



SRI LANKA—BELGIUM ASSOCIATION

Established in August 2003



ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

AGM 15TH JULY 2016

**5, Sudarshana Mawatha
Nawala, Rajagiriya,
Sri Lanka**

**Telephone ++94 11 2863129
Web-www.lankabelgiumassociation.com**

PATRONS

1. Hony. Consul General for Belgium in Sri Lanka
2. Mrs. Linda Stable
3. Mr. John Van Dijck
4. Mr. P. Dayasiri Fernando

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -2015/2016

The President	-	Mr. Amaradasa Gunawardana
Vice Presidents	-	Mr. Nihal Perera
	-	Mr. Dharma Gunasinghe
General Secretary	-	Mr. J. Paranamana
Asst. Secretary	-	Mr. Jinit de Silva
Treasurer	-	Mr. Sumith Ediriwickrama
Asst. Treasurer	-	Mr. Gamini Wijesinghe
Media Secretary	-	Mr Harold Peiris

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Wilmon Wickramasinghe	-	Mrs. Ranjani Silva
Mr. Sumana Liyanage	-	Mr. Vijitha Kadiragonna
Mr. Nissanka Wannakukorale	-	Mrs. Chintha Akuretiyagama
Mr. Nimal Jayasundara	-	Dr. E.M.B. Daniel
Mr. Tilak Fernando	-	Mr. Ruwan Ratnaweera
Mr. Nanda Corea	-	Mrs. D.S. Karunaratne
Hony. Auditor	-	Mr. Anton Hettige

OUR MISSION

Mission of Sri Lanka Belgium Association is to contribute to the upliftment of the poor and needy of Sri Lanka and to enhance the quality of life of the most vulnerable and backward communities in the villages in cooperation with the State and Donor Agencies and other generous Organizations.

ANNUAL REPORT SUBMITTED AT THE 10TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SRI LANKA BELGIUM ASSOCIATION BEING HELD ON 15TH JULY 2016 AT AMARADASA GUNAWARDANA AUDITORIUM AT SRI LANKA COUNCIL FOR THE BLIND HEADQUARTERS, 50/B, SARANA MAWATHA, RAJAGIRIYA.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Sri Lanka Belgium Association we are pleased to present the Annual Report for the year 2015/2016.

INTRODUCTION

It was on 19th August 2003 that we, who were in Sri Lanka China Society, formed Sri Lanka Belgium Association with the friendly guidance from Mr. Dayasiri Fernando. It was he who introduced us to late Mr. Gaston Dillen of Adoptie Sri Lanka Belgium. It was Mr. Gaston Dillen who established an Organization in Belgium namely ADOPTIE SRI LANKA, a charitable organization with a view to assist needy people in Sri Lanka.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the SLBA has now increased to 50.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Since the last AGM held on 15th May, 2015 we had held seven Executive Committee Meetings. Six meetings were held at Sri Lanka Council for the Blind Headquarters, No.50/B, Sarana Mawatha, Rajagiriya and one meeting at the residence of Mr. Ruwan Ratnaweera, a committee member of SLBA. SLBA is thankful to the Sri Lanka Council for the Blind for making available the auditorium for meetings of SLBA free of charge and to Mr. Ruwan Ratnaweera for hosting a meeting followed with a dinner.

SLBA PROJECTS

Following projects are continuing satisfactorily with the financial assistance received from Adoptie Sri Lanka Belgium and also from few committee members. Programmes were aimed at promoting and improving health and education of the school children and elders in order to enhance their quality of life.

His Excellency President Maithripala Sirisena arriving at John and Line Van Dijck Hall Head Quarters of Sri Lanka Belgium Association and Sri Lanka Council for the Blind



➤ WANAMEEKANDA

The activities that the SLBA started in the year 2000 are continuing with the provision of additional facilities added. Two lady instructors manage the pre-school which has at present 35 children. Three year old children qualify to gain admission to the pre- school and leave the school on reaching the fifth year. These children are supplied with shoes, school uniforms, books and stationary and mid-day meal.



Admission of New Students to Wanameekanda Pre- School

In addition there is also a scholarship scheme where the past students of the pre-school and other students selected from Wanameekanda and adjoining villages totaling 132 are given financial assistance to meet their educational expenses.

Some Committee members visited Wanameekanda once in every four months and made the payments to the scholarship holders and handed over books and stationary. They also attended the year end concert and New Year celebrations by the students where presents were provided to be given as prizes to the winners.



Year end concert at Wanameekanda with Hon. Minister of Ports and Shipping Mr. Arjuna Ranatunga.

This time, yearend celebration was held on 6th December 2015 with Hon. Minister of Ports and Shipping Mr. Arjuna Ranatunga as the chief guest.

During the year 2015 SLBA has spent nearly Rs. 5,57,000.00 for Wanameekanda projects.



New Year celebrations at Wanameekanda

➤ THUNTHALAWA

This is a remote village which had been developed in stages with the funds provided by Adoptie Sri Lanka Belgium. Some of the projects funded by Adoptie Sri Lanka are a housing scheme with sanitary facilities for the needy families in the village, two drinking water supply schemes to the village, a building and a fully equipped playground and other related items for the pre-school, and a scholarship programme. Presently fifteen children attend the pre-school and they are provided with shoes, school uniforms, school bags, books, stationary and also mid-day meal.



Mr. and Mrs. Van Dijck at Thunthalawa

The Scholarship programme which was started in 2013 is also continuing with 123 students from Thunthalawa area and the adjoining villages presently receiving a monthly payment.



Scholarship Holders at Thunthalawa awaiting payment

Year end celebrations were held on 13th December, 2015, where the pre-school children participated. The President SLBA with several committee members was present at the occasion.

During the year 2015 SLBA has spent nearly Rs. 3,58,100.00 for the projects at Thunthalawa.

➤ NALANDA HOSPITAL- MATALE

In the past this hospital had been provided with buildings, equipments and renovations which were done with funds provided by Adoptie Sri Lanka Belgium.



Donating Medical Equipments by Donors From Belgium



Donors and SLBA Officials welcomed at Nalanda Hospital

Last year to the Donors from Belgium visited the Nalanda Hospital and declared open the newly tiled Ward 4 and the corridor of the Hospital and also donated one E.C.G. Machine and four blood pressure apparatus.

It is reported that Mr. Van Dijck is keen to provide further assistance necessary to Nalanda Hospital and awaiting any new proposals from the hospital authorities.

➤ **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR AN UNDERGRADUATE**

An undergraduate from Polonnaruwa is paid an amount of Rs.2000.00 monthly since August 2014. This assistance is continuing for the second year with funds provided by the President Mr. Amaradasa Gunawardana and the Treasurer of SLBA Mr. Sumith Ediriwickrama personally.

➤ **WEBSITE FOR THE SLBA**

Website for the SLBA www.lankabelgiumassociation.com which was declared open on 18th January 2015 by Donors from Belgium, Mr. and Mrs. Van Dijck is continuing.

➤ **CONSTRUCTION OF A READING HALL**

An amount of Euros 642(Rs.89,689.00) was received for the purpose of constructing a reading hall at Mihindu Sinhala maha vidyalaya at Colombo 12 out of which Rs.50,000.00 was paid as an advance from an allocated sum of Rs.80,000.00. Foundation was laid on 17th October 2015.

➤ **CONVEYING SYMPATHIES TO THE PEOPLE OF BELGIUM**

Having noted the bomb blasts taken place at two locations in Belgium in March this year resulting in several deaths and injuries our Association conveyed deepest sympathies to the people of Belgium for which the Donors have responded.

➤ **WATER PURIFICATION PLANT**

Mr. John Van Dijck has indicated that he is prepared to provide funds up to Rs.1.5 million for a water purification plant in an area where kidney problem is prevalent. Executive committee is keen to select a suitable place for this purpose.

➤ **VISIT OF DONORS**

The Secretary General of Adoptie Sri Lanka Belgium, Mr. John Van Dijck and his wife Mrs. Line Van Dijck visited Sri Lanka and had an overview of the projects during the period from 10th to 19th January 2015.

➤ **ACCOUNTS**

The audited Annual Statement of Accounts for the year 2015 prepared by the Treasurer is presented for adoption.

The services of Mr. Anton Hettige as the Auditor of SLBA is much appreciated. Our association is particularly thankful to Mr. Nimal Jayasundara for assisting the Treasurer to finalize audited accounts.

➤ **GRATITUDE**

The Executive Committee of SLBA gratefully remembers the name of late Mr. Gaston Dillen the founder of Adoptie Sri Lanka Belgium several years ago. Also it appreciates the valuable contribution of Mr. John Van Dijck who succeeded Mr. Gaston Dillen. All our ongoing projects are there because of Mr. and Mrs. Van Dijck. Similarly we are ever grateful to Mr. Dayasiri Fernando, one of our patrons, who introduced Adoptie Sri Lanka Belgium to us and encouraged us to form SLBA. The Executive Committee of SLBA is thankful to all our members who helped us in planning and implementing all social service and community development activities. Finally we are thankful to the Sri Lanka Council for the Blind for providing us the John and Line Van Dijck Hall free of charge to have our meetings.

**Amaradasa Gunawardana
President**

**J. Paranamana
General Secretary**

SLBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS FROM 23. 07. 2015 TO 30. 06.2016

NUMBER OF MEETINGS - 07

Name	Present	Excused	Absent
01. Mr.Amaradasa Gunawardana	07	-	-
02. Mr.Nihal Perera	07	-	-
03. Mr.Dharma Gunasinghe	01	06	-
04. Mr.J.Paranamana	07	-	-
05. Mr.R. Jinith de Silva	06	01	-
06. Mr.Sumith Ediriwickrama	06	01	-
07. Mr.Gamini Wijesinghe	-	02	05
08. Mr. Harold Peiris	05	01	01
09. Mr.Wilmon Wickramasinghe	06	01	-
10. Mrs.Ranjani Silva	05	02	-
11. Mr.Vijitha Kadiragonna	04	-	03
12. Mr.Nissanka Wannakukorale	07	-	-
13. Mr.Sumana Liyanage	05	01	01
14. Mr. Nimal Jayasundara	07	-	-
15. Mr.Tilak Fernando	06	-	01
16. Mr Nanda Corea	05	02	-
17. Mr.Ruwan Ratnaweera	03	01	03
18. Dr.E.M.B. Daniel	01	05	01
19. Mrs.Chintha Akuretiyagama	02	03	02
20. Mrs.D.S.Karunaratne	05	01	01