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DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY

NOMINATIONS CLOSE ON END OF MAY!

As our readers know, formalizing the three years training period of trainee technical officers has been a long standing issue of our union. A request to this effect was made to the UGC as far as far back as in 1998. Consequently the matter was referred to a committee set up by the then government to look in to the task of conducting such a programme of study within the conventional universities. However, except for the Eastern University which showed its willingness to conduct a study programme for middle level technical (personal) grades, the response from other universities was very poor. Therefore, all our efforts in this regards culminated and a failure even after much deliberate discussions between our union and the authorities concerned. But due to unceasing efforts of the union, another sub-committee was appointed by the UGC in 1996 to study the feasibility of commencing a diploma course in laboratory techniques. This committee has held several meetings todate and now the Open University has undertaken to conduct this course of study as a pilot programme allowing only fifty university technical officers as the first batch. The registration of the Diploma is scheduled for June 1998 and lectures/classes/practicals will commence in September 1998. Further it has also been pointed out that number of seats is limited of the first batch, the number of vacancies available should be distributed among all universities on a reasonable basis. It was decided at a JCM to send our members for this, according to a criteria drawn up by Mr. APP Wattage (Senior V.P.) and unanimously confirmed by the management committee.

Reported by APPW/PAAG

The Annual General Meeting 1997 of SLUTOU was held in National Youth Center (Youn Nikethanaya) Anuradhapura in last August. The Annual Get-together was delighted with 'Ukrains' with their music. Section of the gathering is seen here in the photographs.



WE SALUTE THE NATION ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

Where the mind is without
fear & the head is held high

Where knowledge is free

Where the world has not been broken up in to
fragments by narrow domestic walls

Where words come out from the depth of truth

Where tireless striving stretches its arm
towards perfection

Where the clear stream of reason has not lost
its way in to the dreary desert sand of
dead habit

Where the mind is led forward by thee in to
ever widening thought & action

In to that heaven of freedom
my father let my country awake

From
Geethanjali/Rabeendranath Thargore

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