Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt
Braunschweig und Berlin

Strengthening Quality Infrastructure in Sri Lanka

செய்தி **News** පුවත්

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Ministry of Industry and Commerce
Government of Sri Lanka

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the planning of the PTB Sri Lanka project we have clearly said that a sustainable impact can only be achieved through broad cooperation in all relevant fields. The latter means for us that we try to keep everyone informed who's work is related to our main project goals. This shall be achieved through frequent communication, including the News. Wherever possible we also try to organise combined activities, like we do in the field of metrology. Below you find a good example for a specific support to MUSSD and a combined training with three metrology-related organisations on thermometry.

This thermometry training has been one out of 28 training measures that have been implemented during the 17 months of implementation. Are you interested in more facts & figures? Please find them below.

Daniel Böhme, PTB Project Coordinator

Joint Metrology Training in Thermometry

An intensive workshop on temperature measurements with resistance temperature detectors (RTDs) and thermocouples (TCs) was held at three locations together with an example of the development of different measurement uncertainty budgets.

From August 23rd to 28th, 2017, a German expert in thermometry, Mr. Klemm, visited MUSSD to train the staff in the technical handling of liquid in glass thermometers (LIGTs) and TCs in the temperature laboratory. The temperature range covered for LIGTs was between – 40 °C and + 150 °C. The methods were discussed in detail, followed by intensive hands-on training in the laboratory. The measurement uncertainty, the quality manual and the standard operation procedures were revised. MUSSD is now preparing the documents to apply for ISO 17025 accreditation at SLAB.

From August 29th to August 31st, 2017, all three metrology players in Sri Lanka, namely ITI, MUSSD and SLSI, participated in joint hands-on training at both ITI and SLSI performed by Mr. Klemm. Methods for using electrical contact thermometers and TCs were discussed. In some cases, instruments were even repaired and documents checked. All in all, about ten participants took part in the joint training.

At the current development status, the three institutes' laboratories are able to perform precise calibrations for TCs, RTDs and LIGTs in a limited temperature range in furnaces, liquid baths and dry block calibrators.

Calibrations at selected primary triple, melting and freezing points of the ITS 90 scale are possible.

We are very pleased with the new laboratory at MUSSD, which serves the temperature measurement needs of the Sri Lankan calibration laboratories and therefore of the Sri Lankan economy very well.

Below: The newly furnished and well-equiped thermometry laboratory of MUSSD.

PTB in Sri Lanka: A glimpse on selected facts & figures

From the beginning, this project has made efforts to monitor the project's inputs and the achieved results. The outcomes of the results-based monitoring will be presented in one of our next volumes of the News. Here, we would like to focus on the inputs.

The project has provided a lot of expertise to the 25 partners of the project as well as the beneficiaries on the SME level, mainly through trainings/awareness programmes and advisory services. Since the start of the implementation 528 days ago, the project has spent for 1158 man-days of advisors for partners and beneficiaries. More importantly, we succeeded in contracting very committed and well-experienced SriLankan experts who hold the larger share of the man-days (65%), compared to international experts (45%).

On top of this we have been supported by five 'volunteering trainers' from Srilankan partner organisations who gave trainings free of charge. All in all, we have been able to train about 520 people, including 380 SME participants. The average share of female participants is 15%.

Additionally, we are very proud to partner with universities and colleges in our activities. More than 40 students participated already in activities and will continue to support the project's activities, for example through the counselling of SMEs. Consequently, a lot of know-how will remain in the country.

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