

# Annual Report 2013



## **Botanic Garden Trust Fund**

**Department of National Botanic Garden  
Peradeniya**

## Development of Botanic Gardens in Sri Lanka & Trust Fund for welfare

### Preface

Approval had been given by the Cabinet meeting held on 07/02/1996 to set up a Trust fund for developing botanical gardens and welfare considering a paper themed setting up a Trust Fund for “improving botanical gardens in Sri Lanka and providing welfare” dated 15/12/1995 submitted by the then Minister in charge of Agriculture, Lands and Forest Resources.

25% out of the annual income from ticket sale at botanical gardens is credited to the Trust Fund as its income for improving botanical gardens and welfare. For this, Provisions are made under 2201 Head (Capital transfers) in the approved estimate of Treasury in every year. Money required for expenses of the Fund are obtained from Imprest of the Department over requisites and recovered at the end of the year. In addition to that, provisions are there to cultivate avenues of income of this Fund.

This Fund is managed by a Board of Trustees and Secretary of the line Ministry is acting as the Chairman of the said Trust Fund, Director General of Department of National Botanical Gardens acts its Secretary and the Director-Budget of the Treasury acts a member of the Trust Fund Board.

### Introduction

<b>1. Name of Fund</b>	: Developing botanical gardens in Sri Lanka and Trust Fund for welfare
<b>2. Type</b>	: Development activities in botanical gardens and financial assistance for recurrent needs at times of necessity
<b>3. Related circulars</b>	: i. Commencement of Fund – as per Fund Ordinance No. 09 of 1917 ii. Treasury circulars on Accounting and reporting accounts Circular No. 836 dated 16 <sup>th</sup> August 1977.
<b>4. Date of Establishment</b>	: 20 <sup>th</sup> December, 1996
<b>5. Office</b>	: Head office of National Botanical Gardens Department in Peradeniya
<b>6. Bank</b>	: Bank of Ceylon, Peradeniya branch: <b>Account No. 0007040848</b>

**7. Objectives of the Fund:**

- Taking action for further improving the image on the botanical gardens in Sri Lanka and in other foreign countries.
- Working out and implementing meaningful programmes in respect of conserving attempts on plant varieties and environmental education.
- Improving facilities and activities leading to broad base scientific know-how of scientists attached to the botanical gardens as well as extending financial assistance to purchase equipments needed.
- Formulating an extensive programme on flora collection.
- Improving activities in the technical fields on environmental education, conservation and improvements there to the use of botanical gardens.
- Undertaking any urgent construction what so ever for facilitating those who visit botanical gardens and scientists.
- Covering recurrent fund balance at any given specialized programme.

**Financial progress of Fund in year 2013**

Debit balance as at 01/01/2013 = Rs. 62,715,391.60

**Added:**

Income (debits) for year 2013 = Rs. 132,957,387.02

total = Rs. 195,672,778.62

**Less :**

Expenditure (debits) for year 2013 = Rs. 86,335,273.76

Treasury balance as at 31.12.2013 = Rs. **109,337,504.86**

\* (this balance is only a nominal balance)

## Special development activities implemented in 2013 under the Botanic Garden Fund allocations

- The Peradeniya Royal Botanic Garden and Hakgala Botanic Garden have been maintained at high standard and very attractively during the year under the Botanic Garden Trust Fund allocation for garden beatification.
- Another 2.65 k.m. of Main access roads Peradeniya have been upgraded at Royal Botanic Garden to a far better level by carpeting during the year. Accordingly, the garden outlook and the quality of the roads were improved up to the standard.
- Money under the Fund was utilized to improve Old Field Office building of the Royal Botanic Garden in



A view of Royal Botanical Garden



Upgraded roads at Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya



Old building



New welfare canteen building

Peradeniya as a new welfare canteen building. Accordingly, it was able to render a great service for the welfare of employees.

- Allocations are made under the Garden Trust Fund for constructing a field office in order to do enhance efficiency of the field work at Peradeniya Royal Botanic Garden. It has been accomplished by using allocations of the year.



This field office is comprised with all field offices dedicated for the Overseer's room, carpentry workshop, Blacksmith section, mechanic section, label making room, tree maintenance section, with dress changing rooms separated for male and female improving worker welfare and also provided with enough spaces for food taking and tea rooms.

- Under the improving of infrastructure facilities in Royal Botanic Garden, Peradeniya, allocations have been made under the Fund to renovate old toilet buildings. Accordingly, a high priority has been given in the year for providing better sanitary facilities to tourists who visit the botanic garden.



- Development activities such as the construction of green house for Anthurium nursery, renovations of drainage system of Tissue culture laboratory in the Floriculture section and repairing of Cactus house in the Royal Botanical Garden too have been undertaken with allocations of the Fund in this year. Under this, plant production and public visiting places (such as Cactus house) in the garden have been developed.

- The ground floor of the building owned by the “Hadabima Authority” which later vested to this Department (2012) had renovated in this year under the allocations of the Fund.



**New office premises acquired from Handabima Authority for the Departmental Head office**

In advance to vesting of this building, sufficient facilities for carrying out duties of officers at head office was not adequate. At that juncture, it was able to vest this building and improve facilities of officers by renovating its ground floor. The Administration section of the department is housed here from the latter part of year 2013 after attending those improvements.

- Allocations were made from the Fund to import 06 battery operated GOLF CARTs for transporting Heads of State and their



**Newly purchased Golf Carts**

crew who visit Royal Botanical garden in Peradeniya in line with Commonwealth Head of State summit (CHOGM).

Later on, they are used to provide transport to tourists visiting the Botanical Garden by charging Rs. 500/- for an hour. Accordingly, three vehicles for the Royal Botanic Garden in Peradeniya and other three for Dry Zonal Botanical Garden had been deployed. The incomes generated from those vehicles are accounted as an income of the Botanical Garden Trust Fund. Accordingly, this has paved the way to increase income of the Fund.

- Ten computers had been purchased for using software concerned in map preparation for park beatification plans and for training in Education and Training Centre in the Royal Botanic Garden. Allocations needed for this had been made out of the Fund.

Accordingly, this has helped trainees to pursue their trainings efficiently.

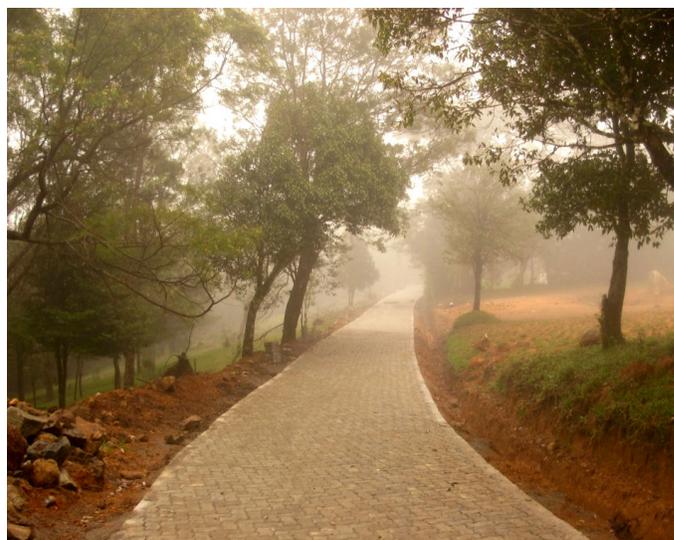


**Upgraded Computer lab at Education centre with newly purchased computers**

- Few development activities in the Hakgala botanical garden had been attended with allocations of the Fund.

- Internal road network has been developed by laying “interlocks” for improving landscaping and condition of internal roadways of the park.

Accordingly, facilities for tourists who visit the Hakgala Garden have been upgraded at the Hakgala Garden.



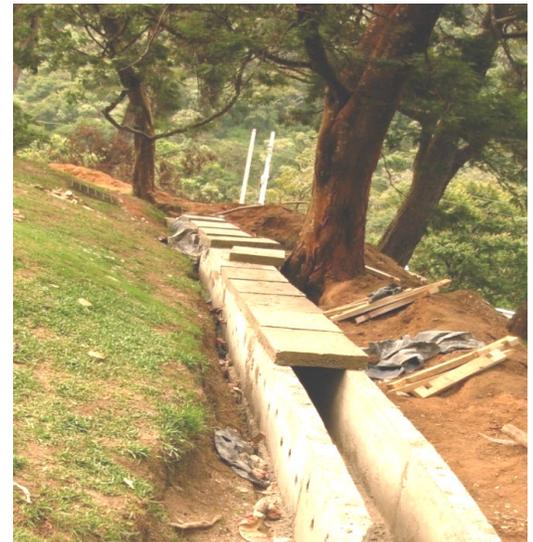
**Interlocked internal access road development at Hakgala Botanic Gardens**

- The water for drinking purposes and maintenance of the Garden is sourced by pumping from the upper springs of the park and collected in the main pool. This main water Tank had been a very old one which had built at the inception of the Garden. As the age old Tank had developed leaks, renovations for leaks had been done with historical value.



**Ongoing renovations in the water tank**

- Construction of drain system for proper flowing down of rainy water of the park was completed in this year under land development activities. This was helpful in preventing road network of the park from soil erosion.
- Under the upgrading knowledge of officers in the botanic gardens, officers and employees in various grades they were participated in training sessions and workshops on latest systems applied and know-how.



**Drainage system of Hakgala Garden under construction**

- Under the Botanical Research activities of the Department, a sizable amount of plant investigation, plant identification attempts and plant sample collection activities had been undertaken in this year.



**Conducting plant explorations**

**Summary of specific development works accomplished during year 2013 under the Fund**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Expenditure (Rs.)</b>
<b>1. Improving facilities in botanical gardens, landscaping work</b>	<b>4,496,599.00</b>
<b>2. Land development activities in botanical gardens</b>	<b>19,249,946.00</b>
<b>3. Building development activities in botanical gardens</b>	<b>27,896,552.00</b>
<b>4. Procuring equipments for improving facilities (with battery operated 6 cars (8 seated))</b>	<b>15,283,130.00</b>
<b>5. Research &amp; training activities and improving library facilities</b>	<b>500,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,426,227.00</b>

Dr. Willie Gamage

Chairman, Botanic Garden Trust Fund and  
Secretary, Ministry of Botanic Gardens & Public Recreation

Dr. D.S.A. Wijesundara

Secretary, Botanic Garden Trust Fund and  
Director General, Department of National Botanic Gardens