

# NEWSLETTER

Sri Lanka Association of Washington D.C.

## 23/24 BOARD MEMBERS



NUWAN  
DHARMABANDU



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HALEEMA  
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CHAMIL  
PERERA



RANJITH  
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KALUBOWILA



OVINI  
WEERATUNGE



JALIYA  
NAGAHAWATTE

## MEMBERSHIP

SLAWDC, the Sri Lanka Association of Washington DC, welcomes individuals who are passionate about making a difference in the lives of others. As a member, you will have the chance to contribute to various projects and initiatives aimed at uplifting communities in Sri Lanka. Whether you have skills to offer or simply a desire to help, your involvement is valued and impactful. Join us in spreading kindness, compassion, and hope to those in need. Together, we can create positive change and make a lasting difference.



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



**SRI LANKA ASSOCIATION**  
of Washington DC  
EST. 1975

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual Membership	\$25.00
Family Membership (Family With Children Under 18)	\$40.00
Associate Membership (Temporary resident in the US for one Year)	\$10.00
Sustaining Members - Life Members paying dues - voluntary	\$25.00
Individual Life Membership	\$200.00
Family Life Membership	\$300.00

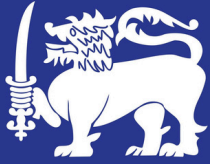
Please mail membership checks payable to:  
Sri Lanka Association of Washington, D.C.  
P.O. Box 30295  
Bethesda, MD 20824-0295



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



**venmo**



# NEWSLETTER

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Sri Lanka Association of Washington D.C.

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Ayubowan!

As we conclude another successful Sri Lanka Day celebration, I stand before you with immense gratitude and pride. Today's event was a testament to our community's resilience, diversity, and unity.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to:

Our dedicated volunteers, who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this day possible.  
Our generous sponsors, whose support enabled us to share our culture with a wider audience.  
Our talented cricket and netball players performers, who mesmerized us with their music, dance, and art  
Our vendors, who brought the flavors and aromas of Sri Lanka to our festival.  
Our community members, who came together to celebrate our heritage.  
Your collective efforts have made SL Day a vibrant showcase of Sri Lankan culture. We've not only promoted our traditions but also fostered connections among our community and beyond with sporting activities.

To our guests from diverse backgrounds, thank you for joining us and experiencing the warmth of Sri Lankan hospitality.

As we celebrate our achievements, let's remember our roots and the values that bind us: compassion, respect, and unity.

Let's continue to uplift and support each other, in the future as well.

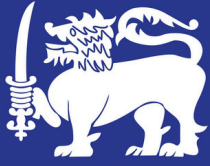
Thank you again for making SL Day 2024 an unforgettable success!

May our community continue to flourish, and may our cultural heritage inspire future generations.

Ayubowan!

Nuwan Dharmabandu  
President (23-25)





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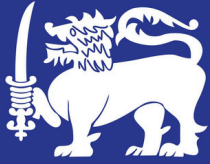
Sri Lanka Association of Washington D.C.

## SRI LANKA DAY 2024



The 2024 Sri Lanka Day, hosted by the Sri Lankan Association of Washington D.C., was one of our largest and most successful events. The day was packed with a diverse range of activities, from an exhilarating netball tournament and cricket competition to a vibrant fashion show and enthralling cultural dances. A standout feature of the event was the health clinic, which provided free flu vaccines, dental education table, free prescription eyeglasses to attendees. Nearly every food vendor sold out by the end of the day, offering a delicious array of Sri Lankan dishes that kept visitors coming back for more. With DJ Chamee delivering a lively soundtrack throughout the day, the atmosphere was one of joy and celebration, with hundreds of attendees, including families who traveled from New York just to join the festivities.

The event was further elevated by the presence of notable community figures, such as Ambassador Samarasinghe, Lt. Gov. Aruna Miller, April Delaney, and representatives of local officials, adding prestige to the gathering. We were also fortunate to have the support of incredible sponsors, including the Maryland Army National Guard, ATI Inc., Realtor Madusha Peiris, Professional Lead Inspection, Grocery Lanka, The Creek Lodge, Serendib Band USA, the Department of Health and Human Services for Montgomery County, Derwood Family Dentistry, and Peepers Family Eyecare. These sponsors played a vital role in ensuring the success of the event. Sri Lanka Day 2024 truly captured the spirit of community, bringing people together from far and wide, and leaving everyone who attended with a deep sense of pride and connection.



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## SRI LANKA DAY 2024

### SPONSORS



Professional Lead Inspections, LLC.

<https://plinspections.com/>  
Email: info@plinspections.com

Residential Hazardous Materials Inspection Services in DC, MD, VA

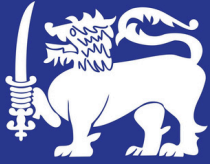
- Asbestos Surveys
- Lead-based Paint Inspections
- Radon Testing
- Indoor Air Quality/Mold Inspections
- Water Quality Inspections



## GROCERY LANKA

## Serendib Band USA





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## PROJECT 5 : SPORTING EQUIPMENTS

We acquired sporting equipment for a promising track and field team at Mahakele Vidyalyaya in Badulla, Sri Lanka.

The children were incredibly grateful, and we observed them putting the shoes and equipment to use immediately after receiving them. The spirit of teamwork and determination was palpable, creating an atmosphere filled with hope and inspiration.

## VISION DRIVE

In April 2024, a vision screening project at Welikada Prison identified inmates needing bifocal glasses. We committed to providing 59 pairs at 3,500 rs each and successfully raised funds for this purpose. The donors' generosity and the project team's dedication turned this initiative into a beacon of hope for the inmates.

PROJECT 6

## PA SOUND SYSTEM

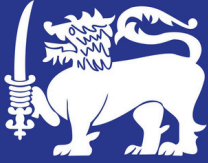
We acquired a much-needed PA sound system for Am/Vidyaloka Vidyalaya, Ampara. Now, the students can hold assemblies, educational workshops, and after-school activities that promote and enhance their well-being. The children expressed immense gratitude, and we were thrilled to see the equipment put to use immediately upon arrival!

PROJECT 7

## BOOK DRIVE

Your generous donations of school supplies and used books have made a significant impact on a small primary school in the heart of Avisawella, Sri Lanka, as well as another in Badulla, Sri Lanka. We had the privilege of seeing the village community and the parents of the students come together to construct cupboards for their library to store the books.

PROJECT 8



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## DONATIONS

You too can partner with these missions and contribute to the wellbeing of the most needy.

Every contribution, no matter how small, makes a significant impact in supporting those who need it most. You can donate via venmo (@SLAWDC-GW) or post a cheque to

**PO BOX 30295 BETHESDA MD 20824**

Together, we can create a brighter future for everyone. Thank you for your generosity and support.



## ON GOING AND UPCOMING PROJECTS

### ON GOING

Project Batticaloa  
Donations For A Special Need  
Education Unit

### UPCOMING

BOOK DRIVES and more!

Stay Tuned!

## PREVIOUSLY...

### SL DAY 2024



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Organized by  
Sri Lanka Association of Washington DC



## Project Batticaloa

### Donations For A Special Need Education Unit

#### Km/St/Ranamadu Hindu College - Central Camp

A school located in a challenging area of the Sammanthurai Education Zone is seeking the following items to support the needs of students in their Special Needs Education Unit. Your generosity can make a significant difference in the lives of these students, allowing them to access the resources they need to thrive and succeed.

- DELL VOSTRO DESKTOP 1 = \$665
- 20" LED MONITOR 1 = \$128
- ACCESSORIES 5 = \$10
- TOSHIBA PHOTO COPY MACHINE 1 = \$950
- EPSON EB-E05 MULTIMEDIA PROJECTOR 1 = \$661
- 64 GB ORIGINAL USB 1 = \$7



**TOTAL = \$2421**



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OR  
Post a Cheque to  
PO BOX 30295

For More Information: Haleema Noor - 240-413-9181 BETHESDA MD 20824