

## Local News

1. **Climate Change - Stop This Madness:** In the aftermath of the apocalyptic super typhoon in the Philippines—described as one of the worst in the country's history with at least 2,500 people killed and more than 600,000 displaced - the people and Government of Sri Lanka need to reflect deeply on the root causes of such catastrophes.  
[http://www.island.lk/index.php?page\\_cat=article-details&page=article-details&code\\_title=92247](http://www.island.lk/index.php?page_cat=article-details&page=article-details&code_title=92247)
2. **Over 61,000 acres of Forest Land Taken for Resettlement:** Sri Lanka Mahaweli Authority has come under criticism for clearing 61,860 acres of forest lands for a re-settlement drive and for commercial purposes in the Northern Province. Environmentalists have accused the Mahaweli Authority of attempting to illegally clear land coming under forest reserves in a bid to establish new settlements in Welioya, Mullaitivu.
  - a. <http://www.nation.lk/edition/news-online/item/22099-mahaweli-authority-trying-to-clear-forest-reserves.html#sthash.W5IT7NrH.dpuf>
  - b. <http://www.thesundayleader.lk/2013/11/03/61860-acres-grabbed-sans-forest-dept-consent/>
3. **Tea Factory Owners Face Fuel Wood Challenges:** Among the concerns raised at the Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lankan Tea Factory Owners Association was that hard fuel sources were dwindling and they were unsure how their fuel needs were to be realized.  
[http://www.island.lk/index.php?page\\_cat=article-details&page=article-details&code\\_title=92247](http://www.island.lk/index.php?page_cat=article-details&page=article-details&code_title=92247)
4. **Encroachment Threatens Catchment Areas:** A fully integrated conservation programme needs to be launched, at national level to tackle the threat to natural water resources in catchment areas of the Uva Province, especially in the Badulla District, caused by encroachment by plantation companies, Badulla District Secretary Rohana Keerthi Dissanayake says.  
[http://www.island.lk/index.php?page\\_cat=article-details&page=article-details&code\\_title=90351](http://www.island.lk/index.php?page_cat=article-details&page=article-details&code_title=90351)
5. **Poaching Rampant in National Parks:** Rampant poaching is reported to be taking place within the Udawalawe and Lunugamwehera National Parks as the Department of Wildlife Conservation and the respective police stations are helpless to take action against the poachers. <http://www.thesundayleader.lk/2013/11/10/poachers-protected/>
6. **Paddy Farmers Deprived of Water for Cultivation:** Paddy farmers in the country claim that they are facing a bleak future as the Irrigation Department is using the water in the irrigation tanks for tourism purposes depriving them water for paddy cultivation purposes.  
<http://www.thesundayleader.lk/2013/11/03/paddy-farming-starved-of-water/>
7. **Bentota Beach Hotel Committed to Sound Environmental Practices:** One of Green Globe's Elite Members, the Bentota Beach Hotel in Bentota, Sri Lanka, has demonstrated a strong commitment to the seamless integration of sound environmental practices into all levels of the business for many years. This property stands out as an eco-friendly and ethical operation, and recently earned Green Globe re-certification. [http://www.eturbonews.com/39526/green-sri-lanka-hotel-promotes-awareness-among-school-children?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+Eturbonews-TravelAndTourismIndustryNews+%28eTurboNews+-+for+the+global+travel+professional%29](http://www.eturbonews.com/39526/green-sri-lanka-hotel-promotes-awareness-among-school-children?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Eturbonews-TravelAndTourismIndustryNews+%28eTurboNews+-+for+the+global+travel+professional%29)

## International News

8. **High Resolution Forest Map Reveals Massive Deforestation Worldwide:** Researchers today released a long-awaited tool that reveals the extent of forest cover loss and gain on a global scale. <http://news.mongabay.com/2013/1114-global-forest-map.html?n3ws1ttr#XZdT4qYxFGLqOhOl.99>
9. **Bangladesh Plans Massive Coal Power Plant in Sundarbans:** The Bangladeshi Government is pushing to build a Coal Power plant in the ecologically and economically important Sundarbans mangroves, the worlds largest mangrove forest. The Project is a joint venture between the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC, the same Company that is involved in the Sampur coal power plant) of India and the Government of Bangladesh. <http://news.mongabay.com/2013/1111-hance-rampal-coal-plant.html?n3ws1ttr>
10. **Amazon Deforestation Could Cause Droughts in California:** Complete deforestation of the Amazon rainforest could reduce rainfall in the Pacific Northwest by up to 20 percent and snowpack in the Sierra Nevada by up to 50 percent, suggests new research published in the *Journal of Climate*. <http://news.mongabay.com/2013/1108-amazon-deforestation-california.html?n3ws1ttr#2jDOSiMrMMS7fQmJ.99>
11. **HSBC Financing Deforestation for Palm Oil in Borneo:** HSBC, the world's third largest bank, continues to lend to companies linked to deforestation despite a policy explicitly prohibiting such practices, alleges a new report from the London-based Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA). <http://news.mongabay.com/2013/1111-hsbc-palm-oil-eia.html?n3ws1ttr#jVG86JbzxWooaRlx.99>
12. **Richest Countries Spent \$74 Billion on Fossil Fuel Subsidies in 2011, Eclipsing Climate Finance by Seven Times:** "The status quo encourages energy companies to continue burning high-carbon fossil fuels and offers no incentive to change," said the report's author Shelagh Whitley. "We're throwing money at policies that are only going to make the problem worse in the long run by locking us into dangerous climate change." <http://news.mongabay.com/2013/1113-hance-fossil-fuel-subsidies.html?n3ws1ttr#reFQvwJr8rloYCjZ.99>

### ACT!!!

- Plant more trees! Rainforest Protectors will plant trees on Friday November 29 @ 8am at Uyanwatte Bungalow in Raigama, Bandaragama. This fairly large estate faces the beautiful Uyanwatte lake. They will be planting around 30+ native rainforest trees near the lake front to increase bio-diversity in this area. If you are interested in joining, please write to [rainforestprotectors@gmail.com](mailto:rainforestprotectors@gmail.com) ASAP
- Clean up Activity in Ingiriya: ඉංගිරිය හතර ගස් රක්ෂිතයේ කැලිකසල හා අනුරාධපුරයේ වන ගස් වැනි පාරිසරික ගැටලු පිලිබඳව සහයා බලා පියවර ගැනීමට වැසි වනාන්තර සුරක්ෂිතයේ සමිතිය සමග එක්වන්න. දිනය දසැම්බර් මස 7 වන සතෙසුරාදා උදය 8:30 රක්ෂිතය ඉදිරිපිට. පසුව සමිතියේ කැන් වන රැස්වීම.
- Join us on Facebook and connect to the latest environmental protection activities: <https://www.facebook.com/feosrilanka>
- Share photos of environmental destruction for awareness video: Email [feoslweb@gmail.com](mailto:feoslweb@gmail.com)
- Recycle your e-waste – drop it off at any Dialog Arcade <http://www.dialog.lk/support/mobile/coverage-service-points/store-locator/>
- Report large scale environmental damage – Tell FEO <http://www.feosl.org/tell-feo/>
- Volunteer with a local environmental organization: Email FEO to connect to an organization that is of interest to you
- Share this newsletter. Email [contact@feosl.org](mailto:contact@feosl.org) to subscribe



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