

## FROM THE EDITOR.....

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Being not only an environmentally friendly nation, but a nation built on the principles of co-existing with the flora and fauna, sustaining and nurturing the nature, once had been the cornerstones of the Sri Lankan civilisation. Though subjugation by invaders from the west, in a variety of forms, for over four and half centuries has somewhat eroded the fundamental values, our cultural and religious observances still clearly portray the dedication and affinity to environmental preservation.

By embracing the industrial revolution and its products during the past couple of centuries, the primary inhabitants - humans - on this planet have become guilty, at different degrees, of perpetrating an environmental degradation quite unprecedented in our own long history. Since it has been said that “better late than never”, it is heartening to see the world finally getting enlightened on the virtues of preserving and sustaining the environment against the temerity of exploiting it with impunity for short term benefits.

It is very difficult to get liberated from age old habits, especially when they relate directly with our comforts and perceptions of greatness. That is the reason why another revolution - a green revolution - has been necessitated, through which an alternative path in the right direction was created. Treading this path requires commitment, dedication, sacrifices as well as extra expenditure in present monetary sense. That is the reason why any ‘green’ initiatives by individual or corporate entities should be hailed as laudable.

As Sri Lankan Engineers, it has never been difficult for us to think and act ‘green’. Now, to supplement it, now we have the added incentive of ‘acting green’ being the popular culture too. Therefore, as creators of built environment, as custodians of technical innovations, and as basis providers for economic policies, let us go the extra distance to make this planet liveable not only for ours but also for many future generations to come.

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