

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **“Future Minds 2009”, National Educational and Career Gateway, fourth consecutive exposition from June 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> at the BMICH**

Nalanda Junior Old Boys Association (NJOBA) officially announced the fourth consecutive exposition of the Future Minds Exhibition at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo. Minister of Mass Media and Information Hon. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, the principal of the Nalanda College Mr. Hemantha Premathilaka, the president of the NJOBA Mr. Sugath Nagahawatte, Future Minds Chairman Mr. Nalin Dharmasinghe, Future Minds Project Manager Mr. Harsha Nonis, Future Minds Genius manager Mr. Dilan Wijayawardena and Future Minds Innovator Manager Mr. Sri Tissera and were present at the occasion.

In 2009 Future Minds will be held at the prestigious BMICH from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> June. Initiated in 2006, Future Minds aims to provide a gateway for those who seek higher educational qualifications by facilitating communication among students, the ambitious young, their parents, higher educational institutes and state and private educational service sectors thereby opening various avenues and opportunities to effectively plan their careers. The vision of Future Minds is “To prepare the Sri Lankan student community to the highly competitive global job market”, that provides the thrust for the exhibition each year. With the promotions done for Future Minds 2009, a crowd exceeding 65,000 is expected this year.

Future Minds has the patronage of the Office of the President and is endorsed by the Ministries of Education, Vocational & Technical Training, Mass Media & Information and Posts and Telecommunication.

Around 100 educational and higher educational institutes, including the cream of both state and private institutes from a total of 150 stalls will participate in the exhibition to offer their educational programmes. An assortment of Foreign Universities showcasing their higher educational programmes directly or through agents from countries such as the United Kingdom, Australia, Singapore, Canada, United States of America, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Russia, China, India, Cyprus, Hungary raises the value of the Future Minds Exhibition to an international level.

While streams such as management, accountancy, marketing, hospitality management, computer science, aviation, maritime, fashion, fine arts are represented in professional studies a number of vocational training institutes will represent a plethora of technical training avenues.

The Exhibition emphasizes on the theme of Future Minds, “No One Left Behind” in order to assist students of various educational backgrounds to choose and tread the higher education path best suited for them.

In the highly competitive job market of today, students completing their education need to stay on the edge to be eligible for top-notch jobs. Acquisition of relevant higher educational qualifications is essential to eliminate any skills mismatch existing between the demands of the job market and educational qualifications of job seekers.