

# **Architect 2014 Exhibition Of Architects' Work And The Trade: A Showcase Of Talent And Trade**



The ARCHITECT 2014 was ceremoniously declared open by Lakshman Yapa Abeywardene, Minister of Investment Promotion. The exhibition, held consecutively for the 32nd time, holds the distinction of being the longest running event of this category in Sri Lanka. It is a rare exposition of the talents of the local architect and a showcase of the latest building products and accessories available in the country.

The first in the series of ARCHITECT exhibitions was held in 1983. It was confined to a few stalls in the Delegates Lounge of the BMICH. Over the years the popularity of the exhibition has grown by leaps and bounds not only among the public but also with the trade. Today it is an anticipated event in the public calendar. Architect 2014 included an Exhibition of the work done by 136 Architects during the past year and also comprised of 296 trade stalls displaying choice selections of building materials currently available in the market. This included products which were

introduced to the local market for the first time. The exhibition further included two stalls displaying the talents of the students of the Architecture Faculty of the University of Moratuwa and the City School of Architecture. As such, it provided an opportunity for those interested in pursuing Architecture as a career to meet students from both Institutions.

A highlight of the exhibition was the Information Centre run by SLIA. Here, visitors were given the opportunity to learn about the practice of architecture and its significance. The Centre sold publications by the SLIA and acted as a resource hub to young people who wished to pursue architecture as a profession. There was also a panel of architects constantly available for those who wished to consult a professional regarding issues pertaining to the built environment.

The general public was able to access various products related to the construction industry including eco-friendly, residential and commercial products, as well as items for landscaping, bathrooms and interiors, which were locally and internationally produced. Visitors could also experience several new technologies available in the market. The stall holders were on hand to explain and answer queries.

ARCHITECT 2014 – the exhibition of architects' work and the trade is a many faceted event that contains an aspect of interest for everyone.