

Exhibition and Health Camp at Aralaganwila

The town of Aralaganwila in Polonnaruwa district experienced a medical, agricultural and small industries exhibition on 17th May 2015 at Wilayaya central college. This was organized with the combined efforts of the Department of Family Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya and the 232 Brigade of the Sri Lanka Army. The multifaceted themes incooperated into this social welfare project aimed to empower people to improve social, economic, health and educational aspects in this community affected by 30 years of terrorist activities in the region. This was the sixth such project organized by the Department of Family Medicine with the Sri Lanka Army in the region and this year it was organized to coincide with the World Family Doctor Day.

Number of government and non government organizations participated at the exhibition. The Medical Exhibition contained posters, models depicting human organ systems, cadaveric specimens and snakes. Some of the main themes presented were normal organ systems, common diseases of the organ systems, home accidents, poisoning, injuries, hygiene and smoking and substance abuse. A programme on nutrition centered on the theme “a balanced diet from the home garden” was also conducted.

Sri Lanka Mahaweli authority, Departments of Animal production and Health and Industries Development of the north central province put up stalls to educate people on methods to improve harvest/products and enhance their income.

Ten doctors mostly family doctors joined the medical camp where more than 200 patients obtained treatment. Pharmacy was established to dispense the prescribed medications free. The mobile dental unit from the Regional Director Health Services office Polonnaruwa conducted a dental clinic while Helpage Sri Lanka conducted an eye clinic for the elderly and arranged spectacles to the needy using their mobile unit. They also screened and selected patients needing cataract surgery and appropriate referral was done.

Screening program was also conducted to detect vision problems and obesity and underweight among attendees of the health camp. Stationary, agricultural tools, sports items and books were distributed among four schools.

This event was coordinated by Dr. Janaka Ramanayake, Head, Dept. of Family Medicine and Commander 232 brigade Col. Ravindra Dias. Large number of people from the area including school children participated in the event.



