

PLANTATIONS BEST PRACTICES

Welfare officers have been appointed on each estate. They report any shortcomings to the management and based on their recommendations, the management will attempt to redress these. The Cooperative Society at each estate also assesses societal requirements and community needs. In addition to the above there is a government body "Plantation Human Development Trust" to assess social and community requirements.

Child and Elder care centres for current and retired employees have been established. The Child Development Centres at each estate provide day care facilities and midday meals for children. Maternity clinics at each estate provide nutritional supplements for pregnant mothers.

During the last four years Elpitiya Plantations Ltd. has provided mid-day meals for pre-school children and retired workers with 50% of the expenditure channelled by the MJF Charitable Foundation. This project has led to an increase in the nutritional levels of the pre-school children.

Number of children that have benefited from this project :

Katandola Estate	-	050
Lelwela Estate	-	037
Gulugahakanda	-	035
Devithurai	-	123
Bentota	-	016
Dunsinane	-	274
Total	-	535

For the 2006/2007 financial year, Elpitiya Plantations Ltd. will be spending Rs.6.4 million in order to provide mid-day meals for 1498 pre-school children.

Furthermore, the Company provides lunch packets for the retired workers on a daily basis and currently 137 individuals are benefiting from this. Each year Rs.411, 600 is spent to keep this programme active.

Elpitiya Plantations Ltd. in conjunction with MJF Charity has allocated Rs.1, 537, 200 to further strengthen the mid-day meals programme for the retired workers.

The company is extensively involved in road development projects in the respective areas. Other welfare projects are the awarding of monthly scholarships to deserving children of estate workers and the distribution of books and uniforms for school children. Community activities involving employee volunteers are organised such as shramadana campaigns at estates.

A financial support programme for orphans has also been undertaken where the Company has decided to initiate a welfare programme with the aim of assisting 800 estate children and during the 2006/2007 financial year, Elpitiya Plantations Ltd. together with the MJF charity will be spending Rs.468, 000 for this much needed programme.