

NATIONAL OZONE UNIT MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, SRI LANKA

## NATIONAL CEREMONY OF WORLD OZONE DAY 2020

The National ceremony of the 'World Ozone Day –2020' was organized by the National Ozone Unit of the Ministry of Environment on 16.09.2020 at the 'Apegama' premises to mark the 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Montreal Protocol and 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vianna Convention on the theme of 'Ozone for Life'. Around 300 students from the technical colleges across the island and together with nearly 200 senior government officials and stakeholders from intergovernmental organizations, private sector and non-governmental organizations graced the occasion. The event was held under the distinguished patronage of Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Environment of Sri Lanka, and others including Hon. C.B, Rathnayake State Minister of Forestry and Wildlife, Hon. Jagath Kumara, Member of Parliament and, , Prof. Leelananda Rajapakshe, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Peradeniya and Chairman of the National Engineering Research and Development Center, Sri Lanka who delivered the keynote speech on ' Refrigerants : Status Quo and the Way Forward'.







#### ONLINE COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION OF WINNING ENTRIES

Considering the situation prevailed due to Covid 19 pandemic, an island wide Art, Cartoon and Poetry competitions were conducted online by the National Ozone Unit of the Ministry of Environment. An exhibition of winning entries was conducted simultaneously in the National Event and it was declared open by the Honourable Minister of Environment.

# **The Winning Entries**





## DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AND EQUIPMENTS

Considering the situation prevailed due to Covid-19 pandemic, an island wide art, cartoon and poetry competitions were conducted online by the National Ozone Unit of the Ministry of Environment. An exhibition of winning entries was conducted simultaneously in the National Event and it was declared open by the Honourable Minister of Environment. He has also awarded three recovery machines with recovery cylinders to the Department of Police, National Youth Council and Ceylon Electricity Board to promote green technology and environmentally friendly practices in the country. Moreover, Certificate were presented to the trainers who achieved the Refrigerant Driving License (RDL) offered by UNEP together with AHRI.



#### **TREE PLANTING**

Native tree saplings (Sandal wood) were planted by the Honourable Minister of Environment and other guests at the 'Ape Gama' premises in memory of the event.





### AWARENESS PROGRAMMES AT SCHOOLS

On the other hand, through the Ministry of Environment, the National Ozone Unit had instructed the schools to have an awareness campaigns in all the schools across the island. 4.5 million student population was able to get awareness on the 'importance of protecting ozone layer and the harmful effects of its depletion' at the same time.