



IHRO Sri Lanka

International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka



Website:

www.ihrolk.org



MAKING HUMAN RIGHTS A FACT

ජාත්‍යන්තර මානව හිමිකම් සංවිධානය
ජෑව්ව්තේජ මනිත උරිමෙකන් ඉමෙම්පු
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION



Who We Are

IHRO Sri Lanka

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) is an independent, non-governmental national organization dedicated to promoting, protecting, and advancing human rights for all, in accordance with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).

Founded to strengthen global respect for human dignity, IHRO brings together educators, civil society groups, and institutions to build awareness, understanding, and practical action on human rights at local, national, and international levels.

IHRO Sri Lanka works to make human rights a reality for every person. Our focus is on empowerment, equality, protection, and access to justice for communities across the country.

Our Key Areas of Work

Human Rights Education

Raising awareness and empowering individuals and communities to understand, respect, and defend their rights.

Gender-Based Violence Prevention

Supporting survivors, promoting gender equality, and advocating for safe and dignified environments for all.

Legal Aid & Access to Justice

Providing legal support and guidance to individuals facing discrimination, abuse, or rights violations.

Child Rights & Poverty Reduction

Protecting children's rights, supporting access to education and essential services, and promoting their healthy development.

Human Rights for All

Advocating equality, inclusion, and dignity without discrimination of any kind.



Projects & Programmes

Since 2023, IHRO Sri Lanka has implemented a large number of training and awareness programmes addressing critical human rights issues across diverse communities.

01

Child Protection Training

2nd March 2025

A comprehensive training programme on Child Protection was conducted at Sambuddhi Jayanthi Mandiraya, Colombo 05. The session was led by Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police, Mr. Priyantha Edirisinghe, and was attended by lecturers and over 400 participants. Certificates of participation were awarded to all attendees.



Membership Forum & Get-Together (BMICH)

17th March 2025

At the Second Forum held at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), more than 500 members were enrolled, followed by a networking get-together. The event was honoured by the presence of Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition; Senior DIG; Mr. Nihal Thaldudwa, former Police Media Spokesman; Professor Tudor Weerasinghe; Hon. Udayakumara Gammanpila, former Minister; Mr. Ravindra Samarawickrama, Senior Lecturer; Dr. Harsha Abeywickrama; and Mr. Hamed, Senior Lecturer representing the Human Rights Commission.



03

Women's and Child Rights Training (BMICH)

11th May 2025

A training programme on Women's Rights and Child Protection was conducted at BMICH. The programme featured expert lectures by Ms. Sajeewani Abeykoon (AAL), Director (Law Enforcement), National Child Protection Authority; Mr. Udayakumara Amarasinghe, Senior Lecturer, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and former Chairman of the National Child Protection Authority; and Mr. Premanath C. Dolawatte, Attorney-at-Law and former Member of Parliament.

04

Enrollment and Training Programme (BMICH)

08th June 2025

An enrollment and training programme on Basic Human Rights Knowledge was conducted at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH). The programme was graced by Deputy Inspector General of Police Mr. Roshan Rajapakse. Mr. Indika Ranatunga represented the entrepreneurial community, while Mr. Udayakumara Amarasinghe, Senior Lecturer at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and former Chairman of the National Child Protection Authority, served as a key resource person.



05

Membership Enrollment and Human Rights Training Programme

19 July 2025

A membership enrollment and human rights training programme was conducted for the Kandy region at the Mahaweli Reach Hotel, Kandy. The programme was delivered by Mr. Udaya Kumara Amarasinghe together with a police officer and was followed by the presentation of certificates to participants.



06

Seminar at BMICH

27 July 2025

At a seminar held at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), the International Human Rights Organization (IHRO) delivered a meaningful address through the Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police of the Education Division, Sri Lanka Police.

During the seminar, Mr. Asanka Ruwan Pothpitiya, Legal Chairman of the Leasing Loan Installment Payers Association, provided an explanation of the newly issued circular, highlighting its implications and relevance to the public.



07

Membership Enrollment Programme

02 August 2025

The 8th Membership Enrollment Programme and Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the International Human Rights Organization, Sri Lanka (IHRO) was held at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH).

08

Village-to-Village Human Rights Mobilization Programme – 14th Phase

17 August 2025

A member enrollment programme and the 14th phase of the International Human Rights Organization's mission to engage and mobilize 10,000 human rights activists from village to village were held at the Mahaweli Theatre, Aralaganwila, Polonnaruwa.



09

Village-to-Village Human Rights Mobilization Programme – 16th Phase

06 September 2025

A membership enrollment programme and the 16th phase of the International Human Rights Organization’s initiative to engage and mobilize 10,000 human rights officers were successfully concluded at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH).

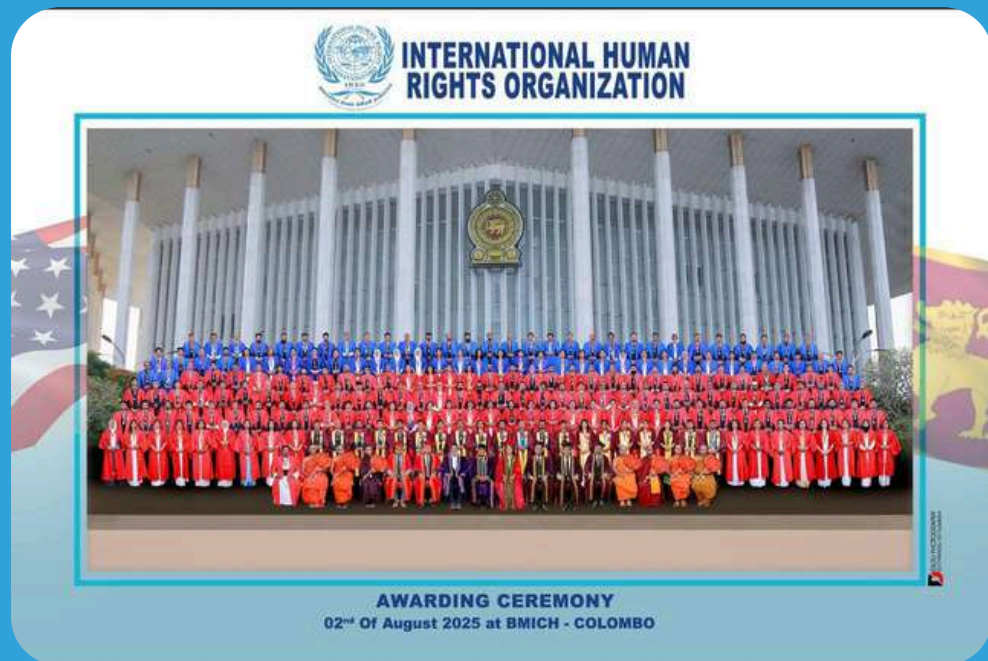


10

Membership Enrollment, Workshop and IHRO Sri Lanka Branch Opening

20 September 2025

A membership enrollment and an awareness workshop titled “Our Duties to the Village and Human Rights” were conducted in the Hatton area. In conjunction with these activities, the International Human Rights Organization, Sri Lanka (IHRO) formally inaugurated a new branch office as part of its organizational expansion.



11

Human Rights Training Program

21 September 2025

A Human Rights Training Program was organized by the International Human Rights Organization, Sri Lanka (IHRO) held at the Cinema Lounge, Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo. Participation was open to the public with free entry.

The programme featured expert resource persons including Ms. Namini Panditha, LL.B (Hons), LL.M, MHR, Attorney-at-Law; Mr. Ravindra Samarawickrama, Senior Lecturer, B.A. (Hons), M.Phil. in Criminology; and Mr. Palitha Subasinghe, LL.M (London), Attorney-at-Law. The training programme aimed to enhance awareness and understanding of human rights principles and practices.

13

University Student Awareness Workshop

04 October 2025

In line with efforts to raise public awareness on human rights and fundamental freedoms, a one-day sensitization workshop was conducted for students of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Prashantha de Silva, President's Counsel, Principal of the Sri Lanka Law College.

During the event, the International Human Rights Organization, Sri Lanka (IHRO) was presented with a special souvenir by the Mr. Chanaka Udyakumara Amarasinghe, Senior Lecturer in Criminology & Criminal Justice Systems of University of Sri Jayawardenapura and former Chairman of the National Child Protection Authority, delivered a special lecture on the rights of persons with disabilities. Additional lectures were delivered by Senior Professor Shirantha Heenkenda, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Senior Counsel M. Ahmed, representing the Human Rights Commission.

14

Training programme on Human Rights Violations

10 October 2025

A free training programme on human rights violations was successfully conducted at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), with the participation of over 200 attendees. The programme provided valuable insights into the identification, prevention, and response to human rights violations, and contributed significantly to enhancing public awareness and understanding of human rights principles.

15

Enrollment and Human Rights Training Programme

12 October 2025

A member enrollment and training programme on basic human rights was conducted in the Ratnapura District at Hotel Grand Guardian. The programme was delivered by Mr. Chanaka Udyakumara Amarasinghe, Senior Lecturer in Criminology and Criminal Justice Systems at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and former Chairman of the National Child Protection Authority, together with Mr. Ravindra Samarawickrama, Senior Lecturer. The event was graced by Venerable Omalpe Sobitha Thero, who participated as a distinguished guest.



16

Human Rights Training Program

16 October 2025

The Human Rights Training Program was organized by the Department of History and Theory of Dance and Drama and the Career Guidance Unit of the University of Visual and Performing Arts, with the support of the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO).

The programme featured Mr. Prashantha Lal de Alwis, President's Counsel; Mr. Ranga Dissanayake, Director General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC); Mr. Dinesh Karunanayaka, Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police; and Professor Prathiba Mahanamahewa as resource persons. The session was moderated by Mr. Ravindra Samarawickrama, Senior Lecturer.

The training programme was held at the Panibaratha Theatre, University of Visual and Performing Arts (UVPA). Participation was open to all, and certificates of participation were awarded to all attendees.

17

“Human Rights to Villages” Programme

28 October 2025

The Human Rights to Villages programme was held at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) and was graced by distinguished special guests, including Rear Admiral Sarath Weerasekara; Mr. Udaya Kumara Amarasinghe, Senior Lecturer, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura; Major General Mihindu Perera; Major General Sagara Ranjan Wijeyadasa; and Mr. Ravindra Samarawickrama, Senior Lecturer and Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Sri Lanka.

18

Community Human Rights Awareness Workshop

07 November 2025

In line with its primary objective of educating both rural and urban communities on human rights and civic responsibilities, the International Human Rights Organization, Sri Lanka (IHRO) conducted a free community awareness workshop at the Wadduwa YMBA Hall for approximately 500 participants.

The programme included expert lectures delivered by Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Ms. Inoka Liyanage of the Kalutara Division and Dr. Sangeeth Neranjana of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka extends its sincere appreciation to all participants and organizers whose support contributed to the successful implementation of this programme.

19

One-Day Workshop on Human Rights and Fundamental Rights

12 November 2025

A one-day workshop on Human Rights and Fundamental Rights was conducted by the International Human Rights Organization, Sri Lanka (IHRO) at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo. The programme was open to the public with free entry.

The workshop featured expert contributions by Mr. Udaya Kumara Amarasinghe, Senior Lecturer at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and former Chairman of the National Child Protection Authority; Mr. Kithsiri Jayalath, representing the Southern Province Police; and Attorney-at-Law Mr. Sudesh Prasanna Jayawardena, Founder of the Y2JA Balaya Organization and a youth and civil rights activist. The programme aimed to raise awareness and strengthen public understanding of human rights principles and their practical application within society.

20

Jaffna District Membership Enrollment Programme

17 November 2025

The Jaffna District Membership Enrollment Programme was held at Hotel Valampuri, Jaffna, and was graced by Hon. Ramalingam Chandrasekar, Cabinet Minister for Fisheries Resources and Aquatic Conservation; Mr. Ilankumaran, Member of Parliament for the Jaffna District; the Commissioner of the Jaffna Police Headquarters; and the Chief Incumbent of Sri Naga Viharaya, together with other respected religious leaders. The distinguished guests attended as chief guests, awarded certificates, and formally graced the occasion.



21

International Human Rights Day Observance

10 October 2025

In observance of International Human Rights Day, a high-level discussion on human rights issues in Sri Lanka was held with the participation of Deputy Inspector General of Police Mr. Deshabandu Tennakoon, Hon. Wijedasa Rajapakse, and Hon. Tiran Alles, Ministers of the Government of Sri Lanka.

The International Human Rights Organization (IHRO) stood in solidarity with a civilian who was shot by the police and publicly raised concerns regarding the alleged human rights violation. IHRO called for accountability, due process, and adherence to human rights standards, emphasizing the importance of protecting civilian lives and upholding the rule of law.

The International Human Rights Organization (IHRO) publicly expressed support for Dr. Kavinda Jayawardena's advocacy regarding the distribution of unsafe and substandard medicines in Sri Lanka. Amid widespread public concern over the procurement and distribution of poor-quality and potentially harmful medicines, IHRO emphasized the need for transparency, accountability, and strengthened regulatory oversight to protect public health and uphold human rights in access to safe medical treatment.

The International Human Rights Organization (IHRO) organized a peaceful protest in front of the United Nations Office in Colombo, reiterating its strong commitment to animal protection and welfare. Through this demonstration, IHRO called for increased attention, policy action, and effective enforcement to prevent cruelty and ensure the protection of animals, emphasizing that animal welfare is an essential component of human rights and ethical responsibility.

22

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) workshop (Bangkok)

29 November to 04 Decemeber
2025

Members of the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) participated in an event organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok, with a delegation of 24 members in attendance from November 29th to December 04th 2025. The participation provided valuable international exposure, enabling members to engage with regional and global perspectives, strengthen their understanding of socio-economic and human rights-related issues, and enhance their capacity through interaction with experts, institutions, and civil society representatives from across the Asia-Pacific region.

23

A petition in connection with the Tebuwana Police incident

13 November 2025

The International Human Rights Organization (IHRO) signed a petition in connection with the Tebuwana Police incident, calling for a fair review of the matter and adherence to the principles of justice, due process, and human rights. The initiative received public attention, and former national cricketer Mr. Nuwan Zoysa participated in the petition campaign, lending his support to the call for accountability and transparency. IHRO emphasized that its involvement was guided by its mandate to advocate for the rule of law and the protection of rights, while encouraging lawful and impartial handling of incidents involving law enforcement authorities.



24

International Human Rights Organization (IHRO) raised a formal concern regarding the failure of mobile communication networks during a recent emergency

3 December 2025

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) raised a formal concern regarding the failure of mobile communication networks during a recent emergency, underscoring the human rights risks posed by disruptions in access to communication. IHRO called on telecommunications service providers to be held accountable and submitted a formal complaint emphasizing the urgent need for reliable emergency communication systems to protect affected communities during disasters.

25

A donation programme was carried out at the Vikasitha Preschool

24 December 2025

With the involvement of the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO), a donation programme was carried out at the Vikasitha Preschool, located in Wewalwatta, Rawaladola, Balangoda—a preschool operating under very challenging conditions. As part of this initiative, a storage cupboard was donated to enable children to safely keep their school supplies.

The donation was made under the leadership of Most Venerable Royal Pandit Poojya Padha Tambuttegama Sumangala Dhammapradeepa Thero, who serves as the International Director of the International Human Rights Organization, together with Mr. Lahiru Diluka Sadaruwan, District Director of IHRO for the Ratnapura District. This initiative reflected IHRO's continued commitment to supporting children's education and community welfare in underserved areas.

26

A live update from IHRO Head Office

24 December 2025

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) provided a live update from its Head Office regarding its ongoing support for a police officer who was banned from duty. During the live session, IHRO reiterated its position on the matter, emphasizing the importance of upholding legal rights, due process, and justice for all individuals involved in disciplinary or administrative actions.

27

Annual Gathering & Excellence Awards 2025 – Colombo

25 December 2025

The Annual Gathering and Excellence Awards 2025 were held at the Marino Beach Hotel, Colombo, on 25 December 2025. The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) was honoured with an Excellence Award, and extends its sincere appreciation to Green Harvest Solution & Co. (Pvt) Ltd and its Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Kiyas, for the recognition and kind invitation.

28

A donation programme was carried out to the affected people from Ditwah Cyclone

December 2025

In response to the recent Ditwah Cyclone and floods, dry food rations, clothing, and essential medicines were provided to elderly residents affected by the floods at an elder care home where 12 residents had tragically passed away in the same location in recent days. Although the facility had been established with support from the Netherlands, the current conditions and management were observed to be severely inadequate to meet the needs of vulnerable elders, particularly in the aftermath of the disaster.

This humanitarian assistance was facilitated through the valuable support and coordination of Ms. Oshadi Hewamadduma, Mrs. Nalisha Pradeep Bulathsinhala, Mr. Pradeep Peiris, and Mr. Nihal Wijeratne, whose efforts were instrumental in reaching those in urgent need.

29

The representation and intervention for Kolonna Police Officer

22 December 2025

With the representation and intervention of the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO), the Kolonna Police officer was granted bail by the Ambilipitiya Magistrate's Court. The legal proceedings were overseen by Mr. Palitha Godage, Attorney-at-Law.

Advocacy for Justice and Rule of Law

22 December 2025

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) actively advocated for justice following the assault of a police officer, highlighting the importance of accountability and the rule of law. IHRO emphasized that a strong and respected police service is essential for a just society. While acknowledging that isolated incidents of misconduct may occur, the Organization reaffirmed that such actions do not represent the police service as a whole. Through this intervention, IHRO called for the prompt identification and legal action against those responsible, while reinforcing the principle that injustice, wherever it occurs, must be challenged without prejudice.

20 December 2025

The International Director of the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO), Venerable Deva Dharma Master Priest, will grace the Christmas Carol Concert, organized by Venerable Priest Anura Kumara. All are warmly invited to attend and join us in celebrating the spirit of Christmas. We extend our best wishes for a meaningful and successful event.

14 December 2025

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) successfully conducted the second Community Health Clinic Programme for the Matale District at Bodhirukkarama Temple, Kaudupelalla, with the kind permission of the Chief Incumbent, Venerable Panditha Vipassi Nayake Thero. The programme was attended by key representatives from the health, police, and local administration sectors, including the Head of the Yatawatta Health Services Office, officers from the Mahawela Police Community Policing Unit, and the Grama Niladhari of the Valliwela Division. This initiative was made possible through the dedicated support of IHRO officials, volunteers, and partner institutions, reflecting IHRO's continued commitment to community well-being, access to basic services, and grassroots human rights advocacy.

20 December 2025

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) gratefully acknowledges the continuous support extended by its International Directors in Qatar, Mr. Akram Hafis and Mr. Ansa, together with their family, from the time of arrival until departure. While successfully engaged in business activities in the State of Qatar, they remain strongly committed to the mission of IHRO and actively support its initiatives. They have also generously expressed their willingness to assist any IHRO member visiting Qatar, reflecting true dedication and solidarity. IHRO extends its sincere appreciation and best wishes for their continued success.

09 December 2025

Under the leadership of the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) and Ms. Oshadi Hewamadduma, with the dedicated efforts of Mr. Pradeep Bulathsinhala and Mr. Pradeep Peiris, relief items collected for displaced families were distributed today in the Talawa Kele area.

07 December 2025

Humanitarian Relief Support for Displaced Communities – Nuwara Eliya.

In a remarkable act of solidarity, the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) delivered over two metric tons of essential food supplies to communities displaced in the Nuwara Eliya District, overcoming extremely difficult and hazardous travel conditions. Relief assistance was successfully extended to the Nuwara Eliya Divisional Secretariat, Nuwara Eliya General Hospital, and the High Forest area, ensuring vital support reached those most in need. This humanitarian mission was made possible through the tireless dedication of Mr. Shashi Vinod, Founder of Epic Engagemedia, and his committed team, who worked day and night to ensure the success of the initiative. IHRO also gratefully acknowledges the support of the Chairman and officials of IHRO, the Officer-in-Charge and staff of the Athurugiriya Police Station for providing drinking water, the National Youth Services Council for their active involvement in distribution, and all individuals and partners who contributed generously.

06 December 2025

Free Medical Clinic Programme – Matale District.

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) successfully conducted a free medical clinic for the Matale District on 06 December 2025 at Naula Nathissa Rajamaha Viharaya. The programme reflected IHRO's continued commitment to community health and human dignity. Ms. Ushani, International Directress of IHRO, addressed participants and outlined the organization's mission and activities. The programme was made successful through the dedicated efforts of IHRO members and volunteers. Special appreciation is extended to the President of IHRO, who provided continuous guidance and coordination despite being overseas at the time. IHRO gratefully acknowledges the support of Nawaloka Hospital, Asiri Hospital, Vision Care Institute, and the Assistant Secretary of Naula, Matale, whose cooperation was vital to the success of this initiative.

09 November 2025

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO), in collaboration with the Bogodawatte Deeniya Jumma Masjid – Kandy, the Bogodawatte Islamic Youth Association, and the Bogodawatte Al-Naja Janaza and Welfare Association, successfully conducted a community welfare programme for the first time. This event also marked IHRO's first district-level community service initiative covering the Kandy District. The "For a Healthy Life" Free Special Medical Camp was held on 09 November 2025, providing essential medical services to the community at no cost.

Medical Services Provided

Eye Care Services

- Comprehensive eye examinations
- Free spectacles for eligible schoolchildren
- Special discounts and concessionary prices for spectacles

(Full support provided by Nawaloka Optical)



General Health Screening

- Blood sugar testing (RBS)
- BMI, height, weight, and blood pressure checks
- Medical consultations and advice

(Services provided by Asiri Hospital)

Hearing Care Services

- Hearing assessments
- Professional advice and special discounts on hearing aids

(Provided by Vision Care)

Psychological Counselling Services

Led by senior counsellor Ms. Devika Ediriweera, covering:

- Pre-marital counselling
- Schoolchildren counselling
- Examination anxiety
- Employment-related stress
- Addiction counselling
- Depression and emotional distress
- Elderly counselling
- Family counselling
- Individual and group counselling
- Psychological therapy and guidance
- Personality development

Comprehensive psychological support was offered for a wide range of mental health concerns.

Medical Camp - Kandy

This free medical programme was led by Ms. A.H. Fathima Firdoushiya, District Director – Kandy, International Human Rights Organization, with guidance and support from Dr. Ferozi Mohamed, International Director – IHRO.

Community Support and Sponsorship

Full cooperation and sponsorship were provided by:

- Bogodawatte Deeniya Jumma Masjid – Chairman *Ash Sheikh Ikram Mawlavi* and members
- Bogodawatte Islamic Youth Association – Chairman *Mr. M. Rilvan* and members
- Bogodawatte Al-Naja Janaza and Welfare Association – Chairman *Mr. M. Sulfikaar* and members

Chief Guests and Distinguished Participants

- Chief Inspector **S.K.I.S.W.P.R. Sampath** – Kandy Police
- **Mr. Dhammika Herath**, Principal – Kingswood College
- **Mr. Amila Wannigama**, Municipal Councillor – Kandy
- **Mr. Mohamed Rizan**, Municipal Councillor – Kandy
- **Dr. Pasan Perakum Jayasinghe**, Chief Medical Officer of Health – Kandy Municipal Council
- Officials of the Kandy Municipal Council and Public Health Inspectors

IHRO Officials in Attendance

- **Mr. Subashana S. Subhawickrama** – Chairman & Chief Executive Director
- **Ms. Dhamayanthi Subhawickrama** – International Director
- **Mr. Sanath Duncan Fernando** – International Director
- **Dr. Ferozi Mohamed** – International Director
- **Mr. Dhanushka Prasanna** – International Director
- **Mr. S.M.L. Senarathna** – District Director
- **Ms. A.H. Fathima Firdoushiya** – District Director

Other Contributors

- **Mr. M. Mohamed Safas**, Auto Wings – Katugastota
- **Mr. Lahiru Nanayakkara**, Asiri Hospital – Kandy
- **Ms. Neranjan Bulathsinghala**, Nawaloka Opticals
- **Ms. Devika Ediriweera**, Psychological Counsellor
- **Mr. S.G. Kalana Viduranga**, Vision Care

Impact and Future Programmes

Approximately 500 beneficiaries received medical services during this clinic. IHRO previously conducted a similar free medical camp in Mawanella District in October, and continues to expand such free medical and community welfare programmes across districts island-wide. Many more initiatives are planned in the future to strengthen community wellbeing and access to essential services.

Drug Prevention Awareness Programme - Moronthuduwa (20 November 2025)

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO), in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town, successfully conducted a Drug Prevention Awareness Programme on 20 November 2025 at the Chamlipura Educational Institute, Moronthuduwa.

The programme was highly successful and addressed one of the most pressing social challenges of our time — the growing vulnerability of schoolchildren and adolescents to drug abuse. Recognizing this alarming reality, the initiative focused on prevention, awareness, and early intervention through structured education and community engagement.

The awareness sessions were conducted by:

- **Ms. Inoka Liyanage**, Assistant Superintendent of Police – Mathugama
- **Ms. Asa**, Community Police & Narcotics Officer – Panadura Police Station

They delivered comprehensive and impactful presentations on:

- The dangers of drug abuse
- Methods of prevention and avoidance
- The role of families, schools, and communities in safeguarding children

Significant support was also extended by the **Officer-in-Charge of the Moronthuduwa Police Station**, who actively participated and contributed to the success of the programme.

Community Engagement

The programme was organized in response to strong requests from teachers, parents, and residents of Wadduwa, Moronthuduwa, and surrounding areas. It was coordinated by the Kalutara District Directors of IHRO, including:

- Pesala Sampath
- Chani Nisansala
- Suresh Edirimuni

Their leadership and commitment played a vital role in bringing this initiative to the community.

Our Commitment

Drug abuse continues to destroy countless young lives. Protecting children and youth from this threat is a shared responsibility of society. IHRO remains committed to conducting similar Drug Prevention Awareness Programmes in other high-risk and underserved communities in the future.

“This is the most critical time for parents to remain vigilant and attentive to their children.”

Special Appreciation

Our sincere gratitude is extended to:

- Mr. Subash Subawickrama, Executive Director – International Human Rights Organization
- All IHRO officers and volunteers who contributed to the programme
- Mr. Jananga Piyadasa, President – Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town
- Suneth Prasanga & Suresh Priyadarshana
- The teacher of Chamlipura Educational Institute and her husband
- Wadduwa YMBA Executive Committee
- Mr. Sumith Ranawaka, Media Representative
- Mr. Kasun Fernandez, Photographer

Together, through awareness and collective action, we strive to protect the future of our children and build drug-free communities.

The Jaffna District Programme of the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) (17 November 2025)

The Jaffna District Programme of the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) was concluded successfully on a recent date, marking a significant milestone in the organization’s ongoing community engagement efforts. The event was honored by the participation of Hon. Ramalingam Chandrasekar, Cabinet Minister of Fisheries Resources and Aquatic Conservation, and Hon. Ilankumaran, Member of Parliament for the Jaffna District. The programme was further graced by the presence of the Officer-in-Charge of the Jaffna Police Headquarters and the Chief Incumbent of Sri Nagavihara, along with numerous religious leaders representing all faiths.

The strong representation from government authorities, law enforcement, and multi-religious leadership highlighted the collective commitment to human rights, social harmony, and community development in the Jaffna District. The successful conclusion of this programme reflects the shared vision and cooperation among all stakeholders in promoting human dignity and unity.

The free eye, ear, and general medical clinic (9 November 2025)

The free eye, ear, and general medical clinic organized by the Kandy Bogawatte Islamic Youth Foundation (IYFB), Deeniya Jumma Masjid, Bogodawatte Janaza and Welfare Association (AN-NAJA), in collaboration with the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO), under the leadership of Mrs. A. H. Fathima Firdhousiya, was conducted very successfully. The programme was attended by the Inspector from the Kandy Police Headquarters, Public Health Inspectors (PHI), medical professionals and staff from Nawaloka Hospital and Asiri Hospital, along with teams equipped with modern medical facilities. Representatives from IHRO, including Mr. Sanath Duncan, Dr. Feroosi, and members from Colombo, also actively participated in the event.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all individuals and organizations who contributed to organizing and supporting this programme. The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka has successfully conducted numerous similar community medical initiatives across the country, and we are encouraged by the positive impact these programmes continue to have on communities nationwide.

Women's rights, prevention of gender-based violence, and child protection Program (07 November 2025)

A programme organized by the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) was successfully held on 07 November 2025 at the Wadduwa YMBA Hall. The event focused on raising awareness on women's rights, prevention of gender-based violence, and child protection, addressing critical social issues affecting communities today. The programme was conducted under the leadership of Kalutara District Director Mr. Madusanka, with the active coordination and support of Ms. Chani Nisansala, Mr. Pesala Sampath, and Mr. Suresh Soysa.

This initiative highlighted the vital role of youth empowerment and community engagement in contributing positively to national development. Approximately 500 participants took part in the programme, demonstrating strong public interest and commitment to these important causes. The International Human Rights Organization extends its special appreciation and sincere gratitude to all participants for their presence, support, and dedication to promoting human rights and social responsibility.

Opening ceremony of our new office (25 October 2025)

A large and distinguished gathering attended the opening ceremony of our new office, including representatives of the STF Special Task Force Retired Association and several other organizations. We warmly and respectfully welcome Mr. Frank Perera, who coordinated this occasion, along with all former members and guests who joined us on this special day. We extend our sincere appreciation for their presence and support, and we offer our heartfelt blessings as we move forward together on this meaningful journey ahead.



A program on leadership (31 October 2025)

Another meaningful community service initiative is being organized under the leadership of Ms. A. H. Fathima Firdhousiya, District Director – Kandy, of the International Human Rights Organization (IHRO). We extend our warmest wishes to her for the successful implementation of this noble and impactful initiative.

Second Free Medical Clinic Programme (20 October 2025)

Organized by us on 20 October 2025 Held at Kongamuwa Primary School, Mawanella.

Special Event (20 October 2025)

The Suwadiwi Foundation, in collaboration with the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO), successfully conducted the “Seth Sevana – Indigenous Medical Healing and Wellness Clinic” at Kongamuwa Primary School, Mawanella. This special clinic, focused on traditional indigenous medicine, health, and well-being, was held ceremoniously with the objective of promoting natural healing practices and safeguarding community health.

Island-wide Community Outreach Initiative (18 and 19 October 2025)

Island-wide Community Outreach Initiative – Northern Province- On 18 and 19 October, the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) successfully launched six (06) coordination points across the Northern Province under the initiative “Human Duties and Rights”, with the objective of taking human rights awareness directly to village-level communities. The primary aim of this programme is to educate the public on civic responsibilities, individual rights, and the principles of fundamental law, thereby strengthening legal awareness and social responsibility within society. These coordination points were established in Palali, Kopay, Kuppilan, Kilinochchi, Jaffna, and Kokuvil, ensuring wider regional coverage and community engagement. We extend our warm congratulations and appreciation to all those who took the initiative to make this programme a success, with special recognition to Mrs. Rumesha Ansar, who promptly travelled from Colombo to Jaffna to support and facilitate this important mission.

A public petition programme (13 October 2025)

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) has made all necessary arrangements to submit a formal petition in February to the British High Commissioner and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, requesting the removal of sanctions imposed on former Army Commanders, the former Navy Commander, and Mr. Karuna Amman. As part of this continuing national initiative, a public petition programme was successfully signed in Ratnapura district, further strengthening public support for this cause. This programme reflects IHRO’s commitment to advocating for justice, fairness, and due process through lawful and diplomatic channels. IHRO extends its sincere appreciation to Ms. Shiromi Liyanage and the Ratnapura District Officers of the International Human Rights Organization for their dedication and valuable contribution to the success of this initiative.

Blood Notation Camp (14 October 2025)

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO), in collaboration with the Chishiki Nihongo Institute, successfully organized a Blood Donation Camp as part of their ongoing community service initiatives. This humanitarian programme was conducted with the objective of supporting the national healthcare system and encouraging voluntary blood donation to save lives. The event witnessed active participation from volunteers and members of the public, reflecting a strong spirit of social responsibility and compassion. Through this initiative, IHRO and Chishiki Nihongo reaffirmed their shared commitment to promoting the right to health and strengthening community solidarity through meaningful action.

Facts Revealed in Court Proceedings (13 October 2025)

During the court hearing related to the constable's case, it was revealed that nearly 200 lawyers were present in court, highlighting the seriousness and public interest surrounding the matter. In the course of the proceedings, it was stated before the court that none of the ten investigation reports had confirmed that the alleged act had taken place. This statement reportedly drew a reaction from those present in court. Furthermore, it was noted that a key individual, Wanninayake, did not appear before the court, raising additional concerns regarding the investigation process. These facts, which emerged openly during the judicial proceedings, underscore the importance of due process, transparency, and accountability in the administration of justice.

Free Human Rights Awareness Programme (10 October 2025)

The final free Human Rights Awareness and Public Education Programme organized for this year was successfully concluded at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH). The final fellowship and networking meeting of the year will be held on 28 October 2025 at BMICH – Lotus Hall. The session included expert-led lectures, public engagement, and community awareness aimed at strengthening understanding of fundamental rights and legal protections.

Establishment of the National Children and Youth Foundation – Matale (7 October 2025)

With the involvement of the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO), a dedicated platform has been established to bring together children and youth to openly discuss their human rights, address challenges they face, and support their personal and social development. Under the supervision of IHRO and through the visionary leadership of International Human Rights Director Mr. Ruwan Kumara, the National Children and Youth Foundation – Matale was formally established. This initiative aims to empower young people, provide guidance, and promote awareness of human rights while nurturing responsible, confident, and resilient future citizens. Strengthening and safeguarding the next generation is a shared responsibility and a vital commitment to the future of our nation.



Human Rights and Duties Awareness Programme (6 October 2025)

As part of its ongoing “Human Rights and Duties” awareness programme series, the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) conducted another session at the BMICH Cinema Lounge, aimed at educating trade union leaders representing all political parties. The inaugural programme in this series was held specifically for primary trade union leaders affiliated with the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna. IHRO intends to extend and implement this programme for other political parties in the near future, with the objective of promoting a shared understanding of human rights, duties, and responsible leadership across the political spectrum.

One-day workshop on human rights (6 October 2025)

A one-day workshop was conducted for the students and teaching staff of the Dhamma Schools at the Anamaduwa Labugala Rajamaha Viharaya, organized by the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO). The programme provided valuable education on human rights, ethical values, and personal development, fostering awareness and discussion among young learners and educators.

35th Sports Festival – Ruwanwella (6 October 2025)

The 35th Sports Festival was successfully organized by the Ruwanwella Divisional Secretariat, in collaboration with the Ruwanwella Youth Society, and held on 4 October 2025 at the Ruwanwella Public Ground. The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) was honoured to participate as Chief Guest at this remarkable event. The ceremony was graced by IHRO International Director Mr. Sanath Duncan Fernando, IHRO International Director Dr. Ferozi Mohamed, and IHRO Kegalle District Director Mrs. Wasantha Kulasooriya. The festival emphasized the vital role of sports in promoting unity, teamwork, youth empowerment, and community development. IHRO extends its heartfelt congratulations to the organizers, participants, and the Ruwanwella community for making this event a resounding success.

Matale District Coordination Meeting (5 October 2025)

A meeting of District Officers of the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) for the Matale District was held today with the objective of strengthening coordination and future organizational activities within the district.

The meeting focused on:

- Introducing district officers to one another
- Planning upcoming organizational activities within the Matale District
- Expanding the district membership base
- Appointing one IHRO officer for each Grama Niladhari Division to ensure full district-wide coverage
- Creating a drug-free social environment to safeguard the future of school children
- Clarifying the roles, responsibilities, and ethical duties of Human Rights Officers
- Discussing appropriate procedures and responses during challenging or critical situations

An in-depth discussion was conducted on these key areas to ensure effective and responsible district-level operations. The meeting was held at the business premises of Mr. B. W. A. Roshan Kumarasiri, whose generous hospitality and refreshments were warmly appreciated. The International Human Rights Organization extends its sincere gratitude to Mr. Roshan Kumarasiri for his kind support and cooperation.

University Awareness Programme on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (4 October 2025)

In parallel with its ongoing initiative to raise public awareness on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, a one-day awareness workshop for university students was successfully conducted recently for students of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The keynote address was delivered by President's Counsel Mr. Prashantha de Silva, Principal of the Sri Lanka Law College, who provided an in-depth and insightful presentation on human rights, constitutional safeguards, and legal responsibilities.

During the programme, the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) was honoured with a special commemorative token presented by the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, in recognition of its contribution to human rights education and advocacy. The Head of the Department, Mr. Udaya Kumara Amarasinghe, former Chairman of the National Child Protection Authority, delivered a special lecture focusing on victims' rights and protection mechanisms.

Additionally, lectures were delivered by:

- Senior Professor **Shirantha Heenkenda**, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Senior Attorney-at-Law **Mr. M. Ahmed**, representing the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka

The programme provided students with valuable knowledge and practical insights, reinforcing the importance of human rights awareness, legal literacy, and social responsibility among future professionals.

Opening of the Kilinochchi District Office of the International Human Rights Organization

The **Kilinochchi District Office** of the **International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO)** was officially opened on **Saturday, 27 September 2025, at 11.00 a.m.**

The office was ceremonially declared open by IHRO International Director, **Dr. N. Abdul Rasheed**, marking an important milestone in strengthening human rights advocacy and community engagement in the region. The event was attended by National Directors **Mr. T. Premadasa** and **Mr. S. Udayashankar**, along with District Directors, social activists, and representatives of civil society, whose presence added significance to the occasion. The establishment of the Kilinochchi District Office is expected to play a vital role in protecting the rights of the people of the district, while further enhancing social welfare services, awareness programmes, and community-based human rights initiatives in the area.



Southern Spirit and Cultural Heritage on Display (24 September 2025)

Showcasing the vibrant spirit of the South and the region's traditional Kavadi dance, the International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) had the honour of participating in the Weragoda Sri Devalaya Perahera, held in front of the newly opened Ambalangoda Office in the Galle District.

This participation took place in conjunction with IHRO's "Village to Village" programme, symbolizing the organization's commitment to engaging with local communities while respecting and celebrating Sri Lanka's rich cultural traditions. We extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Jayantha for his support and for facilitating this meaningful opportunity.

Human Rights for the Village (23 September 2025)

A group of students from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and Anuradhapura University who participated in the "Human Rights for the Village" programme held in Anuradhapura are seen here with the main resource person, Mr. Udayakumara Amarasena, Senior Lecturer from the Department of Criminal Justice, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Also present was Mr. Jayanta, with whom the students and lecturers joined for a commemorative group photograph.

The programme aimed to enhance awareness of human rights, civic responsibility, and community engagement among university students and youth representatives from Anuradhapura.

Support for Police Action Based on Rule of Law and Justice

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) carefully reviewed the circumstances surrounding a conflict between a police officer and a lawyer and publicly affirmed its position in support of the police, based on the assessment that the actions of the police were in accordance with the law and principles of justice. IHRO emphasized the importance of upholding the rule of law, due process, and institutional integrity, while also reaffirming that accountability and respect for human rights must apply equally to all parties. The organization highlighted that its position was guided solely by legal facts and justice-based principles, rather than by professional affiliation or personal interest.



Position on the Ban of Army Commanders and the Protection of Due Process

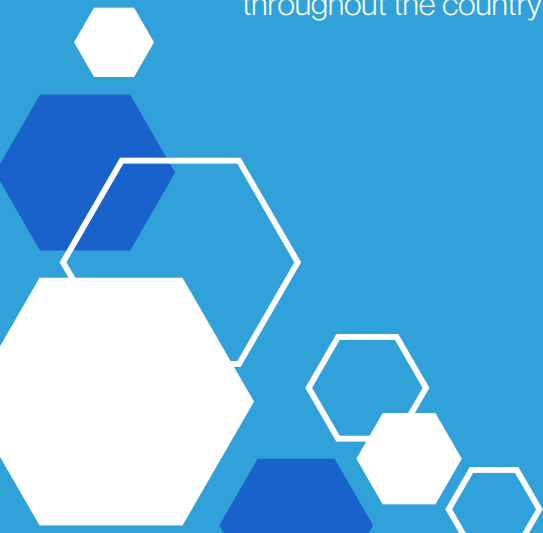
The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) publicly supported the case concerning the ban imposed on army commanders in Sri Lanka, emphasizing the importance of fairness, lawful procedure, and respect for human rights in matters involving security forces. IHRO's stance was grounded in the belief that any measure affecting the rights and duties of military personnel must be handled with transparency, due process, and adherence to established legal standards. In expressing its position, IHRO called for a careful and impartial review of the circumstances surrounding the ban, while advocating for justice and accountability for all parties involved. The organization reiterated that human rights protections apply universally, including in cases involving security institutions, and underscored the need to balance national security considerations with fundamental rights and freedoms.

Nationwide Expansion of IHRO's Organizational Presence in Sri Lanka

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) expanded its organizational presence by opening branch offices island wide and appointing regional representatives across all provinces of Sri Lanka, including the Northern, Eastern, Central, Western, Southern, North Central, North Western, Uva, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. This nationwide expansion strengthened IHRO's capacity to promote, protect, and respond to human rights issues at the community level throughout the country.

Advocacy for Fair Treatment and Human Rights of a Suspended Government Official

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) expanded its organizational presence by opening branch offices island wide and appointing regional representatives across all provinces of Sri Lanka, including the Northern, Eastern, Central, Western, Southern, North Central, North Western, Uva, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. This nationwide expansion strengthened IHRO's capacity to promote, protect, and respond to human rights issues at the community level throughout the country.



IHRO Submits Formal Complaint to Police Headquarters Seeking Justice for Assaulted Police Officer in Kolonna

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) has formally submitted a complaint to the Police Headquarters, calling for justice for the police officer who was assaulted in Kolonna. The complaint was made with the involvement of Attorney-at-Law Mr. Susantha Gunawardena, Legal Adviser to the International Human Rights Organization. Mr. Subashana Subhawikrama, Executive Director of the International Human Rights Organization, also participated in the submission, reaffirming IHRO's commitment to upholding the rule of law and protecting the rights of law enforcement officers acting within the framework of justice.

Upcoming Events

The International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka (IHRO) will host two significant events on 24 January 2026 at Cinnamon Life – City of Dreams, Cumulus Ballroom (Level 22), Colombo.

Event 1: Members Enrolment and Certificate Presentation

The first session will include the enrolment of new members and the presentation of membership certificates in a formal convocation-style ceremony. A total of 140 members will be officially enrolled and recognized during this event.

Event 2: International Humanity Award 2025 Ceremony

IHRO Sri Lanka will also organize the International Humanity Award 2025 Ceremony, held in observance of the 77th International Human Rights Day. This prestigious global award recognizes individuals and institutions for outstanding contributions to humanity, human rights, equality, peace, and social welfare. The ceremony will be attended by diplomats, senior government officials, civil society representatives, corporate leaders, academics, and media personnel.

The event will further mark the official launch of the academic publication "Human Rights Research," featuring peer-reviewed research papers by Sri Lankan scholars addressing key human rights themes, including theory, institutional mechanisms, and practical application.

In addition, a high-level panel discussion will be conducted on contemporary human rights issues in Sri Lanka, bringing together experts, policymakers, and civil society leaders to promote constructive dialogue and collaboration.

During the same event, IHRO Sri Lanka will also launch a free QR code-based Tourist Assistance and Safety Support System for international visitors. Available at Bandaranaike International Airport and registered hotels islandwide, the system will enable tourists to access support related to safety, legal matters, lost documents, or emergency guidance, strengthening visitor confidence and safety in Sri Lanka.



International Human Rights Organization Sri Lanka



Phone Number:

+94 11 2 072 172



Website:

www.ihrolk.org



Location:

No. 865/02, Jaya Mawatha,
Rajagiriya, Sri Lanka

