



**Report of the  
Celebration of International Ozone Day 2016  
Theme: *Ozone and climate: Restored by a  
world united***



**Air Resources Management and National Ozone Unit  
Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment  
Battaramulla, Sri Lanka**



## Table of Contents

- Introduction
- International Ozone Day Celebration
- Arrival of the Chief Guest (Hon. Anuradha Jayarathne, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment.
- Opening the Art Exhibition
- Lighting the oil lamp
- Playing the Ozone song
- Welcome the gathering of IOD Celebration
- Playing the Ozzy Ozone Cartoon which is translated to the Sinhala language with the Tamil subtitles.
- The speech delivered by the student who won the first place from the all island Oratory competition held among the island wide schools in Sinhala Medium.
- Addressed the audience by the UNDP, Colombo
- Playing the stage drama emphasizing importance of the Ozone Layer -performed by the recognized Drama Artists of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC)
- The speech delivered by the student who won the first place from the all island Oratory competition held among the island wide schools in Tamil Medium.
- Cultural events
- Addressed the Audience by Hon. Anuradha Jayarathne, Minister of the Mahaweli Development and Environment
- Award presentation
- Awarding incentives under the programme of providing incentives for purchasing Air conditioning machines which contain ozone and environment friendly refrigerant
- Awarding Wheel Chairs to Eye Hospital in Colombo and Cancer Hospital in Maharagama to mark the International Ozone Day – 2016

### Annexes

- The book written on Ozone Layer Depletion
- Invitation

## **Celebration of International Ozone Day 2016**

**Theme: *Ozone and climate: Restored by a world united***

### **Introduction**

Since 1995, on 16 September each year, the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer is celebrated in Sri Lanka. This date has been designated as International Ozone Day by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 49/114, to commemorate the signing of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. This commemoration around the world offers an opportunity to focus attention and action at the global, regional and national levels on the protection of the ozone layer. All Member States of the Montreal Protocol are devoting this special day to promotion, at the national level, of concrete activities in accordance with the objectives and goals of the Montreal Protocol and its Amendments.

Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment is the focal point for implementing the Montreal Protocol on Ozone Depleting Substances. Sri Lanka became a party to the Montreal Protocol in 1989 and the National Ozone Unit (NOU) was established in 1994 in order to implement its obligations. Since Sri Lanka ratified the MP in 1989, Multilateral Fund (MLF) extend financial and technical support through United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) & United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) for all ozone related activities implemented by the NOU. Further External Resources Department, Import & Export Controller's Department and Sri Lanka Customs renders great assistance to the functions of NOU. At present NOU has launched several projects to control the use of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) that have Ozone depleting potential as well as global warming potential. In this purpose HCFC Management Plan (HPMP) was implemented in 2012 Year and Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment has introduced a new Quota system from 1st January 2013.

Sri Lanka too commemorate this important day as a national event since 1995, under the Leadership of Hon. Minister, Deputy Minister, Secretary and Additional Secretaries of Ministry of Environment. Under the guidance of the Director plays a major role in organizing this event well in advance. NOU has been continuously commended by local and international bodies recognized its efforts to make this event a success. NOU takes maximum opportunity to educate nation through conducting series of activities in parallel to the Ozone Day, specially about the importance of preserving the ozone layer and adverse effect causing when its deplete.

As a result of concerted international efforts, the ozone layer is healing itself and is expected to recover by the middle of this century. In addition, the Montreal Protocol has significantly contributed to the mitigation of climate change by averting the emission of more than 135 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalent into the atmosphere by simply phasing out ozone-depleting substances.

Additionally, as mandated by the "Dubai Pathway on Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)" adopted in 2015, parties are working within the Montreal Protocol to an HFC amendment in 2016 by first

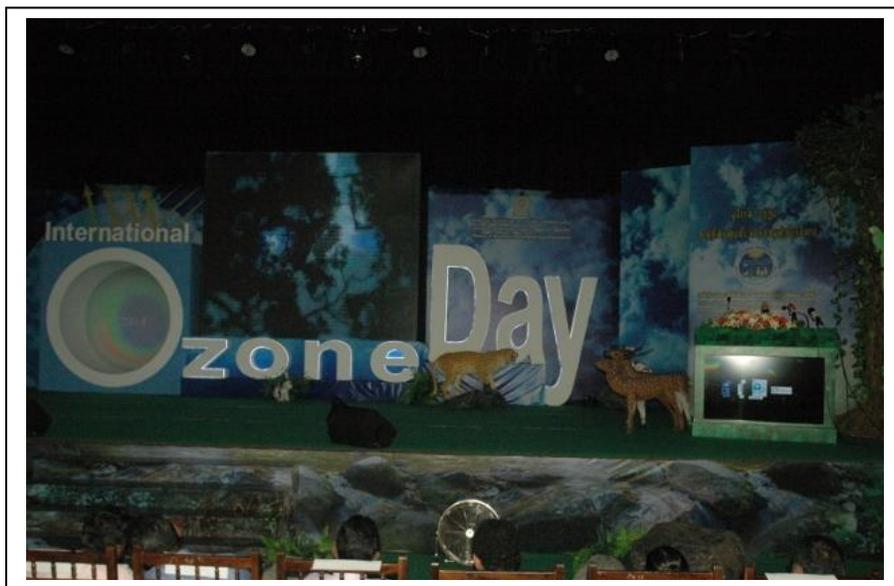
resolving challenges by generating solutions in the contact group on HFCs. According to scientific information, reducing HFCs under the Montreal Protocol can avoid 0.4°C of global warming by the end of the century, while continuing to protect the ozone layer.

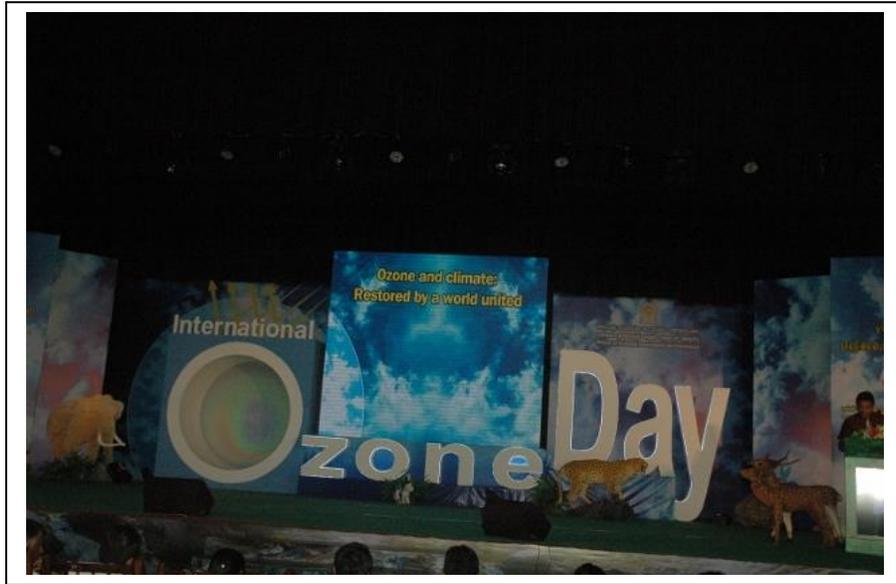
The theme for the 2016 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer to be marked on 16 September is: Ozone and climate: Restored by a world united. The theme is complemented by the tagline: Working towards reducing global-warming HFCs under the Montreal Protocol

The theme for this year's International Ozone Day recognizes the collective efforts of the parties to the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol towards the restoration of the ozone layer over the past three decades and the global commitment to combat climate change.

### **International Ozone Day Celebration**

Sri Lanka also this time Celebrated the International Ozone Day at the Sri Lanka Youth Council, Maharagama on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016 under the patronage of Hon. Anuradha Jayarathne, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment. There were many distinguished participation including officials from UN Agencies, government and non-government institutes, seven hundred students from schools and Technical Colleges were among the participants. Extensive media coverage has been arranged as promotional activity of the celebration.





T-Shirts containing the message on ozone protection were distributed among participants.



**Arrival of the Chief Guest (Hon. Anuradha Jayarathne, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment).**



Hon. Deputy Minister, Secretary of the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment and other Officials Proceeded in a ceremonial procession to the building where Reclaim Centre is established. All island Art completion was held parallel to the International Ozone Day ceremony and an Art Exhibition was held displaying winning and selected drawings.

**Opening the Art Exhibition**





Hon Deputy Minister proceeded to the main venue of the celebration and welcome by Kandyan Dancers at the entrance.

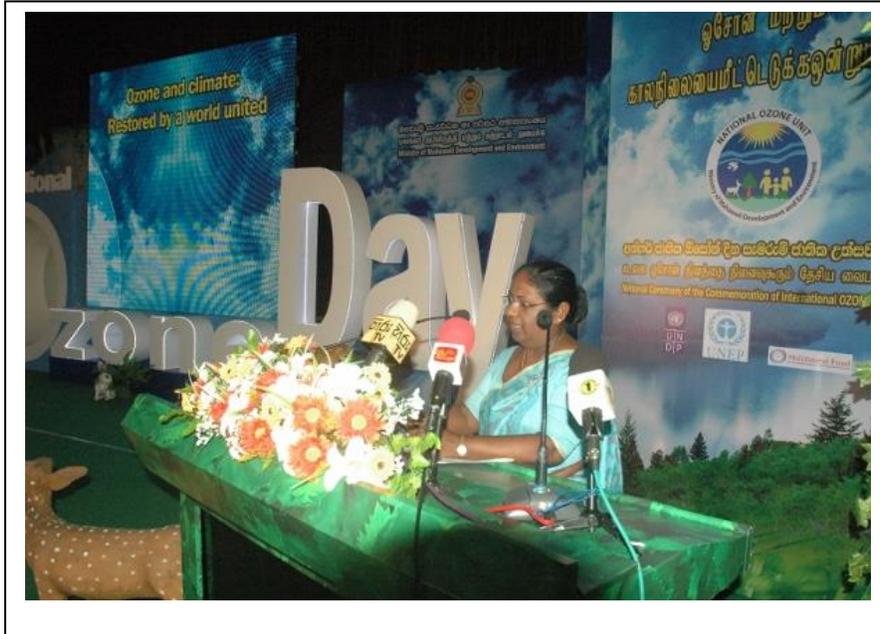


International Ozone Day celebration was started performing the tradition of lighting the oil lamp



## Welcome the gathering of IOD Celebration

After playing the 'Ozone song' the Welcome speech delivered by the Acting Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development & Environment.



Playing the Ozzy Ozone Cartoon which is translated to the Sinhala language with the Tamil subtitles.



The speech delivered by the student who won the first place from the all island Oratory competition held among the island wide schools in Sinhala Medium.



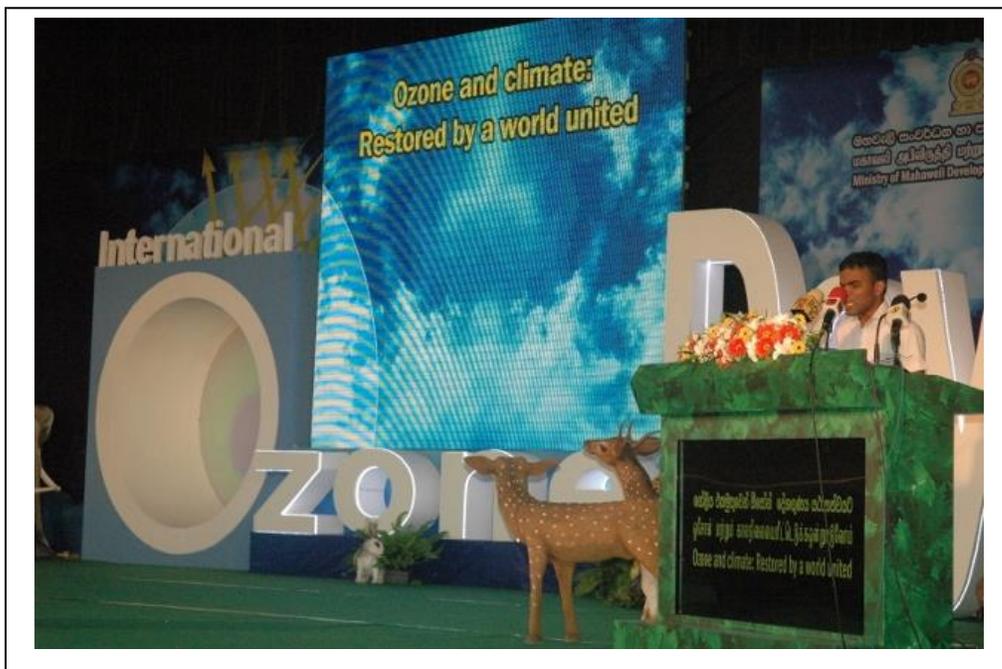
Addressed the audience by Ms. Shyara Bastianzs representating the UNDP, Colombo



Playing the stage drama emphasizing importance of the Ozone Layer -performed by the recognized Drama Artists of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC)



The speech delivered by the student who won the first place from the all island Oratory competition held among the island wide schools in Tamil Medium.



Cultural event performed by the Dancing team of the National Youth Services Council



**Addressed the Audience by Hon. Anuradha Jayarathne, Minister of the Mahaweli Development and Environment**



**Award presented for the winners of the competitions of Art, Oratory and Essay which were conducted among schools island wide.**



**Awarding incentives under the programme of providing incentives for purchasing Air conditioning machines which contain ozone and environment friendly refrigerant**



**Award Wheel Chairs to Eye Hospital in Colombo and Cancer Hospital in Maharagama to mark the International Ozone Day – 2016**





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Ozone Layer Depletion and Loss of Biodiversity  
By

M.G. Manoj Prasanna

Air Resource Management & National Ozone Unit

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B.Sc, M.Sc. (Plant Science), M.Sc. (Zoo- Archeaology)

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පෙරවදන

පෘථිවිය මත ජීවය ඇති කිරීමට මෙන්ම එහි ව්‍යාප්තියට තුඩුදුන් හා ජෛව තෝලයේ පැවැත්මට අතිශයින්ම තීරණාත්මක සාධකයක් වන ඕසෝන් වියන ඇති වීම හා එමගින් මිනිසාට ජීවය සම්පවය හා පරිණාමය වූ ආකාරය පිළිබඳ මෙන්ම ඕසෝන් වියන නාශනය තුළින් ඇතිවන පාරිසරික, යෝධ්‍ය සමාජ හා ආර්ථික හැරුණු මෙන්ම රටේ වර්තමාන ජෛවවිවිධත්වය සහ එහි සංරක්ෂණය පිළිබඳව ද පාසල් සිසුන්, ගුරුවරුන් හා අනෙකුත් රාජ්‍ය සේවකයන් ඇතුළු සියලුම තරාතිරමේ මහජනතාව දැනුවත් කිරීම වෙනුවෙන් මෙම පොත්පිටි සම්පාදනය කිරීමට මහවැලි සංවර්ධන හා පරිසර අමාත්‍යාංශයේ වායු සම්පත් කළමනාකරණ හා ජාතික ඕසෝන් ඒකකය කටයුතු කරන ලදී.

එක්සත් ජාතීන්ගේ සංවර්ධන වැඩසටහන හා එක්සත් ජාතීන්ගේ පරිසර වැඩසටහනේ ආධාර ඇතිව වායු සම්පත් කළමනාකරණ හා ජාතික ඕසෝන් ඒකකය ක්‍රියාත්මක කරන ධාරිතා සංවර්ධන වැඩසටහන් තුළින් මෙම දැනුම සමාජගත කිරීම අපගේ මූලික අරමුණයි. එමෙන්ම විශාල සම්මුඛයේ හා මොන්ට්‍රියල් සාධානයේ පාරිභවකරුවෙකු වශයෙන් ඕසෝන් වියන සංරක්ෂණය සඳහා වායු සම්පත් කළමනාකරණ හා ජාතික ඕසෝන් ඒකකයේ කාර්යභාරය ද මෙම කෘතියෙහි සාරාංශ කර ඇත. ඕසෝන් වියන සංරක්ෂණය අප විසුල්ලෙන්ම හෝලිය වගකීමක් බවට පත්ව ඇති අතර, එය මතු පරපුර වඩානුවෙන් සුරැකීම ලෝ වාසි අප සියල්ලන්ගේම පරම යුතුකමක් සේ සැලකිය යුතු කාලය එලඹ ඇත.

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අධ්‍යක්ෂ

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**Invitation**

