



NEWS RELEASE

Date: September 25, 2020

MOTHER LAND LANKA STARTS PEACEBUILDING ACTIVITIES IN VAVUNIYA DISTRICT, SRI LANKA

Mother Land Lanka (MLL) was registered in June of 2020 and established as a company limited by guarantee and Non-profit Organization (NPO). Since September of 2020, MLL has acted with the financial support from the ALBION CO., LTD. and started our peacebuilding activities through cultivating indigenous herbal plants in the Vavuniya District, where was the center of the protracted civil war.

What will we conduct in Sri Lanka?

In Sri Lanka, the civil war had lasted mainly in the Northern Province for about 30 years until it concluded in 2009. The protracted civil war had divided the boundaries between the identity groups based on ethnicity and religion. It has also left the Northern Province, the main battlefields of the war, behind economic development waves. For Sri Lanka, which is taking its steps to the path to peace, what needs is to promote "sustainable" peace and development. We shall make places where people can work together under mutual help and co-exist in a community beyond their differences based on ethnicity and religion. Simultaneously, we shall also create a regional industry by cultivating indigenous herbal plants and providing stable employment opportunities. We challenge the sustainable peace and development for the Northern Province, mainly Vavuniya, where it becomes a symbol of peace in Sri Lanka.

What activity will MLL conduct?

We will launch a project, the so-called "Home Garden Project," in the Vavuniya District. We have advanced preparations toward starting the project while collaborating with the central government of Sri Lanka and the Vavuniya South Divisional Secretary. In the project, villagers, irrespective of Sinhalese, Tamil, and Muslim communities, will participate and cultivate organic ways, some kinds of indigenous herbal plants in their home gardens. We, MLL, will provide them with stable job opportunities and fair income under the financial support of the



Community Meeting in Vavuniya

ALBION CO., LTD. The ALBION will receive the plants which the villagers harvested and utilize them for their cosmetic products.

Sustainable cultivation and supply of indigenous herbal plants in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is an immensely wealthy island where thousands of natural species of herbal plants flourish. However, recently, Sri Lanka has faced some difficulties that people are likely to lose such rich assets on traditional knowledge of Ayurveda and its herbal plants. In a few decades, herbal medicine has been used worldwide, and it has been competitively trading in the global and local markets. Due to high prices, many manufacturing units have been entering into the production of natural health commodities.



Meeting with a Tamil farmer

The rapid demands for herbal raw materials have ended up destroying jungles. This present situation caused a severe scenario in which valuable, individual herbal plants are in the peril of extinction. MLL plans to supply the local ayurvedic hospital with the plants harvested in the project to challenge the abovementioned issues if the plants' harvested amount exceeds the expected amount.

We are looking for local or international corporates, universities, and institutes that envisage sustainable peace in Sri Lanka and support our activities. We hope to build more extensive and consolidated networks for peace, and then contribute to Sri Lankan peace while closely cooperating with many supporters.

【Sri Lanka Basic Data】

Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Population: Approx. 21,030,000 (2016)

Ethnicity : Sinhalese (74.9%), Tamil (15.3%), Sri Lankan Moor (9.3%)

Religion: Buddhist (70.1%), Hindu (12.6%), Muslim (9.7%), Christian (7.6%)

【Vavuniya District Basic Data】

Population: Approx.172,115 (2012)

Ethnicity: Sinhalese (10.0%), Tamil (83.2%), Sri Lankan Moor (6.8%)

Religion: Buddhist (9.8%), Hindu (69.4%), Muslim (7.0%), Christian (13.8%)

【ALBION Co., Ltd.】

Address: Hulic Ginza bldg., 7-10, Ginza 1-chome, Chuo-Ku, Tokyo 104-0061

Establishment: March 2, 1956

The President and Chief Executive Officer: Shoichi Kobayashi

【MOTHER LAND LANKA】

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Establishment: June 15, 2020

Website: <https://motherlandlanka.org/>

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