SLUTOU NEWS®

BULLETIN

Reg. No. 5552

VOL. 02 NO. 05 DECEMBER 2000

CIRCULATION AMONG MEMBERS ONLY

THE OFFICIAL NEWS LETTER OF SRI LANKA UNIVERSITIES' TECHNICAL OFFICERS' UNION

ANSLEM RETIRES !

Anslem de Silva - Pioneer researcher in snakes, at Horton Plane.

See page 2

AGM 2000 MOUNTED TO SRI PADA

The AGM and AGT of 2000 will be held on 22nd and 23rd December 2000 at Sri Pada College of Education, Pathana, Kotagala.

In the past this was held at several places around the country like Badulla, Guruthalawa, Anuradhapura, Galle, Mahailukpallama and the expected next venue will be in Polonnaruwa.

This time the AGT will also be colourful with musical entertainments as had in the past. The management Committee hopes the participation of all members in the University System to the event.

WISHES TO THE NEW MINISTER

The Sri Lanka Universities Technical Officers Union extends its sincere wishes to the newly appointed minister of Higher Education, Hon. Indika Gunawardena MP.

FIRST BATCH OF ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY COURSE PASSED OUT !

By **N. Kithsiri**, Open University

The Open University of Sri Lanka has successfully completed the first ever-formal training programme, (Advanced Certificate in Laboratory Technology) for Technical Officers in the University System.

This is a great achievement for the SLUTOU after a long struggle.

Several attempts made over two decades to initiate training programmes within the university system in Sri Lanka for middle level technical personnel ended in failure. The proposal to commence a certificate/diploma programme for laboratory technicians was not successful even after a committee of experts prepared the curriculum. As there was no institution willing to undertake this vital task. Although the UGC was very supportive of the proposal and strongly encouraged its adoption in the university system.

In such a distressing and depressing situation, the Open University took up the challenge to inaugurate an Advanced Certificate Programme of Laboratory Technology as a pilot project for 67 technical officers within the University system. Laboratory Technical Officers even in Universities are quite frustrated due to the absence of opportunities to advance their knowledge in laboratory skills through formal training. Therefore the SLUTOU played a big role to get the programme rolling.

Contd.... Page 5