



NEWS RELEASE

Date: October 15, 2020

MOTHER LAND LANKA TO START HOME GARDEN PROJECT IN VAVUNIYA DISTRICT SOON

On the 18th of September, Mr. Neil de Alwis (President), Mr. Hansa Jayarathne (Administrative Manager), and Ms. Harini Jayamaha (Intern Student) took a visit to Malmaduwa Division. We discussed the Mother Land Lanka (MLL) Home Garden Project with the villagers, which aims to promote sustainable peace and development in the community. MLL and the villagers cooperate and act together to make a peaceful society where everyone, regardless of ethnicity, religion, or identity, helps each other.

What purposes did we have in conducting the field visit?

We took a visit to Malmaduwa village with three purposes as mentioned below:

1. To explain what we exactly do in the Home Garden Project and how the villagers can contribute to the project;
2. To introduce the herbal plants to the villagers which will be distributed by MLL to be cultivated in the home gardens of the villagers; and
3. To check whether the villagers' lands are capable of cultivating the plants selected in the project.

What did we do in the field visit?

At first, in the community meeting, MLL conveyed the Home Garden project's main purposes to the Malmaduwa villagers and explained to them what plants we exactly cultivate in the project. We had a proper understanding that the project aims to promote peacebuilding and assist regional development while providing employment opportunities and stable income for the villagers. After the explanation, the villagers willingly agreed to engage in the home garden herbal cultivation project and collaborate with MLL activities.



Community Meeting

Next, we introduced the 8 species of Sri Lankan indigenous herbal plants that ALBION CO. LTD. requested us

to cultivate, and then explained the cultivation process, step by step, to the villagers; For example, the villagers who join the project must cultivate the provided herbal plants using organic methods. We carefully informed the villagers that MLL would not purchase the products if they had used pesticides and chemical fertilizers. We also notified that MLL shall purchase the products of the plants distributed by MLL.

Finally, we took a visit to the lands of the villagers and had individual ideas and opinions towards the project and the conditions. Simultaneously, we looked around their land capacity to grow the herbal plants and asked what needs to be fulfilled in order to start the herbal plant cultivation.

While explaining to the villagers about the project and the conditions for cultivating the herbal plants, we found some problems in launching the projects and discussed them from their perspectives. The villagers told that they are facing difficulties in accessing agricultural water because a rainy season has not yet been set up. Therefore, MLL will need to reconsider when we distribute the plants to the villagers until the rainy season commences in October.



Meeting with a village leader



【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.】

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The President and Chief Executive Officer: Shoichi Kobayashi

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Establishment: June 15, 2020

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