

Ambassador Hons Brattskar, Norway President of the review Conference, Ambassador Stefano Toscono, Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian De-mining, members of the Committee of Victim Assistance, Distinguished Country representatives, Special Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, Good morning every body.

Victim Assistance.

- Individuals injured by Anti Personnel mines or other explosive remnants of war is reported to be 1732 from 1985 - 2018 in Sri Lanka
- Casualties of Mine and ERW from 2001 - 2018 is reported as 867
- In order to reduce mine victims and casualties, the Mine Risk Education Programme was designed specially to focus on high vulnerable groups such as School children, Parents, Teachers, Metal Collectors, Fire wood Collectors and Community members
- Further special attention was given for Perimeter marking, Fencing and sign board to ensure effective exclusion of civilians from mine areas.

- Further "Safe play" areas were identified for children in newly resettled areas.
- Victim Assistance Support included First Aid Support, Medical Care, Counselling, ~~Psyche~~ Psycho Social Support, Physical rehabilitation - Artificial limbs, Assisting devices (wheel chairs, walking sticks, crutches), Vocational and Technical training, Social and Economic integration and government appeal to Private Sector to support under co-operative ^e ~~the~~ Social responsibilities. (CSR)
- Globally Victim Assistance in many countries is under-funded.

A Cabinet memorandum was ~~put to~~ ^{Placed by the Hon.} Prime Minister ^{to} establish National Ministerial Steering Committee with ^{ies} Ministry of National Policies, Rehabilitation, Primary Industries and Social empowerment, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Nutrition, Defence and NGOs.

→ Sri Lanka was a signatory to the "Convention on People with Disabilities" and ratified in 2016 to ensure rights of persons with disabilities are given due consideration.

The Committee Inter ministerial Committee is to provide guidance, direction and co-ordinate the implementation of Victim Assistance Programme

- Ministry of Rehabilitation and Resettlement has provided livelihood programmes and special consideration for conflict affected housing programmes for mine victims.
- Indian Government Under Small Grant Assistance Programme has supported the Government of Sri Lanka to provide artificial limbs for mine affected victims, based on the COSL request.
- Therefore Sri Lanka is progressing in the right direction on Victim Assistance Programme.
- More attention is given by the Government of Sri Lanka on Victims Assistant Programme.