



Business & Professional Women Sri Lanka

(incorporated in June 1993)

BPW INTERNATIONAL SOUTH ASIA SUB REGIONAL MEETING 22ND - 24TH FEBRUARY, 2015, KATHMANDU, NEPAL

The Asia Pacific Regional Meeting 2014 was held in Kathmandu, Nepal from the 22nd – 24th February 2015. The opening ceremony was held at Shankar Hotel, Lazimpat and attended by distinguished officials from the Nepal Government. The Flags of the South Asian Region was carried by Members of the YBPW. BPW Sri Lanka was represented by Iranthi Abeysuriya (Governor/Secretary), Manel Atukorale (Governor/Treasurer) and Dushyanthi Gooneratne (Governor).

The three day meeting was a success with India, Malaysia, Taiwan and Sri Lanka participating. Dr. Yasmin Darwich - BPW International President, Susan Jones – BPW International Asia Pacific Coordinator, Lisa Lin - Chair of the Philanthropic & Fundraising Taskforce, Tuulikki Juusela, a Past President of BPW International, Dr. Amany Asfour – President BPW Egypt/ 1st Vice President Membership together with Ambica Shesthra – President, BPW Nepal graced the function on all 3 days.

The President of BPWI and the Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator spoke on behalf of BPWI explaining what BPW is and how it advocates women's issues in the affiliated countries and the world as a whole by lobbying women's causes with the UN, issues such as Equal Pay that has been taken up in the UN etc.,.



The 2nd day of the Sub-Regional Meeting was held at the BPW Nepal Headquarters. The representatives of BPWI spoke on their respective areas.

Dr. Yasmin Darwich, President BPW International explained that each club is important and when the club does good work and programmes to uplift and empower women, automatically there will be people who will come voluntarily and join BPW.

Susan Jones, the Asia Pacific Coordinator said that as Asia Pacific covers a very large region, she had organised sub-regional meetings to facilitate and help the South Asian Region together.

The Membership Chair explained how important it is to recruit members and retain the membership.



On behalf of all the countries present, a representative from each country read their Report. On behalf of BPW Sri Lanka Manel Atukorale, Governor/Treasurer presented the Report of Sri Lanka.

The BPW Nepal hosted all participants to a Traditional Gala Dinner at the Dwarika's Hotel which is owned Ambica Shesthra, President of BPW Nepal.

A Field Trip was organised by BPW Nepal to showcase the projects that have been initiated to empower women. They are abused women who have been down-trodden by the Patriarchal Society. We visited 3 projects - a small garment factory that does only crochet items, a community farm run and managed by women, and a carpet weaving project by a group of women.

FUND RAISER HELD ON 07TH MAY 2015 @ HILTON COLOMBO

'Tittle Tattle'- a Fund Raiser was held at the Hilton Colombo on Thursday, 07th May 2015. It was a fashion show with high tea to raise funds to construct fresh water wells in the Global Peace Village in Polonnaruwa.



Guests at the Fund Raiser - Fashion Show

Fund Raiser held on 07th May 2015 @ Hilton Colombo



Guests at the Fund Raiser – Fashion Show



Fashion Show in Progress

Fund Raiser held on 07th May 2015 @ Hilton Colombo

BPW
Governors
&
Members



POWER WOMAN
“Shakthimath Kanthawa”

BPW Sri Lanka held a Workshop on ‘Skakthimath Kanthawa’ on Sunday 29th March 2015 to celebrate the International Women’s Day 2015. It was held at the Sri Mangalaramaya, Kawdana, Dehiwela. The workshop conducted under the theme ‘*Shakthimath Kanthawa*’ was to encourage women to save, to handle domestic violence in a positive manner, where redress can be sought, the rights they have and the recourse to law.

The workshop was coordinated and conducted by Ms. Dushyanthi Gooneratne, Governor BPW Sri Lanka and Chairperson of Project ‘Shakthimath Kanthawa, with a lecture by Tharindra Gooneratne, Asst. Manager, Good Hope PLC on ‘Empowerment of Women’.

Governors and the Members of BPW contributed towards refreshments. CIC Dairies chipped in by sending one of their products ‘CIC Yoghurt’ for the workshop participants for which kind gesture we thank Mr. Amal Perusinge, the Chief Executive Officer of CIC Dairies (Pvt) Ltd.

**Please post your contribution (cheque) drawn in favour of
‘Business & Professional Women Sri Lanka’
to
BPW Sri Lanka
No. 7, Rotunda Gardens
Colombo 3
Sri Lanka**

**Tel/Fax: +94 11 4502147
Email: bpwslk@gmail.com**