



MINISTRY OF FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENT

**PROGRESS REPORT OF 1999
AND
ACTION PLAN FOR 2000**

PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION DIVISION
MINISTRY OF FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENT
"SAMPATHPAYA" BATTARAMULLA
NOVEMBER 1999



1999
PROGRESS REPORT

2000
ACTION PLAN

Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Division
MINISTRY OF FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENT
82, "SAMPATHPAYA" BATTARAMULLA

MESSAGE OF THE HON. MINISTER OF FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENT

It is with great pleasure that I present this document as the Minister in charge of environment in this country. As it spells out the Mission of this Ministry is to “provide leadership to manage the environment in which we live, in a manner that sustainable development can be achieved. We are aware that the quality of our environment will determine the quality of our life. In a country with high literacy rate the practical value of wise environment management should not have required much advocacy. However, with at least 33% of our population living in absolute poverty and their much dependency on natural resources have made our task of protecting the environment much complex than envisaged. In this regard it has become necessary that environmental conservation alone is not sustainable and therefore it has become necessary that the development process and environmental conservation be harmonized in a long term basis.

In this challenging situation, the main task of this Ministry is to provide the necessary framework, assistance and guidance for sustainable management of the environment so that our future generation will have a chance to live a better life than ours. Environment encompasses all broadly to everything around us; the air, the water, and the land as well as the plants, animals, and micro-organisms that inhabit them. Therefore, protection and management of the environment has to be a co-operative endeavour involving many parties. It involves the various government institutions directly or indirectly related to the environment, the non-state sector organizations including the private sector and NGOs, the international agencies and the people at large. Each of these agencies and the general public have specific roles to play in environmental management. The Ministry having recognized this important aspect have formulated a very strong co-ordinating mechanism to ensure that each of these agencies perform their role in a manner that environmental conservation can be attained.

In order to provide the necessary guidance and insight into the various environmental issues and the reasons and the recommendations for ameliorating the situation the Ministry has prepared the an updated National Environmental Action Plan in 1998 – 2001. The Committee on Environmental Policy and Management (CEPOM) formed for this purpose is expected to provide the necessary institutional mechanism for providing the required assistance and guidance to the line Ministries, agencies and others in paying adequate emphasis in their development activities and for the wise use of the environment.

The Ministry has been restructured recently to include and provide adequate emphasis to the specialized areas required to meet the challenges and provide the guidance required for harmonizing both development and environmental conservation at the same time. Similarly, action is ongoing to restructure and reorient the Forest Department, the State Timber Corporation and the Central Environmental Authority. It is necessary that these institutions be geared to meet the challenges of the next millennium and provide the people of this country the various forest and environmental products and services required for a better tomorrow.

MAHINDA WIJESKERA

Minister of
Forestry and Environment

MESSAGE OF THE HON. DEPUTY MINISTER OF FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENT

From the time man evolved, over a million years ago, until recently man has lived in harmony with the environment, where much of the land was covered with tree cover. With the development of agriculture and mostly due to the industrial development, coupled with population growth, the role and values of man gradually changed and paved the way towards destruction of the environment.

The destruction though is very much grave in developed countries, the situation in a developing country such as Sri Lanka cannot be ignored. With a very limited natural resources base, and a large population, and the need for vigorous development is impeding the many efforts made towards environmental conservation.

It is the utmost task of this Ministry to take necessary steps for the protection of environment, as the country's future development trends will mainly depend on the state of the environment. The Ministry in this regard will have to play a role of a facilitator, providing the necessary guidance and assistance to the agencies and individuals concerned in sustainable environmental management.

The alarming rate of deforestation, the pollution of land, water and air, loss of biological diversity, environmental related health problems, and their contribution towards socio-economic development are some of the issues faced by this country. They have in all contributed towards the deterioration of the environment to some extent.

Sri Lanka is trying its best to attain economic development, in especially with the open economic policy keeping a tab on environmental conservation is very crucial. The policies and legislation relating to forestry and environment, the long term strategies prepared have all provided the necessary basis in which environmental conservation and development activities should be interlinked with each other.

It is hoped that the progress made in the environmental sector and the future programmes will pave the way for a meaningful development process, where environmental conservation would be the key to sustainable development and the priority of all mankind.

MUNIDASA PREMACHANDRA
Deputy Minister of
Forestry and Environment

PREAMBLE

It is evident that the subject areas covered under the Ministry of Forestry and Environment has no limits, as it is linked and inter-connected to all other sectors and creates an impact on their sustenance. Therefore, the other sectors too will have to make note of this fact and take into account the importance of forests and in the broad sense the environment in their development plans and activities, if sustainability in their actions is to be maintained.

The environmental crisis can be divided into three main categories; overpopulation; depletion and pollution, which are inter-linked to each other. Most of the environmental problems in present day context are mainly due to development process adopted. The main environmental problems faced at present are, land degradation, water pollution, loss of bio-logical diversity, unsustainable exploitation of forests, fish and mineral resources, disposal of solid and hazardous waste, and air pollution. The major challenge faced by the Ministry is towards the development of an effective model that will harmonize development with environmental conservation. This model will have to be incorporated into the environmental management process.

The expanding population base and economic growth will in no doubt increase pressure on forests by way of increased demand for land for meeting the demand for food, settlements, various forest products, bio-energy, and the natural resource base as a whole. Unsustainable use of these natural resources has severe impacts to the environment, which directly or indirectly contribute towards the occurrence of natural disasters.

The Mission of the Ministry of Forestry and Environment is **“To provide leadership to manage the environment, in order to ensure national commitment generations”** for sustainable development for the benefit of the present and future generations. In order to move towards the realization of the mission, long- term, medium-term and short- term strategies have been developed and some of them are under implementation. The formulation and review of national policy frameworks that have an impact to the environment is one important activity in this regard. mechanisms to some extent and set up a co-ordinating mechanism for creating awareness and understanding with the various authorities concerned in environmental conservation.

All these dimensions have been taken into account in the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), where all environmental issues have been taken into consideration and analyzed from various dimensions and appropriate strategic action have been suggested to deal with these issues in a holistic manner. The implementation of the NEAP is in different stages, and with its fully-fledged implementation it is expected that it would be a main contributory factor towards environmental management.

Lack of clear management focus on long term sustainability issues has been the main cause of unsustainable use. All government agencies must shift emphasis from involvement in exploitation/ extraction to setting a framework for sustainable use within which the non-state sector also can operate.

THE MISSION

THE MISSION OF THE MINISTRY OF FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENT IS, TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP TO MANAGE THE ENVIRONMENT, IN ORDER TO ENSURE NATIONAL COMMITMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

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~~ORDER TO ENSURE NATIONAL COMMITMENT~~

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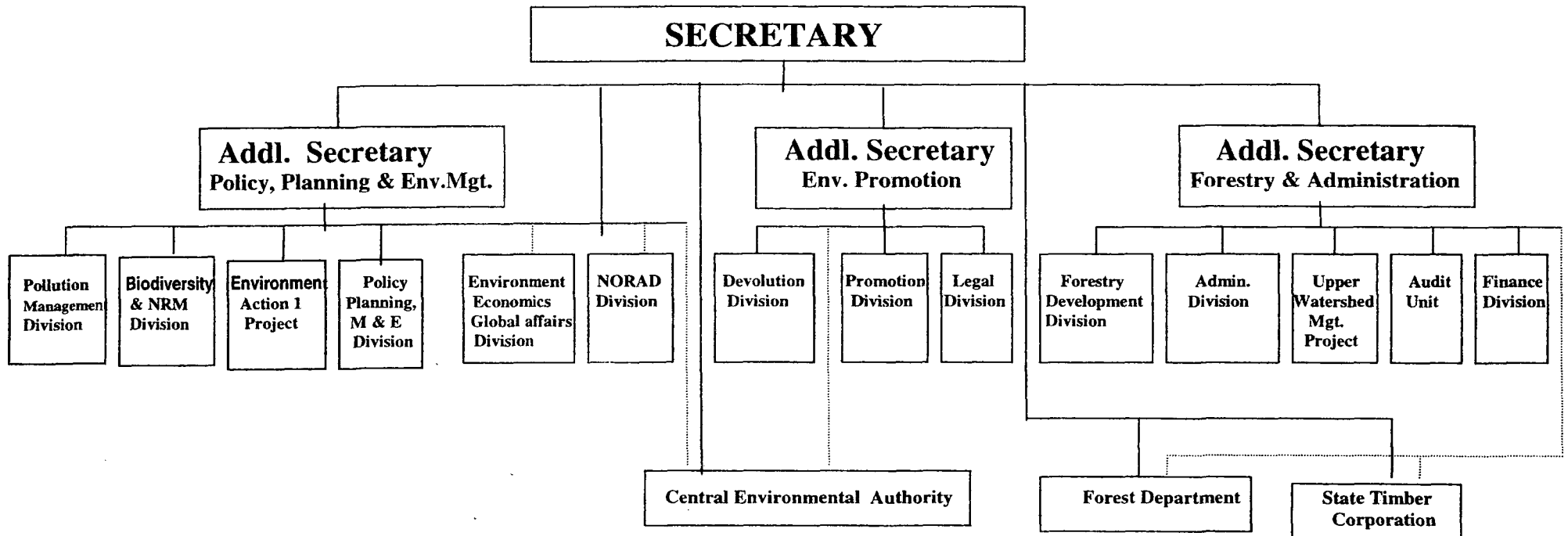
MINISTRY OF FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENT

OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Formulating, developing and reviewing the National Policy framework for sustainable development.
 - ◆ Undertaking action research to support the elaboration of the national environmental policy.
 - ◆ Identification of policy gaps and facilitating the development of sectoral environmental policies.
 - ◆ Providing the legislative support for the regulatory framework.
 - ◆ Coordinating the NATIONAL response and participation in the international environmental conventions.
 - ◆ Collection, storage, retrieval and dissemination of national environmental data and information.
 - ◆ Promoting and communicating environmental (sustainable development) awareness.
 - ◆ Capacity and institutional building at national and sub-national levels for sustainable development.
 - ◆ Training of public, private agencies at national and subnational levels.
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Organization Structure

Ministry of Forestry & Environment



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FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT

The National Forestry Policy (NFP) provides the necessary direction for the development of the forestry sector of this country. The NFP gives priority to the conservation of all strategic forests in the country for the conservation of water, soil and bio-diversity. The policy also highlights the need for increasing the tree cover in the country, in order to meet the demand for the various forest products and services and in increasing the contribution of forestry to the Gross Domestic Product, with emphasis towards uplifting the rural economy. It places particular emphasis on building partnerships with the non-state sector, community based organizations and the people in the development of the forestry sector.

The Forestry Development Division of the Ministry is the focal point at policy level in all matters relating to forestry development and related activities in the country. It co-ordinates all such activities, provide the necessary guidance and direction on all policy and legislative matters.

The State Timber Corporation is involved in harvesting of timber extracted from state forests and processing and marketing of timber obtained from state forests and other sources.

The Forest Conservation Department (FD) acts as the custodian of protection, conservation and management of all state forests in the country. In this regard the FD is involved in establishment of forest plantations and the management of forests including natural forests.

FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION



The Forest Development Division (FDD) is responsible for all forestry development activities in the Ministry. The main activities of the FDD are related to policy review and formulation, legislative review and formulation, monitoring and coordinating of sectoral activities and donor funded forestry projects and programmes, and providing the necessary support and co-ordination in implementing forestry and related activities. The Environmental Cell of the division pay special attention in approving environmental related forestry projects, release of lands for timber harvesting and development purposes etc. according to the Environment Act.

Performance: 1999

According to the FSMP of 1995 and the NFP many policy decision were taken by the Ministry. Some of which are; involvement of the non-state sector participation in forest plantation establishment on state land and management of existing plantations, extended leasing of Pinus plantations to the private sector for extraction oleo resin, management of other state forests expansion of State Timber Co-operation activities etc.

Several donors have shown interest in assisting the implementation of the Five-Year Implementation Program for the forestry sector. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is expected to provide assistance towards the implementation of the Forest Resource Management Project. The ADB is expected to invest US \$ 33 Million during years 2000-2007, For improving forest management for

environmental protection and sustainable utilisation of wood using private sector mobilisation, community participation, institutional capacity building and policy reform.

Action Plan: 2000

- Establishment of the Forest Security Service for effective protection of forests.
- Relaxation of permits for felling and transport of timber.
- New procedures for stumpage calculation for the timber harvested from state forests.
- Co-ordinate the establishment of three Biodiversity parks (Forest Parks) within the regions of three climatic zones for recreational, educational, research purposes and eco-tourism development.
- Co-ordinate the planting of threatened plants surrounding the archaeological sites of Mahameuna Uyana, Mihintale and Kataragama.
- Awareness program on correct tree planting practices through mass media for tree planters.
- Gathering of information of threatened plants species island-wide and create awareness among the public on the importance of these plants through various publications.

FOREST CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

The Forest Conservation Department (FD) is mandated with the management of forest resources of this country and hence performs the following activities; establishment of forest plantations, nursery programme, forestry research, forest management, forest protection and law enforcement, forest environmental management and forestry extension and education.

Performance: 1999

➤ Participatory Forestry Project (PFP)

1006 ha of home gardens have been planted, 1002 ha of land preparation and planting in 17 ha under farmers wood lots have been completed. Under protective woodlots land preparation in 168 ha and planting in 24 ha has been completed. Under miscellaneous planting; land preparation in 97 ha and planting in 82 ha of block planting have been completed. Under linear planting, tree planting has been completed in 40 kms. Orders have been placed for purchase of 01 Electricity Generator and 50 motor bikes. Construction of the Tree Seed Center has been completed.

➤ Forestry Extension and Awareness Programme

650 kgs of seeds have been collected for raising seedlings and 244872 tube plants and 265000 teak stumps have been produced, 33 exhibitions, 41 video shows, 238 lectures and 27 seminars were conducted.

➤ Forest Conservation & Management

Enrichment planting has been completed in 85 ha of degraded areas in natural forests, 270 ha. of such planted areas have been maintained. According to the annual programme monthly CBO meetings have been conducted, 5 awareness programme were completed. Under the Rural Development Programme, 77 awareness programmes were conducted. Under Man & Biosphere (M&B) protection programme, erection of boundary posts & name boards were completed.

➤ Reforestation and Management.

1626 ha. of young plantations have been maintained. Vacancy planting done in 153 ha. and 276 km of fire lines was opened. Silvicultural treatment has been completed in 2373 ha of plantations, inventory survey has been completed in 783.5 ha and post felling inventory has been completed in 1132 ha. of forest plantations.

➤ Forest Protection

91 District Co-group Meetings were conducted. 2848 forest offences were recorded from January to August. Quantity of timber detected during this period was 2273 cu.m. and the value of timber was Rs. 20 million. 18 training workshops were conducted at the divisional level and 01 weapons training programme was conducted for the Field Officers. 25 pistols, 50 guns and 1400 cartridges were purchased. Construction is ongoing.

ing in timber checking stations in Kurunegala and Galle division.

In addition, to the territorial staff of the Department in 19 Forest Divisions, Head Office Flying Squad Unit and 03 Regional Flying Squad Units were in operation combating forest offences. 12 permanent Timber Checking Stations continued to check timber transport. Radio Communication Net Work of the FD was maintained to facilitate the forest protection activities.

➤ **Research**

Maintenance of research buildings in Kumbalpola research station and Badulla research station was completed. One slide projector, one over head projector and two personal computers were purchased. 12 new research trial plots establishment and 32 trial plots were maintained.

➤ **Machinery and Equipment**

55 Nos. wheel barrows, 10 Nos wheel carts, 10 Lawn mover machines and 04 power generators were purchased.

➤ **Sri Lanka Forestry Institute (SLFI) Training**

25 Range Forest Officers (RFOO) are undergoing training in the two year training course. 25 Beat Forest Officers (BFOO) are undergoing a one-year training course in SLFI.

➤ **Buildings**

Construction of 14 buildings was completed; namely 01 circuit Bungalow, 01 RFO quarters and 12 BFO quarters. In addition, to above activities rehabilitation and improvement to buildings and vehicles were conducted during the reporting period.

Action Plan: 2000

➤ **Participatory Forestry Project**

Maintenance of 7000 ha. of young plantations under farmers wood lots and protective wood lots is planned for next year and Food Aid for 3500 farmer families will be provided.

➤ **Forestry Extension and Awareness Programmes**

6000 kgs of seed will be collected and 2 million seedlings will be raised for reforestation programmes. Under extension programme leaflets and posters will be published, radio programmes will be aired for dissemination of information. Farmers will be trained in agroforestry approaches. Demonstration agroforestry plots will be established on a 15 ha. land.

➤ **Forest Conservation & Management**

110 ha. of degraded forest areas will be reforested, 300 ha. of young plantation areas will be maintained. With respect to buffer zone management activities, 40 awareness programmes will be conducted, including maintenance and protection of M&B reserves including Kurulukele and Udawattakele. In supporting community organizations, monthly meetings are planned, and distribution of school equipment, hume pipes and sheds are done. Survey and demarcation in balance areas of conservation forests will be completed. Implementation of balance conservation management plans will be completed. 02 Conservation Centres will be constructed, at Kanneliya and Southern Sinharaja. A Project office will be constructed in Sinharaja and access roads to Sinharaja will be maintained.

➤ **Reforestation and Management**

3047 ha. young plantations will be maintained, along with the vacancy planting in 565 ha. Silviculture treatments will be done to 3800 ha. of plantations and inventory activities will be conducted in 2000 ha and survey of 4000 ha of plantations will be completed next year. Management plans for Pinus, Teak, Eucalyptus and Mahogany plantations will be implemented in a total of 1200 ha of land. With respect to development of forest resources, existing GIS system will be reviewed, and essential new equipment will be purchased. Overseas training is proposed to train the GIS staff.

➤ **Forest Protection**

Head Office Flying Squad Unit and 03 Regional Flying Squad Units will continue to combat forest offences. 12 permanent Timber Checking Stations will be in operation. 25 training programmes at the divisional level and workshops for weapon training will be conducted for the Field Officers. District Co-group Meetings will be held in every functional District. 20 repeater guns and 25 pistols will be purchased. 12 motor bicycles will be procured to enhance the petrol. The existing Radio Communication Net work covering all the Divisions, will be maintained.

➤ **Research**

Equipment required for the Tree Seed Center will be procured. In addition, 02 scientific scales and tree climbing equipment will be procured. 15 research trials will be established while maintenance of 06 exiting trials will be done.

➤ **Machinery and Equipment**

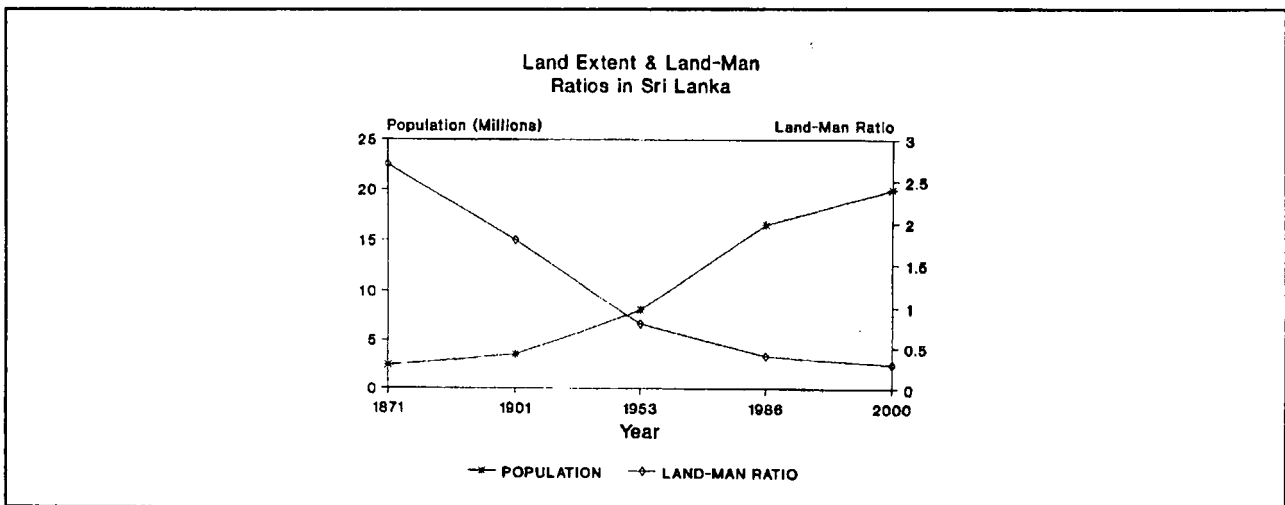
Purchase of 24 nos. typewriters, 08 nos. iron safes and other miscellaneous machinery for office equipment will be made. Replacement of existing internal telephone system in Head Office will be effected in year 2000.

➤ **SLFI Training**

Under training of field staff 30 BFOO will undergo one year Forestry Certificate Course at SLFI and 25 RFOO will complete their 2nd year training period of the Forestry Diploma Course.

➤ **Buildings**

A divisional forest office in Gampaha will be built. Construction of Illukkumbura Conservation Center will be completed.



STATE TIMBER CORPORATION

The State Timber Corporation (STC) was formed under the State Industrial Corporation Act of 1957, in 1968 to take charge-harvesting, extraction, conversion and marketing of timber from state owned forests. In 1982 as per Ministerial order import of timber, afforestation and agricultural production was added to the functions.

STC has a network of twelve Regional Offices; each managed by a Regional Manager who is responsible for all operations in the respective regions. There are sixty forest working coupes and fifty five sales depots in twelve regions, and employs a work force of over 2000 in fields relating to management, engineering, operational, clerical etc.

Performance: 1999

➤ Production

	Target (M3)	Achie. (M3)	%
Logs	76307	80490	105.48
Sawn Timber	13876	5801	42.8
Sleepers	73206	67865	92.7
Trans. Poles	43965	36072	82.04
Firewood	121000	121056	100.0
Fence Posts	98536	143171	145.3
Poles	11039	344857	310.6
Charcoal (mt)	302	355	117.5

➤ Marketing

	Target Rs.	Achie.	%
Logs	365.9	404.5	110.5
Sawn Timber	167.0	104.7	62.6
Sleepers	164.3	210.3	127.99
Trans. Poles	100.0	85.5	85.51
Firewood	20.6	21.1	102.4
Fence Posts	4.5	4.9	108.8
Poles	2.5	3.0	120.0
Furniture	47.0	31.4	66.8
Charcoal	4.0	2.0	50.0

➤ Extraction of Oleo Pine Resin

As one its diversification programmes STC is now involved in the extraction of oleo pine resin from pine plantations of the FD. For this purpose 500 ha of pine plantations has been leased to the STC in the Matale District. Presently the research programme has been initiated, and will be expanded to the total area. This programme is expected to generate employment among youth, protect the plantations from fire and will also enable export earnings from sale of oleo resin in raw form or processed.

Action Plan: 2000

➤ Improve the Efficiency on Harvesting & Saw Milling

It is proposed to expand the sawmill division in order to cope up with the increased demand for sawn timber. Due to the preference of house builders to purchase their requirements from STC, the need to improve the efficiency of saw milling was felt necessary. In view of the many recent developments, it became necessary to minimize waste. In view of this, it is planned to purchase a range of machinery, mainly to improve the efficiency on harvesting and saw milling.

➤ Extraction of Pinus Oleo Resin

In addition, to the 500 ha of pine plantations leased in the Matale district, a further 500 ha are expected to be released in Matara district. This project is also expected to provide employment opportunities to the rural people, and increase in income levels.

➤ Implementation of Tree Planting Programme Among School Children

In order to contribute towards increasing the tree cover in the country, it is proposed that Tree Plant-

ing Programmes should be implemented among school children to encourage and get them involved in planting trees for creating an awareness on the importance of tree growing. Under this programme the students will be allocated land for planting trees, taught to maintain records on the plants, tend and manage the plants. The project will be implemented initially in districts of Matara, Kalutara, Hambantota, Galle, Minneriya, Monaragala, Ampara, Ratnapura, and Kegalle and would involve 10,000 students @ of 1000 students from each district.

➤ **Research Programme**

A comprehensive research programme aimed at assisting the STC to perform efficiently will cover the following aspects;

- Determination of strength & other properties of lesser-known species.
- Establishment of Transmission Pole Testing Unit.

- Dip Diffusion Treatment Trials using Boron Chemical for lesser-known fast growing species.
- Hot and Cold Treatment Method with CCA preservative.
- Fabrication of Timber Bending for Furniture.
- Wood turning trials using small diameter poles.
- Saw milling trials to minimise wastage.
- Improvement to Furniture Factories

➤ **Expansion of Furniture Factories**

There is demand for high quality furniture in the country from the middle-class and the affluent, where the furniture manufacturers make a very high profit margin. The STC has vast experience in this field and also has the necessary raw material for developing this sector to cater to the needs of the nation, especially the low-income groups. Hence, several steps have been planned to improve the efficiency and expand the two furniture factories located in Kaldemulla and Ampara.



UPPER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROJECT



The Objectives of the project are; protection of natural forests & the prevention of sedimentation in lower reaches of water courses by reducing soil erosion in farmlands; awareness Creation on conservation of natural forests and prevention of soil erosion; educating people on appropriate cultivation methods aimed at improved production; & raising the standard of living of the people in upper watershed areas.

PERFORMANCE: 1999

During this period most of the administrative and project co-ordination work such as recruiting consultants, establishing project co-ordinating committees, appointing social mobilisers, identifying and involving NGOs as partner organisations, procurement, and staff recruitment have been accomplished. The physical progress of each component of the project is summarised below.

Achievements: Walawe & Kaluganga Catchments

Rehabilitation of Forests	Units	Achievements 1998	Targets 1999	Total Achievement Since Inception
Buffer Zone Planting	Ha	110	400	510
Survey of Boundaries (Forest)	Km	100	200	300
Survey of Boundaries (DWLC)	Km		80	80
Demarcation of Boundaries (Forest)	Km		200	200
Demarcation of Boundaries (DWLC)	Km		80	80
Boundary Planting (Forest)	Km		200	200
Boundary Planting (DWLC)	Km		80	80
Timber Farms	Ha	16	200	216
Home Gardens	Number	1000	1500	2500
Conservation Farming				
Uma Oya: On-farm: Vegetative soil conservation	Ha	95	280	375
Kirindi Oya: On-farm: vegetative soil conservation	Ha	0	36	36
Uma Oya: Off-farm: Physical soil conservation	Nos.		30	30
Kirindi Oya Off-farm: Physical soil conservation	Nos.	0	7	7
Uma Oya Off-farm: Vegetative soil conservation	Ha	0	30	30

➤ Buffer Zone Planting: Walawe and Kaluganga Catchments

The FD implements this activity and the following have been completed; area selection and PRA sessions, surveying and mapping, total requirement of plants for buffer zone planting is ready, and as a result

land preparation and planting can now be initiated.

➤ Survey and Boundary Marking of Conserved Forest: Walawe and Kaluganga Catchments

FD and the Department of Wild life Conservation is the main implementing

agencies here. The activities involve; area selection, survey & mapping, plant material production, purchase of boundary posts. This activity is undertaken in natural forests. The Survey Department is responsible for carrying out the activities concerned. The following have been completed; area selection and about 50% of surveying of forests under FD, total planting material requirement for both types of forests commissioned, and as result erection of boundary posts and line planting of both types of forests can now proceed.

➤ **Timber Farms Development: Walawe and Kaluganga Catchments**

This programme includes site selection, survey & demarcation, conducting RPA, plant material production and planting. The planting material production has been completed. About 75% of the targets of site selection, survey and demarcation and beneficiary identification have been completed. Land preparation and planting will be undertaken in the next half of 1999. FD is the implementing agency.

➤ **Home Garden Development: Walawe and Kaluganga Catchments**

This programme includes site selection, household survey, and farm preparation, planting material production and planting in

home gardens. Except farm plan preparation, other initial activities have been completed. Planting in home gardens will be undertaken at the end of 1999. The FD implements this activity.

➤ **On-Farm Conservation Activities: Kirindi Oya and Uma Oya Catchments**

The activities here includes; farm selection, farm plan preparation where contours are marked for establishing conservation structures, and establishing soil conservation structures or hedge plants (SALT). Land preparation for establishment of soil conservation structures and actual establishment of structures and / or planting hedge rows as conservation measures will be undertaken in the last quarter of 1999.

➤ **Off-Farm Physical Soil Conservation Activities: Kirindi Oya & Uma Oya**

Off-farm physical soil conservation activities includes; identification of waterways, streams and other structures that need structural improvement for soil and water conservation, designing of these structures, preparing estimates to construct the structures, and finally to construct the structures. The progress of the activity has been slow.

Action Plan: 2000

The programme given below is in relation to the implementing agencies concerned.

Forest Department

Project Activity	Target	Project Activity	Target
Buffer Zone Planting		Marking of Boundaries:	
New areas	840 Ha	New areas	100 Km
Maintaining old areas		Planting Trees on Boundaries	
Stream Reservation		New areas	14 Km
New areas - Yr 2000	8 Km	Maintaining old areas	
Maintaining old areas		Forestry Technical Training	
Road Side Planting		Training Farm groups	
New areas	140 Km	Farm Groups Projected	100 Groups
Planting in Public Places		Training Motivators	
New areas		Motivators Projected	40 Nos.
Timber Farms		Field Support Activities	
New areas	580 Ha	Seed importation	
Maintaining old areas		PRA micro-planning	
Home Garden Development		Contracting of NGO	
New areas	2250Plots	Re-opening of 2-nurseries	

MINISTRY OF FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENT

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Central Province

Project Activity		Targets
Vegetative Conservation Farm		
	Farm Development	75 Ha
	Material Production	
	Farmer Training	
Stream Bank Conservation		
	New areas	17.5 Km

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Central Province

Project Activity		Target
Vegetative Conservation of Farm		
	Farm Development – Uma Oya	150 Ha
	Planting Material Production	
	Farmer Training	
Stream Bank Conservation		
	New areas	17.5 Km

Provincial Dept. of Agriculture, Animal Production & Health, Central Province

Department of Agriculture		
Vegetative Conservation of Farm		
	New areas: Farm Development	150 Ha
	Planting Material Production	
	Farmer Training	
Stream Bank Conservation		
	New areas -	17.5 Km
Department of Animal Health and Production		
	Total Budget for Sector Development	
	Farmer Training	

Provincial Departments of Animal Production and Health, Central Province

Department of Animal Health and Production	
	Farmer Farming & Sector Development

Provincial Departments of Agriculture, Uva Province

Project Activity	Units	Budget	Target
Vegetative Conservation of Farm			
	Total budget for new areas: Farm Development	Rs 1000	10,867
	Projected target for new areas - Yr 2000: Uma Oya catchments	Ha	250
	Projected target for new areas - Yr 2000: Kirindi Oya catchments	Ha	100
	Planting Material Production	Rs 1000	4,898
	Farmer Training	Rs 1000	2,847
Stream Bank Conservation			
	Total budget for new areas	Rs 1000	572
	Projected target for new areas - Yr 2000	Km	49
Total Budget		Rs 1000	19,124

Provincial Departments of Agriculture, & Animal Production & Health, Uva Province

Department of Agriculture		
Vegetative Conservation of Farm		
	Farm Development – Uma Oya Catchments	250 Ha.
	- Kirindi Oya catchments	100 Ha.
	Planting Material Production	
	Farmer Training	
Stream Bank Conservation		
	Total budget for new areas	49 Km
Department of Animal Health and Production		
	Farmer Farming & Sector Development	

Provincial Departments of Animal Production and Health, Uva Province

Project Activity	
	Total Budget for Sector Development
	Farmer Training

POLICY PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Subjects relating to policy planning and environmental management are of major interest to the Ministry, in view of formulating and review of existing policies and plans for sustainable management of the environment. In addition, co-ordinating and facilitating such activities relating to environmental management and conservation, with the relevant agencies and communities concerned is of prime interest. The main activities that should be highlighted are relating to the implementation of the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), the Bio-diversity Action Plan, and the various international conventions to which the Ministry is the focal point.

In this particular emphasis is given to economic considerations in order to maintain a balance between the environmental conservation and development in the country.

In fulfilling the Mission of the Ministry, the various divisions of the Ministry relating to policy, planning, monitoring and evaluation, pollution control, natural resources and bio-diversity, economic and environmental global affairs provide the necessary support and co-ordination.

The Environmental Action 1 Project funded by the World Bank is on the other hand involved in strengthening the policy making and institutional capacity of the Ministry and the Central Environmental Authority.

The Norwegian Environmental Assistance Programme (NORAD), is involved in implementing small scale projects dealing with specific environmental issues and is implemented by various agencies concerned, including NGOs.

The Enabling Activity Project on Climate Change through Global Environmental Facility Funding (GEF) is involved in meeting the requirements of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

PLANNING, MONITORING & EVALUATION DIVISION

This main functions of this division are, preparation of strategic and short term plans, monitor progress of all activities and projects of the Ministry and the agencies under the Ministry, evaluating the various programmes and projects, facilitates donor funding for the programmes and implementation of NEAP and prepare/co-ordinate the preparation of environmental reporting mechanisms.

Performance: 1999

- Preparation of a *Six Year Development Programme (1999-2004)* for the Ministry, covering thrust areas relating to forestry and environment separately.
- Preparation of an *Action Plan for 1999*, for implementing various programmes and projects under the Ministry and the agencies under the Ministry.
- *Progress Reports* based on the results of the monitoring function. Progress Reports for the 1st and 2nd quarter have been completed.
- *Progress Reports* summarizing the progress of activities, follow-up action taken on issues previously highlighted and further issues to be resolved presented to the H E the President at the Ministerial Committee Meeting completed. Preparation of report for 2nd quarter is complete.
- Preparation of an *Implementation Plan* highlighting the main functions of the divisions and agencies under the Ministry, their programmes and budgetary allocation is complete.

- Work with regard to the preparation of the State of the Environmental Report (SoE) for Sri Lanka commenced. A workshop was held in July this year, for the purpose of identifying data needs and in training and identifying the various agencies and officials who will assist in data collection for this exercise. Various types of data and information required for preparing the report was collected.
- Work on a publication on environmental data commenced and data is being collected. The publication will be for the purpose of providing facts and figures on the environment and providing a good knowledge on environmental issues and their significance.

Action Plan: 2000

- Preparation of an updated Six Year Development Programme 2000-2005.
- Preparation of an Action Plan for 2000.
- Co-ordinate and facilitate the preparation of strategic and short-term plans for the Ministry.
- Monitor progresses of activities on a continuous basis and prepare of Progress Reports.
- Establish an effective evaluation mechanism for evaluation the various benefits of the programmes, activities and projects under the Ministry.

- Completion of the SoE Report for submission to the United Nations Environmental Programme. As part of the exercise a, environmental data base will be established and updated on a continuous basis.
- Preparation of an “Implementation Plan” for year 2000.
- Publication and dissemination of a booklet of environmental data.
- Closely monitor and facilitate NEAP implementation in co-ordination with the Policy Division and other agencies concerned.
- Carryout studies required for facilitating the planning, monitoring and evaluation functions of the division.



POLICY DIVISION

Performance: 1999

➤ Preparation of National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) and Update

- English version of NEAP has been printed and distributed. The Tamil version is being printed and the Sinhala version is being edited.
 - Preparation of an Implementation Plan for NEAP in progress.
 - Public awareness programmes for Environment Officials and NGOs were completed.
 - Implementation of policy studies recommendations completed under the EAIP support.
 - Cabinet approval obtained to ban the use of coral-based lime in the government construction industry.
 - Action has been taken for conservation of critical habitats through Special Area Management (SAM). Gazette notification on Mundala Lagoon Management, Negambo Lagoon Management and Ekawa Lagoon Management has been completed.
 - The Dept. of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources has taken steps to amend the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Act No. 2 of 1996, making provisions for issuing licenses for fishing operations based on the availability of resources and the carrying capacity of the fishing ground to control fishing effort and thereby prevent the threat of over exploitation of fisheries and aquatic resources. The Dept. of Coast Conservation has taken steps to strengthen the legislation by hardening the fine for violators. With a view to protect coastal and marine resources the Coast Conservation Act of 1998 (amended) has now been further amended.
- Cabinet memorandum on mitigation of Environment & Health impacts caused by the use of disposal of non bio degradable wastes (plastics) has been drafted and it is now being studied by an inter-agency committee appointed by the Secretary of the Ministry of Forestry & Environment.
 - A Cabinet memorandum in regard to environmental impacts due to sand mining has been submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers and the cabinet has approved the recommendations proposed in the memorandum. A committee has now engaged in preparation of an Action Plan including a series of activities, time target and implementing agencies.

➤ Committee on Environment Policy and Management (CEPOM)

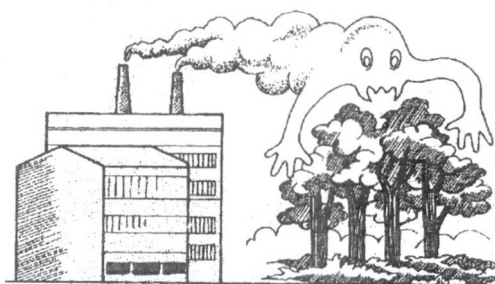
- CEPOMs were established in following areas; Land & Mineral, Water, Bio-diversity, Coastal & Marine, Environment & Health, Industries, Energy & Climate Change, Urban & Built Environment.
- Environment concerns were incorporated in to development plan such as; environment guidelines for Diyawara Gammana housing scheme.

- Waste treatment plant at Sithawaka, Dankotuwa and Makandura to cater the needs of industrial estates, relocating and modernizing of tanneries at Batatha with common treatment plant, two chrome recovery plants at Handala and Rajagiriya for servicing existing tanneries, record and maintain hospital waste system.
- Environmental Servicing to cover; concept paper for Cleaner Development Production Centre, and environment fund.
- **Review Sectoral Policies & Identification of Policy Gaps**
 - 18 policy studies were completed. Recommendations were compiled and planned to present to CEPOM for implementation.

ACTION PLAN: 2000

- Review of policy related to environment with a view to identify gaps will be carried out.
- Functionalizing all the CEPOMs through their own Implementation Plans based on NEAP & policy study recommendations will be done.
- Strengthening of the environment cells of line agencies connected to CEPOMs will be carried out.
- An environmental symposium to strengthen the environment database of the Ministry will be organized.
- A series of awareness programmes have been designed for year 2000 to educate the relevant segments of society to manage the environment to achieve sustainable development.

POLLUTION CONTROL DIVISION



Pollution Control and Management is a collective responsibility and obligation of all the respective agencies either it be state or private. The Ministry continued to review the progress of pollution control activities in collaboration with all related agencies and in close rapport with the Provincial Councils and Local Authorities.

Performance: 1999

➤ Pollution Management (Industrial)

• Establishment of a Transparent and Participatory Process for the Setting up of Environmental Standards

Sectoral papers were prepared in respect of industrial effluent, noise control, sewerage and waste water, agriculture, air pollution and solid waste management. A common report was prepared based on the comments received at a seminar held in Nov. 1998. The final report will be published before the end of the year.

• Study on Air pollution

As directed by the Presidential Secretariat, the Ministry facilitated the Central Environmental Authority (CEA) to carry out a study on air pollution in seven locations, in addition to the existing monitoring stations. The main objective of this study is to identify the extent of the air pollution in areas in Sri Lanka. CEA has obtained the assistance from NBRO to carry out the study, which is in progress.

• Preliminary Community based Study on Respiratory Disease in Children and Housewives due to Indoor Air Pollution

This study was carried out in Kotte area with the assistance of Colombo Medical Faculty, to study the extent of the problem of respiratory diseases in children and housewives and the relationship to overcrowding, ventilation and specific physical and chemical air pollution. The study was completed and the recommendations will be converted into action.

• Use and Disposal of Plastics

Cabinet Memorandum was submitted on the use and disposal of plastics and mitigation of environmental and health impacts. The Cabinet of Ministers requested the Ministry to submit a time bound action plan, after evaluating their impact on other economic sectors. An action plan is being prepared in collaboration with the relevant authorities.

• Uncontrolled Sand Mining

As a follow up activity of a Cabinet Memorandum submitted by this Ministry with proposals to mitigate environmental impacts of uncontrolled sand mining, a sub committee was appointed to prepare a time bound action plan to implement the proposals made in the Cabinet Memo.

• Pavithra Ganga Programme

On request of the Consultative Committee, the Ministry initiated this programme with a view

to find integrated solutions to keep the water bodies clean. One of the pilot projects selected under this programme on priority basis is to keep the Kelani River Clean from Awissawella to the mouth of the river, as it is a vital source of drinking water to the Metropolitan Region. Initial activities are ongoing.

➤ **Pollution Management - Solid Waste**

• **National Strategy for Solid Waste Management**

A National Strategy for Solid Waste Management was developed in collaboration with the CEA, and other relevant organisations. The proposed strategy is based on the broad policy of solid waste management from generation to final disposal. An implementation mechanism for the implementation of the proposed strategy will be prepared.

• **Pilot Scale Waste Management Programme at Maharagama Pradeshiya Sabah (PS)**

A Pilot Project is on going in the Maharagama PS to evaluate policy requirements to facilitate implementation of the Proposed National Strategy for Solid Waste Management. Activities in this regard are on going in respect to 850 families.

• **Study on Waste Dumping Grounds**

A study is being carried out with the assistance of local authorities and Environmental Development Assistants, to prepare guidelines on planning and establishing of a controlled landfill.

• **Database on Solid Waste**

Data pertaining to solid waste handling practices in Sri Lanka was gathered from 290 local authorities, analysed and documented for

publication in Sinhala and English medium, in order to facilitate local authorities to develop integrated solid waste management plans and also to encourage private sector and community participation in solid waste management. The database will be published soon.

• **Awareness programmes**

Facilitating NGOO, Professional bodies, Universities, Schools, private sector institutions etc. is a continuous activity to promote implementation of solid waste management strategies. Assisted to launch several programs at the World Environmental day.

➤ **Pollution Management - Hazardous Waste**

Sri Lanka ratified the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal in August 1992. The Ministry of Forestry and Environment is the Focal Point and the Central Environmental Authority is the Competent Authority for the implementation of the Convention.

• **Co-ordinating Committee for the Implementation of Basel Convention**

A National Co-ordinating Committee has been established to co-ordinate the implementation of the Basel Convention. Policy issues related to implementing various provisions of the Convention and decisions taken at the Conferences of the Parties, positions to be taken at the Conferences on various issues and other related matters are generally discussed at this meeting.

• **Sub Regional Seminar for the implementation of the Basel Convention on Transboundary movements of Hazardous**

Wastes and their Disposal

A Sub Regional Seminar on the Implementation of the Basel Convention for Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal was held from March 1999 in Colombo and were represented by representative from Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka participated at this seminar. A remarkable achievement in this regard is that the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, agreed to assist to develop the capacity of five Asian Countries to control transboundary movements of hazardous waste and illegal traffic as a result of the successful organisation of the seminar.

Action Plan: 2000

➤ Development of Environmental Infrastructure facilities

Facilitate establishment of a cleaner production centre, establishment of common effluent treatment systems, relocation of existing high polluting industries and establishment of industrial estates, establishment of a Hazardous waste disposal facility.

➤ Promote State/Private Sector Partnerships

- Facilitate accreditation of environmental laboratories, provide incentives/tax rebates to the industrialists to introduce cleaner technologies, facilitate establishment of an environmental fund to support industrialists on pollution abatement, co-ordination of industrial pollution management activities, establish base line data related to pollution control, mobilise private sector participation in combating pollution, review the database on pollution control programme, inter agency co-or-

dination on EIA activities related to pollution Control standards, co-ordination of CEPOM activities on Urban & Built Environment, Industry, and Environmental Health.

➤ Implementation of the Basal Convention

Convene National Co-ordinating Committee Meetings as the Focal Point, establishment of Hazardous Waste management Plan for Sri Lanka, organise national awareness creation workshop for the state and private sector agencies, training course for enforcement of control on illegal traffic of hazardous waste, follow-up other activities on the implementation of the Basel Convention.

➤ Solid Waste Management

Facilitate co-ordination / implementation of the solid waste management strategy at national level, promote development of Solid Waste Management Strategies at local authority level, promote private sector and NGO participation in Solid Waste Management, facilitate implementation of guidelines for establishment of dumping grounds by local authorities.

➤ Promote Research & Development

Promote research & development and pilot projects on appropriate cleaner technologies on pollution control, conduct a competition within the construction field to use alternative to sand, minimise sand etc, in association with Institute of Construction Technology & Development (ICTAD), National Building Research Organization (NBRO), National Engineering Research & Development Centre (NERD), CEA, & Geological Survey & Mines Bureau (GSMB)

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT & BIODIVERSITY DIVISION



Performance: 1999

➤ BIODIVERSITY

• Preparation and Implementation of Bio-diversity (Framework) Action Plan:

- Action Plan was prepared, Cabinet approval was approved and printing of Action Plan in progress.
- Identification of sectoral bio-diversity issues is in progress.
- Preparation of database on Domesticated Animals in progress.
- Workshop on Domesticated Animal Biodiversity was held and key issues were identified.

• Preparation of National Lists of Invasive Plants and Animals

- Draft national list of invasive plants was reviewed and prepared.
- Preparation of draft national list of invasive animal in progress.
- Contracting research study on selected invasive species in progress.
- Preparation of potential global list of invasive plants in progress.
- National current position of invasive species was identified.
- Activities related to national workshop on invasive species in progress.

• Research Study and Awareness Programme on *Mimosa Pigra* (Yoda Nidikumba)

- Research studies in progress with assistance of University of Peradeniya.
- Preparation of awareness programme completed.

- Awareness programme in progress.

• Formulation of National Position on Access to Genetic Resources & Benefit Sharing

- Task Force on bio-diversity related legal matters were appointed.
- National legal issues within the framework of Convention Biological Diversity were identified.
- Identification of sectoral issues in progress.
- National Position to access to genetic resources identified.
- Activities related to the Regional (SAARC) Experts Meeting on Access to Genetic Resources are in progress.

• Protection of Country's Bio-diversity from Imported Living Modified Organisms (LMOs)

- Cabinet appointed Inter-Ministerial Approval Committee on LMOs was established and Gazetting necessary regulation is in progress. Draft National Bio-safety Guidelines has been prepared.
- Finalization of National Bio-safety Guidelines in progress.

• Protection of Coral Reefs

- Cabinet approval for restricted use of coral based lime for building construction in the government sector was obtained, and implementation arrangements were discussed with the Ministry of Housing & Urban Development and construction.
- Awareness workshop was held with the target group of engineers, architects and contractors.
- Issuing circular is in progress.

- **Support to NGO for Bio-diversity Related Activities**
 - Coral reef survey and study of replanting of coral were completed with the assistance of Nature Conservation Group.
 - National workshop on Lichens was held with assistance of University of Peradeniya.
 - National Seminar on Mangroves was held with the assistance of Institute of biology.
 - Activities on National workshop on bio prospecting in progress.
- **Conducting policy research studies**
 - Study on declining of soil microorganism in progress.
 - Formulation of research study of pollinators population in progress.
 - Study on dolomite limestone as a substitute for coral-based lime has almost been completed.
- **Implementation of International Geosphere-Biosphere programme**
 - Regional (South Asian) Workshop on Estuarine Modelling and Coast Conservation was held and regional issues of coast conservation and estuarine modelling were identified.
 - Preparation of Code of Ethics for research on biological diversity in progress.
- **Preparation of Code of Ethics for research on biological diversity**
 - Draft Code of Ethics was prepared and reviewed.
 - Activities related to finalization of Code of Ethics through national workshops are in progress and formulation of a regional programme in progress.
- **Implementation of the Convention on Combat to Desertification**
 - The Conservation has been signed and ratified.
 - National awareness seminar on Combating to Desertification and Land Degradation was held.
 - Preparation of Action Plan for prevention of Land Degradation in progress.

Action Plan 2000

- Support to implement of the provisions of the International Convention on biological diversity and Convention on Combat to Desertification
- Short term studies and research on conservation of biological diversity and non biological natural resources and their sustainable utilization
- Establishment of biodiversity related documentation centre for collection and dissemination of information
- Biodiversity and non biological natural resources related awareness programmes
- Training of relevant officials for the activities related to conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity and non biological natural
- Review specific legal aspects on biodiversity and non biological natural resources
- Facilitate promotional and publicity activities on biodiversity and non biological natural resources
- Training and people participation for conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity and non biological natural resources
- Preparation of National Action Plan to the protection of marine environment from land based activities with the collaboration of SACEP
- Make a review on legislation activities relation to Bolgoda Lake and develop recommendations for its protection
- Appointment of an expert committee to prepare recommendations to land degradations and combat desertification in Sri Lanka
- Make a review of legislation and activities related to blocking of coconut lands to develop on real estates and develop a National Action Plan to minimize the environmentally and economic damages particularly this matter
- Develop the quality of dolamitic hydrated lime to use as a substitute for coral based lime and minimize the environmental damage due to coral mining.

Year 2000 Work Programme under EAIP assistance

- Proposals for Translating Framework of Biodiversity Conservation in Sri Lanka in to Implementation Programme
- Areas to be addressed for developing and co-ordinating the implementation of Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan
- Identifying priorities and developing mechanism to integrat biodiversity considerations in to plans and programmes of other sectoral agencies

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL GLOBAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

This division was established in 1999 as the importance of economic aspects in environmental management and the necessity of the global context in the area of environment were considered an integral part in fulfilling the mission of the Ministry. **The main function of this division is analysis of macro economic impacts of environment policies in order to internalise environmental concerns in to development decision making and ensure that national commitment for environmental international conventions and treaties are adequately addressed.** The major activities of the division are given below;

➤ Economic Aspects

- A macro economic analysis of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Policy in Sri Lanka.
- Preparation of an Eco-Business Directory.
- The theoretical manual for the Application of Environmental Valuation Techniques for projects and policy appraisals.
- A field manual for project appraisal.
- Preparation of an Environmental Value Inventory.
- Development of a Green Accounting System for Sri Lanka and computerised general equilibrium model with environment component for environment Policy analysis.
- Economic instrument for Environment Management.

➤ Global Affairs

- Under global affairs, the activities of both Montreal Protocol activities and the United Nations Convention on Climate Change are covered.

- To strengthen institutions to phase out Ozone Depleting Substances (ODs).
- Strengthen institutions that consume ODs in their Production processes.
- Monitor the progress at M/S ICL that has faced the difficulty in finding a supplier to supply hydrocarbon at small scale.
- Control the import of used refrigerators and refrigerator gas.
- Eliminate Methyl Bromide in tea soils.
- Awareness programmes.
- Strength the relations with the international community.
- Follow-up on international conventions which the Ministry is the signatory to.
- Monitor the programme of the Enabling to Prepare the first national communication on Climate Change and report progress on implementation of United Nations Convention on Climate Change.

Action Plan: 2000

➤ Promotion of Environmentally Friendly Business through Student-Owned and Operated Companies.

The objective this project is to promote Environmental business and projects through students owned operated companies. This will create environment awareness among students and develop entrepreneur skills while preparing them to take up challenges in the future. One school from each Pradeshiya Saba area will be selected for this project at the initial stage. Students will share the capital profits generated.

- **Paper and Cloth Bags to Substitute Polythene Bags Using Social Recognition as a Marketing Tool**
- **Establishment of an Environmental Fund in the Ministry of Forestry and Environment**

Waste disposal is a precarious environmental problem in the country. Polythene with its inherent long life span worsens the situation and has gained notoriety as one of the worst culprits. The most practical solution is the introduction of paper/cloth bags, to substitute the 'sili-sili' bags. Therefore, the paper bag should be introduced to the market place. Ideally, standard-marketing strategies should be adopted. Co-operation of the sales managers should be effectively solicited. It should be well complemented with education, advertisements and propaganda through all media.

The greatest barrier to environmentally friendly production is the lack of access to capital. Environmentally friendly products and services involve very high initial costs, though long term such practices would bring about immeasurable benefits. At present the technology available to produce environmental goods and services is very costly even though there are a lot of producers who are willing to switch to such technologies and also environmental friendly consumers. Therefore, until the environmental technologies are properly developed there should be a financial mechanism to help environmental producers to compete with other products.

ENABLING ACTIVITY PROJECT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Sri Lanka ratified the **UN Framework Convention Climate Change** in November 1993, which became effective in March 1994. As a party to the convention, Sri Lanka has committed itself to produce a National Communication to the Conference of Parties (COP) within 3 years of entry into force of the convention of Sri Lanka. Government of Sri Lanka, requested GEF funding for the Enabling Activity Project on Climate Change. The Enabling Activity Project was intended to prepare its first National Communication to the UN Framework Convention Secretariat. The duration of this project is 2 years. The **Project Components** include; an updated Inventory of Green House Gas (GHG), an analysis of potential measures to able the increase in GHG emissions in Sri Lanka, preparation of an Action Plan to address climate change and its adverse impacts, preparation of the 1st National Communication of Sri Lanka to COP.

and iv. Human Health, Human Settlements and Public Utilities.

- The lead consultant appointed has prepared the final draft of the Action Plan. This plan will be sent for review and comments to sectoral agencies concerned and steering committee members, prior to finalization.

Action Plan: 2000

The planned activities during year 2000 are as follows;

- Finalisation of the National Action Plan and National Communication to the Convention on Climate Change.
- Updating the National Green House Gas Inventory to reflect 1993-1995.

Performance: 1999

- The draft of updated inventory on GHG is being reviewed incorporating the comments received.
- National Action Plan consultants were contracted under the following major sectors; i. Energy, industries and transport, ii. Agriculture, forestry, Water resources and Land use, iii. Coastal Zone, Ports, Fisheries and Tourism,

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION 1 PROJECT (EA1P)

Environmental Action 1 Project is a project funded by an IDA credit from World Bank. The project is effective since July 1997. The overall objective of this project is *to strengthen the policy making and institutional capacity of the Environment Division of the Ministry and would cover; Institutional Strengthening, inclusive of constructing an office building complex and procurement; Community Environment Initiative Facility (CEIF); and the Pilot Land Management Component (in the Central Province).*

Performance : 1999

- **Institutional Strengthening**
 - A **Diploma Course in Environmental Management** has been developed with Open University to educate 400 Officials from Central Environmental Authority (CEA) and the Ministry. In addition, six officers from the CEA has been sponsored for a Masters Degree programme.
 - Human Resources Development (HRD) Plans have been prepared for the Ministry, CEA and the Pilot Land Management Component. Preparation of Training Plans for sub-national agencies and the private sector in progress.
- **Establishment of Policy & Planning Division is complete**
 - **Ten Environmental associates and eighteen Research Assistants** were recruited for the Ministry. Out of forty-nine officers selected for the CEA, eighteen of them were appointed and other appointments were withheld due to a court decision.
 - **Activities relating to CEA sponsored were;** load base licensing scheme, streamlining EIA, contracting out CEA activities, reviewing Project Approving Agency (PAA) process, District Information Centres & Eco-projects, CLEANET-initial discussion, staff recruitment, provision of transport facilities and office equipment.
 - **Proposals reviewed to strengthen two line Ministries** (Industrial Development and Housing & Urban Development)
 - **Workshops sponsored on;** Sub National Agencies, Managing Change, CEPOM-preparation of implementation plans, Committee on Integrating Environment & Development Policy (CIEDP), Current Position of Economics in Sri Lanka, NEAP Implementation, School Programme in Kurunegala.
- **Community Environment Initiative Facility (CEIF)**

The manual of the CEIF has been revised and the designing of a Sustainable Management Mechanism is progress. Established CBOO & NGO clusters (Sansada) and national level forum and is monitoring 117 projects. More projects are being approved and workshops held on awareness creation.
- **Pilot Land Management**

Involved in on farm treatment & Off farm treatment and the establishment of plant nurseries, improvement of animal husbandry methods and in conducting training/awareness programmes/ shramadana campaigns etc.

Action Plan: 2000

➤ **Bio-diversity**

Translating framework of Bio-diversity Conservation in Sri Lanka into implementation programme and the formulation and development of policies for Natural Resources Management in Sri Lanka.

➤ **Pollution Control**

Launch island wide solid waste management programme

➤ **Economics**

Development of a Eco-friendly Business Index, development of a Field Manual for Project Appraisal, Pricing the Island Study, develop Environmental Accounting System, and development economic instruments for environmental management will be carried out.

➤ **Legal**

Preparations of a reference guide to National Legislation & Institutions in Sri Lanka will be carried out.

➤ **Human Resources Development**

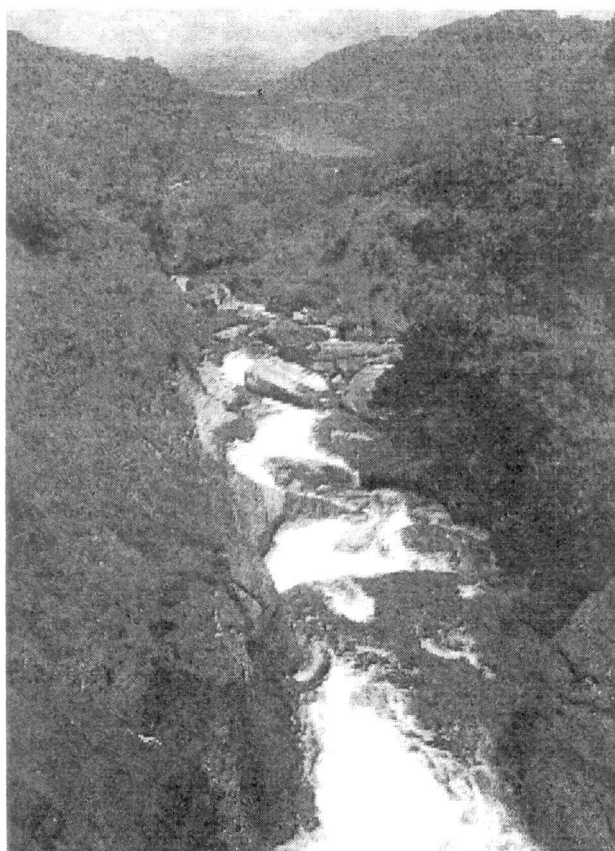
Post graduate training in Sri Lanka Universities, training workshops in Sri Lanka/ Overseas Skills development training for the Ministry and CEA staff, sub-national agencies, private sector will be conducted.

➤ **Policy**

Activities relating to CEPOM, CEIDP, implementation of Policy and NEAP recommendations and Policy studies will be carried out.

➤ **Activities relating to CEA**

Commissioning of new office building complex and environmental promotion activities and the implementation of NGO outreach programme will be carried out.



NORWEGIAN ENVIRONMENTAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME (NORAD)

The final phase of the Norwegian Environmental Co-ordination Programme was carried out in 1998/99. There are six ongoing and completed projects during the year under review.

Performance: 1999

- **Development of Wewelkele Natural Forest and Reservoir.**

The project was conservation oriented and involved community participation in its implementation. The project provided education and awareness creation and the supply of drinking water to the local community. After completion of the project, the villagers themselves are now protecting the forest.
- **Sinharaja and Knuckles Conservation Project**

The project involved boundary demarcation and survey, reforestation, enrichment planting, nature trails, boundary posts and name boards etc. and helped the project to accomplish its conservation efforts. A large number of Community Based Organisations was formed through the project.
- **Environmental Protection through Reducing the Use of Agrochemical in Agriculture**

The project was successful in changing the attitudes of the farmers in the country. Through the formation of farmer groups and some field programmes it was possible to make the farmers aware on the value of usage of Integrated Pest Management as an alternative for the harmful usage of agro-chemicals.
- **Mangrove Conservation Project**

This project was able to prepare a Mangrove Management Plan for mangrove areas South of Colombo, with the assistance from World Conservation Union (IUCN).
- **Establishment of an Environmental Education Field Centre in Sigiriya.**

This project enabled the establishment of an Environmental Field Centre in Sigiriya with an auditorium with audio and video equipment, glass house and accommodation facilities for environmental education purposes.
- **Bundala Wetland Conservation Management**

To emphasise the importance of the conservation and management of this wetland declared as a RAMSAR site, a number of awareness programmes were conducted.
- **Phasing out of Methyl Bromide in Tea Plantations**

The project implemented by the Tea Research institute, aimed at finding an alternative for Methyl Bromide to prevent ozone depletion
- **Garbage Digestion by Biogas Technology**

This project was intended to solve the garbage problem in Maharagama. All the raw materials required for initiating the project was purchased and excavation of three garbage digesters has been completed. The project is still to be completed.

Action Plan: 2000

The activities of the following projects will be carried out under phase II of the NORAD programme, for which government approval has been obtained and funding is awaited.

Proposed Project	Implementing Agency
➤ Management of Solid Waste	Katunayake-Seeduwa Urban Council
➤ Solid Waste Disposal	Eravur Pradeshiya Sabha
➤ Sewerage Treatment Plant at Blakewatte	Negombo Municipal Council
➤ The solid waste disposal Management	Kolonnawa Urban Council
➤ Solving of sewerage problem	Jaffna Municipal Council
➤ Improvements to Solid waste Disposal site at Matticalie	Trincomalee Urban Council
➤ Solid Waste disposal	Kattankudy Pradeshiya Sabha
➤ Conservation of Lunawa Lagoon	Moratuwa Municipal Council
➤ Establishment of a National Youth services Environmental Network	National Youth Services Council
➤ Bad Odour Elimination Programme for the City of Colombo	Colombo Municipal Council
➤ Development of Panchakapaduwa Island and Mangrove reserve along Kaluwamodara river and the coast	Beruwala Divisional Secretary's Office and Dayaka Sabha
➤ Human Resources Development	Ministry of Forestry & Environment

ENVIRONMENTAL PROMOTION AND DEVOLUTION

In order to pay adequate attention towards environmental promotion and devolution two divisions dealing with the subject are in operation. Under environmental promotion various programmes relating to creation of awareness including, seminars and workshops, publication on the environment and related issues and dissemination of such information and scientific knowledge through media, radio and newspapers and newsletters are being carried out.

As environment is a devolved subject under the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, and its importance in terms of environmental conservation and management much emphasis is being given to this subject in the Ministry. In this regard it is necessary that due guidance and direction be given to the provincial authorities in performing their functions relating to environmental aspects.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROMOTION DIVISION

Several projects relating to the creation of awareness among the general public on environmental issues, environmental conservation and management and to obtain their involvement in such activities was planned and carried out during 1999. School children, government officials, non-governmental organizations were also involved in these programmes. In implementing these programmes it was possible to disseminate the latest scientific knowledge to the general public via, the electronic media, newspapers, magazines, traditional communication methods etc.,

Performance: 1999

➤ Seminars and workshops

Eight seminars and workshops were conducted at divisional level, aimed at obtaining the co-operation of school children and the youth for environmental promotion activities and also in obtaining the attention of adults in environmental activities. Among the workshops and activities held the National Tree Planting Day celebrations held at Matale and in Colombo, World Environmental Day and the public awareness programme for the public, Journalists and the media personnel are some of the important events in this regard.

➤ Environmental Publications

There were several environment-related publications for creating the necessary awareness

on environmental activities among the public. "Environment and Day to Day Life", "Lets Live Correctly this Moment" and "Environment and Communication" are some of publications published during the year. In addition newsletters relating to "Bio-diversity", "Ozone News" were also distributed among the public.

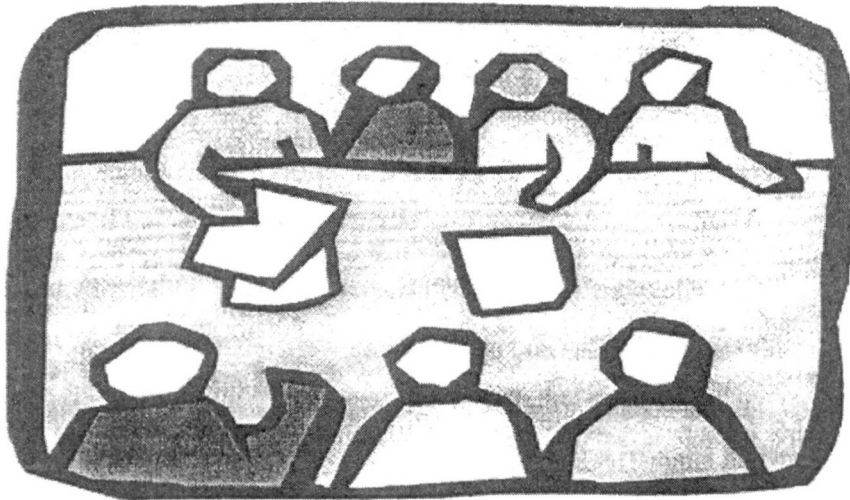
➤ Television and Radio Programmes

Several documentary programmes relating to tree planting, urban park, reforestation, wildlife, bio-diversity, air pollution were produced and transmitted. Twenty-six programmes were transmitted through the Ceylon Broadcasting Corporation in the areas mentioned above. In addition, the divisional radio stations were also used for transmitting programme in the subject areas discussed above.

Action Plan: 2000

- Promotional programmes relating to environmental policy & NEAP implementation, international conventions, Vision for the 21st Century will be carried out, with special emphasis in targeting the public.
- In addition, to workshops and seminars "Parisara Janahamu" programmes at divisional level will be conducted for facilitating a rapport between the officials and the public. This will also create a forum for the politicians to meet with the public and

- discuss issues etc. Discussions, lectures, drams etc will be used for creating awareness on the environment at this forums.
- TV and radio programmes aimed at focusing at environmental issues and natural resources will be conducted.
 - The programme for school children will be introduced in a new dimension, where they will be made responsible partners in conservation.
 - In addition to the environmental publications produced at present, a monthly publication and a publication of environmental data will be produced.



DEVOLUTION DIVISION

The National Environmental Act No. 47 which came in to effect in 1980, included mainly the environmental management aspects. In 1988 the Provincial Councils were established. Even though the Act was implemented there was no provisions on delegating powers to Provincial Councils. Environmental protection was a devolved activity under the 13th amendment to the constitution. According to the provision in List iii, Provincial Councils have resorted to assume authority under the provisions of a statute approved with the concurrence of the Parliament. In view of the importance of the subject in terms of environmental conservation and management, a new division was formed in the Ministry recently to handle this subject effectively.

The devolution function with regard to the environmental activities of the Ministry can be defined as to; promote, facilitate and provide the necessary guidance to the Provincial Councils to identify, plan, and implement environmental related activities with particular emphasis on environmental conservation.

The **key result areas** of the Devolution Division are as follows:

- Facilitate the implementation of devolution policies on environment, by formulating policies & developing strategies.
- Assisting Provincial Councils in drafting environmental status complementary to the National Policy on Environmental Management.
- Assisting Provincial Councils in developing the human resources and capacities in han-

dling environmental matters to line ministries and other related agencies.

- Assisting Provincial Councils in develop the institutional structures to implement the promotional programmes, for enhancement of awareness among public servants on Environmental Issues.

Performance: 1999

A pilot project has been developed for the Southern Province to identify and review agencies that were involved in Environmental Management and related environmental activities and legislation. The Southern Provincial Environmental Statute is now being drafted.

Action Plan: 2000

- Assist in the formulation of a policy of devolution for the Ministry on Environmental Management.
- Co-ordination with provinces in extension of the devolution policy in Environmental Management.
- Assisting in environmental activities of the north-western Province.
- Awareness Programme on Environmental Management for new Provincial Councils with regarding the Devolution.

CENTRAL ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY

The Central Environmental Authority (CEA) was established in August 1981 under the provision of the National Environmental Act No. 47 of 1980, which was amended in 1988. The Authority presently functions directly under the Ministry of Forestry & Environment.

The CEA is basically a *regulatory authority concerned with conservation and management of the environment*.

The Environmental Management & Assessment Division is engaged in the formulation and implementation of strategies for the sustainable utilization, conservation and management of the natural resources base of the island.

The Environmental Pollution Control Division is engaged in regulatory activities in relation to the control of air, water, soil pollution and industrial pollution control.

The Environmental Education & Awareness Division deals with promoting environmental awareness and education, and ushering active public participation in environmental programmes.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND ASSESSMENT DIVISION

Performance: 1999

➤ Environmental Impact Assessment Process

Status (No. of Projects)	EIA	IEE
Being Processed	07	25
Decisions Given	03	12

➤ Amendment to National Environmental Act

An amendment to the National Environmental Act with a view to simplifying the procedure in respect of projects undergoing IEE where the removal of the public commenting period of 30 days for IEE reports, was proposed.

➤ Review of EIA Regulation

Under the EAIP project review of EIA procedure was carried out in order to facilitate the smooth implementation of this process and minimize delays. The bottlenecks in the existing process were identified and a comprehensive review of the procedure as well as an institutional review was completed. Several short-term as well as long-term recommendations are being drawn-up to streamline the EIA process.

➤ Implementation of EIA Process

Registration of experts in various sectors, updating of EIA consultant lists have been completed.

➤ EIA Compliance Monitoring

Since it was considered that the monitoring of the development projects, which have been approved and implemented under EIA process, is vital, CEA commenced compliance monitoring with the collaboration of the other agencies concerned. Under this programme, the projects covered are; Mini-Hydro Power Projects (7 Nos.), Hotel Projects (6 Nos.), Industrial Estates (2 Nos.), Other Projects, One LPG Import Terminal at Kerawalapitiya, Blocking out of land at Hantana, Tannery Industrial Estate at Bata Atha, Kukule Ganga Hydro Power Project, Gem mining activities at We-ganga, Kuru Ganga, Nirieli Ganga and Kumbukkan Oya, Rajawella Golf & Hotel Project, and Colombo – Katunayake Express Way.

➤ Preparation of Manuals/ Guidelines and Handbook

Preparation of the Handbooks, Manuals & guidelines on the following areas was undertaken during the period under review; translation (English to Sinhala) and printing of EIA Guidance Document No. 1 & 2, Guidance Document for Timber Extraction (Sinhala), compilation of Mineral Sector Manual (ready for printing).

➤ **Training Programs**

During the period under review following training programmes were organized; 10 day intensive training programme on EIA, two EIA training programmes for Environmental Development Assistants, awareness programme on EIA for investors and bankers.

➤ **Special Projects**

- Development of a GIS databases on environmentally sensitive areas of the Southern Province in order to facilitate the Environmental Impact Assessment Process.
- Preparation of an Ecological Zoning Map of the Conservation Zone of the Master Plan for Muthurajawela Marsh & Negambo Lagoon.
- Development of management strategies for the Sri Lankan reservoir fishery (Development of a yield productive model for reservoir fisheries in Sri Lanka) in association with the Department of Zoology of University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka.

➤ **Research and Studies**

- Research project to identify biological indicators to monitor ecologically sensitive areas is in progress.

Action Plan: 2000

- Regular programme in connection with the co-ordination and implementation of the EIA procedure for prescribed projects will be continued.
- The EIA compliance monitoring for development projects and general monitoring for other projects will be carried out.

➤ Manuals on plantation sector, tourism sector, Extended B/C Analysis in EIA will be published.

➤ EIA Intensive Training Programme (10 day) workshop on monitoring for Project Approving Agencies (PAAs) will be organized.

➤ The mapping on environmental sensitive areas will be continued.

➤ Research and studies on biological indicators, impacts due to land development projects will be continued.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION CONTROL DIVISION

Performance: 1999

- 305 new Environmental Protection Licenses was issued and 462 renewals have been made. 83 New Clearance has been made. 1229 Complaints has received totally and action has been taken with regard to 466 complaints received. The other complaints were referred to the relevant local authorities for necessary action as they were of a minor nature, and could be tackled easily at the local level.
- 100 Officials of local authorities were trained on the issue of the Environmental Protection Licenses for Low Pollution Industries and selection of sites for industries. The laboratory of the CEA continued its programme on monitoring of major water bodies including Kelani River, Kandy Lake, Beira Lake and other water bodies. A total of 330 samples collected from the water bodies were analyzed by the laboratory. A total of 526 industrial effluents samples collected from different industries were analyzed by the laboratory of CEA.
- Level of Sulphur Dioxide, Nitrogen Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide and ground level ozone in ambient air has been monitored on a continuous basis using the two fixed Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations at Colombo City and mobile station at Sapugaskanda area, Hambantota, Anuradapura, Puttlam, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Galle and Kalutara.
- Draft guidelines were prepared mainly for the purpose of storage, collection transportation and disposal of hazardous waste.

Action Plan: 2000

During year 2000 the Pollution Control Division will continue its regulatory programmes in relation to the issue of Environmental Protection Licenses and site clearances to high polluting industries. It is also envisaged that the new Hazardous Waste Regulations will come into force in early 2000, whereby CEA will be the main implementing agency. Collection of information regarding hazardous waste generations from prescribed industries will commence during the year. Action will be initiated to finalise a site for the disposal of hazardous waste.

The Division will also continue its regular monitoring programmes on industrial operation in order to ensure that industries are operating within the standards and criteria given by the Environmental Protection Licences. Appropriate action will be taken against those industries, which are found to be violating such standards and criteria. In addition to the regulatory monitoring of the high polluting industry sector the Division will continue the monitoring of major water bodies in the country in order to determine pollution trends. Particular attention will be paid to the Kelvin River in view of the fact that the water supply to Kelvin River Water Scheme will be continued with particular attention paid to the monitoring of effluents discharged.

The Division also will continue the monitoring of ambient air in the Colombo City as well as the other parts of the inland on a continued basis using the two fixed stations and Mobile Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations in order to determine the air quality trends.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND AWARENESS DIVISION

Performance: 1999

According to the work plan of the Environmental Education and Awareness for the year 1999, action was taken to enhance environmental education among the public to change their attitudes in environmental friendly ways and to develop skills of younger generations through non formal environment education programmes. Several programmes on environmental education at tertiary, secondary and pre school levels were implemented with the objective of creating a group of citizens who makes decisions with environmental conservation process.

➤ **Environmental Education Programme**

- The text titled "Man & Environment" was re-printed in 3 languages and distributed among the schools having A/L classes. Under the expansion of Environmental Pioneers Programme, it was introduced to 1655 new schools. Necessary training for the teacher's in-charge of brigades and student leaders were conducted in 14 districts and students training also followed. In addition, a workshop was conducted for the Directors of Education at the Provincial Level and zonal Level to make them aware of the Environmental Pioneer's programme.
- Special activities have been introduced under this programme such as achieving environmental medals by completing environmental activities, environmental camps at

national & district levels, eco-projects at school level etc. 2949 medals were awarded to members. A National level environmental camp was held with the participation of 500 environmental pioneer members from 51 schools. Environmental camps at district level will be conducted during the months of November/December. 254 eco-projects at school level were implemented.

- Discussion with Commissioners of Environmental Pioneer Programme was held with the objective of strengthening the programme by reviewing work progress. Action was taken to edit & reprint the guidebook of Environmental Pioneers. It was distributed among schools. Action was taken to edit and re-print the Teachers Guidebook on environment education at pre school level. The book will be printed & distributed among 4421 pre schools.

➤ **Environmental Awareness Programmes**

- Under the National Tree Planting campaign a programme to plant 200 trees was initiated at the hospital premises, Ittapana, Wallalavita Division of Kalutara district. In addition, the members of school pioneers in their school premises launched a programme to plant 100 trees. Tree planting programme at

- divisional level was conducted in collaboration with Divisional Secretaries.
- Public awareness campaigns on environmental issues were arranged through electronic media. A TV spot on soil erosion over ITN and radio jingle on planting trees over SLBC have been organized. 10 banners were displayed to create awareness on planting trees.
 - Programmes were conducted to mark the special environmental events such as World Environment Day and Earth Day. A workshop was conducted for 282 Grama Seva Officers from Central, Sabaragamuwa and Western Provinces. The theme of the seminar was conservation of sensitive environmental areas, water resource for future use and conservation of protected forests.
 - Action was taken to issue an educational poster and leaflet on soil conservation in connection with the Earth day. This will be distributed among schools.
 - Under NGOO programme, project proposals were called from NGOO through district NGOO cells. 6 projects out of 10 project proposals were selected and granted financial assistance. 125 new NGOO have been registered with the CEA.
 - 9584 environmental programmes such as school programmes, recycling programmes, compost making etc., have been conducted at divisional level by the Environmental Development Assistants with the participation of the general public.
 - A quarterly news bulletin was issued in 3 languages to all government and non-governmental organizations, public libraries, universities and schools. Action was taken to increase the number of pages and number of copies.
 - Environmental message on polythene menace and sound pollution were telecast through ITN. In addition TV filler on soil erosion is being produced.
 - “Mihitalaya” & “Derana” radio programmes were broadcast over national and commercial services of the SLBC. With the objective of creating awareness on environmental issues published in newspapers and magazines. 5 articles on environment were published in newspapers. 116,334 leaflets on different environmental issues have been distributed among the public on request.
 - Participation in exhibitions on requests is an effective awareness programme of the division. This division has participated in 30 exhibitions, among those 2 exhibitions at provincial level and 28 were at the institutional level (including schools). In order to strengthen the mobile exhibit unit 35 new panel boards were produced, 100 photographs on various environmental issues were produced.
 - Under the library and information service the library provided exchange facilities of environmental information to users through INFORTERA. 1496 users have been benefited from the reference and lending section of the library. 903 books on environment were sold.
 - Books on environment were distributed as prizes for winners of various environmental competitions. 9910 books have been issued to Community Based Organizations, schools and Environment Development Assistants on request.

Action Plan : 2000

- Programme on environmental education at target groups will be implemented (especially for farmers and small industrialists).
- Programmes on special environmental task force of environmental pioneer brigade at divisional level.
- Additional 2000 pioneer brigades will be established in schools and related training programmes will be conducted.
- Teacher Guides book on environmental education at pre school level will be prepared.
- A certificate course of environment education for school leaves will be awarded.
- Projects on identified environmental issues at divisional level will be implemented on special environmental days.
- Exhibitions will be conducted at national, district and divisional level.
- Programmes such as TV, Radio messages on environmental issues aim at general public will be conducted using media.
- Information will be prepared and provided to public on request.
- Environmental conservation programmes at district level will be conducted with the assistance of NGO.
- Purchasing of periodicals, books, and library network activities, compiling a bibliography updating library publications will be carried out under library services.

