

## Knowledge Sharing for Sustainable Solid Waste Management between India and Sri Lanka

Three academic staff members, Dr.G.B.B.Herath, Dr.C.S.Kalpage and Dr.L.C.Kurukulasuriya from the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya and Dr.Sunil Kumar, Senior Scientist from CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI), Nagpur, India recently embarked on a project under Enhancing Relations Between India and Sri Lanka funded by India-Sri Lanka Foundation (Award No.270/17). This project was on Knowledge Sharing for a Sustainable Solid Waste Management. Initially, the team from university of Peradeniya visited CSIR-NEERI in Nagpur, India during 7-10 January 2018. During this visit, the current state of solid waste management in Sri Lanka was briefed. They also had a brief discussion on future collaborations with Dr. J. S. Pandey, Senior Most Scientist of CSIR-NEERI. The team also visited a waste management facility in Nagpur and witnessed locally developed techniques being used for waste management. During this visit, it was emphasised that joint projects between University of Peradeniya and CSIR-NEERI will be very useful to develop the state of art facility in Sri Lanka on waste management and, suggested to establish an MOU to facilitate student exchange programs, where the Sri Lankan students from science, agriculture, and medicine allied sciences and engineering can visit CSIR-NEERI Nagpur, India to get hands on training on various facilities at CSIR-NEERI.

Upon the invitation by the Sri Lankan team, Dr.Sunil Kumar visited the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya during 8-12 August 2018. During his stay, he was able to get an understanding on the laboratory facilities available in the departments of civil and chemical engineering and discussed about the waste management gaps yet to be filled on waste management aspects. He also visited the waste dumping site at Gohagoda where the municipal waste collected by the Kandy Municipal Council is disposed and he could assess the risks associated with the current practice. During this short visit, he delivered a special lecture on "Solid Waste Management" to the postgraduates attached to different postgraduate degree programmes in the department of civil engineering. He had many rounds of discussions with the Sri Lankan members during this period in which many possible avenues of future collaborations between the two institutions were explored.



Discussions held at CSIR-NEERI



Discussions held at University of Peradeniya

