, AAL
Ms. Isuri Cooray, AAL
Ms. Rusandhi Perera, AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.9
BASICS OF COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Mr. Chandaka Jayasundere, PC
Mr. Harith de Mel, AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.10
IP RIGHTS OF PERFORMERS

Mr. M. Saadi A. Wadood, AAL
Ms. Nishadi Wickramasinghe, AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.11
CONDOMINIUM LAW

Mr. Saminda Jayasekara, AAL
Mr. Senaka de Saram, AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.12
INTERIM INJUNCTIONS

Mr. Faiszer Musthapha, PC
Mr. Pulasthi Rupasinha, AAL

Inaugural ADR Lawyers' Symposium

The Inaugural ADR Lawyers Symposium 2026 was held on 1st February 2026 at Cinnamon Life, Colombo. The symposium focused on the theme of appropriate dispute resolution and explored the evolving role of lawyers in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. The programme brought together a distinguished panel of local and international speakers including Dr. K. Kanag-Isvaran, PC, former acting Chief Justice Shiranee Tilakawardane, and International Resource Persons among several other experts who shared their knowledge and experiences with participants.



2nd BASL National Capital Market Symposium

The BASL National Capital Markets Symposium was held on 26th February 2026 at Cinnamon Life, Colombo. The symposium discussed the developments and emerging issues relating to capital markets in Sri Lanka. The Keynote Address was delivered by His Lordship Justice Yasantha Kodagoda, PC. The Symposium was Chaired by Mrs. Ayanthi Abeywickrama, Co-Chaired by Mr. Renuke Wijewardena, and the Symposium Secretary was Mr. Pasan Weerasinghe, and supported by the BASL Programme Office.



Symposium on "Land: An Asset; A Liability or Both?" in collaboration with the Women Lawyers' Association

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Women Lawyers' Association, organised a symposium related to land matters titled, "Land: An Asset; A Liability or Both?" on 19th November 2025 at the BASL Auditorium. The session addressed key legal issues relating to land as security for loans, the enforceability of such securities, and matters connected with testamentary proceedings. The Symposium featured Mr. Palitha Kumarasinghe, PC, and Ms. Shiranthi Gunawardena, SIA who shared valuable insights with members of the legal profession.



BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.13
SEQUESTRATION

Dr. Wijeyadasa Rajapakse PC
Mr. Chamath Fernando AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.14
APPLICABILITY OF STATE LANDS IN THE PRACTICE OF AN ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Ms. Daphne Peiris Vissundara AAL
Ms. Lahiruni Ekanayake AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.15
LAW OF TAXATION

Mr. Manohara Jayasinghe DSG
Mr. Rushitha Rodrigo AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.16
ARBITRATION ACT A PRACTICAL OVERVIEW

Mr. Wasantha Fernando AAL
Mr. Revan Weerasinghe AAL

BASL MINI SYMPOSIUMS

BASL Mini Symposium #1 – Galle

The BASL Mini Symposium Series was successfully inaugurated in Galle on 19th August, with the participation of members of the legal profession in the region. The programme marked the commencement of a series of regional engagements aimed at strengthening professional knowledge-sharing and collaboration among practitioners. The event was organised with the support of the Galle Law Association, under the leadership of its President, Mr. Ruwan Asiri De Silva, together with the office bearers and committee of the Association. The programme featured Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya, President of the BASL, and Mrs. Shiranthi Gunawardena, SIA, as resource persons.



BASL Mini Symposium #2 - Mahara

The BASL Mini Symposium No. 02 was held on 2nd September 2025 at the Mahara Court Complex, in collaboration with the Mahara Bar Association chaired by President Ms. Ramani Seneviratne. The symposium focused on key aspects of criminal law and civil law and formed part of the BASL Mini Symposium Series aimed at engaging members of the legal profession at regional level. The keynote addresses were delivered by Mr. Sarath Jayamanne, PC, and Mr. Lasitha Kanuwanarachchi, Attorney at Law, who shared their insights and professional experience with the participants.



BASL Mini Symposium #3 – Matara

The BASL Mini Symposium No. 3 was held on 16th September for the Matara Zone, bringing together members of the legal profession for a session of continuous legal education. The programme featured Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya, President of the BASL, and Mrs. Shiranthi Gunawardena, SIA, as resource persons. The symposium was organised with the support of the Matara Bar Association under the leadership of its President and BASL Zonal Vice President Mr. Keerthi Dhanushka, together with Secretary Mr. Gayan Prasanga and the committee, with support from the Galle Zonal Vice President Mr. Ruwan Asiri De Silva.



BASL Mini Symposium #4 – Gampaha

The BASL Mini Symposium No. 04 was held on 16th October 2025 at the Municipal Council Auditorium, Gampaha. The symposium was organized in collaboration with the Gampaha Lawyers' Association chaired by President Mr. Chandima Wijeratne as part of the islandwide BASL Mini Symposium Series aimed at strengthening continuous legal education among members of the profession. The programme addressed key aspects of civil and criminal law, including matters relating to small claims, recovery of possession of premises given on lease, and recent developments in Sri Lankan criminal law. Resource persons included Mr. Vasantha Gajanayake, PC, and Mr. Prasantha Lal De Alwis, PC.



BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.17
MATRIMONIAL ACTIONS

Ms. Jerusha Crossette AAL Ms. Shevindri Manuel AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.18
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT

Mr. Lakshan Dias AAL Ms. Raveendra Sumathipala AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.19
LABOUR TRIBUNALS

Mr. Geoffrey Alagaratnam PC Ms. Swasthika Arulingam AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.20
PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW

Dr. Udara Soysa AAL Ms. Rajintha Samerawickreme AAL

BASL Mini Symposium #5 – Mount Lavinia

The BASL Mini Symposium No. 05 was held on 28th October 2025 at the Mount Lavinia Court Complex in collaboration with the Mount Lavinia Bar Association chaired by President Mrs. Champa De Soyza. The symposium formed part of the islandwide BASL Mini Symposium Series aimed at strengthening continuous legal education among members of the legal profession. The programme addressed recent developments in Sri Lankan criminal law and key aspects of condominium law. Resource persons for the session included Mr. Dharshana Kuruppu, Mr. Senaka De Saram, and Mr. Kapila Gamage.



BASL Mini Symposium #6 – Nugegoda

The BASL Mini Symposium No. 06 was held on 11th November 2025 at Nugegoda as part of the BASL Mini Symposium Series. The programme conducted in collaboration with the Nugegoda Bar Association chaired by President Mr. Uditha Hiripitiya brought together members of the legal profession to engage in discussions on key legal issues and recent developments in practice. Sessions by Mr. Saliya Pieris, PC and Mr. G.G. Arulpragasam, SIA provided an opportunity for Members to participate in professional dialogue and to strengthen their knowledge through continuous legal education.



BASL Mini Symposium #7 – Horana

The BASL Mini Symposium No. 7 was held on 15th November 2025 in Horana in collaboration with the Horana Bar Association chaired by President Mr. Samantha Mallawaarachchi. The Resource Persons were Mr. U.R. De Silva, PC and Mr. Upali Mohotti, PC. The symposium provided an opportunity for practitioners to discuss key legal issues and share knowledge while strengthening collaboration among the lawyers.



BASL Mini Symposium #8 – Colombo

The BASL Mini Symposium No. 8 was held on 21st November 2025 at the Colombo High Court in collaboration with the Colombo High Court Lawyers' Association chaired by President Ms. Inoka Perera. The programme brought together members of the legal profession to discuss important legal issues in practice. The Resource Persons were High Court Judge Hon. Manjula Thillakeratne and Mr. Saliya Pieris, PC.



BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.21
TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT

Prof. A. Sarveswaran AAL Mr. Rakhitha Abeygoonawardhana AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.22
INTRODUCTION TO IP LAW

Mr. Keshan Thalagahoda AAL Mr. Akila Aluthwatte AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.23
APPEALS - REVISIONS

Mr. Shaminda Silva AAL Mr. Kamal Suneth Perera AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.24
LAW OF INSURANCE

Mr. Rajindra Jayasinghe AAL Ms. Rhadeena De Alwis AAL

WELCOME AND ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR NEW BASL MEMBERS

The New Member Welcome and Orientation Programme for the November 2025 Cohort was held on 13th, 14th and 15th December 2025 at the BASL Auditorium. This three-day programme aimed to guide 530 newly enrolled attorneys as they entered the legal profession. Each day began with registration followed by an inauguration ceremony. The event featured welcome addresses, keynote speeches, and important engagements by distinguished members of the legal fraternity. The keynote addresses over the three days were delivered by Dr. K. Kanag Isvaran, PC, Supreme Court Justice, His Lordship Justice S. Thurai Raja, PC and Attorney General Hon. Parinda Ranasinghe, PC, whose valuable insights and experience greatly enriched the programme.

The main topics covered during the programme included the Art of Advocacy, focusing on courtroom skills and presentation techniques, and advocacy in examinations. Ethical practice was also a major focus, with sessions on work ethic stressing integrity, responsibility, and adherence to professional standards. This initiative was supported by the US Embassy and Leads.

- Resource Persons**
- Mr. Saliya Pieris, PC
 - Mr. Harsha Fernando, PC
 - Mr. M. U. M. Ali Sabry, PC
 - Mr. Jagath Wickramanayake, PC
 - Mr. Uditha Egalahewa, PC
 - Mr. Mohamed Adamaly, PC
 - Mr. Prashantha Lal de Alwis, PC
 - Ms. Shiranthi Gunawardena, SIA
 - Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya, AAL
 - Mr. Chathura A. Galhena, AAL
 - Mr. Pasindu Silva, AAL
 - Ms. Kimberly Sokolich, Resident Legal Advisor to U.S. Embassy
 - Mr. Waruna Senadheera, AAL
 - Ms. Nilanthi Peiris, AAL



CERTIFICATE COURSES

Certificate Course in EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTING ATTORNEYS

Click Here to Register

Commencement Date : 23rd Oct. 2025
Session Duration : 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Duration : 9 Weeks (Every Thursday)

Areas Covered

- General Role of an Instructing Attorney and Important Matters to be followed: Hon. Justice Prashantha Gunawardena, PC, Former Judge of the Supreme Court
- Action Relating to Instructing in the District Court and Commercial High Court (Role of the Instructing Attorneys) - Mr. M. U. M. Ali Sabry, PC
- Role of an Instructing Attorney in Arbitration Matters - Ms. Shanika Gunawardena, SIA

CERTIFICATE COURSE IN COMPLIANCE ONLINE

Click Here to Register

Areas Covered

- Introduction to Compliance Functions
- Legal and Regulatory Framework Governing Banks
- Legal and Regulatory Framework Governing Non-Bank Financial Institutions (NBFI)
- Anti-Money Laundering (AML)/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) Compliance
- Legal Regulatory Framework Governing Credit Information Bureau of Sri Lanka (CRIB)
- Legal Regulatory Framework Governing Insurance Companies
- Compliance Risk Management - Practical Aspects

Resource Persons

- Mr. J. P. S. Rajapakse
- Mr. R. S. De Silva Jayathilaka
- Ms. A. Edirisinghe
- Ms. C. H. W. Wijesinghe
- Ms. N. W. Samarasinghe
- Ms. S. S. Rajarane
- Ms. A. M. S. D. Abanindane
- Ms. D. L. Lathip
- Ms. S. M. C. H. Jayasinghe
- Dr. W. R. A. L. Arjasinghe
- Ms. D. S. N. Athukorala
- Dr. (Mrs.) K. Ananthapavantha
- Ms. Cheema Gunaratne
- Ms. W. G. H. P. Kumar
- Ms. S. Rajarane

Certificate Course for PARALEGAL ACTIVISTS ONLINE

Click Here to Register

Commencement Date: 6th AUGUST 2025

Areas Covered

- Title Search
- Searches at Registrar of Companies
- Broad overview of Testamentary Actions
- Broad overview of Government Permits and Licenses
- Broad overview of Condominium Properties and regulations & documentation (Separate / Jointly Agreement)
- Broad Overview of Drafting of Common Instruments
- Title Registration
- Legal provisions relating to Stamp Duty

Resource Person

- Ms. Melody Wickramanayake, Head of Legal, HNB

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CERTIFICATE COURSE IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ONLINE

COMMENCING 29th January 2026

Every Thursday - 3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.
Duration : 10 Weeks

Click Here to Register

Areas Covered

- Introduction to Intellectual Property Rights
- Copyright Infringement
- All Rights Copyright and Know Your Performers Rights
- Patent Law
- A Practical Approach to Customs Enforcement
- Trademark Infringement in Sri Lanka, including administrative and prosecution
- Trademarks

Resource Persons

- Dr. S. Laxmi Jayaratne, PC
- Prof. Anuruddha Perera, PC
- Ms. Anura Kumari Jayaratne, AAL
- Ms. Nilanthi Peiris, AAL
- Prof. (Chd) Perera, PC
- Assoc. Prof. & Hon. Prof. of Law, University of Colombo
- Mr. W. S. S. Jayawardena, AAL
- Mr. Chandana Jayasinghe, AAL

INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL MEDIATOR ACCREDITATION PROGRAMME

FROM RESILIENCE, TO RESOLUTION.

A Bar Association of Sri Lanka initiative brought to you by UDecide Mediation and Sage Mediation Institute

Marking the launch of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) Mediation Centre, this programme is available for BASL members with at least 3 years of work experience. Only 24 seats are being offered at this special price, so please register your place in the programme soon!

MODULE 1: 2, 4, 10 January 2026

- The Mediation Process, and Stages
- Mediation Approaches in Singapore and Asia
- Interest-Based Framework for Problem Solving
- Cultural Considerations

MODULE 2: 30 - 31 January 2026

- Pre-Mediation, Co-Mediation, and Process Design
- Mediation Legislation
- Mediator's Professional Conduct and Ethics
- Working with Emotions and Complex Issues

SPECIAL: BASL MEMBER PRICE
LKR 350,000
REGULAR PRICE: LKR 400,000
Non-Refundable Assessment Fee: LKR 50,000

UDECIDE **SAGE MEDIATION**

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.25
LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE

Ms. Sudarshani Cooray AAL
Mr. Migara Doss AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.26
RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL

Mr. Darshana Kuruppu AAL
Mr. Yajish Tennakoon AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.27
PUBLIC SERVICE LAW

Mr. Shantha Jayawardena AAL
Mr. Hirosha Munasinghe AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.28
EXECUTING MONEY DECREE

Dr. Sunil Coorey ALL
Mr. Chandana Boteju AAL

BASL NITHI NEETHI SASI

The Nithi Neethi Sasi series supported by JICA was recommenced on 20th September 2025 at Amari Colombo, with Chief Justice His Lordship Preethi Padman Surasena as the Chief Guest. This Series was originally introduced during the Presidency of Mr. Saliya Pieris, PC and under the leadership of Mr. Upali Mohotti, PC.

The Inauguration featured an esteemed panel including Hon. Yvonne Fernando, Civil Appeal High Court Judge, Hon. Ranga Dissanayake, Director General of the CIABOC, Mr. Saliya Pieris, PC, Mr. Azard Navavi, PC, Additional Solicitor General, Mr. Thanuka Nandasiri, AAL, Ms. Damayanthi Karunaratne and Ms. Renuka Jayasundara, Deputy Inspector General of Police. The session concluded with remarks by Hon. Justice (Rtd.) Shiranee Tilakawardane.

Nithi Neethi Sasi Committee
Chairman: Mr. Upali Mohotti, PC
Co - Chairperson: Mr. Chamara Wannisekera
Convenors
 Mr. Sanjeeva Ruwanpathirana
 Mr. Wishva Widanagama
 Mr. Rajith Lakshan Abeywardena
 Mr. Manujaya De Silva
 Mr. Yavas Sovis

16 Islandwide Nithi Neethi Sasi Programmes - 20th September 2025 to 7th March 2026

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. 20th September - Inauguration - Colombo, Amari | 9. 17th January 2026 - Matara, Solis Hotel
◦ Hon. Udesh Ranatunga HCJ
◦ Mr. Jagath Wicramanayaka PC |
| 2. 27th September 2025 - Hambantota, Oakray Wild
◦ Mr. Upali Mohotti PC
◦ Mr. Jagath Wicramanayaka PC | 10. 17th January 2026 - Monaragala
◦ Mr. Upul Mohotti PC
◦ Chandima Muthukumara AAL |
| 3. 4th October 2025 - Kandy, Oakray Regency
◦ Hon. Udesh Ranatunga HCJ
◦ Mr. Chathura Galhena AAL | 11. 24th January 2026 - Ampara, Monty Hotel
◦ Mr. Chaminda Athukorala AAL
◦ Mr. Rasika Dissanayaka AAL |
| 4. 11th October 2025 - Ratnapura, Hotel Grand Guardian
◦ Justice Adithya Kantha Patabendige
◦ Mr. Mohamed Ali Sabry PC | 12. 24th January 2026 - Matale, Grand Mountain Hotel
◦ Hon. Manjula Karunaratne
◦ Mr. Sapumal Bandara AAL |
| 5. 18th October 2025 - Anuradhapura, Heritage Hotel
◦ Mr. Jagath Liyanarachchi
◦ Mr. Upali Mohotti PC | 13. 7th February 2026 - Polonnaruwa, Sudu Araliya
◦ Mr. Chandima Muthukumarana AAL
◦ Mr. Darshana Kuruppu AAL |
| 6. 1st November 2025 - Galle, Jetwing Lighthouse
◦ Hon. Udesh Ranatunga HCJ
◦ Hon. Lilan Warusavithana | 14. 21st February 2026 - Kegalle, Pinnalanda Hotel
◦ Mr. Chathura Galhena AAL
◦ Mr. Chaminda Athukorala AAL |
| 7. 8th November 2025 - Kurunegala, The Epitome Hotel
◦ Mr. Sarath Jayamanne PC
◦ Mr. Sapumal Bandara AAL | 15. 28th February 2026 - Badulla, Crown Regency Hotel
◦ Mr. Upali Mohotti PC
◦ Mr. Lasitha Kanuwanarachchi AAL |
| 8. 15th November 2025 - Negombo, Full Moon Garden Hotel
◦ Hon. Yasantha Kodagoda PC
◦ Mr. Sapumal Bandara AAL | 16. 7th March 2026 - Gampaha, The Covanro
◦ Mr. Saliya Pieris PC
◦ Mr. Mohamed Ali Sabry PC |



BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.29
FINANCE LEASING ACT




Mr. Dhanya Gunewardane AAL Ms. Jayanka Kahawevithana AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.30
CONTEMPT OF COURT




Mr. Upul Jayasuriya PC Mr. Laknath Seneviratne AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.31
DIGITAL LAW




Dr. Sunil Abeyaratne AAL Ms. Nirodha Kalansooriya AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 6.32
MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS




Ms. Nipuni Samarasekera AAL Mr. Rakitha Jayatunge AAL



WORKSHOPS

LEADS Juvenile Justice Workshop Series

The BASL, in collaboration with LEADS, conducted a series of Juvenile Justice Workshops for members of the legal profession across multiple provinces. The workshops were held on 24th May 2025 in the Northern Province, 23rd August 2025 in Kandy, and 8th November 2025 in Badulla, in partnership with the respective Branch Associations.

The workshops featured an open dialogue with BASL President Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya, facilitated by Dr. M. A. M. Hakeem, AAL, Senior Lecturer at the University of Colombo, and Deputy Director of the Centre for the Study of Human Rights. Dr. Hakeem also conducted the sessions across all workshops.

Workshop on the Anti-Corruption Act No. 9 of 2023

Workshop for Legal Officers of the State Sector on “changes made to the Bribery Law and the impact of bribery and corruption” on organisations was held on 22nd October 2025 at the BASL Mini Auditorium. The programme was organised by the Government Legal Officers’ Association in collaboration with the Bar Association of Sri Lanka and the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption. The workshop provided an opportunity for legal officers in the state sector to gain a deeper understanding of the legal framework relating to anti corruption and its implications.

Specialized Training Module on Advocacy

A Specialized Training Module on Advocacy was conducted on 28th January 2026 at the BASL for Attorneys-at-Law with two to eight years of practice. The programme was designed to enhance practical advocacy skills, with particular emphasis on courtroom presentation, case analysis, and effective legal argumentation. The session was conducted by Mr. Paul Mylvaganam, Barrister-at-Law from the United Kingdom, who shared valuable professional experience and practical insights with participants, contributing to the development of their advocacy skills.

Commercial Contracts

Commercial Contracts programme was held on 19th January 2026 at the Auditorium of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka. The programme was organised by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka in collaboration with the Association of Corporate Lawyers Sri Lanka. The seminar featured distinguished speakers including Hon. Justice (Rtd.) Priyantha Jayawardena, PC, retired Judge of the Supreme Court, Dr. K. Kanag-Isvaran, PC, and Mr. Susantha Balapatabendi, PC, former Senior Additional Solicitor General. The session was moderated by Mr. Shanaka Cooray, Attorney at Law.

Legal Awareness Programs for Over 800 Police Officers

The BASL, in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Police, conducted two workshops to enhance legal awareness among police officers. The first was held on 3rd August 2025 in Kurunegala for officers of the Kurunegala Police Division, while the second took place on 20th September 2025 in Marawila, covering the Puttalam, Nikaweratiya, Kuliyapitiya, and Chilaw Divisions.

The sessions addressed key areas including criminal investigation and court procedures, with the participation of distinguished resource persons from the Judiciary, Attorney General’s Department, the Bar and Senior Police Leadership. Collectively, the workshops engaged over 800 officers, contributing significantly to strengthening legal knowledge and professional capacity within the police service.

Art of Advocacy for Junior Members

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka conducted a workshop titled “The Art of Advocacy” on 20th September, for junior members with the support of the United States Department of Justice. The programme focused on developing practical advocacy skills including leading evidence, cross examination, re examination, and the effective conclusion of a case. The sessions were conducted by Mr. Kuvera De Zoysa, PC, and Ms. Kimberly Sokolich, Resident Legal Advisor of the United States Department of Justice OPDAT programme, who shared valuable practical insights with participants.

Human Rights Workshop in Sigiriya

A residential seminar titled “Human Rights and Lawyering During the Times of Crisis for Lawyers of Sri Lanka” was held from 17th to 19th of October 2025 at Hotel Amaara Forest, Sigiriya. The programme was organised by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka in collaboration with the Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law. The seminar was conducted for members of the Bar in the North Central Province and focused on the role of lawyers in safeguarding human rights and applying rights based approaches to legal practice during periods of political and economic crisis.



BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.33
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LAWS




Mr. Ian Fernando AAL Ms. Shajani Fernando AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.34
HEALTH LAW




Prof. Sanath Wijesinghe AAL Ms. Prineetha Bandaranayaka AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.35
AIR POLLUTION LAW




Dr. Ravindranath Dabare AAL Mr. Theekshana Pathirana AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.36
RECOVERY OF POSSESSION OF STATE LANDS




Ms. Maithri Amarasinghe AAL Mr. Chamara Nanayakkarasam AAL

ORIENTATION / CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES

Familiarization Programme for the 150th Batch of Sri Lanka Law College Students

The BASL Standing Committee on Law Students' Skills Development organised a familiarization programme for the 150th Batch of Sri Lanka Law College students on 1st of 2025. The programme included guided visits to the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal, followed by an orientation session at the Bar Association of Sri Lanka. Further, session featured a lecture on leadership delivered by Senior Professor Ajantha Dharmasiri. The programme was organised under the leadership of Mr. Malraj B. Kiriella, Chairman, and Mr. Boopathi Kahathuduwa, Convenor of the BASL Standing Committee on Law Students' Skills Development, together with the Law Students' Union of Sri Lanka Law College.



Addressing the new students at the Law Faculty of KDU

BASL President Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya addressed the new entrants of the Faculty of Law at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University on 9th January 2026. The session focused on the ethical responsibilities of legal practitioners and the importance of integrity, professionalism, and respect for the rule of law within the legal profession. The programme provided an opportunity for students to gain an early understanding of the values and standards expected of members of the Bar.



Addressing the new students at the Faculty Law of University of Colombo

An address on Integrity in the Legal Field was delivered by BASL President Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya to the newly admitted group of 330 students of the Law Faculty at the University of Colombo on 19th December 2025. The session highlighted the ethical duties of legal practitioners and emphasized the importance of integrity, professionalism, and upholding the Rule of Law in the legal profession. It also gave students an early insight into the principles, values, and standards expected of members of the Bar.



Address to Senior Officers of the Tri-Forces

At the invitation of the Legal Directorate of the Sri Lanka Air Force, BASL President Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya addressed senior officers of the Tri-Forces comprising the Sri Lanka Army, Navy, and Air Force on 8th September. The address focused on the theme of "Ethics, Honour, Integrity, and Respect for Military Discipline," focusing on the importance of principle in both the legal profession and the armed forces.



LEGAL AWARENESS PROGRAMMES

BASL Legal Awareness Programme Series 2025 – Hikkaduwa

The first BASL Legal Awareness Programme Series 2025 was conducted on 9th October 2025 at the Urban Council, Hikkaduwa. The programme was organised by the BASL Legal Awareness Committee and focused on several practical legal issues relating to land and local government administration, including road servitudes, demarcation of boundaries, land acquisition, land development, and assessment taxes. Resource persons for the session were Mr. Chandima Muthukumarana, AAL and Mr. Theja Abeywickrama, AAL. The programme was organised under the leadership of Chairperson Dr. Dayani Panagoda, Co-Chairpersons Ms. Himali Kularatne and Mr. Dinesh Widanapathirana and Convenor Mr. Buddhika Thilakarathne together with the committee and Co-convenors of the BASL Legal Awareness Committee.



Programme on Professional Ethics – Pandura

A programme on Professional Ethics was organised by the Panadura Bar on 24th January 2026 with the participation of members of the legal profession in the region. The session focused on the importance of maintaining ethical standards, professional responsibility, and integrity in legal practice. The programme provided an opportunity for practitioners to reflect on the ethical obligations of members of the Bar and to engage in discussions on upholding the highest standards of professionalism in the administration of justice.



BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.37
PROCEDURAL PITFALLS IN DIVORCE – CUSTODY

Mr. Shamir Avahir AAL Mr. Manuj Rajapaksha AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 6.38
NEW ASPECTS OF ANTI CORRUPTION LAWS

Mr. Asoka Weerasooriya AAL Mr. Sanjaya Marambe AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 7.1
BRIDGING ACADEMIA AND LAW

Emeritus Professor Savitri Goonesekere Ms. Chathurika Akurugoda

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 7.3
LAW, LIFE, AND LESSONS

Justice Yasantha Kodagoda, PC Ms. Himalee Kularathna AAL

SEMINARS

Professional Skills Development Seminar Series

The second workshop of the BASL Professional Skills Development Seminar Series for Law Students was held on 6th August 2025 at the Dr. H. W. Jayewardene QC Auditorium. Organised by the BASL Law Students' Skills Development Committee, the session focused on developing essential soft skills for future members of the legal profession. The programme featured Mr. Fouzul Hameed, Managing Director of Hameedia, and Ms. Nayana Karunaratne, Director of Salon Nayana and IHB Education, who shared insights on personal grooming, professional attire, body language, confidence building, and personality development. The programme was organised under the leadership of Committee Chair Dr. Malraj Kiriella and Convenor Mr. Boopathy Kahathuduwa.

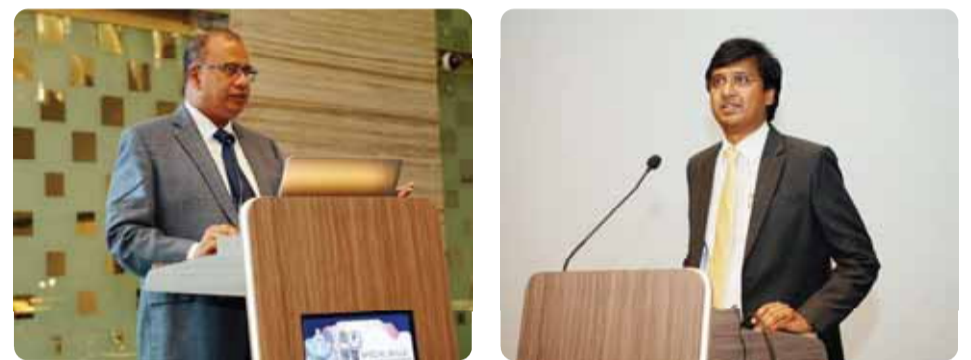


BASL Junior Practitioners Placement Programme

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka launched the BASL Junior Practitioners Placement Programme as an initiative to support junior members of the profession who face difficulties in securing placements in law chambers, law firms, or other legal institutions. The programme aims to assist young practitioners in gaining practical experience and professional exposure within the legal field. The initiative is implemented through the BASL Junior Bar New Opportunities Committee under the leadership of its Chairman Mr. Chandima Atapattu, together with Convenors Mr. Krishan FernandoPulle, Mr. Sineth Kassapa Bandara, Ms. Praveena Muhandiram, Mr. Geeth Karunaratna, Mr. Lakshan Wijewardena, and Ms. Yohani Jacob Yoharajah.

Special Skills Enhancement Programme for Members below 7 Years

The BASL Special Skills Development Programme for members with less than seven years of practice was held on 2nd March 2026 at Cinnamon Life with the support of the United States Department of Justice. The programme focused on enhancing practical and professional skills and provided an opportunity for junior members of the Bar to benefit from training content that had previously been conducted for newly admitted members. The symposium saw over 200 junior members participating and provided valuable insights aimed at strengthening the knowledge and professional development of young practitioners. The Resource Persons were His Lordship Yasantha Kodagoda PC, Justice of the Supreme Court, Ms. Kimberly Sokolich, Resident Legal Advisor of U.S. Embassy, Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya, President of BASL, Mr. Saliya Peiris PC and Mr. Kuvera de Zoysa PC.



Resolving Criminal Cases through Plea Agreements

Resolving Criminal Cases through Plea Agreements under the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act No. 50 of 2024 was formed as part of a series of programmes organised with the support of the United States Department of Justice through the U.S. Embassy in Sri Lanka, providing valuable insights into plea agreement mechanisms.

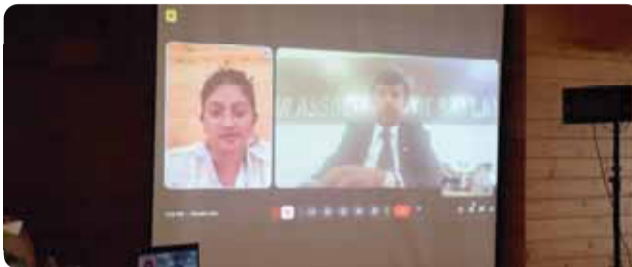
- **First Seminar: Galle** - Resource Persons included High Court Judge Hon. Udesh Ranathunge. The workshop was supported by Ms. Kimberly Sokolich, Resident Legal Advisor of the US Embassy, and Ms. Deepamala Jayasinghe.
- **Second Seminar: Colombo** - Resource Persons included Mr. Neville Abeyratne, PC, Ms. Kimberly Sokolich, Resident Legal Advisor of U.S. Embassy, DOJ-OPDAT and Mr. Patrick J Ehlers, Senior Deputy Defender, Oregon Public Defense Commission.
- **Third Seminar: Anuradhapura** - Resource persons included Hon. Justice Yasantha Kodagoda, PC, Ms. Kimberly Sokolich, Resident Legal Advisor of the U.S. Embassy DOJ OPDAT programme, and Mr. Patrick J. Ehlers, Senior Deputy Defender of the Oregon Public Defence Commission.





Access to Justice Programme with iProbono

A three day residential workshop titled "Access to Justice Programme" 2026 was held from 27th February to 1st March 2026 at the Araliya Red Hotel, Nuwara Eliya. The programme was organised by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka in collaboration with iProbono and was designed for Attorneys at Law practising in the Central Province with less than ten years of professional experience. The workshop focused on practical legal education, litigation and advocacy skills, human rights focused legal aid approaches, and engagement with law enforcement with aiming to strengthen professional skills and promote rights based legal practice in advancing access to justice.



DIGITAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL INITIATIVES

Launch of the E-Courts Initiative and Supreme Court E-Case Management System

The formal launch of the E-Courts initiative, led by His Lordship the Chief Justice, took place on 12th September 2025 at the Judges' Training Institute with the introduction of the Supreme Court Web Portal and E-Case Management System. This initiative marks a significant milestone in modernizing the administration of justice in Sri Lanka.



BASL Enables LankaSign Digital Signatures for Legal Documents

As part of advancing the digital transformation of the legal sector, the Bar Association of Sri Lanka enabled the use of LankaSign Digital Signatures, facilitated by LankaPay, for the digital signing of electronic documents from 5th January 2026. This initiative represents an important step towards modernizing legal processes and promoting secure digital documentation. The event was attended by Mr. Chaminda Bandara, Assistant Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka and Co-Chair of the National Certification Authority (NCA) Taskforce, Mr. Jayantha Fernando, Co-Chair of the NCA Taskforce, Mr. Channa de Silva, CEO of LankaPay, and Mr. Dinuka Perera, Deputy CEO of LankaPay, along with other officials.



IN REMEMBRANCE OF MEMBERS WHO PASSED AWAY DURING THE PERIOD - FEBRUARY 2025 TO JANUARY 2026

A Remembrance Ceremony was organised and held on 28th February, 2026 at the BASL Auditorium to pay tribute to the members of the Association who had passed away during the period February 2025 to January 2026. Seventy Eight members' lives and service were honoured at this ceremony.



BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 7.5
NAVIGATING YOUR CAREER COURTROOM

Dr. K. Kanagasinghar PC Ms. Farzana Jameel PC Ms. Daphne Peiris Vissundara AAL

BASL SINHALA WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 2.8
NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CRIMINAL LAW

Mr. Sarath Jayamanne PC Mr. Senarath Jayasundara AAL Mr. Darshana Kuruppu AAL Mr. Buddhika Thillakarathne AAL

BASL SINHALA WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 2.9
BUDDHIST TEMPORALITIES ORDINANCE

Mr. Lakshman Perera PC Mr. Sarath Weragoda AAL Mr. Hemaka Senanayake AAL Mr. Sandun Senadhipathi AAL

COLLABORATIVE DISCUSSIONS / INITIATIVES WITH ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS



Discussion on Resolution of Sports Disputes through Mediation



Meeting with Secretary General of the Commonwealth Law Association



Corporate Partnership with Credit Information Bureau of Sri Lanka



Discussion with the Broadcasters' Guild of Sri Lanka



Meeting with the Inspector General of Police



Corporate Partnership with APIIT



Corporate Partnership with LankaPay



First ever MOU with the Law Society of Singapore

Meetings with Foreign Bar Leaders



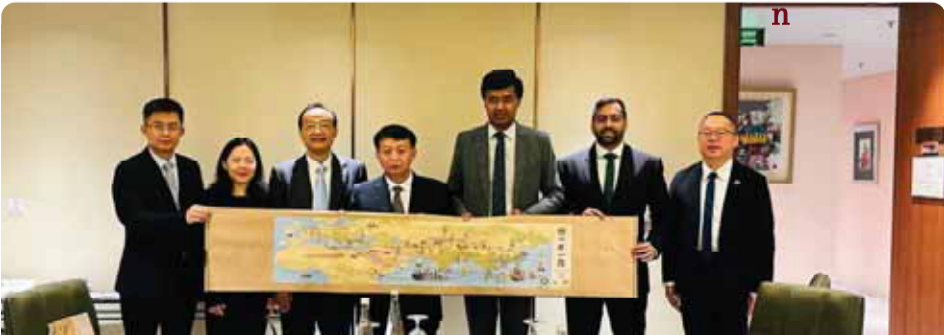
President and Officers of the Law Council of Australia



Office Bearers of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations



President and Officers of the German Federal Bar



Office Bearers of the All China Lawyers' Association

BASL SINHALA WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 2.10
LAW RELATING TO CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY

Mr. Jagath Wickramanayake PC | Mr. Saminda Jayasekara AAL | Mr. Senaka De Seram AAL | Ms. Irani Karunanayake AAL

BASL SINHALA WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 2.11
GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF BAIL

Mr. Yasantha Kodagoda PC | Mr. Mohan Weerakoon PC | Mr. Ashoka Weerasuriya AAL | Mr. Kaneel Maddumage AAL

BASL SINHALA WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 2.12
BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION

Mr. Sarath Jayamanna PC | High Court Judge Mr. Ranga Dissanayake | Mr. Ranith Hille AAL | Mr. Sanjaya Ariyadasa AAL

South Asian Regional Conference on Human Rights: Learning From Our Neighbors

The South Asian Regional Workshop on Human Rights was held on 20th - 21st September 2025 at the BASL Auditorium. The event brought together distinguished legal professionals and human rights experts from across South Asia to discuss pressing human rights issues and regional cooperation.

The workshop was organized by the BASL Standing Committee on Human Rights, in collaboration with the United Nations and South Asians for Human Rights. President of the Court of Appeal His Lordship Justice Rohantha Abey Suriya, PC was the Chief Guest and delivered an apt Keynote Address recalling ties with SAARC Law. The event provided a valuable platform for dialogue on human rights challenges in South Asia, promoting collaboration among legal experts, policymakers, and civil society representatives in the region.

SPEAKERS FROM SOUTH ASIA



Hina Jilani
Lawyer at the Supreme Court of Pakistan, Member of the Elders, and former UN Special Representative of the Secretary General on Human Rights Defenders and UN



Hon. Hari Prasad Phuyal
Justice of the Supreme Court of Nepal and former Attorney General of Nepal



Hon. Dheebanaz Fahmy
Judge of the High Court of the Maldives and the first female judge to sit in the Criminal Court in the Maldives



Colin Gonslaves
Senior Advocates of the Supreme Court of India and the founder of Human Rights Law Network.



Barrister Aneek Haque
Additional Attorney General of Bangladesh






BASL Junior Bar Journal Vol. 16 Launch

Volume 16 of the Junior Bar Law Journal was officially launched on 24th of March marking a significant milestone for the Junior Bar. The event featured a thought-provoking and meaningful keynote address delivered by Chief Guest, Justice of the Supreme Court His Lordship Sobhitha Rajakaruna, centered on the importance of always acting with a good conscience. BASL extend appreciation to Mr. Aadhes Thurairaja for successfully leading the Editorial Team for a second consecutive year, as well as to the members of the Editorial Team for their dedicated efforts. Recognition is also due to the Junior Bar, under the leadership of Mr. Thishya Weragoda, for their contribution to the successful organization of this event.



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FOR BAR ASSOCIATION
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BASL SINHALA WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 2.13
INTERNET CRIMES AND INVESTIGATIONS



Justice Kumuduni
Wickramasinghe



Mr. Thishya
Weragoda AAL



Mr. Ajith
Rohana SDIG, AAL



Ms. Deshani
Bandara AAL

BASL SINHALA WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 2.14
IDENTIFICATION PARADE AND RELATED LEGAL PROCEDURES



Mr. Nevil
Abeyratne PC



Mr. Ravi
Matugama PC



Mr. Sanjaya
Gamage AAL



Mr. Ashan
Nanayakkara AAL

BASL SINHALA WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 2.15
MAINTENANCE LAW



Mr. Upali
Mohotty PC



Mrs. Nilmini
Medonsa AAL



Mr. Pradeep
Gamage AAL



Ms. Dasni
Piyasiri AAL

BEYOND THE COURTROOM: COMMUNITY AND WELFARE ACTIVITIES

BASL Medical Camp – Galle

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka organised a Medical Camp for its members on 23rd January 2026 at the Galle Court premises, in collaboration with the Galle Law Society. This initiative was exclusively for members of the Bar Association. The programme provided members with access to medical consultations and health screenings, focusing on concerns such as stress-related conditions and lifestyle-related health issues.



Special BASL Programme on Inclusive Leadership

A special BASL programme on inclusive leadership, leading up to International Women’s Day was held on the 2nd of March. The Chief Guest was Her Ladyship Justice Kumudini Wickramasinghe, Justice of the Supreme Court who also delivered an insightful keynote address. The other Resource Persons were Mrs. Shiranthi Gunawardena, SIA, Prof. Wasantha Seneviratne, and Ms. Yanina Weerasinghe and moderated by Mrs. Thanushka Gunawardena.

BASL extends its appreciation to the BASL Women Lawyers’ Professional and Career Development Committee, Chaired by Mrs. Indika Nagaratne Kottegoda, Co-Chair Mrs. Nalani Manathunga, Convenors Mrs. Kaushalee Jayaweera and Mrs. Tharika Ruwanpura, and its members, as well as the Sri Lanka Women Lawyers’ Association, for their leadership and organisation in successfully conducting this programme.



Opening of the Tissa R. Balalle Memorial Law Library in Maho

The opening ceremony of the Tissa R. Balalle Memorial Law Library, established by the Maho Bar Association, was held on 7th February 2026 at the Maho Court premises. The establishment of the library marks an important initiative aimed at strengthening access to legal resources for members of the Bar and supporting the professional development of practitioners in the region.



BASL Women Lawyers’ Support Circle

The BASL Women Lawyers’ Support Circle was inaugurated on 29th September 2025, as a new initiative of the BASL Women Lawyers’ Committee, aimed at fostering mentorship, support, and professional development among women in the legal profession. The initiative seeks to create a platform where women lawyers can share experiences, discuss challenges, and strengthen leadership within the profession.

The inaugural session was held under the theme “Breaking Moulds: Leadership Lessons for Women in Law,” featuring Ms. Ayomi Aluwihare, AAL and Precedent Partner FJ&G de Saram. The session explored issues of leadership, resilience, and the evolving role of women in law. Appreciation is extended to the Chairperson Ms. Faisza Markar, PC, Co-Chairperson Ms. Nirupa Serasinghe, and Convenors Ms. Yohani Jacob Yoharajah and Ms. Hana Haffee for spearheading this important initiative.



First BASL Bookshop and Service Point Outside Colombo & Reopening of the Kandy Law Library

The first BASL Bookshop and Service Point outside Colombo was inaugurated on 23rd February 2026 at the Kandy Courts Complex in collaboration with the Kandy Bar Association. The establishment of this facility marks an important step in improving access to BASL services and legal resources for members practising outside Colombo. The opening of the bookshop also coincided with the reopening of the Kandy Law Library, which was severely damaged during Cyclone Ditwah.



16th Law–Medical Encounter 2026

The 16th Law–Medical Encounter, jointly organized by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka and the Sri Lanka Medical Association, was held on 22nd March 2026. The highlight of the event was a closely contested cricket match, where the doctors’ team emerged victorious, clinching the title in a thrilling finish that went down to the final three balls, showcasing strong camaraderie and sportsmanship between the two professions.



BASL SINHALA WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 2.16
MAGISTRATE’S COURT NEW TRENDS

 Mr. Shanaka Ranasinghe PC	 Mr. Janaka Bandara DSG	 Mr. Sugath Hadunge AAL	 Mr. Pandula Wanniarachchi AAL
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BASL SINHALA WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 – 2.17
EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS

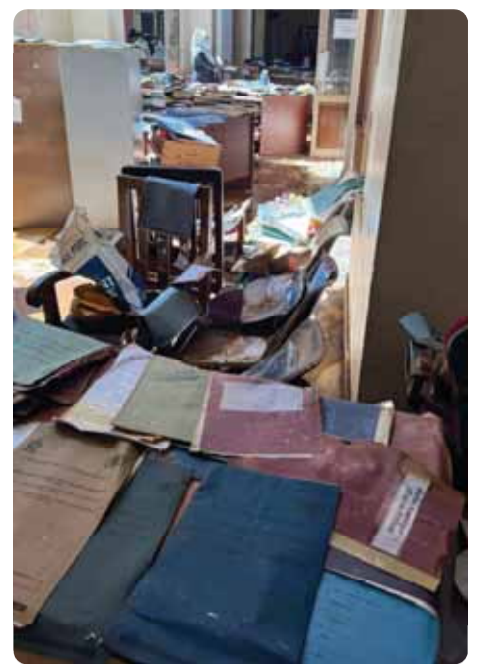
 Mr. Uditha Ilangahewa PC	 Ms. Kumari Liyanage AAL	 Ms. Manoli Jinadasa AAL	 Mr. Pasindu Silva AAL
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Assistance to Outstation Bars affected by Cyclone Ditwah

Soon after Cyclone Ditwah, on 3rd December 2025, President of BASL Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya visited the Kandy Courts Complex together with the President and members of the Kandy Bar Association and the Convenor of the BASL Outstation Bar Committee Ms. Dasni Piyasiri. During the visit, discussions were held with Judicial Officers and the Bar, on the significant damage caused by recent flooding to records, court houses, lawyers' offices and the historic Kandy Law Library and the way forward. As an initial step towards recovery, BASL donated legal publications and diaries to support over 100 Members affected.

Thereafter, the BASL provided funds in a sum of approximately Rs. 6,500,000 to Members of the Kandy Bar as well as from other Bars who were affected by Cyclone Ditwah. Funds were collected through a Special Distress Fund where Members contributed, the Benevolent Fund and also funds were pledged by the International Bar Association.

In addition, a book collection programme was launched by the BASL, to re-stock the Kandy Law Library which was successfully completed with the collection of over 550 Books.



Two Specially Curated Retirement Plans for BASL Members

Launch of Special Retirement Plan for BASL Members with Sri Lanka Insurance

Sri Lanka Insurance Life partnered with the Bar Association of Sri Lanka to introduce the "Sri Lanka Insurance Life Rakawarana Retirement Plan," an exclusive retirement plan designed for members of the legal profession. The collaboration was formalised on 12th November at the BASL premises. This partnership brings together two national institutions with the aim of strengthening the financial security of legal professionals. The retirement plan offers members a guaranteed income after retirement together with additional protection through accidental death coverage. It also provides flexible premium payment options on a monthly, quarterly, half-yearly, or annual basis. Members may further enhance their protection through optional benefits including family protection cover, permanent disability cover, critical illness cover, and hospitalisation cash benefits.



Eagle Vision Legal Aid Campaign at KDU

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka supported the Eagle Vision Legal Aid Campaign initiated by the Faculty of Law of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU). The legal aid programme was held on 28th January 2026 at the KDU Law Faculty premises and provided professional legal consultations to the University's Military, Academic, and Administrative Staff.



Launch of the Second Curated Pension Scheme for BASL Members with Union Assurance

On 31st December 2025, the Bar Association of Sri Lanka launched the second curated pension scheme for its members in partnership with Union Assurance PLC, one of Sri Lanka's fastest growing life insurers. This initiative renewed the longstanding collaboration between the two institutions, further strengthening their relationship in supporting the welfare of legal professionals. The introduction of this second pension scheme provides BASL members with additional options and flexibility in planning for their financial future. The scheme offers both long-term and short-term pension options designed to suit the diverse needs of members at different stages of their professional careers. The BASL is thankful to Mr. Deepthi Lokuarachchi, Mr. Suresh Perera and Mr. Chandima Atapattu for their contribution in evaluating the proposals received and identifying the most suitable retirement plans.



BASL TAMIL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 2.16
MARITAL DISSOLUTION AND THE DIVISION OF PROPERTY

Ms. T. Kumarasooriyar
Mr. G. Abimanyu
Ms. Mayuri Dharmaras AAL

BASL TAMIL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 2.17
CHEATING

Mr. Vijayakumar Xavier AAL
Mr. K. Kugaraja AAL
Ms. Subhashini Rumanan

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 4.6
BEAST OBESITY - STAND WITH SCIENCE

Prof. Pujitha Wickramasinghe AAL
Prof. Renuka Silva
Ms. Udara Dissanayake AAL

BASL WEBINAR SERIES 2025/26 - 4.7
BRIDGING GENERATIONS OF LAW

Prof. Samala Kumar
Mr. Shanaka Cooray AAL

NATIONAL LAW WEEK: LEGAL AID PROGRAMMES

The National Law Week Legal Aid Programmes, organized as part of a nationwide initiative by the Bar Association in collaboration with Sirasa Gammada, were conducted with the objective of addressing pressing legal concerns within vulnerable communities. This year's programme placed special emphasis on assisting individuals and families affected by Cyclone Ditwah, recognizing the unique legal challenges arising from such natural disasters.

Implemented over a two-month period, the initiative facilitated widespread access to legal support and guidance. Members of the legal profession actively participated in the programme, offering their expertise to ensure that affected communities received accurate information and appropriate assistance. The programme effectively promoted legal awareness, dispute resolution, and guidance on legal procedures. Appreciation to the National Law Week Committee with the support of the BASL Legal Aid Committee and Gammada for implementing this programme at this critical time.

Legal Aid Programme: Madulsima

The Legal Aid Programme at Madulsima Tamil Maha Vidyalaya was conducted on 25th January. The BASL expresses its appreciation to the President of the Badulla Bar Association, Mr. Dhanushka Weligama, and the office-bearers of the Badulla Bar including Mrs. Sayundi Sooriyabandara, Mr. S. B. Udowita, Mrs. Padmini Mangalika, and Mr. Thilageshwaran Puwaneshwaran. Appreciation is also extended to the Members of the Badulla Bar Association.



Legal Aid Programme: Passara

The Legal Aid Programme at Passara Central College was conducted on 24th January. The Bar Association of Sri Lanka acknowledges the support extended by the President of the Badulla Bar Association, Mr. Dhanushka Weligama, Secretary Mr. Dileepa Jayasekare, Treasurer Mr. Upendra Wijethunga, and the office-bearers and members of the Badulla Bar.



Legal Aid Programme: Matale

The Legal Aid Programme at Sri Kumaran Primary School was conducted on 22nd February 2026 under the National Law Week. The Bar Association of Sri Lanka acknowledges the support extended by the President of the Matale Bar, Mr. Jaliya Gunaratne, Secretary Mr. Kapila Walisundere, and the office-bearers and members of the Matale Bar, as well as Mr. Uma Manivannan, Mr. Nileshe Weerasinghe, Mr. Chathura Wijesekara, Ms. Sachini Wijerathna, Ms. Kalpani Wickramarachchi, Ms. Samudrika Kodituwakku, Ms. Shabna Rafeek for their valuable cooperation in successfully organising this initiative.



Legal Aid Programme: Nildandahinna

The Legal Aid Programme at Sri Sumangala National College, Nildandahinna was held on 7th February. The programme was organised with the participation and support of members of the Walapane Bar Association.

BASL expresses its appreciation to the President of the Walapane Bar Association, Mrs. Bhadra Seneviratne, Mr. S. Geethadayanandan, and members Mrs. Chandrika Nawarathne and Mrs. Ranahansi Weerathunga for their valuable contribution.



Legal Aid Programme: Kothmale

The BASL National Law Week 2025/2026, which commenced in Kothmale, was successfully conducted on 10th January, providing legal aid to communities affected by Cyclone Ditwah. The Bar Association also acknowledges the support extended by the Secretary of the Nuwara Eliya Bar Association, Mr. Singarajah Mohan Raj.



National Law Week Committee
Chairman: Mr. Maithri Gunaratne, PC
Co-Chairpersons: Mr. Chandima Perumpuriarachchi & Ms. Nadee Gunaratne
Convenor: Mr. Iresh Seneviratne

Legal Aid Standing Committee
Co-Chairpersons: Mr. M.K. Muthukumar & Mr. Baheej Meera Mohideen
Convenor: Mr. Harith de Mel

JUDGMENTS COMPILED BY THE BASL E-REPORTER COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mr. Felician Fernandopulle

Co-Chairman: Mr. Thanuka Madhawa Nandasiri

Convener: Mr. Susitha Dangahadeniya

Editors: Mr. V. Kamal Ahamed, Mr. Ayuka Perera



BASL e-Law
Reporter 25/26

Aggravating factors	Yatiwala Withanilage Samson Micheal Perera Vs. Hon. Attorney-General CA/HCC/56/24	Lack of conscious possession	Illegel Don Ayesha Sonali vs The Officer-in-Charge, Police Narcotic Bureau and Other CA/BAL/0401/23
Appeal	The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka Vs Lionel Dissanayake And others CA/RTI/04/2022	Land title	Mapa Pathirrennehelage Sediris and Other vs Rajapaksha Pathirrennehelage Renuka and Others SC/APPEAL/199/2018 SC/HCCA/LA No. 272/2018 WP/HCCA/GPH No. 171/2011(F)
Arrest	M. I. M. Iynullah, AAL and Others vs C. D. Wickramaratne Inspector General of Police and Others SC/FR/87/2021	Last seen theory	Kurudukarage Lalitha Padmini Vs. The Attorney General CA/HCC/ 0169/2020 High Court of Kalkutara Case No: HC/872/2007
Arrest	Sachith Prabhath Wijeratna vs Police Inspector B.S. Chandrasiri, Crime Branch, Police Station, Anuradhapura and Others SC/FR/365/2020	Lease and Lease Approval	Forest Glen Hotel and Spa (Pvt) Ltd and Others Vs Secretary, Ministry of Land and Parliament Reforms and Others CA/WRT 146/18
Bail	Illegel Don Ayesha Sonali vs The Officer-in-Charge, Police Narcotic Bureau and Other CA/BAL/0401/23	Legitimate Expectation	Sierra Construction Ltd vs Road Development Authority and Others SC/FR/135/2023
Bail	Rajendran Patricia, Vs Officer in Charge, Police Narcotics Bureau and Other CA/BAL/0603/2023	Legitimate expectation	Forest Glen Hotel and Spa (Pvt) Ltd and Others Vs Secretary, Ministry of Land and Parliament Reforms and Others CA/WRT 146/18
Bond	K.D.A. Hejarchchi and Other vs Ceylinc Insurance Company Limited SC/APPEAL/166/2014	Legitimate expectations	J. K. P.Malani Vs W. M. M. B. Weerasekara Commissioner General of Agrarian Development, and others CA/WRT/206/2018
Breach of Peace	Rupika Sarojini Thuduweewatte vs Kodithuwakku Kankanamge Shantha and Others SC/APPEAL/56/2018	License	Beligawatta Akkarakuruppu Mudiyansele Lal Dhammika Pushpa Kumara vs Rev. Bengamuwe Sri Rathnapala Dammadonna Thero and Others SC/MISC/2/2012
Burden of proof	Dilshan Wandyl Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/231/2017	List of witnesses and documents	Niyakulage Dilruk Sanjeeewa Fernando vs Diyagama Vidanelage Somawathie Perera and Others SC/APPEAL/1/2025
Child Abduction, Order of return	Samarathunga Arachchilage Anusha Sandamali Samarathunga - de Silva vs W.M.R. Adikari, Secretary to the Ministry of Justice & Prison Reforms and Other CA (CPA) 162/2022 High Court Colombo Case No: HC/SPL/20/2018	Material witnesses	Ihala Gedera Hewage Lionel Thilakarathne Vs The Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/ 0043/2021 High Court of Kegalle Case No. HC/3879/2018
Child Witness	Ihala Gedera Hewage Lionel Thilakarathne Vs The Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/ 0043/2021 High Court of Kegalle Case No. HC/3879/2018	Minimum mandatory sentence	Elibichchiya Raalalage Manuka Sampath Gnanasiri Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC 162/2024 High Court of Chilaw Case No. HC 04 /2020
Circumstantial evidence	Kukul Korala Gamage Gamini Premakumara and Other vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0061-0062/2019 High Court of Embilipitiya Case No. HCE 36/2017	Mitigatory circumstances	Elibichchiya Raalalage Manuka Sampath Gnanasiri Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC 162/2024 High Court of Chilaw Case No. HC 04 /2020
Common intention	Kukul Korala Gamage Gamini Premakumara and Other vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0061-0062/2019 High Court of Embilipitiya Case No. HCE 36/2017	Mitigatory factor.	Yatiwala Withanilage Samson Micheal Perera Vs. Hon. Attorney-General CA/HCC/56/24
Common intention	Kurudukarage Lalitha Padmini Vs. The Attorney General CA/HCC/ 0169/2020 High Court of Kalkutara Case No: HC/872/2007	Murder	Kukul Korala Gamage Gamini Premakumara and Other vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0061-0062/2019 High Court of Embilipitiya Case No. HCE 36/2017
Compensation	Future Automobiles (Pvt) Limited Vs Consumer Affairs Authority And others CA-WRT-545/2024	National Gem and Jewellery Authority Act No.50 of 1993	Beligawatta Akkarakuruppu Mudiyansele Lal Dhammika Pushpa Kumara vs Rev. Bengamuwe Sri Rathnapala Dammadonna Thero and Others SC/MISC/2/2012
Conscious possession	Dilwella Vidana Kankanamge Chamila Priyanga. Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0081/2021 High Court of Hambantota Case No. HC 22/2011	Natural flow of water	W. Arthur Deepal Peiris and Others vs Ranil Perera SC/APPEAL/37/2014
Constitution Article 11 12(1) 13(1)	Sachith Prabhath Wijeratna vs Police Inspector B.S. Chandrasiri, Crime Branch, Police Station, Anuradhapura and Others SC/FR/365/2020	Natural Justice	Laksiri International Freight Forwarders Private Ltd vs Assistant Commissioner of Labour (Colombo East) SC/APPEAL/20/2024 , SC/APPEAL/21/2024
Constitution Article 11 and Article 12(1)	Korawage Ranjith alias "Shantha" vs . Rukman Kumara, Officer in Charge, The Police Station, Urubokka and Others SC/FR/338/2017	Natural Justice	Beligawatta Akkarakuruppu Mudiyansele Lal Dhammika Pushpa Kumara vs Rev. Bengamuwe Sri Rathnapala Dammadonna Thero and Others SC/MISC/2/2012
Constitution Article 12(1)	Sierra Construction Ltd vs Road Development Authority and Others SC/FR/135/2023	Non payment of gratuity	Laksiri International Freight Forwarders Private Ltd vs Assistant Commissioner of Labour (Colombo East) SC/APPEAL/20/2024 , SC/APPEAL/21/2024
Constitution Articles 13(1), 13(2) and 12(1)	Madurapperumage Kanchana Priyadarshini Madurapperuma vs Kelum Sangeeth, Sub-Inspector of Police, Peliyagoda Special Crimes Operations Unit and Others SC/FR/37/2020	Performance Bond/Guarantee	Seylan Bank Limited vs Lanka Milk Foods (CWE) Limited SC/CHC APPEAL/16/2007 CHC Case No. HC (Civil) 157/2001 (1)
Consumer Affairs Authority	Future Automobiles (Pvt) Limited Vs Consumer Affairs Authority And others CA-WRT-545/2024	Petition of Appeal	Kariyawasam Arachchige Priyantha Dayaratna and Other vs Kadnappulradage Nandapala and Others SC/Appeal/88/2015 SC/ HCCA/ LA No. 259/2014 WP/ HCCA/ AV/ 780/2008 (F)
Contempt of Court	The Registrar, Supreme Court of Sri Lanka vs Wickramage Don Dharmasiri Kanurathne SC/CONT/9/2024	Poisons Opium and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance	Rajendran Patricia, Vs Officer in Charge, Police Narcotics Bureau and Other CA/BAL/0603/2023
Contractual obligations	Seylan Bank Limited vs Lanka Milk Foods (CWE) Limited SC/CHC APPEAL/16/2007 CHC Case No. HC (Civil) 157/2001 (1)	Possession of an automatic firearm	Dilwella Vidana Kankanamge Chamila Priyanga. Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0081/2021 High Court of Hambantota Case No. HC 22/2011
Contradiction	Galgodage Sarath Wijesiri Vs. Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka CA/HCC/28/21	Possession of methamphetamine	Illegel Don Ayesha Sonali vs The Officer-in-Charge, Police Narcotic Bureau and Other CA/BAL/0401/23
Contradiction and probability	Ihala Gedera Hewage Lionel Thilakarathne Vs The Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/ 0043/2021 High Court of Kegalle Case No. HC/3879/2018	Pre Trial Conference	Niyakulage Dilruk Sanjeeewa Fernando vs Diyagama Vidanelage Somawathie Perera and Others SC/APPEAL/1/2025
Conviction in absentia	John Sebastian Anthony Thawaraja Reagan Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/CPA/0116/2024	Premeditation	Palamura Hewage Harishchandra Kumarasinghe Vs Hon. Attorney general CA HCC 0070/2023 HC Kegalle No: HC 3139/2012
Co-ownership	Mapa Pathirrennehelage Sediris and Other vs Rajapaksha Pathirrennehelage Renuka and Others SC/APPEAL/199/2018 SC/HCCA/LA No. 272/2018 WP/HCCA/GPH No. 171/2011(F)	Presumption of validity	Wathukarage Shantha Merrill Kumara vs National Gem and Jewellery Authority SC/MISL/04/2014
Court martial	Commander(S) R.G.A.A. Weerasinghe Vs. Commodore K.R. Senadheera and others CA/WRT/538/2011	Prevention of Terrorism Act	M. I. M. Iynullah, AAL and Others vs C. D. Wickramaratne Inspector General of Police and Others SC/FR/87/2021
CPC S 755	Kariyawasam Arachchige Priyantha Dayaratna and Other vs Kadnappulradage Nandapala and Others SC/Appeal/88/2015 SC/ HCCA/ LA No. 259/2014 WP/ HCCA/ AV/ 780/2008 (F)	Primary Courts Procedure Act	Rupika Sarojini Thuduweewatte vs Kodithuwakku Kankanamge Shantha and Others SC/APPEAL/56/2018
CPC Section 84	Erangika Patuwatha Withana and others Vs Kuda Widana Nimmull Ramya De Silva CA/RII/07/2024 DC Balapitiya Case No: 2273/SPL	Principles in relation to the evaluation of a dock statement	Kaluduru Wisaka Thabrew, and other Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC/72-73/20 High Court of Balapitiya Case No. HCB 1779/15
Credibility	Galgodage Sarath Wijesiri Vs. Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka CA/HCC/28/21	Probability	Galgodage Sarath Wijesiri Vs. Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka CA/HCC/28/21
Credibility of witness	Commander(S) R.G.A.A. Weerasinghe Vs. Commodore K.R. Senadheera and others CA/WRT/538/2011	Probability test	Dilshan Wandyl Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/231/2017
Credibility of witnesses	Dilshan Wandyl Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/231/2017	Proof of knowledge	Dilwella Vidana Kankanamge Chamila Priyanga. Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0081/2021 High Court of Hambantota Case No. HC 22/2011
Damages	K.D.A. Hejarchchi and Other vs Ceylinc Insurance Company Limited SC/APPEAL/166/2014	PTA	Madurapperumage Kanchana Priyadarshini Madurapperuma vs Kelum Sangeeth, Sub-Inspector of Police, Peliyagoda Special Crimes Operations Unit and Others SC/FR/37/2020
Danger of inadequate evaluation of evidence	Liyanapathirane Ariyadasa alias Gadin Bale And others Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC 260-269/2018 High Court of Tangalle Case No. 11/2002 High Court of Hambantota Case No. 55/2002	Public Service Commission	Mohamed Amjad Ali Mohamed Beshad Vs. Hon. Parinda Ranasinghe The Hon. Attorney General & others CA/WRT/0612/24
Default tax	JMC Jayasekara Management Centre (Pvt) Limited vs Commissioner General of Inland Revenue SC/APPEAL/05/2021 WP/HCCA/COL/29/2018/RA DC COLOMBO 83900/TAX	Registered Attorney	Kariyawasam Arachchige Priyantha Dayaratna and Other vs Kadnappulradage Nandapala and Others SC/Appeal/88/2015 SC/ HCCA/ LA No. 259/2014 WP/ HCCA/ AV/ 780/2008 (F)
Defence Evidence	Chammi Reshmier Perera alias Shammi Reshmier Perera Vs. The Attorney General CA/HCC/ 0137/2024	Rei Vindicatio action	Mapa Pathirrennehelage Sediris and Other vs Rajapaksha Pathirrennehelage Renuka and Others SC/HCCA/LA No. 272/2018 WP/HCCA/GPH No. 171/2011(F)
Defence of Alibi	Kaluduru Wisaka Thabrew, and other Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC/72-73/20 High Court of Balapitiya Case No. HCB 1779/15	Reliability and credibility of witnesses.	Kukul Korala Gamage Gamini Premakumara and Other vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0061-0062/2019 High Court of Embilipitiya Case No. HCE 36/2017
Défense of alibi	Commander(S) R.G.A.A. Weerasinghe Vs. Commodore K.R. Senadheera and others CA/WRT/538/2011	Removal of document from case record	The Registrar, Supreme Court of Sri Lanka vs Wickramage Don Dharmasiri Kanurathne SC/CONT/9/2024
Delay in proceedings	Illegel Don Ayesha Sonali vs The Officer-in-Charge, Police Narcotic Bureau and Other CA/BAL/0401/23	Re-trial	Liyanapathirane Ariyadasa alias Gadin Bale And others Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC 260-269/2018 High Court of Tangalle Case No. 11/2002 High Court of Hambantota Case No. 55/2002
Detention	M. I. M. Iynullah, AAL and Others vs C. D. Wickramaratne Inspector General of Police and Others SC/FR/87/2021	Revision application	John Sebastian Anthony Thawaraja Reagan Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/CPA/0116/2024
Directory or Mandatory	The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka Vs Lionel Dissanayake And others CA/RTI/04/2022	Revisionary and Writ Jurisdiction	J. M. Chandrika Priyadarshani vs Ammasi Krishna SC/Appeal/62/2018 S.C. (S.P.L.) L.A. Application No. 256/2017 C. A. Appeal No. CA/PHC/31/2014 H.C. Case No. HC/NE/ ෪෧ 21/13 M.C. Hatton Case No. 68115/13
Discrepancies in the testimony of witness evidence	Kaluduru Wisaka Thabrew, and other Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC/72-73/20 High Court of Balapitiya Case No. HCB 1779/15	Right of appeal	John Sebastian Anthony Thawaraja Reagan Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/CPA/0116/2024
Distinction between identification and recognition.	Kukul Korala Gamage Gamini Premakumara and Other vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0061-0062/2019 High Court of Embilipitiya Case No. HCE 36/2017	Right to Information	The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka Vs Lionel Dissanayake And others CA/RTI/04/2022
Dock statement	Kukul Korala Gamage Gamini Premakumara and Other vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0061-0062/2019 High Court of Embilipitiya Case No. HCE 36/2017	Role of a Judge in evaluation of evidence	Liyanapathirane Ariyadasa alias Gadin Bale And others Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC 260-269/2018 High Court of Tangalle Case No. 11/2002 High Court of Hambantota Case No. 55/2002
Dock statement rejection	Dilshan Wandyl Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/231/2017	Rules of natural justice and audi alteram partem	Forest Glen Hotel and Spa (Pvt) Ltd and Others Vs Secretary, Ministry of Land and Parliament Reforms and Others CA/WRT 146/18
Drug trafficking	Dilshan Wandyl Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/231/2017	Section 27 discovery	Kukul Korala Gamage Gamini Premakumara and Other vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0061-0062/2019 High Court of Embilipitiya Case No. HCE 36/2017
Ellenborough principle	Kurudukarage Lalitha Padmini Vs. The Attorney General CA/HCC/ 0169/2020 High Court of Kalkutara Case No: HC/872/2007	Section 27 recovery	Dilwella Vidana Kankanamge Chamila Priyanga. Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0081/2021 High Court of Hambantota Case No. HC 22/2011
Employer-employee relationship	Laksiri International Freight Forwarders Private Ltd vs Assistant Commissioner of Labour (Colombo East) SC/APPEAL/20/2024 , SC/APPEAL/21/2024	Single witness testimony	Dilshan Wandyl Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/231/2017
Evidence, Evaluation of	Thimbiripolage Nalin Pieris Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC 445/19 High Court of Colombo Case No. HC 5686/2011	State Lands (Recovery of Possession) Act	J. M. Chandrika Priyadarshani vs Ammasi Krishna SC/Appeal/62/2018 S.C. (S.P.L.) L.A. Application No. 256/2017 C. A. Appeal No. CA/PHC/31/2014 H.C. Case No. HC/NE/ ෪෧ 21/13 M.C. Hatton Case No. 68115/13
Evidence, Assessment of	Liyanapathirane Ariyadasa alias Gadin Bale And others Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC 260-269/2018 High Court of Tangalle Case No. 11/2002 High Court of Hambantota Case No. 55/2002	State responsibility	Korawage Ranjith alias "Shantha" vs . Rukman Kumara, Officer-in Charge, The Police Station, Urubokka and Others SC/FR/338/2017
Exceptional Circumstances	Rajendran Patricia, Vs Officer in Charge, Police Narcotics Bureau and Other CA/BAL/0603/2023	Sudden flight	Palamura Hewage Harishchandra Kumarasinghe Vs Hon. Attorney general CA HCC 0070/2023 HC Kegalle No: HC 3139/2012
Exceptional circumstances	Illegel Don Ayesha Sonali vs The Officer-in-Charge, Police Narcotic Bureau and Other CA/BAL/0401/23	Suppression of material fact	Ekanayake Mudiyansele Upul Sanath Kumara Bandara and other Vs Pradeshiya Sabha, Milaela, Morawaka and others. CA/WRT/239/21
Exceptional circumstances	John Sebastian Anthony Thawaraja Reagan Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/CPA/0116/2024	Suppression of Material Facts	Commander(S) R.G.A.A. Weerasinghe Vs. Commodore K.R. Senadheera and others CA/WRT/538/2011
Exclusive possession	Dilwella Vidana Kankanamge Chamila Priyanga. Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/HCC/0081/2021 High Court of Hambantota Case No. HC 22/2011	Tender	Sierra Construction Ltd vs Road Development Authority and Others SC/FR/135/2023
Ex-prate	Erangika Patuwatha Withana and others Vs Kuda Widana Nimmull Ramya De Silva CA/RII/07/2024 DC Balapitiya Case No: 2273/SPL	Time Bar	The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka Vs Lionel Dissanayake And others CA/RTI/04/2022
Fair Trial	Chammi Reshmier Perera alias Shammi Reshmier Perera Vs. The Attorney General CA/HCC/ 0137/2024	Time-barred appeal	John Sebastian Anthony Thawaraja Reagan Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/CPA/0116/2024
Guarantee	K.D.A. Hejarchchi and Other vs Ceylinc Insurance Company Limited SC/APPEAL/166/2014	Torture	Korawage Ranjith alias "Shantha" vs . Rukman Kumara, Officer-in Charge, The Police Station, Urubokka and Others SC/FR/338/2017
Habitual residence	Samarathunga Arachchilage Anusha Sandamali Samarathunga - de Silva vs W.M.R. Adikari, Secretary to the Ministry of Justice & Prison Reforms and Other CA (CPA) 162/2022 High Court Colombo Case No: HC/SPL/20/2018	Torture	Sachith Prabhath Wijeratna vs Police Inspector B.S. Chandrasiri, Crime Branch, Police Station, Anuradhapura and Others SC/FR/365/2020
Improbabilities in the prosecution case	Chammi Reshmier Perera alias Shammi Reshmier Perera Vs. The Attorney General CA/HCC/ 0137/2024	Trafficking of methamphetamine	Illegel Don Ayesha Sonali vs The Officer-in-Charge, Police Narcotic Bureau and Other CA/BAL/0401/23
Information by an informant	Thimbiripolage Nalin Pieris Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC 445/19 High Court of Colombo Case No. HC 5686/2011	Ultra vires decisions	Wathukarage Shantha Merrill Kumara vs National Gem and Jewellery Authority SC/MISL/04/2014
Intention	Palamura Hewage Harishchandra Kumarasinghe Vs Hon. Attorney general CA HCC 0070/2023 HC Kegalle No: HC 3139/2012	Unconscionable lapse of time	Thimbiripolage Nalin Pieris Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC 445/19 High Court of Colombo Case No. HC 5686/2011
International Child Abduction Act, No. 10 of 2001, Civil Aspects of	Samarathunga Arachchilage Anusha Sandamali Samarathunga - de Silva vs W.M.R. Adikari, Secretary to the Ministry of Justice & Prison Reforms and Other CA (CPA) 162/2022 High Court Colombo Case No: HC/SPL/20/2018	Unreasonable delay	John Sebastian Anthony Thawaraja Reagan Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/CPA/0116/2024
Interpretation	JMC Jayasekara Management Centre (Pvt) Limited vs Commissioner General of Inland Revenue SC/APPEAL/05/2021 WP/HCCA/COL/29/2018/RA DC COLOMBO 83900/TAX	Unreasonableness	J. K. P.Malani Vs W. M. M. B. Weerasekara Commissioner General of Agrarian Development, and others CA/WRT/206/2018
Inward journey of productions	Thimbiripolage Nalin Pieris Vs Hon. Attorney General CA HCC 445/19 High Court of Colombo Case No. HC 5686/2011	Validity	Seylan Bank Limited vs Lanka Milk Foods (CWE) Limited SC/CHC APPEAL/16/2007 CHC Case No. HC (Civil) 157/2001 (1)
Judicature Act	Rupika Sarojini Thuduweewatte vs Kodithuwakku Kankanamge Shantha and Others SC/APPEAL/56/2018	VAT Act	JMC Jayasekara Management Centre (Pvt) Limited vs Commissioner General of Inland Revenue SC/APPEAL/05/2021 WP/HCCA/COL/29/2018/RA DC COLOMBO 83900/TAX
Jurisdiction	J. K. P.Malani Vs W. M. M. B. Weerasekara Commissioner General of Agrarian Development, and others CA/WRT/206/2018	Victim of crime	Future Automobiles (Pvt) Limited Vs Consumer Affairs Authority And others CA-WRT-545/2024
Jurisdiction	JMC Jayasekara Management Centre (Pvt) Limited vs Commissioner General of Inland Revenue SC/APPEAL/05/2021 WP/HCCA/COL/29/2018/RA DC COLOMBO 83900/TAX	Writ Jurisdiction	Mohamed Amjad Ali Mohamed Beshad Vs. Hon. Parinda Ranasinghe The Hon. Attorney General & others CA/WRT/0612/24
Jus fluminis	W. Arthur Deepal Peiris and Others vs Ranil Perera SC/APPEAL/37/2014	Laches	John Sebastian Anthony Thawaraja Reagan Vs Hon. Attorney General CA/CPA/0116/2024
Labour tribunal	Fazal Hardware Pvt Ltd and Other vs Buwala Patibandige Thilakasiri SC/APPEAL/76/2022		

RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS COMPLETING 50 YEARS AT THE BAR

The BASL Felicitation Night 2026 in recognition and appreciation of the Golden Jubilarians was held on 20th March at Grand Maitland. At this event, Supreme Court Justice S. Thurairaja, PC who retired on that day and the 5 Senior Instructing Attorneys who were appointed in 2024 including Dr. J.M. Swaminathan, SIA, Mr. D.M. Swaminathan, SIA, Mrs. Anoma Goonetilleke, SIA and Mrs. Shiranthi Gunawardena, SIA and Mr. G.G. Arulpragasam, SIA were also recognized and felicitated.



Golden Jubilarians

- | | | | |
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Direct Contact Numbers of Key BASL Staff (For Contact During Office Hours)

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Administrative Secretary
Ms. Suranee Samarasekera | 077 3359 569
s.samarasekera@basl.lk | Programme Manager
Ms. Bhashika Jayasinghe | 077 5888 781
b.jayasinghe@basl.lk | Manager Administration
Mr. Sunil Gamage | 076 4408 336 |
| Chief Operating Officer
Mr. Thuraisingam Prakashan | 076 440 8342
t.prakashan@basl.lk | IT Officer
Mr. W. Amidu Prabhawara | 077 7143 388
a.prabhawara@basl.lk | Bar Association of Sri Lanka
Headquarters | 0112447134 / 011 2331697
info@basl.lk |

HISTORIC BASL DELEGATION TO INDIA

BASL PRESIDENT ADDRESSES INDIAN SUPREME COURT

A 25-member delegation from the Bar Association of Sri Lanka undertook an official visit to New Delhi from 8th to 11th March 2026, strengthening legal ties between Sri Lanka and India. The delegation was led by BASL President Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya and chaired by Mr. Mohan Balendran. The visit was hosted by the Bar Association of India (BAI) and featured a series of engagements, including an Indo-Sri Lanka legal dialogue and a networking reception. A guided tour of New Delhi was also arranged, fostering camaraderie and cultural exchange among members of both associations.

A key highlight of the visit was the delegation's appearance before the Supreme Court of India. During this historic occasion, President Rajeev Amarasuriya delivered a formal address in the Supreme Court marking a significant milestone in bilateral legal relations. The ceremonial sitting was presided over by Chief Justice of India Hon. Surya Kant, alongside Hon. Justices R. Mahadevan and Joymalya Bagchi. Several prominent Indian legal figures were present to welcome the Sri Lankan delegation, including the Attorney General of India Hon. R. Venkataramani, Solicitor General Hon. Tushar Mehta, and BAI President Prashant Kumar. Their presence underscored the importance of the visit and the mutual respect shared between the two legal communities.

The delegation also visited the New Delhi High Court, where they engaged with the Chief Justice of New Delhi and other High Court Judges. These interactions provided a valuable platform for exchanging perspectives on legal systems, professional practices, and judicial cooperation. Moreover, Attorney General of India Hon. R. Venkataramani and his wife hosted the entire BASL delegation at their residence for a cordial meeting.



With Bar Association of India President



With Attorney General of India



BASL President addressing the SC of India presided by Hon. Chief Justice Surya Kant and flanked by the Attorney General of India, the President of the BAI and Mr. M.A Sumanthiran, P.C



Meeting with the Chief Justice of the High Court of New Delhi

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Meeting the former Chief Justice of India



Scan here to watch full address by BASL President before the Supreme Court of India



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