

## Sri Lanka Association of Dermatologists Annual Academic Sessions and Joint Meeting with the German Dermatological Society, 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February 2002

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*At the inauguration of the SLAD Annual Academic Meeting and the Joint Meeting with the German Dermatological Society; from left to right, Dr. J. Seneviratne (Hony. Secretary SLAD), Hon. Jurgen Elias (German Ambassador in Sri Lanka), Dr. Ganga Sirimanna (President SLAD), Prof. Wolfram Sterry (President DDG), Dr. W. D. H. Perera (2002 SLAD Orator) and Dr. Gunter Schwenzer (Coordinator DDG-SLAD)*

The Annual Academic Sessions of the SLAD and the Joint Meeting with German Dermatological Society (DDG) were held from 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> February 2002 in Colombo and Kandy. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> joint meeting of the SLAD with the DDG. The inaugural meeting was held in 1985.

Several leading dermatologists from Germany, including some who were present at the inaugural joint meeting, participated in this meeting. Prof. Wolfram Sterry, President DDG, Prof. Enno Christophers, Prof. Ingrid Moll, Dr. Gunter Schwenzer, Prof. Manfred Hagedorn, Prof. Erwin Schopf, Prof. Max Hundeiker, Prof. Hencke Eckart and Prof. Rolf-Uwe Peter were the guest speakers from Germany at this meeting. Speakers from Sri Lanka included Dr. W. D. H. Perera, Dr. D. N. Atukorala, Prof. S. N. Arsecularatne, Dr. Sunil Settinayake, Dr. Nadira Karunaweera, Dr. W. M.

Tilakaratne and Dr. J. K. K. Seneviratne. Dr. Sanjeev Handa from India was also a speaker at this meeting.

The inauguration ceremony was held at the Golden Ball Room of Hotel Lanka Oberoi on the 14<sup>th</sup>. The Chief Guest of the occasion was His Excellency Jurgen Elias, the German Ambassador in Sri Lanka. Dr. Gunter Schwenzer, the co-ordinator between the SLAD and the DDG, in his address explained how the long lasting 'Agreement between SLAD – DDG' was worked out. The two presidents, Dr. Ganga Sirimanna of SLAD and Prof. Wolfram Sterry of DDG, in their addresses highlighted how Dermatology is taught in their respective countries. However the highlight of the day was the fascinating SLAD Oration titled "Pages from a Dermatologist's Diary" by Dr. W. D. H. Perera, Senior Consultant Dermatologist.

The academic programme consisted of six sessions lasting one and half days. This consisted of a symposium on leprosy, plenary lectures and free papers. Most of the guest lectures were delivered by the visiting German dermatologists.

A wide range of topics were covered with some recent advances added to good effect. The free papers and case reports were also interesting and of a high standard.

The SLAD Banquet was held at Tourmaline – Topaz Hotel in Kandy on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2002. The evening turned out to be a memorable one for the gathering.

A clinical meeting organised by Dr. (Mrs) Manel Dissanayake Consultant Dermatologist, Teaching Hospital Kandy was the final event of the four day programme in this meeting. It was much appreciated by all the participants, especially the foreign participants.

**Dr. J. K. K. Seneviratne**  
*Secretary - SLAD*