

Secretary's Annual Report AGM 2020

It is with great pleasure I submit this brief report setting out the projects conducted during the year 2018 -2019. It has been an enjoyable, eventful and most importantly, a successful year. We had 10 executive committee meetings during this year.

As you are aware, BUDS has been continuously supporting underprivileged people in Sri Lanka through various projects, mainly focusing on children and education.

In **November 2018**, BUDS UK started our 'Periyaneelavanai Project' where 140 underprivileged children (Grade 1-6) are supported through after school classes. Now the classes are extended from grade 1-7) I am delighted to inform that 21 children took the grade 5 scholarship exam and 6 of them passed the exam. BUDS UK is not only financially supporting this project, but also coordinating and managing this project too. Furthermore, not only the children but the parents are also given counseling and support through this project.



Our BUDS night 2018 was held in November and raised over £10,000 - a much-needed boost to continue our work back home.



In December 2018, BUDS UK made a contribution of £1000 towards relief work for the flood victims of KILINOCHCHI; This project was completed by the BUDS Batticaloa Branch. Our sincere thanks to the Exco members' buds Batticaloa who traveled to Kilinochchi during this difficult time and delivered the flood relief goods personally to the victims.

In April 2019, the 'Hindu College Project' was launched. This project is designed to allow students from underprivileged backgrounds from rural parts of Batticaloa to move to the Town and conduct their A/L education. BUDS has set up a hostel within the premises of Hindu College where the students are accommodated and maintained with the assistance of a full time experienced Warden on-site day and night. Students are enrolled at Hindu College and also provided private tuition lessons. The Project can accommodate up to 20 students and at present, we have 16 students benefitting from this project. The running cost of this project is working out to be £50.00 per child per month.



Following the Easter Sunday Attacks in Sri Lanka, BUDS UK set up a 'Go Fund Me' page and raised £ 1,771.36 to assist the victims of these attacks.



In May 2019, along with 8 other organisations representing the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka, BUDS held a Memorial Vigil to pay tribute to the victims of these attacks.

On this day, BUDS raised £1,502.20 which included a bucket collection from that day, donations from other associations, and a personal collection of £280.00 from Mr. Anpu family and friends. In total £4,068.00 (Rs.950,000) was distributed to 38 children for their education (each person got Rs.25,000). BUDS UK contributed the rest of the amount to make up the total. The 38 children are the survivors/family members of the victims of the Zion Church Attack in Batticaloa. Beneficiaries were identified through diligent work conducted by BUDS Batticaloa Branch with the assistance of Zonal Director and GA.

வெள்ளி, மே 31, 2019
இதழ் - 65

அரங்கம்

உயிர்த்த நூயிறில் உயிரிழுந்தவர்களுக்கு வண்டனீல் அஞ்சல்

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நாடாளுமன்ற உறுப்பினர், மாநகர கவுனிலில் உறுப்பினர்கள் உட்பட பல மத, இன மக்களும், தலைவர்களும் இந்த நிகழ்ச்சியில் கலந்துகொண்டு இலங்கை குண்டுத்தாக்குதல்களில் உயிர் இழந்தவர்களுக்கு அஞ்சலி செலுத்தினர்.

பட்ஸ் அமைப்பின் தலைவர் உமாச்சந்திரன் தலைமையிலான பல கிழக்கிலங்கை பள்ளிக்கூட பழைய மாணவர் அமைப்புக்கள் மற்றும் ஏனைய நலன்சார் அமைப்புக்களின் உறுப்பினர்கள் நிகழ்ச்சியை முன்னின்று நடத்தினர்.



இலங்கையில் உயிர்த்த நூயிறதின் குண்டுத் தாக்குதல்களின் உயிர் நீத்த உறவுகளுக்கு அஞ்சலி செலுத்தும் நிகழ்ச்சி ஒன்று அண்மையில் வண்டன் முரோ புனித அன்றாஸ் தேவாலயத்தில் நடைபெற்றது.

பட்ஸ் என்று அழைக்கப்படும் மட்டக்கள் பெற நிற்க தோர் அபிவிருத்திச் சங்கம் இதற்கான ஏற்பாடுகளை கிழக்கிலங்கையின் ஏனைய அமைப்புக்களுடன் சேர்ந்து செய்திருந்தது. பிரிட்டஷ்

In **June 2019**, the Executive Committee of BUDS UK agreed to support a new project called 'Kaluwanchikuddy Project'. BUDS UK is covering the costs of private lectures and workshop fees for 33 underprivileged postgraduates to prepare for SLAS, SLEAS, LLV, RDO and MA exams. Rs.200,000 has been given towards this project.



In **July 2019**, with the cooperation of the Tamil Welfare Association of Coventry, BUDS held a one-day welfare service camp in Coventry. The Executive Committee of BUDS UK is very grateful to all the professionals who came forward to give their time and services on this day. Let us not forget the members of our committee, members of BUDS, friends and family members who took part and made this a successful event.

Our President was set on increasing the number of members of BUDS and I can proudly say that currently, we have 139 members eligible to vote at this election, including 53 life members. Some of you have come forward to set up standing orders to support our ongoing projects and we are truly grateful for your support.



In **September** we had our Buds night 2019. And raised around £7,000 profit Including the sale of annual raffle tickets. Thank you all for supporting this event.

On **29th October** 2019, we hosted our first ever Sponsor walk (6K) at Richmond Park to raise funds to continue with our worthy projects. I take this opportunity to thank those who took part especially the young buds. 11 members set up "Go Fund Me" pages and raised over £7,000. Mrs. Myuran who is not a member also walked the distance and made her employer to double the amount and raised over £1,000.



From **November** 2018 till December 2019 we have sent around £27,000 to our Batticaloa BUDS to support all our projects. If I am not mistaken, there is enough funds in Batticaloa branch to cover all our current projects till September 2020. Our treasurer will give details in his report.

In **January 2020**, we sent Rs.200,000 for flood relief. 650 children from 3 different primary schools in the worse hit area Uthayan Moolai and Chithandy, received exercise books and other educational tools. We also provided financial support to give bundle of dry Pongal goods for 20 widows from Vaalvakam, Villavedduvan to celebrate Thaipongal.





We would not have been able to have such a successful year if it wasn't for the hard work and cooperation of our President, Executive Committee members, their spouses and their family members. Therefore, I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all of the members of the Executive Committee for their invaluable service to BUDS under the leadership of our president Mr. Umachandran.

It is the mission and vision of BUDS UK to assist the development of the underprivileged from our homeland and this can only be achieved with your continued support. I therefore kindly appeal to all to come forward with your ideas talents and take part in events to raise funds so that together we can continue to work for the betterment of our people in Batticaloa.



Esther Yoganathan

Secretary BUDS UK