

Construction of Rabindranath Tagore Memorial Auditorium at the University of Ruhuna, Matara in Southern Province



Scope of the Project: At the request of Ministry of Higher Education, Government of Sri Lanka, Government of India has approved the project for construction of state-of-the-art Rabindranath Tagore Memorial Auditorium at the University of Ruhuna, Matara, Southern Province. The auditorium, being constructed in an area of about 3000 sqm., will have well equipped theatre facilities with 1500 seating capacity. The project is part of ongoing development partnership between both the countries in the field of higher education.



Project Cost : SLR 265 million (INR 14.3 Crores)

Implementing Partners:

1. Ministry of Higher Education
2. University of Ruhuna
3. Department of External Resources, Ministry of Finance

Modalities of Implementation : An MoU in this regard was signed between Government of India and Government of Sri Lanka on 17 March 2016. Contract for construction of the Auditorium was awarded in March 2016. On 21 July 2016, H. E. Mr. Y.K. Sinha, former High Commissioner of India laid the foundation stone of the Auditorium. Sr. Prof. Gamini Senanayake, Vice Chancellor, University of Ruhuna, Mrs. E.A.C. Vidanagamachchi, District Secretary, Matara and Mr. Raj Kumar, former Consul General of India in Hambantota were also present on the occasion. Construction work is underway and its progress is being closely monitored by the Project Steering Committee, chaired by the Deputy High Commissioner of India and the Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education.





Impact: The auditorium will reflect the close cultural links that bind India and Sri Lanka. It will facilitate hosting of aesthetic/art/cultural festivals and events, international and national conventions/conferences, etc. It will also be useful in rendering practical training of aesthetic/art activities and enhancing post graduation level research in the field of aesthetic art and culture for the students and academic staff of the University of Ruhuna.