

2020 Shanghai Silk Road Health Forum

7th November 2020

Under the Third China International Import Expo

Your Excellency's,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to share with this distinguished gathering the government's effort in taking measures to prevent and control the COVID-19 by the government of Sri Lanka.

At the outset, let me reiterate the importance in creating synergies between cities and countries in sharing best practices, knowledge and science in fighting this pandemic as today we are undergoing massive transformation in our countries and cities in the context of the current COVID-19 pandemic. Challenging times bring communities and countries together. COVID-19 Pandemic has brought to the light the togetherness and willingness to support each other against all the odds. This could be seen first during the time China was fighting to contain the virus and in turn, China also stepped up similar way when other countries were grappling with this challenge.

Sri Lanka, under the leadership of His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka, in early February, established a Task Force comprising key health personnel, high-ranking military personnel and administrators to monitor the spread of the pandemic and also to take required measures to combat the spread of the virus.

The first Covid-19 Sri Lankan patient was identified on March 11th. Initially patients were Sri Lankans who came from several countries. Up until, October 2020, Sri Lanka successfully contained the spread of the COVID-19 and resorted normalcy in daily lives and economic activities from June to end of September this year.

Sri Lanka adopted a few special and unique measures: establishment of quarantine centres managed by the Armed Forces and the deployment of the State Intelligence Services, the police and Public Health Inspectors to do contact tracing. Both these measures have helped Sri Lanka cope with this pandemic quite successfully enabling the health authorities to function at the optimum level.

Given an excellent free healthcare system which includes a well-established preventive mechanism placed throughout the country, Sri Lanka has been able to contain the spread of this deadly virus utilizing the public health processes.

During the second wave, which started in October 2020, Sri Lanka finds that the virus has a different strain and spreads quite fast among the clusters. However, it has recorded mostly asymptomatic patients resulting the less number of severe patients. So far, 11,060 cases with 4,905 recovered and 21 Deaths. Overall, looking at the population and death/recovery ration, experts informs that Sri Lanka fairs well.

Government has also introduced social welfare incentives, such as food packages, dry food and other staple food packages for people who face dire economic consequences to confine themselves at home.

Throughout the period that Sri Lanka has been implementing measures to contain the spread of the virus, government of People's Republic of China had been steadfast in providing assistance and support. These support in kind and deed had been reaching the people of Sri Lanka at a time that the country was coping up with a difficult situation. We appreciate the solidarity and support by China to Sri Lanka at this challenging time.

Thank you.

2020 上海丝绸之路健康论坛
2020 年 11 月 7 日
暨第三届中国进口博览会

尊敬的阁下，
女士们先生们，

感谢主办方给予我这次机会，与各位分享斯里兰卡政府为疫情防控做出的努力。

首先，请允许我重申在城市和国家之间建立协同机制，共享最佳抗疫成果，以及知识和科学在对抗此次流行病中的重要性。在当今新冠疫情大流行的背景下，我们正在国家和城市中进行大规模转型。这个充满挑战的时代将各个团体和国家紧密联系在一起。抗疫过程也深刻体现了彼此支持的团结和意愿。这种机制首先产生于中国为遏制该病毒斗争之时，反过来，在其他国家应对这一挑战时，中国也采取了类似措施。

斯里兰卡于 2 月初在斯里兰卡总统阁下的领导下成立了一支由主要卫生人员、高级军事人员和管理人员组成的抗疫队伍，用来监测新冠肺炎大流行的蔓延并采取必要措施以打击病毒的传播。

2020 年 3 月 11 日，斯里兰卡境内发现了第一名新冠肺炎患者。最初，患者群体是从多个国家入境的斯里兰卡公民。直到 10 月，斯里兰卡成功地遏制了新冠肺炎的扩散，并且从今年 6 月至 9 月底，斯里兰卡在日常生活和经济活动中恢复了正常状态。

斯里兰卡采取了一系列特殊措施：例如，建立了由武装部队管理的检疫中心，部署了国家情报局，由警察和公共卫生检查员对接触者进行追踪。这些措施均帮助斯里兰卡成功应对了疫情，从而卫生当局能够适当发挥最佳水平。

再者，斯里兰卡拥有完善的免费医疗保健系统，其中包括完善的预防机制。因此，斯里兰卡能够利用原有的公共卫生程序遏制此种致命病毒的传播。

2020 年 10 月开始的第二波疫情中，斯里兰卡发现了该病毒具有不同的株系，并且在各株之间迅速传播。然而，第二波疫情大多数为无症状感染者，重症患者大量减少。目前为止，斯里兰卡境内已累计有 11060 例患者，4,905 例康复，21 例死亡。总体而言，专家们从人口和死亡/康复比率的角度了解到目前斯里兰卡情况良好。

此外，政府还推出了社会福利激励措施，例如食品一揽子、干粮和其他一揽子计划，提供给面临严峻经济后果的人们在家中生活。

在斯里兰卡采取措施遏制病毒传播的整个过程中，中华人民共和国政府一直坚定不移地提供援助和支持。在斯里兰卡应付困难局势之际，来自中国的实物和实际行动温暖着斯里兰卡人民的心。我们衷心感谢中国在这个充满挑战的时刻给予斯里兰卡的友爱与支持。

谢谢！