THE PROJECT FOR THE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT OF HIGH QUALITY RADIOTHERAPY WITH HIGH ENERGY RADIATION INCLUDING THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR CANCER PATIENTS IN SRI LANKA

Under this project every province will be established with state of the art Radiotherapy Centres, which at present limited to Colombo.

Cancer is a major source of disease burden in Sri Lanka and become the second leading cause of death today.

The total cost of this project is Rs. 7.7 billion of which Rs. 5.9 billion is for supply and installation of equipment, Rs. 1.8 billion is for construction of Radiation Protective Bunkers and associated buildings. 14 Nos. Triple, Dual and Fixed Energy Linear Accelerators, 08 Nos. CT Simulators and 09 Nos. Brachy Therapy units are to be procured and installed in the ten identified Oncology centres. Duration of the project would be three years.

The project will be implemented under the guidance of Hon. Minister of Health in two phases commencing from National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Maharagama. The first Triple Energy Linear Accelerator has already been installed and yet to be commissioned.

Phase I

National Cancer Institute Maharagama
Teaching Hospital Karapitiya
Teaching Hospital Jaffna (Base Hospital Tellippalai)
Teaching Hospital Batticaloa
Teaching Hospital Kandy

Phase II

Teaching Hospital Anuradhapura
District General Hospital Hambantota
General Hospital Badulla
Teaching Hospital Kurunegala
General Hospital Ratnapura

Radiotherapy is a major mode of cancer treatment recognized and proven its efficiency world wide. Therapeutic gain exclusively depends on modality of radiotherapy application to maximize the control of cancer while giving minimal or no damage to organs.

Today we are in need of high energy Teletherapy and Brachytherapy facilities. The Linear Accelerator is undoubtedly the standard high energy teletherapy radiation treatment machine and Brachytherapy is also well established dedicated and recognized, intrabody radiation treatment modality used world wide for the provision of quality radiotherapy to achieve the best survival and quality life for cancer patients.

At present Teletherapy is mostly delivered to cancer patients through very ancient Tele-Cobolt machines, where the accuracy and normal organ sparing are not at all satisfactory. The available single dual energy Linear Accelerator installed at National Cancer Institute Maharagama is working in its full capacity but still being unable to cope up the need for cancer patients.

Based on above and in par with the Mahinda Chinthana Idiridakma towards better healthcare to the people of Sri Lanka, the Ministry of Health, Government of Sri Lanka launched this huge project to reach our goals in cancer treatment in Sri Lanka.