

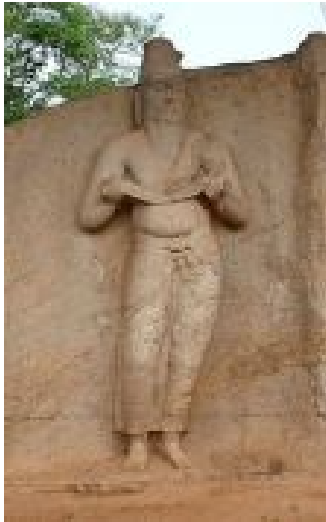


AWCI Session of AOGEO Conference 2021

**Irrigation Department
Sri Lanka**

Introduction to Irrigation Department

- Irrigation Department (ID) is the pioneer government organization established in the year 1900 for country's water resources management specially including development of irrigated agriculture.
- ID has a well established structure including head office based specialized divisions for Hydrology, Hydraulics, Engineering Materials Engineering Geology, and Planning & Designing.
- There are 52 divisional offices and 14 range offices covering the entire island.



Following the heritage at striving "Not to let a drop of rain water flow in to the sea without first being used for the welfare at mankind".

(Parākramabāhu the Great :1123–1186)

"Mission"



Irrigation department will facilitate sustainable management and improve the land and water resources for food, livelihoods and environment under the frame work of government policies.

"Vision"

Enhance the development and management of land and water resources towards the socio-economic development of Sri Lanka. Irrigation Department will plan out. Design, control and manage land and water resources to derive optimum benefits for Irrigated agriculture, Hydro power and Flood control by harmonizing the modern technologies and human resources.

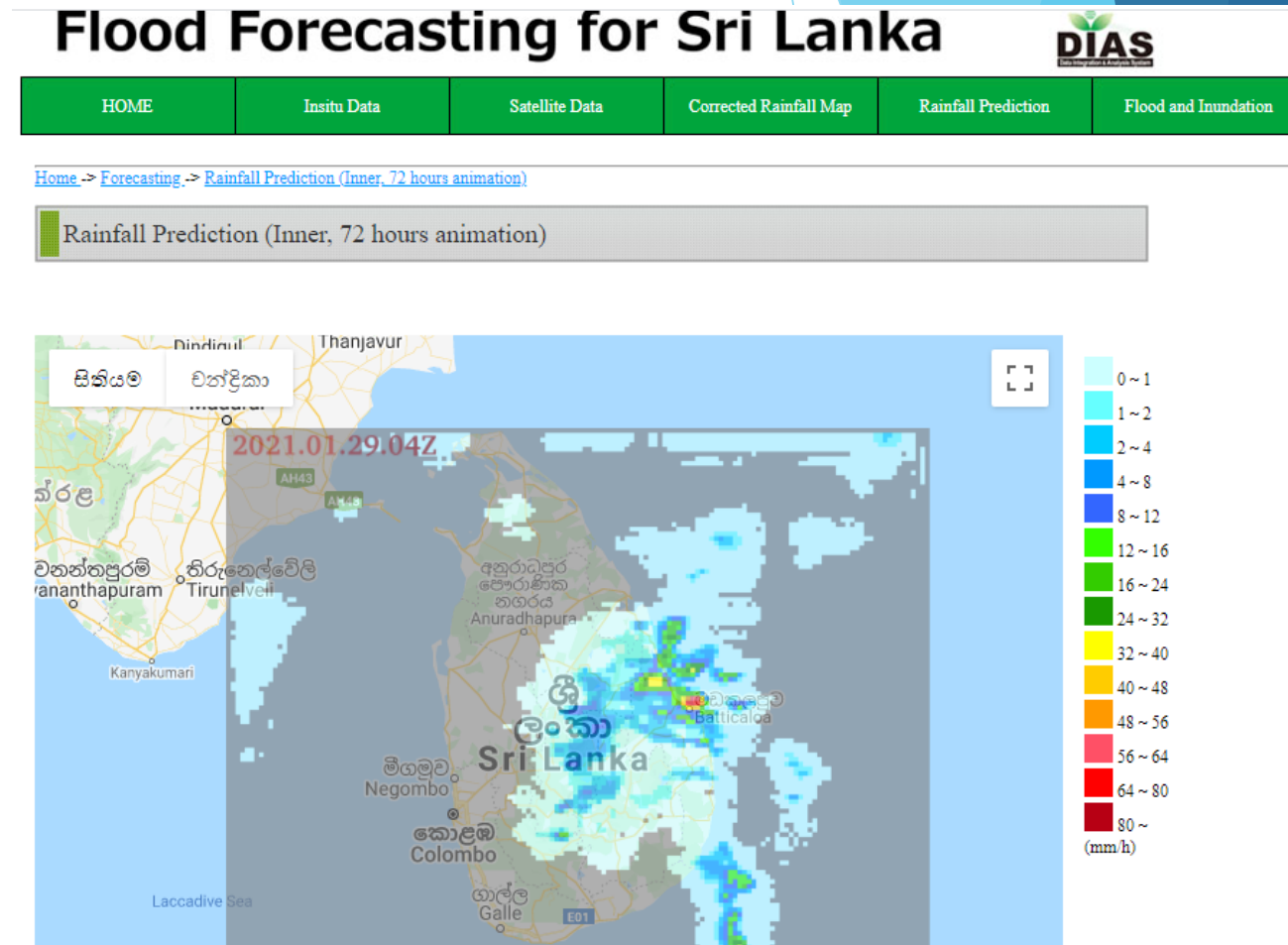
Mandates and Duties of Irrigation Department

- ▶ Pioneer Government organization for Water Resources Management including flood management
- ▶ Development and management of infrastructure for irrigating agricultural lands specially focusing paddy cultivation
- ▶ Development and management of flood protection infrastructure
- ▶ Collection and management of Hydrological data of the country
- ▶ Flood forecasting and early warning



Comments and feedback for proposed Online Synthetic System (OSS)

- ▶ Present real time rainfall forecasting system of DIAS for Sri Lanka is very useful and propose to improve further.
- ▶ I proposed to include Stakeholder Forum in to OSS so that ICHARM can call for a short meeting if DIAS forecast abnormal storm or high rainfall event and discuss.
- ▶ Introduce seasonal rainfall forecasting system in DIAS to identify /forecast droughts if possible.
- ▶ Present flood forecasting system for Kalu River need to be improved. It can be extended to Mahaweli Basin after improvements.
- ▶ Capacity Building needs of ID is very high in the field of flood forecasting and flood management. Therefore it is timely valued to introduce proposed Online Training Modules in order to tally with present pandemic situations.



Future Plans of ID in Flood Disaster Management

- ▶ Expand the Hydrological Observation Network
- ▶ Strengthen Automated Observation Network
- ▶ Develop Flood Models for all flood prone rivers
- ▶ Develop the Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems
- ▶ Capacity Building of all categories of staff in this field
- ▶ **I believe proposed OSS could support us for achieving all above tasks**

Thank you very much