

## **History of National Health Development Fund**

The Health of the Nation is one of the Government's primary concerns. Every year it spends around billions of rupees on maintaining health services.

Although the country's health services are financed through the National budget the state has time and again received substantial aid through voluntary contribution from generous individuals and institutions. These contributions have been utilized in an ad hoc manner before the establishment of National Health Development Fund in 1981. Now these contributions are utilized in proper way for the upliftment of the health facilities of the public in Sri Lanka.

To encourage those who would like to contribute towards a worthy cause, the Government has created the National Health Development Fund by an Act of Parliament (Act No. 13 of 1981)

In addition to the donations from the public the proceeds from collection of human placenta from hospitals were credited to the National Health Development Fund during the year 1989 to 1997. From the inception of the Hospital Lottery in 1998, 15% of the income from the Hospital Lottery was credited to the National Health development Fund by the National Lotteries Board.