

# COMMUNITY CANVAS



Sri Lanka's First Community News Paper

 [www.phdt.org](http://www.phdt.org)

## 32 Years in Community Service

### Oral Potentially Malignant Disorder (OPMD)



Article By: V. Abinaya

### What is OPMD?

A group of conditions in which there are abnormal tissue changes in the mouth that may become cancer

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### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

The PHDT held its 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Grand Monarch, Thalawathugoda. The meeting was attended by all relevant stakeholders under the Pro-tem Chairmanship of Mr. J Rodrigo under the theme "Light to Life". The Independent Auditor's Report and the Audited Financial Statements for the year 2024 were also presented and approved by the Members. The meeting concluded with the re-appointment of Ms. Ernst & Young as the company's auditors for the upcoming year.



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### FOUNDATION STONE-LAYING CEREMONY

The foundation stone-laying ceremony for the construction of houses on 10-perch land plots was held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025 in the Kabaragala Division of Poonagala Estate. This event marks the initiation of a project aimed at providing permanent housing for 51 families who have been living in a tea factory for nearly two years due to landslides.



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### Clean Sri Lanka Awareness & Implementation programme.



Article By: Samarajeewa

This programme was facilitated by PHDT and held at the PHDT Galle Regional office on 10-04-2025

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## Awarding Scholarships to Plantation Children...

PHDT had been in community service for 32 years and commemorated this activity at its AGM held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025. 44 scholarships were awarded to the children from plantations who have entered into Universities.

This worthy meritorious deed was made possible with the generous contribution by the following individuals and Organization

1. Mr.Jehan CanagaRetna & Association
2. Ethical Tea Partnership
3. Lipton Teas and Infusions Ceylon
4. Agalawatte / Pussellawa Plantations PLC
5. Lalans Rubbers (Pvt) Ltd



My name is Selvaraj Dinesh from the Raigama Estate. I am honored to have secured a place at the University of Peradeniya, having achieved 3A passes at the GCE A/L examination, to pursue my studies at the Faculty of Management.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the PHDT for the Rs. 50,000 scholarship, which will greatly assist me in starting this new chapter. I sincerely hope that similar support will continue to be extended to other promising students from the plantation community.



I am Apsara Sewandhi from the Nakiyadeniya Estate, studied G/ Sri Dhaammawasa M.V. and passed A/L with 3As I am deeply grateful to the PHDT for the generous startup grant of Rs. 50,000, which will greatly support my initial expenses as I begin my journey at the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo. my ambition to be a lawyer

## Quarterly Monitoring and Evaluation Meeting for EMA, PFWO, and CDO – Kegalle Plantations PLC



Article By: Sulaksha Dilshan

The Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT) – Kegalle Regional Office successfully conducted the **Quarterly Monitoring and Evaluation Meeting** for Estate Medical Assistants (EMA), Plantation Field Welfare Officers

(PFWO), and Child Development Officers (CDO) of Kegalle Plantations PLC on 18th March 2025. The meeting was held at the PHDT Regional Office, Kegalle, with the objective of reviewing progress, enhancing coordination, and strengthening the effectiveness of field operations.

Participants from PHDT included:

- Assistant Accountant (AA)
- Community Development Officer (CDO)
- Project Assistant (PA)

Participants from Kegalle Plantation included:

- Estate Medical Assistants (EMA)
- Plantation Field Welfare Officers (PFWO)
- Child Development Officers (CDO)

The meeting opened with a review of ongoing development and welfare activities across the estates. Special attention was given to the **Monthly Social Welfare Return (MSWR)**—a crucial reporting tool used to monitor the implementation of health, welfare, and community development initiatives.

PHDT officers conducted a detailed discussion on the MSWR process with the health and welfare staff. They highlighted several common errors frequently observed in MSWR submissions and offered practical solutions and standard practices to improve accuracy and consistency. This session served as a valuable refresher for the field staff, reinforcing the importance of correct documentation in ensuring reliable reporting and decision-making.

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## Oral Potentially Malignant Disorder...



PHDT-Nuwara Eliya conducts outreach OPMD Screening with the support of the Regional Director of Health Services (RDHS) to mitigate the prevalence of oral cancer by giving awareness and early screening. In the year of 2025, PHDT-Nuwara Eliya has conducted 10 OMPD Screening programs, screened 1866 individuals, and 63 individuals have been diagnosed with OPMD. The individuals diagnosed with OPMD are attending regular clinic and getting extensive treatment at the Nuwara Eliya District General Hospital.

PHDT Intervened National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP)

## Training Programme for Estate Medical Assistants & Estate Midwives



One of the most effective ways to ensure lasting healthcare impact in estate communities by building local capacity. Training estate-based health workers (EMAs & Estate PHMs) to conduct basic oral cancer screenings not only boosts early detection but also fosters a stronger, more self-reliant healthcare system within the community.

To strengthen this programme and for sustainable follow up, the Estate Medical Assistants (EMAs) and Estate Public Health Midwives (PHMs) were provided training programme on "Control and Prevention of Oral Cancer" on 04th of April 2025. The initiative was taken by National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) & PHDT. The training programme was conducted by Dr. Prasanna Jeyasekara, Consultant in Community Dentistry, Ministry of Health.

## Sustainable Cook Stove Initiative for Plantation Communities



Article By: Niroshana Ilangaratne - Nilcarbon

Nilcarbon UK, a leading green energy solutions provider, in collaboration with Nilcarbon Sri Lanka (a company under Delmon Holdings Pvt Ltd), has launched a major sustainability initiative aimed at supporting plantation communities through the donation of modern, fuel-efficient firewood cook stoves.

The program, which has already commenced in the Hatton and Nuwara Eliya regions, is designed to reduce the environmental and health impacts associated with traditional cooking methods while improving the overall quality of life for plantation families.

To accelerate and streamline the distribution process, Nilcarbon Sri Lanka has shown interest in collaborating with the Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT). This strategic collaboration aims to ensure the timely and effective delivery of the cook stoves to the identified beneficiaries across key plantation areas.

The inaugural meeting to discuss the future rollout of the project

was recently held at the PHDT head office. The meeting was attended by Mr. Ravi Balasuriya, Chairman and Managing Director of Delmon Holdings Pvt Ltd, the Director General of PHDT, and other senior officials from both PHDT and Nilcarbon Sri Lanka.

This initiative marks a significant step toward promoting cleaner energy solutions in rural and plantation sectors while reinforcing Nilcarbon's commitment to sustainable development and community upliftment.

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## Clean Sri Lanka Awareness & Implementation programme...

The following guests participated in the meeting. MPs of Galle, Matara, Kalutara district, Plantation Minister's Coordinating Secretary of Clean SL project, Director Engineering, Regional Director, Asst. Manager LU and Regional staff Galle, Ministry officers, Managers from the proposed estates, Community representatives from the proposed area.

Discussed the way forward of the project and the implementation plan with the cooperation of the Estate Management and the commitment of the community.

## Health Screening Programme at Hemingford Estate Pussellawa Plantation



Article By: Dimali

A health screening programme was conducted at Hemingford Estate on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2025,

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## Health Screening Programme at Hemingford Estate...

Benefiting 43 participants. The initiative was facilitated by the PHDT Ratnapura Region in collaboration with the RDHS, aiming to enhance the well-being of estate communities through comprehensive health screenings.

The programme included screenings for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and eye examinations, conducted by Medical Officers. By promoting early detection and preventive care, these efforts contribute to improved health outcomes for estate residents, ensuring a healthier and more productive community.

## Cluster Review Meetings



A Cluster Review Meetings were held in all regions during the period to discuss the health and welfare services provided by the PHDT to RPCs. This session focused on reviewing the initiatives undertaken, identifying gaps, and strategizing for further improvements. Key challenges and barriers encountered in implementing these services were also discussed, ensuring a collaborative approach to enhance the well-being of the plantation community.

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## Quarterly Monitoring and Evaluation Meeting...

The meeting concluded with an open discussion, where participants shared their experiences and feedback. The PHDT team expressed its appreciation for the continuous dedication of the estate health and welfare staff and encouraged their continued collaboration to improve the quality of life for plantation residents.

This quarterly meeting reaffirmed PHDT Kegalle's commitment to field-level support, capacity building, and collaborative progress across Kegalle Plantation estates.

## Medical Camp at Devagiri Estate



Article By: M.D. Amarasinghe

Combined Health Clinic and Screening Programme held on Devagiri Estate on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025. The event was organized by PHDT Galle Region with coordination of Regional Director Health Services Galle and Medical Staff of Base Hospital Udugama.

The Medical Camp rendered following services and 97 plantation workers benefited and 78 identified patients were referred to the respective authorities for further treatment.

PHDT Galle organized this event with the coordination of the Dr.Thilina Kannangara - Medical Officer DH Udugama, Mrs. Dinusha Malkimari - SPHNS DH Udugama, Dr. Janaka Abeywardena- Dental Therapist, RDHS office, Galle, Mr.Madawa Liyanage - PHI, Chest Clinic Galle.



## PHDT and Apps Technologies Sign MOU to Develop Integrated Healthcare and Project Operations Platform (IHPOP)

On 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025, a significant step was taken toward digital transformation at the

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## PHDT and Apps Technologies Sign MOU...



Article By: Diluk Priyantha

Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT) with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between PHDT and Apps Technologies (Pvt) Ltd. This partnership paves the way for the development, installation, configuration, and maintenance of the Integrated Healthcare and Project Operations Platform (IHPOP) system – a tailor-made digital solution designed to modernize and streamline PHDT's health and project management functions.

The MOU was formally signed by Mr. Shanaka Rajapaksha, Chief Executive Officer of Apps Technologies (Pvt) Ltd, and Mr. Lal Perera, Director General of PHDT, during a special ceremony held at PHDT Head Office. The agreement signifies a strong commitment by both parties to leverage technology in delivering more efficient, transparent, and responsive services to the plantation industry in Sri Lanka.

The IHPOP system will play a critical role in improving healthcare delivery, tracking development projects, enhancing data management, and enabling

better coordination between PHDT regional offices and estate-level operations. With this strategic initiative, PHDT is taking a bold step toward its vision of a digitally empowered plantation sector that prioritizes the well-being and development of plantation community.

This collaboration highlights PHDT's continued efforts to embrace innovation and ensure sustainable progress across its development programs.

## Ray Of Hope project / CTTA Funded English Class in Plantation Sector – Second Stage

This project, which commenced on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2024, is scheduled for completion in May 2025. PHDT, in collaboration with CTTCT—the charitable arm of CTTA—launched this pioneering initiative to teach English to children from RPCs and SLTFOA. The pilot phase was implemented at the following centers:

- PHDT Regional Centre
- PHDT Regional Centre
- Craighead Estate, Nawalapitiya

Due to its growing popularity and the significant positive impact on the plantation community, CTTA has committed to expanding the programme to 30 additional centers. This expansion will continue in partnership with PHDT, who will lead the initiative moving forward.

## Conservation of Micro Water Sheds by Rain Forest Alliance



Article By: Vihangi De Mel - RA

This Initiative will be launched by Rain Forest Alliance in collaboration with PHDT to protect the watersheds and people's awareness programme implemented at the Estates of Nuwara Eliya & Hatton Regions of PHDT. The following Estates will be covered under this project in Mahaweli and Kelani River watershed feeder channels.

Strathdon Estate of Hatton Plantations, Craigie Lea of Kotagala Plantations, Glenugie of Maskeliya Plantations, Glasgow of Kelani Valley Plantations, Great Western of Talawakelle Plantations, and Edinburgh of Kelani Valley Plantations

In this regard, an MOU was signed on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 with the PHDT at its Head office.

## Health Camp at Geekiyanakanda Estate



Article By: J.C. Weerasekara

A Health Camp was organized at Geekiyanakanda Estate Kotagala Plantations on 09<sup>th</sup> April 2025 for the screening of NCD, Oral Cancer, Well Women Clinic, and STD for 60 participants, and 22 identified patients were referred to the respective authorities for further treatment.

PHDT Galle organized this event with the coordination of the Regional Director of Health Services, Kalutara.

## “Little Angels” Programme – Phase II



Article By: Achini Weerasinghe

This **no-cost initiative** was implemented in the **Kelani Valley Plantations (Kegalle region)**, now in its **second successful phase**. Over one year, the programme focused on vulnerable Child Development Centres (CDCs) through:

### Key Components:

- **Midday meals** for most vulnerable children.
- **Training for Child Development Officers (CDOs).**

### Focus Areas:

- Growth monitoring of children
- Creating engaging learning environments
- Lesson planning with child-friendly activities
- Promoting hygiene and oral health
- Improving attendance rates
- Developing demonstration home gardens at CDCs
- Shifting attitudes and boosting CDO motivation

### Programme Activities:

- Regular training & supervisory visits
- Periodic reviews
- Active WhatsApp engagement between management and CDOs

### Outcomes Achieved:

- **Underweight children decreased** from 12.95% to 5.18%
- **70 new enrollments**, with some CDCs doubling attendance
- **Quality improvements** seen across participating CDCs
- **Enhanced motivation** among CDOs to improve environments

Special thanks to the **Management of Kelani Valley Plantations PLC**, the **Regional Team**, and all **dedicated CDOs** for their commitment and contributions to this success.

Let's continue this momentum and work together for a healthier, brighter future for our children.

## CDC Awards 2025 – Get Ready!

Article By: Achini Weerasinghe

We are excited to announce the upcoming CDC Awards for 2025, covering seven regions. Last year's efforts were inspiring, and we encourage all teams to prepare early and aim higher. Let's celebrate commitment, innovation, and excellence in child development!

Memory of the last CEOs' Forum, CDC AWARD CEREMONY.



Hulandawa Estate  
Galle Region



RYE / Wikiliya Estate  
Rathnapura Region



Kahagalla Estate  
Badulla Region



Parambe Estate  
Kegalle Region



Hellebodde Estate  
Kandy Region



Kenilworth Estate  
Hatton Region



New Peacock Estate  
Nuwara Eliya Region



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## Foundation stone - laying ceremony...

The event was attended by the Governor of Uva Province, Attorney-at-Law Kapila Jayasekara, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Plantations and Community Infrastructure, Mr. Sundaralingam Pradeep, Members of Parliament Mr. Kitnan Selvaraj, Mr. Ravindra Bandara, MPs Ambika Samuel, Commander of the Sri Lanka Army Lieutenant General Lasantha Rodrigo, Secretary to the Ministry of Plantations and Community Infrastructure Mr. Prabath Chandrakeerthi, Ms. Deepthi Gunasekara, Additional Secretary to the Ministry, Mr. Gamini Mahagamage, Additional Secretary to the Ministry of Defense, The Badulla District Additional Secretary, Haldummulla Divisional Secretary, and officials from the National Building Research Institute participated.

It has been proposed to construct a fully furnished house at a cost of 2.8 million rupees along with a 10-perches piece of land. The funding for this project will be provided by the Ministry of Plantations and Community Infrastructure, while the Sri Lanka Army will offer special support through the contribution of labor.

## “Wewili Prajawata Suwethi Diwiyak” – Ayurvedic Clinics for Estate Communities



Article By: Sulaksha Dilshan

As part of its ongoing efforts to uplift the health and well-being of estate communities, the Plantation

Human Development Trust (PHDT) – Kegalle in collaboration with the Department of Ayurveda, successfully organized a special outreach program titled “Wewili Prajawata Suwethi Diwiyak”, bringing Ayurvedic health services directly to the plantation sector.

### Dates & Venues:

- 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – Lavant Estate of Kelani Valley Plantations PLC
- 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Doteloya Estate of Kegalle Plantations PLC

These dedicated clinics were held at Lavant Estate on 26<sup>th</sup> March and Doteloya Estate on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025. The program aimed to provide accessible, traditional Ayurvedic treatments to estate workers who are often challenged by limited access to specialized healthcare services.

### Participation & Engagement:

- **Lavant Estate:** 57 estate residents benefited from the clinic. PHDT was represented by the **Project Assistant (PA)**.
- **Doteloya Estate:** 87 estate residents attended, with support from the PHDT ICT Officer on site.

The clinics were funded jointly by PHDT and the Department of Ayurveda, with a total estimated value of nearly LKR 100,000. This collaboration reflects a strong commitment to integrating traditional wellness practices into community healthcare outreach. During the clinics, Ayurvedic doctors conducted individual health assessments and provided treatments based on diagnosed conditions. A range of Ayurvedic medicines was distributed free of charge to those in need, and several individuals were referred for further treatment at specialized Ayurvedic centers for ongoing care.

The initiative was well-received by estate residents, many of whom expressed gratitude for the personalized care and culturally

familiar medical approach. This effort also raised awareness on the benefits of preventive health practices rooted in Ayurveda.

By bridging the gap between traditional healthcare and plantation communities, PHDT Kegalle continues to champion holistic health and sustainable well-being for estate populations.

## Health Steering Committee Meeting at RDHS – Kegalle



Article By: Sulaksha Dilshan

Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT) – Kegalle, in collaboration with the Regional Director of Health Services (RDHS), successfully held a Health Steering Committee Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at the RDHS Office, Kegalle. The meeting brought together key healthcare stakeholders and estate representatives to strengthen coordination and ensure more effective implementation of health initiatives in plantation communities.

Participants from PHDT included:

Deputy Regional Director (DRD), Community Development Officer (CDO) and Project Assistant (PA)

Other Participants included:

RDHS – Kegalle, Medical Officers (Doctors), Public Health Inspectors (PHI), Medical Officers of Health (MOH), Midwives, Estate Managers

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## Health Steering Committee Meeting at RDHS - Kegalle...

In total, 27 participants took part in this collaborative and solution-focused discussion.

The meeting focused on enhancing the delivery of health services in estates, ensuring that programmes such as maternal and child health, nutrition, sanitation, and disease prevention are more effectively implemented with the joint efforts of government officers and estate representatives.

A key highlight of the discussion was the review and optimization of the Thripocha nutrition programme, which plays a vital role in addressing malnutrition and promoting the health of children within estate communities. Strategies were explored to improve distribution efficiency and increase awareness among beneficiaries about the proper use and benefits of Thripocha.

The gathering emphasized the importance of inter-agency collaboration, continuous field-level monitoring, and clear communication between medical staff and estate management. PHDT reaffirmed its commitment to working hand in hand with the health sector to uplift the standard of living and healthcare accessibility in the plantation sector.

The Health Steering Committee Meeting served as a valuable platform to align goals, address operational challenges, and plan collectively for a healthier future in the estate sector of Kegalle.

## Estate Worker Housing Cooperative Society (EWHCS)



Article By: Priyanthi

The EWHCS Coordinating Committee Meeting was held on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 with the participation of officials from the Department of Cooperative Development, Regional Plantation Companies, and PHDT Ratnapura Regional Staff. The progress of all EWHCS of the Region and the auditing plan were discussed in detail.

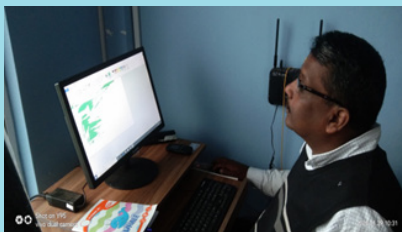
## Sinhala & Tamil New Year Celebrations



The Milk Bowling Ceremony was held at the head office, and our Director General, Directors, and staff joined. It was a wonderful moment of celebration and togetherness to welcome the New Year!

## Computer course - 4<sup>th</sup> batch

Article By: S.Linton



Course Title: **Introduction to Basic IT Skills**

Computer Classes are conducted at Hatton Region at the PHDT IT Centre for the Plantation Staff. At present classes for the 4<sup>th</sup> Batch is in progress. By end April 2025, the 4<sup>th</sup> Batch will be completed paving way for the commencement of the 5<sup>th</sup> Batch.

**Course Description:** This course is designed for individuals with little or no experience with computer knowledge. It covers essential computer skills, basic software applications, and introductory concepts to empower participants to use computers confidently.

- Categories - EWHCS Clerks, Health & Welfare Staff
- Course Duration - Four Months (One Day Per Week = 20 Days)
- Course Fee - Rs.10,000.00
- Payment By – Individuals
- Resource Personnel: Mr.S.Linton

Outcome –

- IT Course followers previously provided handwritten documents to the Estates; after attending classes they are providing typed documents
- In the CDCs, documents and charts are no longer handwritten; despite the documents are now computerized.
- Three CDOs have purchased new computers for their own use after attending classes.

## TB AWARENESS PROGRAMME: BUILDING A HEALTHIER WORKFORCE

Article By: Anjalika

Starting March 2025, PHDT Hatton Region, in collaboration with the Regional Director of Health Services – Nuwara Eliya, rolled out a series of Tuberculosis (TB) Awareness Programmes in selected estates. These initiatives aimed to educate estate workers—especially tea factory employees—on early detection, treatment access, and prevention of TB.

Programme Locations:

- Strathdon Estate of HTN PLC
- Posyton Estate – BTEL PLC
- ngestree Estate – KVPL PLC

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## TB AWARENESS PROGRAMME:

### Conducted By:

- Dr. Kanageshwary, Medical Officer – Chest Unit (RDHS Nuwara Eliya), led the sessions with her team of Public Health Inspectors. Organized by PHDT – Hatton Region.



### Key Focus Areas:

- What is TB?
- How does it spread?
- Recognizing early symptoms
- Steps to take when symptoms appear
- Availability of free and effective treatment.

### Impact in Numbers:

Total Participants: Over 200 estate workers. Many workers voluntarily submitted sputum samples for testing. Excellent engagement and active interaction throughout sessions.

### Outcome:

The TB awareness campaign received positive feedback and strong community participation, highlighting the growing importance of preventive health education in estate areas. The enthusiasm shown by workers marks a step forward in the collective fight against TB.



### Partners in Health:

Organized by: PHDT – Hatton Region In Collaboration With: RDHS – Nuwara Eliya Chest Unit

## TB Screening Programme at Loolcondura Estate

Article By: Hashini Wickramasinghe



On 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025, a TB screening programme was conducted at the Loolcondura Estate, held at the Loolcondura Community Centre. The event saw the participation of 50 individuals from the estate community, aiming to raise awareness and facilitate early detection of tuberculosis and suspected cases, and refer to the clinic.

## Establishment Health Promotion settings in the Estate Sector

Article By: Hashini Wickramasinghe

On 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025, the “Happy Estate Initiative” programme was established for the Hellebodde and Hope Estates. The event took place at the RDHS office in Nuwara Eliya, with the aim of promoting well-being and improving the quality of life within estate communities.

## Initially, start a health promotion setting in Sanquhar Estate.



Article By: Hashini Wickramasinghe

On 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025, a health promotion setting was established as part of the Happy Estate initiative at the Upper Division of Sanquhar Estate. A total of 12 members participated in the programme, which aimed to encourage healthier lifestyles and strengthen community well-being through sustainable practices.

## Established Health Promotion settings in the Estate Sector



Article By: Hashini Wickramasinghe

On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025, a meal inspection was conducted at the Craighead Upper Child Development Centre. The inspection aimed to assess food quality, hygiene practices, and nutritional standards to ensure a safe and healthy environment for the children.

## TB Day and TB awareness programme for EMAs & PFWOs



Article By: Hashini Wickramasinghe

On 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025, a TB awareness programme was conducted for Estate Medical Assistants (EMAs) and plantation family welfare.

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## Celebration of TB Day and TB awareness programme...

officers (PFWOs) at the E.L. Senanayake Children's Library. The event drew 120 participants and focused on educating attendees about tuberculosis prevention, early detection, and treatment.

## Health Camp – Loolcondura Estate



Article By: Hashini Wickramasinghe

A health camp was held at the Loolcondura Maternity Ward on April 3, 2025, for the estates of Loolcondura, Great Valley, Bopitiya, and Deltotte. The camp provided TB screening, oral cancer and dental screenings, as well as blood sugar pressure checks. A total of 100 participants from these estates attended the event, taking advantage of the health services offered.

## Clean Sri Lanka Project

Article By: Maduranga



A meeting regarding the Clean Sri Lanka Programme was held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025, at the Auditorium of the Governor's Office in Kandy. During the session, the Regional Director delivered a comprehensive presentation addressing regional matters related to the initiative.

Additionally, the Coordinating Secretary to the Hon. Minister provided an overview of the Clean Sri Lanka Programme, highlighting its core objectives-to promote ethical governance, ensure a clean and sustainable environment, and nurture a morally committed society. These efforts are aligned with the vision of "A Beautiful Island, A Prosperous People."

The programme particularly focuses on uplifting plantation communities, especially those residing in line houses, aiming to improve their living conditions and overall well-being.

## Water Project under IHP 4000 programme Hagala Estate, Kandaketiya division

Article By: Maduranga

The Water project of Infrastructure Development at Hagala Estate, Kandaketiya Division, under the IHP 4000 Programme, was successfully completed in the month of March.

The awarded amount for this project was Rs. 839,680.54. it supports six housing units, contributing to improved living conditions for the residents.

## ."Wewili Praja Suwa Diviya" – Combined Health Clinics, Screening Programs, and Dental Care for Estate Communities



Article By: Sulaksha Dilshan

As part of its commitment to enhancing the health and well-being of plantation communities, the Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT) – Kegalle, in collaboration with the Regional Director of Health Services (RDHS) and Medical Officer of Health (MOH) offices, successfully organized a series of combined health clinics and screening programs under the initiative titled "Wewili Praja Suwa Diviya."

These integrated programs were held at Anhettigama Estate under the purview of Bogawantalawa Plantations Ltd., on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025 and Densworth Estate under the purview of Lalan Rubbers (Pvt) Ltd., on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025, with a focus on preventive healthcare and early detection of common health issues among estate residents, including children, as detailed below:

Anhettigama Estate – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025

- Total Participants: 113
- Program Value: LKR 2,260,000

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## “Wewili Praja Suwa Diviya” – Combined Health Clinics...

### Screening Details:

- **Oral Cancer:** 65 screened, 2 referred
- **Eye Screening:** 69 screened, 9 referred
- **TB (Chest Diseases):** 34 screened, 0 referred
- **STD Screening:** 72 screened, 0 referred
- **Well Women Clinic (Breast Cancer):** 34 screened, 2 referred
- **Dental Screening:** 35 screened (including 10 children), 0 referred

PHDT Participants: Community Development Officer (CDO), Project Assistant (PA)

RPC Participants: Deputy General Manager, Estate Managers, Child Development Officers, and Office Staff

Densworth Estate – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025

- Total Participants: 151
- Program Value: LKR 3,020,000

### Screening Details:

- **Oral Cancer:** 58 screened, 1 referred
- **Eye Screening:** 52 screened, 4 referred
- **TB (Chest Diseases):** 10 screened, 0 referred
- **STD Screening:** 83 screened, 0 referred
- **Well Women Clinic (Breast Cancer):** 46 screened, 6 referred
- **Dental Screening:** 35 screened (including 13 children), 0 referred
- **Malaria Screening:** 52 screened, 0 referred

PHDT Participants: Assistant Accountant (AA), Project Assistants (PA)

RPC Participants: Deputy General Manager, Estate Managers, Child Development Officers, and Office Staff



### Delivering Essential Health Services

These programs provided estate communities with access to a wide range of preventive screenings, including dental, eye, oral cancer, breast cancer, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted infections, and malaria. Additionally, special attention was given to well-women and maternal health, with trained professionals conducting screenings and educating participants on early detection and self-care.

Identified patients were immediately referred for further treatment and follow-up through appropriate government health channels, ensuring continuity of care.

### Strengthening Public–Private Collaboration

The initiative was jointly funded by PHDT, RDHS, and MOH offices, with a combined investment of over LKR 5.2 million. The collaborative effort between government health services and estate management exemplifies the ongoing commitment to uplift the health standards of estate communities through accessible, community-based healthcare.

PHDT Kegalle extends its sincere appreciation to all participating health officers, estate staff, and community members who contributed to the success of the “Wewili Praja Suwa Diviya” initiative.

## Honorable Minister’s Visit to Regional office Badulla



Article By: Chinthani Rathnayake

the Honorable Minister visited our office on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025 to discuss and oversee the implementation of the Clean Sri Lanka Project. The meeting was attended by the Regional Director Badulla and Director Engineer, Assistant Manager from the Head Office, along with the Estate Management team, who will be responsible for executing the project. Additionally, the project coordinators participated in the discussions to ensure a smooth and efficient implementation.

## Clean Sri Lanka Programme - Community Mobilizin Phase



Article By: Chinthani Rathnayake

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## Clean Sri Lanka Programme - Community Mobilizin Phase

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 2025, the Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT) Badulla Region successfully conducted the “Clean Sri Lanka Programme – Community Mobilizing Phase” at Beauvais and Glenanore Estates. The primary purpose of this Programme was to promote awareness and active participation in maintaining environmental cleanliness and improving health practices within estate communities. Key topics discussed during the session included the importance of surrounding cleanliness and the adoption of proper health and hygiene habits, which are essential for building a healthier living environment. The Programme also addressed the need for updated postal addresses to improve communication and service delivery within the estates.

Additionally, discussions were held on the necessary expenditures for relevant renovations, ensuring that the estate infrastructure supports better living conditions. Another significant component was the facilitation of issuing National Identity Cards (NIC) and Birth Certificates (BC) for the community members, which are crucial for accessing various services and rights. Strategies for sustaining the cleanliness initiatives in the long term were explored, emphasizing the need for continuous community engagement, regular monitoring, and collaboration with stakeholders.

The event saw the active participation of Estate Managers and their teams, Ministry Coordinators, PHDT Officials, the Coordinating Engineering Assistant (CEA), Manager - Health and mobilization (MHM), and the

Assistant Community Development Officer (ACDO). The support from Estate management and ministry coordinators played a vital role in the success of the Programme, marking an important step towards building cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable estate communities.

## Monitoring and Evaluation Meeting for Managers of Kegalle Plantations PLC



Article By: Sulaksha Dilshan

The Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT) – Kegalle Regional Office successfully held a **Monitoring and Evaluation Meeting** for the Managers of Kegalle Plantations PLC on 18th March 2025. The session took place at the PHDT Regional Office in Kegalle and focused on reviewing current progress, identifying challenges, and enhancing collaboration between PHDT and estate management teams.

### Participants from PHDT included:

- Deputy Regional Director (DRD)
- Assistant Accountant (AA)
- Community Development Officer (CDO)
- Project Assistant (PA)

### Participants from Kegalle Plantations PLC included:

- Estate Managers
- Estate Medical Assistants (EMA)
- Plantation Field Welfare Officers (PFWO)
- Child Development Officer (CDO)

A major point of discussion was the **Monthly Social Welfare Return (MSWR)**. PHDT officials

reviewed common errors identified in previously submitted returns, particularly by health staff, and provided guidance on how to correct and avoid such shortcomings. This session helped to reinforce the importance of maintaining accurate and complete records for effective monitoring and decision-making.

In addition, a **Nutrition Awareness Programme** was conducted for both estate managers and health personnel. The session emphasized the role of nutrition in improving the well-being of estate communities and provided practical strategies for promoting healthy dietary habits among workers and their families.

The meeting concluded with an open forum, allowing estate managers and field staff to share insights and discuss strategies for improving welfare services across the estates. PHDT Kegalle expressed appreciation for the active engagement of Kegalle Plantations PLC and reaffirmed its commitment to supporting ongoing development efforts through effective monitoring and collaborative partnerships.

## UPCOMING EVENTS.....

- Stakeholders’ Forum & launching of **Tea Dialogue bulletin** 16-05-2025
- CEOs’ Forum 09-06-2025
- PHDT Cricket Tournament 13-06-2025
- Clean Sri Lanka Ministry project
- Implementation of distribution of cook stove project
- Conservesion of watersheds with Rainforest Alliance
- Capacity-building training for PHDT Staff at Radella, Nuwara Eliya. 14-06-2025

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