

Mr. W.A.D. Sumathipla(SMATHI)

Mr.W.A.D.Sumathipala joined the Radio Ceylon as trainee technical assistant on the 2nd September 1963. Before the end of training period of three years he became a junior technical officer grade 1. He was a practical man, did not bother about studying and passing exams, but learnt the studio maintenance work and became technical Assistant grade 1 in about 14 years. He was the officer in charge of all studios in Torrington square and also did maintenance work of all regional studios. He was thorough with the Main Distribution Frame (MDF) and could trace any broken and rat bitten underground cables within very short period of time. Sumathi had the talent to organize labor control and get work out of them easily. He maintained sufficient technical stores in the section to maintain all the studios in Torrington square and also in regional studios.

As Samathi's residence is far away from Colombo he used to stay in the dormitory during his off time. Even in his off time he never hesitate to help in solving studio failures that arises in the night. He maintained the battery room and the clock system which helps the smooth running of broadcasting. He loves to play cards with his friends during his off time. Sumathi during his off time engaged in spinning records in the studios to earn little extra money. He was a hard smoker and not forgot to visit (60 Waththa) in the night every day.

Sumathi maintained good relationship with operational staff and other sectional staff of SLBC. He was a person who loved S.L.B.C and always wanted to do something for the benefit of the Corporation.

Sumathi, got married very early in 1965 to Miss Pannila, and became a father of three children. He retired in 1997 and said good bye to his most loving place, S.L.B.C.

on the 19th of May 2009 Sumathi passed away leaving unforgettable memories with us. His name will be remembered for a long time among the staff who worked with him.

MAY HE ATTAIN NIBBANA

By

Jinadasa Amarasekara