

The Sri Lanka India Society

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2019/2020

We take pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Society for the Year 2019/2020.

1. MEMBERSHIP

The Life Membership stands as 792 while we have 12 corporate members (as at 31/03/2020). During the period from April 2019 to March 2020, 18 new Life Members joined the Society.

The followings continue as Hony. Life Members:-

- Mr. Ken Balendra
- Mr. Tilak de Zoysa
- Mr. Manik Perera
- Mr. Chandra Schaffter

2. PATRON

The Patron of our Society is His Excellency The High Commissioner for India in Sri Lanka. His Excellency has actively participated in our functions and encouraged the Society in its activities.

3. VICE PATRONS

Mr. Tilak de Zoysa, Mr. Chandra Schaffter, and Mr. Kumar Nadesan are the Vice Patrons of the Society.

4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee consisting of the following (except the ex-officio members) was elected at the Annual General Meeting held on 30th September 2019 and the Committee managed the affairs of the Society during the period under review:

President:	Mr. Rohan Tudawe
Vice Presidents:	Mrs. Yamuna Ganeshalingam
	Mr. Kishore Reddy
	Dr. A. Kandasamy
Hony. Secretary:	Mr. Sarravanan Neelakandan
Hony. Asst. Secretary:	Ms. Chathuri Ranasinghe
Hony. Treasurer:	Mr. M. Mohan
Hony. Asst. Treasurer:	Mr. K. Gnanakanthan
Editor:	Dr. A. G. Jayakrishnan

Immediate Past President (ex officio):

Mr. T. S. Prakash

Indian High Commission's Representative (ex officio):

Shri Santhosh Varma

Other Executive Committee Members:

Mr. Sampath Seresinhe
Mrs. A. Kailasapillai
Mr. M.Thavayogarajah
Mr. Dinesh Weerakkody
'Deshabandhu' K. Jayakumar J.P.
Mr. S. Renganathan
Mr. S. Muthusamy (Deceased)
Mr. A. A. M. Illiyas, P.C
Prof. Daya Edirisinghe
Mr. Madathil Samuel Saju
Mr. Joseph Rohan Victoria
Mr. Rajah Sinnathuray
Mr. Segal Nagendra
Mr. Samantha Wickramasinghe
Mr. N. Ananda Kumar
Mr. S. C. Pattanayak
Mr. M. Basheer Ahamed
Mr. Manoj Kumar Gupta
Mr. Sanjeev Jha
Dr. Vadivelu Srinivasan
Mr. Santosh Menon
Mr. Sumit Law
Mr. Sanjay Baid
Mr. Jatinder Biala



5. ADMINISTRATION

The office address of the Society continues at No.2 Deal Place (Level 5), Colombo 3.

The Executive Committee meetings are being held monthly on the first Thursday (unless it is changed due to reasons beyond our control) at the Taj Samudra Hotel. We must place on record our appreciation and gratitude to the Management of the Taj Samudra Hotel for making a function room available on a monthly basis for our Committee Meetings and for providing refreshments free of charge.

6. ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

6.1 *DINNER TO COMMEMORATE INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY ON 01/09/2019*

The Independence Day of India was celebrated in grand style by the Society on 1st September 2019 at the Taj Samudra Hotel. His Excellency Shri Taranjit Singh Sandhu was the Guest of Honour. The event was attended by Sagala Ratnayaka, MP, Minister of Ports and Shipping and Southern Development, Members of Parliament, Mrs. Aruni Ranaraja, Director General of South Asia Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs members of the Society, dignitaries and guests. The Society notes with appreciation the efforts of Mr. Sega Nagendra, Chairman of the organizing committee, who was ably supported by Mr. Sanjeev Jha, Mr. Dinesh Weerakkody, Dr. A. Kandasamy, Mr. Kishore Reddy, Dr. A. G. Jayakrishnan, Mr. Rajah Sinnathuray, Mrs. Yamuna Ganeshalingam, Mrs. A. Kailasapillai, Mrs. Shani Karunarathan, Mr. T. S. Prakash, Mr. Sarravanan Neelakandan and Mr. S. Renganathan and our President Mr. Rohan R. Tudawe in organizing this event. We are also grateful to our generous sponsors Lanka IOC, Central Agencies, A J Medichem, LIC Lanka, Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC and Mr. S. Muthusamy who made it possible to organize the event on a grand scale.

6.2 *MAHATHMA GANDHI ORATION (GANDHI JAYANTHI) ON 02-10-2019*

Mahathma Gandhi Oration 2019 held on the Wednesday 2nd October 2019 at BCISA at BMICH with the collaboration with Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre. The keynote speaker is Honourable Justice S. Thurairaja, P.C, Justice of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka delivered the keynote speech on "Relevance of Mahatma Gandhi in Contemporary Times". The Keynote speaker and speeches by H.E High Commissioner and President of the Society. The Chief Guest, H.E High Commissioner, Honourable Speaker, Ministers, M.Ps, other High Commissioners and the Ambassadors are also invited



6.3 *FAREWELL DINNER TO HIS EXCELLENCY TARANJIT SINGH SANDHU, HIGH COMMISSIONER OF INDIA ON 23/01/2020*

A dinner to bid farewell to His Excellency Mr. Taranjit Singh Sandhu was organized jointly with the GOPIO (Global Organization of People of Indian Origin) and COLIND (Colombo Hindus), at the Samudra Ballroom, Taj Samudra Hotel on 23rd January 2020. Many members of Sri Lanka India Society participated at the function.

6.4 *DINNER TO COMMEMORATE INDIA'S REPUBLIC DAY AND INDEPENDENCE DAY OF SRI LANKA ON 28/02/202*

Republic Day of India and Independence Day of Sri Lanka was held on 28th February 2020 at Taj Samudra Hotel. The Guest of Honour was His Excellency The High Commissioner of India in Sri Lanka. The Chief Guest was Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha, MP, State Minister of International Co-operation, who delivered the keynote speech and also speeches delivered by His Excellency High Commissioner of India and the President of the Society.

A video clip to commemorate 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji followed by an address by Mr. Manvinder Singh on Guru Nanak Dev Ji, and also Screened a video clip of the celebration of 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's life philosophy.

6.5 *CELEBRATION OF 550TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF GURU NANAK DEV JI (FOUNDER OF SIKH FAITH)*

The 550th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji (founder of Sikh Faith) followed by an address by Mr. Manvinder Singh was planned to be held at Gurudwara Shri Guru Nanak Darbar Colombo on the 19th March 2020. However due to the COVID – 19 Pandemic in Sri Lanka, the function was canceled.



7. A BIG THANK YOU

We profusely thank:

- Our Patron His Excellency The High Commissioner for India in Sri Lanka for his guidance and support.
- Dr. Vinod Jacob, Deputy High Commissioner for India in Sri Lanka who have graced our functions and supported the Society during the year under review.
- Shri Santhosh Varma, Counselor, who is representing the High Commission on our Executive Committee, for his spontaneous support and advice.
- We are also grateful to all our sponsors and donors, without whose support, our activities during the year under review would not have been so successfully carried out.
- The Taj Samudra Hotel and its Management and Staff for their generous support to the Society.

In conclusion, we thank all our members for the co-operation and assistance extended to us during the year under review.

**FOR AND BEHALF OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
SRI LANKA INDIA SOCIETY**

SARAVANAN NEELAKANDAN

HONY. SECRETARY

21st September 2020