

**4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FOUNDATION SUPPORTING A NATIONAL TRAUMA SERVICE IN  
SRI LANKA INC. (PROJECT BEAP)  
YEAR ENDING 30 THE JUNE 2015**

*Our progress during the last twelve months has been disappointing to say the least, but we are entering a year in which we could finally see the light at the end of the tunnel and the commencement of the long awaited building, despite our failure to raise the pledged sum of USD2 million before the building works were started.*

*The year started with a massive blowout in the estimated cost of the original building we had designed. In fact, it was to cost considerably more than we had originally estimated in 2012. This was mainly due to inflation costs of materials and a strong local demand for construction related labour; fuelled by the former government's desire for growth at any cost.*

*We were challenged to re-design the building or walk away from the project. We acquiesced since the need had also changed. When we designed the original five storey building, there were to be four operating theatres and accommodation for 100 ward beds for short to medium term stays. The design also catered for another four operating theatres on the fifth floor for future expansion and growth.*

*It was then pointed out that the Ministry of Health had since secured overseas funding for a new standalone Oncology Unit with two operating theatre of its own and a Cardiac Unit with an Operating theatre of its own. Suddenly, there are to be three extra operating theatres to complement the four existing operating theatres at the Batticaloa Hospital; an increase of nearly 42% in the operating theatre capacity. In addition, there are plans to build another standalone unit for General Surgery and this would also have an operating theatre. The need for our project to cater for four more theatres on the fifth floor is therefore redundant in the foreseeable future.*

*We were requested to scale down the building to a three storey unit with three operating theatres and space for one more in the near future, and to combine the two floors allocated for the men and women's wards onto one floor with just 86 beds. This is now the new guideline for future Accident & Emergency Trauma Units of Teaching Hospital Status, just like the one at Batticaloa. We agreed and re-designed. An architect impression of the building is attached to this report.*

*The new three story building would cost considerably less; yet 50% more than we had originally been told by consultants.*

#### **THE GOOD NEWS**

We are not being asked to subscribe any more than the \$2 million we have pledged; the Ministry of Health-Government of Sri Lanka will fund the gap.

#### **FUTURE PLANS OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

It is our understanding that a plan is underway to construct fourteen more Accident and Emergency Trauma units throughout regional areas of Sri Lanka. Large Teaching Hospitals such as the one we have designed are to have three floors with three operating theatres and adequate male and female wards whilst smaller District hospitals will have smaller facilities appropriate to their needs. There are plans afoot for a large World Bank loan to facilitate the construction and fitout of these future hospitals. One might ask why not this project be funded similarly. The reason is quite simple; they have us providing a gift of US\$3 million including the fit-out of the operating theatres; so we slipped out of that plan. However, Project BEAP will be a new benchmark for the future generation of A&E hospital Units. In a way, we can say that our second objective which is to support the establishment of a "National Trauma Service in Sri Lanka" has been accomplished even before the first objective which is to build the A&E Trauma Unit at the Teaching Hospital in Batticaloa.

## **FUNDS RAISED**

In the last annual report we stated that we had raised LKR 187,461,020 which equated to USD 1, 442,008.

In this report I am disappointed to say that we have raised LKR 201,971,020

This at similar exchange rates equates to USD 1,553,623

Our gain in the last year has been very ordinary indeed. Details of all donors are listed at the end of this report.

However, mention must be made of a sizeable donation from the Company associated with Mr Albert Dadon in Melbourne, Mr&Mrs Frederick (Ricky) Mendis in Colombo and another addition to two previous donations from Mr Don Argus, taking him to Gold status.

Most of our advisors attributed this to the political uncertainty in Sri Lanka and the fact that we had nothing to show in the form of a building in the three years of our involvement with this project. In fact some donors who had acceded to our request for donations on a progressive basis have stopped adding more funds to our bank account and state that they will re-commence funding only after the building commences.

Others have been more sceptical saying that they will await the outcome of the political landscape before deciding to donate. Indeed new donors have been doubtful of whether we would ever get started.

Thankfully, there was a change of President, the appointment of a caretaker government, the appointment of a new Minister of Health (the former became the new President) and with the new Minister came a whole new regime of a new Health Secretary and new Additional Secretaries. For our good fortune, the caretaker government was returned in a General Election and the same Minister and deputies hold senior offices at the Ministry of Health.

This gives us confidence for the future and that is the reason Project BEAP is about to become a reality.

## **TAX DEDUCTIBLE STATUS**

Our efforts to secure tax deductible status for Australian individuals and corporations wanting to donate money in Australia have proved futile thus far. The applications we have made were rejected twice but we have been given guidance on how to improve and strengthen our submission; so we are making one more attempt. If we fail to achieve this in our third attempt, we would have to re-submit our application afresh on a new format; yet to be distributed.

Meanwhile we continue to use the facilities to remit via Rotary Australia World Communities Service (RAWCS) to whom we are most grateful.

Sri Lankan donors making contributions to the National Health Development Fund, gain tax deductibility in that country.

## **ROTARY**

Our association with the Rotary Club of Strathmore continues to be a good one with invaluable support from their Office Bearers and Past Presidents, especially Peter Dunn who is also an Advisory Councillor on our Management Team.

Following the very successful event that was organised at the Crown Palladium in June 2014, when Mr Don Argus was the Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker, there are plans afoot to organise another similar event in June 2016 to help raise more funds. We are in search mode for a stimulating keynote speaker who would give us a free speech and would welcome any suggestions.

Our aim is to raise at least another \$100,000 from such an event; mainly through the sale of sporting memorabilia and art.

The Rotary movement remains committed to provide support and fund raising help to us when we are in phase two of the project which is the provision of machinery and equipment and vocational training.

## **VISITS BY OUR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS**

Dr David Young made two visits to Sri Lanka during the past year under review. One from August 5 to 13, 2014 and the other from April 7 to 9, 2015.

Each time he visits, he teaches, lectures and does consultations and operations. In April he also lectured at a Conference of the Sri Lankan Sports Medicine Institute on the subjects of "Consequences of delayed or missed diagnosis" and "Latest methods of injury evaluation and assessment".

Dr Suren Jayaweera went to the Teaching Hospital Batticaloa to teach and work with surgeons there on the subject of thyroid surgery.

## **DONATIONS IN KIND**

It was a relatively quiet year in terms of Donations in Kind (DIK), since we have not had a call for medical equipment and furniture such as beds. The Batticaloa Hospital is at the stage where they do not wish to have very old and outdated equipment for their new hospital buildings and have asked us not to send anything unless they specifically need certain items. They have also said that they want to be certain that spare parts and service support is available for equipment we send, before requesting same to be shipped. There have been cases where the machinery/equipment cannot be repaired or spare parts become an issue if very old items are sent.

Notwithstanding, Dr David Young our President, spent \$23,000 of his own money to have five arthroscopic operating machines taken out of service from the Avenue Hospital, reconditioned and made suitable for Sri Lankan Hospital use and donated these to various hospitals in Sri Lanka where a qualified Orthopaedic Surgeon was available to be taught how to use these machines. Unfortunately, the Batticaloa Hospital was not a recipient as at that time the hospital did not have a surgeon capable of doing arthroscopic surgery.

## **APPRECIATIONS**

- Arjuna Samarakoon and his team at BPO Connect for the Accounting work he provides at no cost to the Foundation.
- Mr George Georgiou for his services as Auditor of the Foundation's accounts in Australia.
- P E Management Consultants (Pvt) Ltd in Colombo for Management accounts functions in Colombo for the Sri Lankan accounts of the BEAP Trust.
- H L B Edirisinghe & Co, Chartered Accountants for the audit of the Sri Lankan accounts.
- Bartleet & Co, Indrajith Fernando & Marian Bandara for their pro bono services providing secretarial duties in Colombo.
- Rohan Deepak Maharaja for his contribution in the IT Support functions to me as the CEO.
- Mr David Jayatileke of VicMark Pty Ltd and Mr Suraj Jayawickrema for their contribution towards the production of the new project booklet Version 7 September 2015
- Jayantha Jayawardene for acting as Project Co-Ordinator in Colombo and for his tireless efforts in helping the CEO to co-ordinate discussions and meetings in Sri Lanka.
- All those who helped in fund raising by introducing us to potential donors and opening the doors for David Young and me to follow through
- Dr Locana Gunaratna of Gunaratna Associates, Project Architects who have helped us re-design the building and done their work at special prices and under time pressures to suit the needs of the decision makers
- Dr Reggie Perera, former Health Secretary who has been invaluable in his service to the Foundation in chairing essential meetings with MOH personnel and representatives of the Foundation.
- Wasantha Jayawardena, the Project Manager representing the Ministry of Health.

- Dr M S Ibralebbe, the Director of the Teaching Hospital in Batticaloa for his support and persistence with the project.
- Ronnie Lym for his support to the CEO and the organisation in helping with ACNC registration and renewal matters, Corporate Affairs Victoria and the effort to gain tax deductibility from OAGDS( Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme-Canberra)

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

Jerome Adams joined us in the year under review as Deputy Chief Executive Officer to support Nihal de Run in his role as the CEO. We welcome Jerome to this voluntary post and thank him for agreeing to share the workload.

#### **NEW POLICY GUIDELINES**

During the year, we introduced a Child Protection policy and an Anti-Terrorism policy to our organization. All members who work with children and those involved with receiving and donating money are required to understand the purpose of these policies, and are required not only to conform but also to acknowledge that they are aware of our policies, and report any breaches to the CEO at the earliest opportunity. It is our intention to post these policy statements on our website [www.projectbeap.org](http://www.projectbeap.org).

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

**A SPECIAL CLAUSE HAS BEEN INSERTED INTO OUR CONSTITUTION TO COVER CONFLICT OF INTEREST. THIS HAS NECESSITATED A NEW CONSTITUTION WHICH INCORPORATES THIS NEW CLAUSE AND A PREVIOUS AMENDMENT THAT WAS RECOMMENDED BY THE AUTHORITIES. AT THIS MEETING TODAY, MEMBERS WILL BE ASKED TO VOTE TO ADOPT THE NEW CONSTITUTION.**

**DONORS & SPONSORS AS AT OCTOBER 2015**

<b>Sri Lankan Donors</b>			
Sri Lanka Telecom	Phoenix Holdings	Brandix Lanka Ltd	John Keells Foundation
Asiri Hospital Group	A Baur & Co	Tokyo Cement	Emjay/Penguin
Life Insurance Co of India	Mr Chandi Page	Access Engineering PLC	Ken Balendra
Mr & Mrs Mendis	Durdans Hospital	Padman Nagenthiran	

<b>Donors in Australia</b>			
Global/Pure Play Ortho	LOVELL Foundation	Mind Modelling(N Naidoo)	Bruce Simmons
Aus Med Aid Foundation	Royal Old Boys Assoc	Orthotic Technologies	De Run Family Trust
Dr Jit Balakumar	Late Sarah Craig Estate	Melb Ortho Grp(MOG)	Ashley Granot
Tony & Kay Kellar	Lucky & Ada Karunatileke	Mohan & Dornne de Run	Margaret Heselev
Village Roadshow	DY Classic Golf Day 2012	Mala & Eric Miles	Late Henry Jolson
Ananda College OBAA	Beat Altermatt	Roger Glass	Virginia Billson
P & J Mount	The Avenue Hospital	Ralph D'Silva	Dr Priya Mendis
David Jackman	Phil Crema	Kusuma Wijesinghe	Gamini de Alwis
Michelle Ng	Sam Page	Dhiriti Pal	Donald de Boer
Dr Greg Hoy	Prof David de Krestser	Anthony Albakov	Pronto Software P/L
Albert Dadon	Suren Jayaweera	Peter & Joc Gray	David MacGowan
Phillipa W inram	Shane Bogemann	Colin McDonald	Sanjeev Inder
Steven Keegel	Minoshi Fernando	Leigh Williams	Jennifer Altermatt
Jennifer Zikos			

<b>Donations in USD</b>			
Don Argus-Bank America	Bledsoe/Rasco		

SIGNED .....

Nihal de Run

Chief Executive Officer

11<sup>th</sup> October, 2015