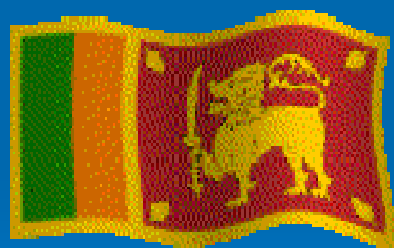


# AYUBOWAN



## Current Policy Responses to Attain the National Water Quality Target and Future Challenges in Sri Lanka

Dr. R.M.S.K. Ratnayake  
Director  
Environmental Pollution Control  
Central Environmental Authority  
Sri Lanka



## Outline

1. Policies and Responsibilities on Water Quality Management
2. Water Quality Standards and Targets
3. Progress and Achievements in WQM
4. Challenges to WQM in Sri Lanka

### 1. Policies and Responsibilities on Water Quality Management

- **Parliament** – National Policy & Legislation
- **Provincial Councils**
  - The Provincial Council List includes “protection of environment within the Province to the extent permitted by or under any law made by Parliament”. The Concurrent List includes “protection of the environment”, planning of water resources” and “soil conservation”.
- **Local Authorities**
  - regulation, control and administration of all matters relating to public health, public utility services and public thoroughfares, and generally with the protection and promotion of the comfort, convenience and welfare of the people

- National Policy Document for whole Environment
  - *“Haritha Lanka Programme”, prepared in 2009 and Cabinet approved*
  
- 10 missions for different sectors
  - *Mission 7- Water for all and always*
  - *Mission 9- Greening the industries*

## Water for All and Always

- 8 Strategies
  - Establish a systematic water allocation system and improve efficiency and quality in water distribution for various purposes
  
  - Organize a rehabilitation scheme for small tanks and revitalize the tank cascade system developed



- Transform the irrigation system to meet new challenges
- Keep drinking water resources free from contamination through proper zoning and control measures
- Integrate conservation, re-use and recycling practices at all levels of water use

- Strictly enforce the polluter pay principle for water polluting industries
- Strengthen implementation of integrated water resource management systems
- Reduce fertilizer leaching and eutrophication

## Greening the industries

### ➤ 6 Strategies

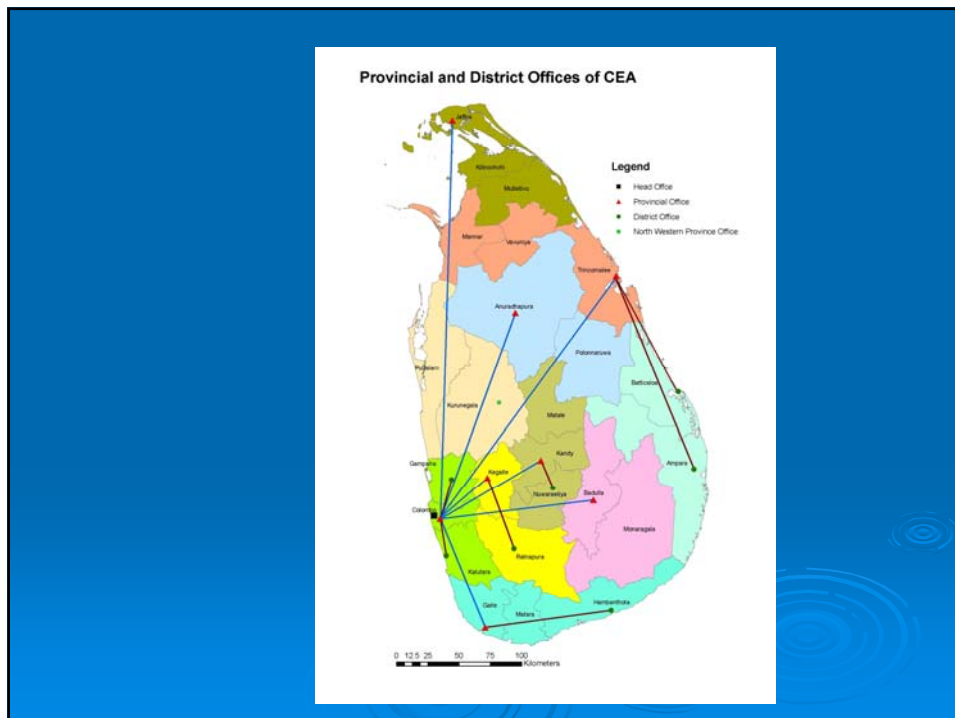
- Consolidate Cleaner Production in Industries
- Establish Eco-industrial Park
- Certification of Industries
- Greening the Supply Chain

## Responsible Agencies and Related Laws in Water Sector

- Central Environmental Authority (National Environmental Act No. 47 of 1980)–
  - *overall responsibility with regulatory power*
- National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWS&DB Law No. 2 of 1974)–
  - *responsible for drinking water and sewage Management*
- Department of Irrigation (Irrigation Ordinance No. 32 of 1946)–
  - *lakes and Irrigation canals*
- Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka(Act No. 23 of 1979) –
  - *Mahaweli River & tributaries and its constructed reservoirs*

## Provisions for water Protection in NEA

- Passed the Act No. 47 of 1980 and established the Central Environmental Authority (CEA) in 1981 for implementation of the ACT.
- Main Amendments, No.56 of 1988 & No.53 of 2000.
- Provisions Under NEA
  - Licencing Scheme for polluting activities (EPL)
  - Effluent Discharge Standards
  - Environment Protected Areas
  - Approval Procedure for Prescribed Projects (EIA)



Environmental protected area – Lake Gregory



## 2. Water Quality Standards and Targets

- Part IV B of the NEA
- Two Types of Effluent Discharge Standards Established in 1990
  - Discharge point
  - Type of effluent

## Some Important Water Quality Parameters

	TSS	BOD	Oil & Grease	COD	Pesticide	Faecal Coli form
Inland surface	50	30	10	250	0.005	40
Irrigation	2100	250	10	400	-	40
Marine coastal	150	100	20	250	0.005	40
Common TP	500	350	30	850	0.2	-
Rubber- latex	100	60	-	400	-	-
std.	100	50	-	400	-	-
Textile	50	60	10	250	-	-
Tanning- ISW	100	60	10	250	-	-
MC	150	100	20	300	-	-

## Water Quality Targets

- No. of compliance ~ 50%— Current position
- Enhance up to 80-90% within 2 years
- Gazette identified Protected Areas
- Establish better standards for effluents in this year
- Classification of water bodies
- Introduce load based fee scheme for water discharging industries



### 3. Progress and Achievements in WQM

- Load based fee- Law drafted and submitted to the legal draftsman
- Establishment of new effluent standards- draft completed
- Establishment of compliance assistance centres- decided to establish with MOI
- Awarding scheme started in this year for better performers in environment protection
- Annually increasing environmental compliances

- Declaration of 6 Environmental Protection Areas
- Advisory committee on eco friendly livestock farming was formed to solve environmental problems created by livestock industry and to assist them in pollution control.
- A joint cabinet paper was submitted by CEA and NWS&DB for policy on locating high polluting activities only at down streams of the water intakes- approved subject to some amendments

## Progress of compliance

Item	2007	2008	2009	2010
EPL	599	692	2071	2528
ER	457	701	649	592
EIA	8	28	15	4
IEE	29	383	296	590
OTHER	974	1,789	1,303	2,606

"National Green Awards" recognizes the better performing industries



## 4. Challenges to WQM in Sri Lanka

### ➤ Law and Law Enforcement

- Poor law enforcement by Implementing agencies. CEA/LA/BOI etc.
- No any ambient WQ standard established
- Unavailability of proper zoning plans in local government authorities in the country as a whole.
- Encroachments of reservations of the waterways
- Practical problems in standards

## Poor law enforcement



## Discharge of untreated wastewater



### ➤ Technology and Economy

- Lack of affordable pollution control techniques for small & medium scale enterprises.
- Lack of sewage network facility at least for populated cities
- Inadequacy of funds for monitoring and rehabilitation

➤ Institutional

- Lack of coordination in relevant institutions.
- Inadequate financial allocation
- Inadequate staff

➤ Education

- Willingness to apply cleaner technologies

➤ Monitoring and evaluation

- Lack of available baseline data
- Less research on this subject
- Failures in self reporting system in industries



Thank You