

The Island - 05/02/2009.

Intel inspires the next generation with SLSEF



Seated from left to right: Prof. M. T. M. Jiffry, Chairman - Advisory Board on Popularization of Science of the National Foundation, M. C. Dissanayake - Additional Secretary, Administration, Ministry of Science and Technology, Eng. D. P. Mallawaarachchi, President - Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka, Dr. Ray Wijewardane, Eng. J. Meegoda, Chairperson - Junior Inventor of the Year Competition, Dr. M. C. N. Jayasuriya, Director - National Science Foundation, Priyantha Weerabahu, Intel Education Programme Manager Student finalists in the background

The Sri Lanka Science and Engineering Fair (SLSEF), showcasing the country's most innovative science and research talent, was held recently at the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka (IESL) auditorium. A collaborative effort of the Ministry of Education, the National Science Foundation, IESL, and Intel, SLSEF is affiliated to the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF) - the world's largest pre-college science competition.

The winners of this year's event will represent Sri Lanka at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) to be held in Reno, Nevada in USA in May 2009. Two of the local winners will compete at Intel ISEF while the other will participate as an observer. Sri Lanka was proudly represented at Intel ISEF 2008 in Atlanta, Georgia by the winners of the Sri Lanka Science and Exhibition Fair 2008.

Indika de Zoysa, Country Manager, Intel EM Limited - Sri Lanka Liaison office said, "The Sri Lanka Science and Engineering Fair is the

ideal forum for students to showcase their independent research in a competitive environment. Through its affiliation to ISEF the event also provides international exposure to a new generation of Sri Lankan innovators. I thank Ministry of Education, National Science Foundation, and the Institution of Engineers for their support. Our role in bringing this event to fruition is an expression of Intel's sustained commitment - in collaboration with the government and educators - to help prepare students to succeed in a knowledge-based economy."

SLSEF 2009 featured the top ten projects of the Science Research Project Competition (SRPC) 2008 of the National Science Foundation and the IESL Junior Inventor of the Year 2008 competition. Encouraging scientific thinking and promoting scientific research, SRPC features student research projects under various disciplines in science, and is organized by the National Science Foundation in collaboration with the Ministry of Education.