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වර්ෂා Varsha වර්ෂා

WASH AWARENESS TRAINING EMPOWERS COMMUNITIES IN EHETUWEWA



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மரக்கன்றுகள் நடுகை திட்டம்

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Childrens Corner

Lanka Rain Water Harvesting Forum (LRWHF), in collaboration with Dr. Indika Rathnayaka of Kurunegala Teaching Hospital, successfully conducted a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Awareness Training for beneficiaries of toilet facilities installed under the Integrated Resources Management of Water and Ecosystem Project by the Lanka Rainwater Harvesting Forum. The training was held at the Ehetuwewa Divisional Secretariat Office on 24th June 2026.

The session focused on promoting safe sanitation practices, proper hygiene behaviors, and the importance of clean water in protecting public health and improving community wellbeing.

Dr. Indika Rathnayaka of Kurunegala Teaching Hospital shared valuable medical and public health insights with the attendees. His session helped participants connect everyday hygiene practices with broader health and wellbeing outcomes.

Continued on the next page

Dr. Rathnayaka also raised awareness on dengue prevention, highlighting practical steps communities can take to reduce breeding sites and protect their households.

Director of Planning at Ehetuwewa DS Office spoke on the value of LRWHF's ongoing and completed sanitation toilet projects, emphasizing their long-term impact on community health. Dr. Tanuja, CEO of LRWHF, addressed how the organization continues to stand with communities, today and into the future.

The program was supported by the Fédération Genevoise de Coopération and the International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance, partners who continue to strengthen LRWHF's water and sanitation initiatives.

Participants engaged actively throughout the program, sharing experiences and raising questions.



NURTURING NATURE THROUGH BEE KEEPING

Lanka Rain Water Harvesting Forum is proud to share the progress of its Beekeeping Initiative in the Divulgane and Thibiriyawa GN Divisions of Ehetuwewa. Through this project, local families are receiving essential tools and professional training to build sustainable livelihoods and create new income opportunities through beekeeping.

The initiative provided beneficiaries with beehive boxes, protective gear, and hands on training in hive management and honey harvesting. Community members, including women, are actively involved in learning these new skills, gaining both practical knowledge and confidence to manage their own hives.

This initiative currently supports a total of 20 beneficiaries across the Diwulagane and Thimbiriyawa GN Divisions, comprising 15 male and 5 female farmers. Efforts are ongoing to encourage greater participation from women in future phases of the project, ensuring that the benefits of beekeeping, including skills development, income generation, and community leadership, are shared more equitably among all members of these farming communities.

This project is implemented with the support of the International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance (IRHA) and the Federation Genevoise de Cooperation (FGC), reflecting a shared commitment to strengthening rural livelihoods while protecting the natural ecosystem.



Continued on the next page

By equipping farmers with beehive boxes, protective equipment, and hands on training, we aim to build local capacity and confidence, enabling families to generate additional income while contributing to the health of their surrounding ecosystem. Beekeeping not only supports honey production but also plays a vital role in pollination, helping sustain agricultural productivity and biodiversity in the region.



Looking ahead, many farmers are now ready to sell their harvested honey in the market, marking an important step toward turning this initiative into a lasting source of income. With continued support from IRHA and FGC, LRWHF remains committed to helping these communities grow their beekeeping livelihoods for years to come.



රජයට වසරකට රුපියල් මිලියන 23.85 ක ඉතිරියක්: වැසි ජල සංඝදයෙන් විශේෂ යෝජනාවලියක් අමාත්‍යාංශයට

ලංකා වැසි ජලය රැස්කිරීමේ සංඝදය මගින් වසරකට රුපියල් මිලියන 23.85 ක මුදලක් රජයට ඉතිරි කර දීමේ විශේෂ යෝජනාවලියක් 2026 මැයි 12 වන දින නිවාස, ඉදිකිරීම් සහ ජලසම්පාදන අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී එම අමාත්‍ය ගරු ආචාර්ය එච්. එම්. සුසිල් රණසිංහ මහතා වෙත නිල වශයෙන් භාර දෙන ලදී.

බත්තරමුල්ල සෙන්සිටිව් පිහිටි අමාත්‍යාංශ පරිශ්‍රයේදී පැවැති මෙම සාකච්ඡාවේදී, බස්නාහිර පළාතේ පිහිටි රාජ්‍ය ආයතන 100 ක වැසි ජල රැස් කිරීමේ පද්ධති (Rainwater Harvesting Systems) සවි කිරීම සඳහා වන යෝජනාවලිය ඉදිරිපත් කෙරිණි.

මෙම ව්‍යාපෘතිය මගින් එක් ආයතනයක මාසික ජල බිල 20% - 30% ත් අතර ප්‍රමාණයකින් අඩු කරගත හැකි අතර, ජලසම්පාදන මණ්ඩලය මගින් නිකුත් කරන පිරිපහදු කළ ජල භාවිතයෙන් වසරකට මිටර් කියුබ් 150,000 ක ප්‍රමාණයක් ඉතිරි කර ගැනීමට ද හැකියාව ලැබේ..

මුදල් ඉතිරි කිරීමට අමතරව ලැබෙන ප්‍රධාන වාසි:

- ජල ආරක්ෂණ භාවය (Water Security): ජල සැපයුම අත්හිටුවන අවස්ථාවලදී ආයතනවල දෛනික කටයුතු සඳහා භාවිත කිරීමට විකල්ප ජල මූලාශ්‍රයක් ලැබීම.
- දේශගුණික විපර්යාසවලට හැඩගැසීම (Climate Adaptation): නාගරික ප්‍රදේශවල හදිසියේ ඇතිවන ගංවතුර තත්ත්වයන් පාලනය කිරීමට උපකාරී වීම.
- පරිසර සුරක්ෂිතතාව (Sustainability): මෙම ආයතන වෙත වසරකට පැමිණෙන මිලියන 28 කට අධික ජනතාවට පරිසර සුරක්ෂිතතාව පිළිබඳ පූර්වාදර්ශයක් සැපයීම.
- ජල සංරක්ෂණය (Water Conservation): අපගේ ස්වාභාවික ජල සම්පත අනාගතය උදෙසා සුරක්ෂිත කිරීම.



නිවාස, ඉදිකිරීම් සහ ජලසම්පාදන අමාත්‍යාංශයේ අවධානය

වැසි ජලය නිවාස හා රාජ්‍ය ආයතනවල භාවිතයට ගත හැකි ආකාරය පිළිබඳ යෝජනාවලියක් ලබා දෙන ලෙස අමාත්‍යාංශය මගින් කරන ලද ඉල්ලීමට අනුව මෙම වැඩසටහන ක්‍රියාත්මක වේ. පළමු අදියර යටතේ කොළඹ දිස්ත්‍රික්කයේ ආයතන 100 ක මෙය ආරම්භ කිරීමට නියමිතය..



නිවාස, ඉදිකිරීම් සහ ජලසම්පාදන අමාත්‍ය ගරු ආචාර්ය එච්. එම්. සුසිල් රණසිංහ මහතා ප්‍රකාශ කළ පරිදි:

“මෙමගින් ජලසම්පාදන මණ්ඩලය මගින් පිරිපහදු කරන පානීය ජලය, වෙනත් ජල අවශ්‍යතා සහිත ප්‍රදේශ වෙත ලබා දීමට හැකියාව ලැබෙනවා. එමෙන්ම නිවාසවල මෙම පද්ධති සවි කිරීමෙන් ජනතාවගේ ජල බිල ද අඩු කරගත හැකියි. නාගරික සංවර්ධන අධිකාරී පනතට අනුව ඉදිකරන නව නිවාස සඳහා වැසි ජල ටැංකියක් පැවතීම අනිවාර්ය කර ඇති අතර, ජනතාවට යම් මූල්‍යමය සහනයක් ලබා දෙමින් මෙම ක්‍රමය ඉදිරියේදී ප්‍රචලිත කිරීමට බලාපොරොත්තු වෙනවා.”

ලොව පුරා බොහෝ රටවල සාර්ථකව භාවිත වන මෙම ක්‍රමවේදය ශ්‍රී ලංකාව තුළ ද සක්‍රීයව ක්‍රියාත්මක කිරීම මගින් තිරසාර හා ජල සුරක්ෂිත අනාගතයක් ගොඩනැගීමට අපට හැකියාව ලැබෙනු ඇත.

PLANT NURSERIES BLOOM IN EHETUWEWA THROUGH COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE

Lanka Rain Water Harvesting Forum is happy to share good news from its plant nursery project in the Diwulgane and Thimbiriyawa GN Divisions, Ehetuwewa DSD, Kurunegala District. This project is being implemented by LRWHF with support from the International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance (IRHA) and the Federation Genevoise de Cooperation (FGC), under the Integrated Resources Management of Water and Ecosystem Project.

Continuing from the progress made in 2025, two plant nurseries in Diwulgane village have experience Increased sales this year. Ishini Plant Nursery has sold plants worth Rs. 61,000, while Dhanuja Plant Nursery has sold plants worth Rs. 40,000. In Thimbiriyawa, Nethuli Plant Nursery has also made its first sales, worth Rs. 3,000.

This project has supported three beneficiaries so far, one male and two female, who are now earning income by growing and selling plants from their own nurseries. The sales activity began on 1st February 2026 and is still ongoing, with more plants expected to be sold in the coming months.

The nurseries are actively cultivating a rich variety of valuable timber, fruit, vegetable, and herbal plants to support both environmental reforestation and local nutrition, including Kumbuk, Mee, Karanda, Chilli, Brinjal, Thibbatu, Tomato, Cashew, Passion Fruit, Kathuru Murunga, and Guava.

While the initiative has been successful, it also reflects shifting climate conditions in the area. Rainfall is now concentrated into short, intense periods, followed by extended dry spells. These changes highlight the need for efficient rainwater collection, larger storage capacity, and effective overflow management.

These early results show how small nurseries can grow into steady sources of income for local families. LRWHF remains committed to supporting these nurseries and helping more community members build similar livelihoods through sustainable plant cultivation.



Danju Plant Nursery



Plants at Nethuli Plant Nursery



Plant sale at Nethuli Plant Nursery

RESTORING SAFE WATER TO COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY CYCLONE DITWA

Lanka Rain Water Harvesting Forum (LRWHF) is implementing the Well Cleaning and Desilting Programme, with the generous support of The Coca-Cola Foundation and the Seva Lanka Foundation, to restore safe drinking water to communities affected by the severe impact of Cyclone Ditwa.

The project is focused on the Gampaha District, covering the Biyagama, Mabima, and Gonawala areas, where wells were badly affected by flooding and silt deposits following the cyclone. Many households in these communities were left without access to clean drinking water, making the restoration of wells an urgent priority.

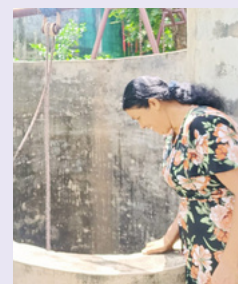


Through this initiative, LRWHF has successfully cleaned and restored 53 household wells so far, with several other wells still undergoing restoration. Once completed, these efforts will ensure that even more families have renewed access to safe and reliable drinking water, while helping safeguard public health in the aftermath of the disaster.

The beneficiaries expressed their sincere gratitude to the Coca-Cola Foundation, Lanka Rainwater Harvesting Forum and the Seva Lanka Foundation for their valuable support in making this programme possible. This collaboration reflects a shared commitment to community resilience and disaster recovery, ensuring that vulnerable communities can recover and rebuild with dignity following natural disasters.



Mrs Chandrakanthi
Wellawatta Arachchi



Mrs Sumana Hewage

Highlighting the struggles faced by residents, Mrs. Chandrakanthi Wellawatta Arachchi noted, "Many people, including young children, were greatly affected by this issue, and after the cyclone, we suffered immensely without clean drinking water. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Lanka Rainwater Harvesting Forum, the Coca-Cola Foundation, and the Sewalanka Foundation for rendering us such a valuable service."

Echoing this sentiment, Mrs. Sumana Hewage emphasized the crucial assistance provided during the crisis, stating, "This project provided us with tremendous relief. Their invaluable support helped us recover from the severe difficulties brought on by the storm." The impact of this project extends beyond restoring access to clean water. Contaminated and silted wells pose serious health risks, particularly for children and the elderly, and by addressing this issue quickly, LRWHF has helped reduce the risk of waterborne diseases in the affected communities.



உலக சுற்றுச்சூழல் தினம் 2026 | மரக்கன்றுகள் நடுகை திட்டம்

உலக சுற்றுச்சூழல் தினத்தை முன்னிட்டு இலங்கை மழைநீர் சேகரிப்பு அமைப்பு (டுசுறுஉகு) திம்பிரியாவடி ஹல்மில்லவெவடி ஒவிறற் மற்றும் தெனிய ஆகிய பகுதிகளில் சமூக அடிப்படையிலான மரக்கன்றுகள் நடுகை திட்டத்தை 09.06.2026 அன்று வெற்றிகரமாக நடத்தியது. சுற்றுச்சூழல் பாதுகாப்பில் ஒன்றிணைந்த அர்ப்பணிப்புடன் உள்ளூர் பங்குதாரர்களும் சமூக உறுப்பினர்களும் இந்நிகழ்வில் பங்கேற்றனர்.

உள்ளூர்தாவர வளத்தை மேம்படுத்தும் நோக்கில் மொத்தம் 24 தேசிய மரக்கன்றுகள் நடப்பட்டன. அவற்றில் உள்ளடங்குபவை:

- மீ (ஆநந) - 05
- கும்புக் - 05
- கரண்ட - 10
- நபட - 01
- ஹெலம்ப - 02
- கதுருமுருங்க - 01

இந்நிகழ்வில் 25 பயனாளிகளும் பின்வரும் அரசமற்றும் சமூகஅமைப்புகளின் பிரதிநிதிகளும் ஆர்வத்துடன் கலந்துகொண்டு சிறப்பித்தனர்:

- கிராம நிலதாரி அலுவலகம்
- பிரதேச செயலகம்
- சமுர்த்தி அபிவிருத்திதிட்டம்
- உள்ளூர் சமூக உறுப்பினர்கள்

இந்நிகழ்வில் 25 பயனாளிகளும் பின்வரும் அரசமற்றும் சமூகஅமைப்புகளின் பிரதிநிதிகளும் ஆர்வத்துடன் கலந்துகொண்டு சிறப்பித்தனர்:

- கிராம நிலதாரி அலுவலகம்
- பிரதேச செயலகம்
- சமுர்த்தி அபிவிருத்திதிட்டம்
- உள்ளூர் சமூக உறுப்பினர்கள்

இது ஏன் முக்கியமானது?

இத்திட்டம் சுற்றுச்சூழல்மீட்பு பல்லுயிர்ப்பெருக்கம் நீர்நிலைப்பாதுகாப்புமற்றும்மழைநீர்சேகரிப்பிற்குப்பங்களிக்கிறது.

நிலத்தடிநீரைஅதிகரித்துமண்அரிப்பைக்குறைப்பதன் மூலம்

எதிர்காலசந்ததிக்குக்காலநிலைமாற்றத்தைஎதிர்கொள்ளும்திறனைஇம்மாமரங்கள்வழங்குகின்றன.

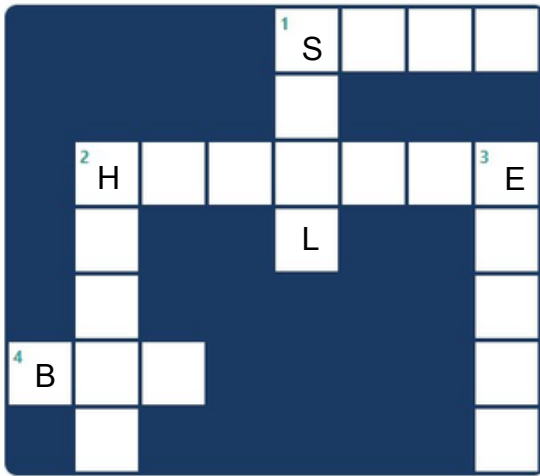
நிகழ்வை

வெற்றியாக்கியஅனைத்துப்பங்காளர்களுக்கும்பங்கேற்பாளர்களுக்கும்எமதுமனமார்ந்தநன்றிகள்!





How to play: Read each clue and write your answer into the matching numbered boxes in the grid. Across (→) clues go left to right. Down (↓) clues go top to bottom.



ACROSS

1. A tiny thing you plant in soil that grows into a plant. (4)
2. Taking good care of your body to stay clean and healthy. (6)
4. A buzzing insect that helps flowers grow and makes honey. (6)

DOWN

1. The brown powder where plant roots grow. (6)
2. The sweet golden food made by bees. (4)
3. Our planet, full of soil, water, and living things. (6)



Plant Nursery

LRWHF grows young trees and plants in nurseries, so communities can plant them and bring more green to their villages.



Rainwater for Public Buildings

LRWHF is installing rainwater harvesting systems in public buildings across the Western Province, so rainwater can be collected and reused instead of going to waste.



Bee Keeping

Bees help pollinate plants and give us honey! LRWHF supports families to keep bees and earn an income while helping nature.

වර්ෂා

වර්ෂා Varsha வர்ஷா

Please send your creations, ideas, letters, articles and suggestions to the address given below.

ඔබේ අදහස්, යෝජනා, නිර්මාණ සහ ලිපි මෙම ලිපිනයට එවන්න.

உங்கள் ஆக்கங்கள், கடிதங்கள், கட்டுரைகள் மற்றும் பரிந்துரைகளை கொடுக்கப்பட்டுள்ள முகவரிக்கு அனுப்பவும்.

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