

President honoured with Lions International highest awards

BEVERLEY JANSZ

President Mahinda Rajapaksa was honoured with Lions International highest awards, the Melvin Jones Fellowship and the Lions International Global Leadership medal.

Lions International Multiple Council Chairman (Sri Lanka) Lion Dr. M.H.C.J. Ian, who is also the Ambassador General to the United Cultural Convention, USA, said that these two prestigious awards are presented only to world leaders.



President Mahinda Rajapaksa receives the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award from Multiple Council Chairman and Ambassador General to the United Cultural Convention, USA, Lion Dr. M.H.C.J. Ian. Others in the picture are Lions International President, Lion Eberhard J. Wirfs and Lion Sarath Wijehandara.



President Mahinda Rajapaksa receives the Lions International Global Leadership Medal from Lions International President, Lion Eberhard J. Wirfs. Others in the picture are Lion Lady Margit, Lion Dr. M.H.C.J. Ian and Media Minister, Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena.

Lions in 202 countries are very dedicated, and the services rendered

by them to the community and the needy are commendable, Lions International President, Lion Eberhard J. Wirfs said.

Lions International spread in over 202 countries, has been classified as the world's number one service organisation. Lions International President, Lion Eberhard J. Wirfs pledged more financial aid to Sri Lankan Lions when he takes up duties as the Chairman of Lions Clubs International Foundation this year, which is the funding arm of Lions International.

Lion Eberhard J. Wirfs also paid a tribute to Lions International Multiple Council Chairman, Dr. M.H.C.J. Ian for the services rendered by him to the Sri Lanka's Lions movement.

Global Rotarians Rs 4.85 m service project for Kandy General Hospital

Two large capacity water tanks of 20,000 ltrs. and additional cement tanks of 5,000 ltrs. together with pipe lines, pressure valves and accessories were provided to the

Nephrology Unit of the Kandy General Hospital at a project budget of Rs. 456,000.

An adequate supply of clean water with back up facilities was a vital need at this Unit particu-

larly as it also supports the vital Dialysis Centre which serves the entire Central part of the Country.

The project was enabled through Rotary Foundation Matching Grand No.

70558 sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Simi Sunrise, Simi Valley, Westlake Village Sunrise and District 5240 in California - USA, Soresina and District 2050 in Italy, Rotherham Sitwell and District

1270 in the United Kingdom with further funding and implementation by the Rotary Club of Kandy in Sri Lanka. The project will benefit thousands of underprivileged persons seeking

treatment at this vital Medical Centre. This project was one out of 16 similar programs providing water and improved sanitation at a total project budget of Rs. 4.85 Mln.



President Ayesha Wijeyeratne and members of the Rotary Club of Kandy with doctors of the Kidney Unit, handing over the project to Secretary of the Kandy General Hospital.



President, Kandy Rotary Club Rtn Ayesha Wijeyeratne and doctors of the Kidney Unit, Vice President, Rtn Shamie Peiris and PP Rtn. M. T. A. Zain with the water tanks.

Trincomalee Rotarians to uplift Velankulam villagers

The Velankulam village was affected during the 1983 violence and the occupants of the village fled the area. The villagers did not return to the village for over twenty years due to periodical violence in the District. After the peace initiative the Rotary Club attempted to resettle the people in the village by obtaining funds from foreign Rotary Clubs, initially for 30 houses and later it was increased to 85 due to the expansion of the initial occupant's families.

and also there was no toilets provided. The Rotary Club took the initiative to find funds from the foreign Rotary Clubs to fulfill at least part of their needs.

One such Club that came forward was the Rotary Club of Geelong, Australia which provided funds to build a 1200 sqft building to be used as health Clinic, built a overhead water tank provided with a Solar powered water pump to pump the water to the water tank and also provided street taps along the main road. Also a new well was built in a location where some families are occupying. An electric diesel generator was supplied for the purpose of the Health Clinic. A septic tank built out of cement blocks with a concrete slab was provided for forty houses, hoping to find funds to build the toilets later. The total amount spent for the above projects was over four million.

Royal Commonwealth Essay Competition awards ceremony in Sri Lanka

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The Commonwealth is a unique global family of 54 member-countries. Commonwealth's 1.8 billion people make up a quarter of the world's population. Half of this population is aged 25 and under.

Members emphasize English as a common working language and share similar systems of law, public administration and education.

Every year, the Commonwealth Essay Competition inspires thousands of young writers from all over the world organized by the Royal Commonwealth Society.

The competition has been running for over 100 years and is firmly established as a highly regarded and popular international education project, enjoying much esteem and support throughout the commonwealth.

The competition is organized in four age bands between the ages of 12 years to 18 years, among the young people in the commonwealth.

The prizes range from a minimum of 100 Sterling Pounds to 600 Sterling Pounds and are given to the first four selected writers and essays. Certificates are issued to other selected winners.



Chief Guest Country Director, British Council Sri Lanka Gill Westaway with officials of the Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS) from left, Sam Fernando, Gen. Tilak Paranagama, Fred Medis, S. Yogendranathan, Tissa Jayaweera and President, Lions Club of Colombo West, Lion Ashroff Hussain.



Treasurer (RCS) Lion Ashroff Hussain presenting an award to a winner.



President (RCS) Fred Medis presents an award to a winner.



First prize winner Shenuka Corea receives her award from chief guest, Country Director, British Council Sri Lanka Gill Westaway.



Secretary (RCS) S. Yogendranathan delivers the vote of thanks.

Past President (RCS) Tissa Jayaweera presents an award to a winner. The award ceremony, jointly hosted by the British Council Colombo last week, for the 106 winners. Principals, teachers and parents of the award winners, totalling over 300,

participated in the event. The award ceremony, was a magic show and tea was served to all. Secretary of the Royal Commonwealth Society, Sri Lanka, S. Yogendranathan proposed the vote of thanks.