



Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide

## Media Release

December 17th, 2007

### **Lions International President makes tour of Southern Sri Lanka and South Asia**

The International President of Lions Club, Mr. Mahendra Amarasuriya, participated in several local and global tours last month to initiate and discuss lions' activities. Locally, Mr. Amarasuriya visited Lions Clubs in the southern region, namely those in Kataragama, Tissamaharama, Hambantota, Ambalanthota, Tangalle, Dickwella, Matara, Weligama and Galle.

The scope of these visits included religious ceremonies, club installations, induction of new members to and extension of district clubs, scholarship donations to deserving students and other donations of books, spectacles, hearing aids and a wheel chair. A highlight of the tour was the celebration of the 41<sup>st</sup> Charter Anniversary of the Lions Club of Galle.

The global tour included visits to India and Bangladesh. During his visit to Bangladesh, Mr. Amarasuriya awarded the Bangladesh President His Excellency Professor Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed with the Lions Medal of Merit. Mr. Amarasuriya also engaged in discussions with H.E. on issues and problems faced by Bangladesh, particularly those environmental in nature. A celebration of the Golden Anniversary of Leonism in the world, discussions on club memberships and activities, a banquet to inaugurate the Golden Jubilee Programme of the Bangladesh Lions, opening of the first magazine of Bangladesh Lions and inauguration of the Lions leadership institute were other key highlights of the visit.

The visit to India was marked by foundation laying ceremonies for an ENT and eye care center and computer center in Hyderabad, and the golden jubilee anniversary celebrations of the Lions Club of Hyderabad city. Other activities included inauguration of Lions Clubs and induction of club members in Chennai city.

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#### PHOTOCAPTION

Mr. Amarasuriya addressing members at a local Lions Club