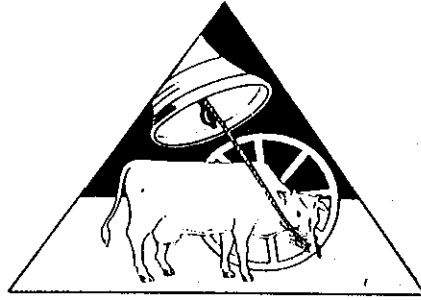




LAW & SOCIETY TRUST

**ANNUAL REPORT
1997**



Annual Report

1997

Law & Society Trust

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Table of Contents

	Pages
Primary Objectives	1
Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights Report	3
South Asian Human Education Programme - Indian Component	5
Law and Economy Programme	6
Equal Opportunity Programme	8
Project to Provide Technical Assistance to a Human Rights Organisation in Bangladesh.	9
Work with the Consumer Unity and Trust Society	10
Towards Greater Freedom of Association, Assembly and Expression in Asia	10
Comparative Constitutionalism in South Asia - Lecture Series	11
Study Group on the Media	11
Consultation on the Draft Constitution of Sri Lanka	12
Law Reform Discussions	14
Health and Human Rights Desk	14
Lectures and Seminars	15
Book Launches	16
Art Competition	16
Internship Programme	16
Library and Publications	17
Staff Activities, Publications etc	24
Summary of Accounts	28
Board of Directors	30
Staff	30



LAW & SOCIETY TRUST

The Law & Society Trust is a non-profit making body committed to improving public awareness on civil and political rights and social, economic and cultural rights, and equal access to justice. The Trust is also concerned with the consideration, and improvement of professional skills within the legal community. The Trust has taken a leading role in promoting co-operation between government and society within South Asia on questions relating to human rights, democracy and minority protection, and has participated in initiatives to develop a global intellectual and policy agenda for the nineties.

The Law & Society Trust was established in June 1982 to initiate studies and activities on law, its processes and institutions. In 1990, the Trust was incorporated as a non-profit making body under the provisions of the Companies Act of 1982.

The Trust has designed activities and programmes, and commissioned studies and publications, which have attempted to make the law play a more meaningful role within society. The Trust has further attempted to use law as a resource in the battle against underdevelopment and poverty, and has also conducted a series of programmes aimed at members of the legal community, including publications, workshops, seminars and symposia. It is developing its documentation centre with the objective of establishing in the future: a regional centre for advanced legal studies and socio-legal research. The Trust has been responsible for the publication of four independent reviews of human rights in Sri Lanka - the State of Human Rights Reports for the years 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996.

The Trust has an ongoing programme designed to disseminate information and upgrade local legal skills on matters relating to commercial law. With the Sri Lanka Government's increased emphasis on economic restructuring, privatisation of state enterprises and liberalisation of the economy, there is a growing need within Sri Lanka for legal skills and expertise in drafting appropriate legislation and negotiating contracts. The Trust has also initiated discussions between the public and private sectors on critical issues relating to economic law and policy.



Primary Objectives

Taking a holistic approach to the promotion of human rights, the Trust pursued the following objectives to implement its mandate:

1. The development of international human rights policy and standards which are sensitive to contemporary challenges in the developing world, and South Asian countries in particular.
2. The development and strengthening of regional human rights organisations, mechanisms and democratic institutions.
3. Promoting the protection of human rights in the domestic arena through awareness building among civil society, and influencing government policy making.
4. Pursuing general activities to make law responsive to societal needs.

Methods of Implementation

The Trust implements its objectives in a number of ways:

Consultations
Workshops
Research
Lectures
Lobbying
Training Seminars
Publications
Focus Groups,

Development of International Human Rights Policy and Standards

At the international level, the Trust focused on ensuring the incorporation of concerns and perspectives of developing nations, and South Asian nations in particular, into an international policy agenda for the nineties. Activities in pursuit of this objective include the participation in consultations, organised by the Trust, of eminent scholars representing the various regions of the world, who influence international human rights policy and standard setting. Issues addressed for development include carrying out research and organising discussions on various themes such as the interdependence of civil, political, economic and social rights; human rights and development; and minority rights and political participation.

Development and Strengthening of Regional Human Rights Organisations, Mechanisms and Democratic Institutions

At the regional level the Trust focused on strengthening civil society through regional co-operation, and the setting of priorities for concerted action. The Trust's activities were co-ordinated with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the South Asian region and through a Regional Working Group, which included representatives from the SAARC countries. Issues addressed included regulation of NGOs, strengthening of democratic institutions, the implementation of international covenants in the SAARC region, and monitoring and reporting on conformity of law and practice in SAARC countries.

Promoting the Protection of Human Rights

At the national level, the Trust focused on continuing its human rights activities, and urged the government to uphold the promotion and protection of fundamental rights and freedoms as an indispensable part of good governance. In its efforts towards creating awareness, the Trust not only undertook rights awareness activities, but also focused on disseminating information on violations of rights and lapses in legislation and implementation. To this effect, the Trust undertook the task of compiling and reporting, and calling for the effective enforcement of human rights. In the government sphere, the activities included impressing upon the government its responsibilities in respect of international commitments and obligations. This objective was pursued through lobbying for ratification of international human rights and humanitarian conventions, and compliance with international obligations, legal reforms, etc. The Trust also studied the Fundamental Rights chapter of the draft constitution and submitted comments to the Parliamentary Select Committee. A meeting with constitutional experts from several countries to study the human rights aspects of specific chapters in the draft constitution was also organised by the Trust.

Law Responsive to Societal Needs

The Trust is committed to the development of the law, and towards making it more responsive to the needs of a modernising society. The issue of constitutional reforms and democratic transition was explored, both in the context of local experience, and in the process followed in a number of other Asian and Western countries. Professional ethics in a changing society, and the equipping of Sri Lankan professionals to assist in the ongoing restructuring of the economy and the development process were examined under a range of programmes.

SRI LANKA: STATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

Funded by the European Human Rights Foundation

The research into the condition of human rights and the publication of the State of Human Rights Reports resulted from an urgent need for a single publication examining the current and developing situation with regard to various aspects of human rights in Sri Lanka. Before the introduction of this publication, the reporting on human rights issues in Sri Lanka existed through a concentration on particular issues by different organisations and groups, without any attempt at collating available information into an overall picture of their collective situation.

Goals

- To gather all information, published and unpublished, on human rights, to present a complete picture of the situation in a given year.
- To provide a focal point for dialogue between the NGO community and the government which will promote the protection of human rights through legal or procedural reform.
- To promote critical discussion, identify reform programmes and constitute a central influence in the area of monitoring, reporting and protecting human rights.

Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights 1997 which examined the main events during the year 1996, carried the following chapters:

Integrity of the Person (Elizabeth Nissan); Emergency Rule (Suriya Wickremasinghe); Freedom of Expression and Media Freedom (Sabina Fernando); Judicial Protection of Human Rights (Sumudu Atapattu); A Case Study of the Office of the Ombudsman (Deepika Udagama); The Devolution Proposals: The Human Rights Implications (Vijaya Samaraweera); Environmental Rights and Human Rights (Sumudu Atapattu); Violence Against Women (Radhika Coomaraswamy); Children's Rights (Sharya de Soysa); Internally Displaced and the Freedom of Movement (Mario Gomez); and Nationality and Citizenship Laws (Ramani Muttetuwegama).

The report was jointly edited by Lisa Kois and Kanagananda Dharmananda.

The report examines the situation with regard to the human rights in Sri Lanka during 1996. Nineteen ninety-six was, once again, a year characterised by contradiction and conflict between Sri Lanka's human rights policy and its practice. The armed conflict in the North and East continued to dominate the sphere of Sri Lanka's concern with human rights. Although improvements were made from a policy perspective, the actual human rights situation in Sri Lanka continued to deteriorate.

The state of human rights in Sri Lanka in 1996 reflected, in significant measure, the state of a nation engaged in armed conflict within its own territory and among its own people. The

hostilities between the government and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) provided both the impetus and the backdrop for much of the conduct and activity which raised human rights concerns.

The legal text of the devolution proposals was released in January 1996 as the political counterpart to the government's military offensive. The devolution package, which would devolve power from the centre to the regions, carried both substantive and procedural significance. Although the release of the text engendered widespread public debate, by the end of the year, no further action had been taken. This is of grave concern, given the manner in which the armed conflict both informs and throws into sharp relief almost every aspect of the human rights situation in Sri Lanka. The devolution proposals were, in some respects, the most important development of 1996.

Another significant development in relation to human rights in Sri Lanka was the government's commitment, in September 1996, to accede to the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which would allow individuals to petition the UN Human Rights Committee directly, after the exhaustion of all local remedies.

Transparency is one of the fundamental objectives of human rights work. It is only when a government, its laws and practices are transparent -- open to challenge, criticism and debate -- that progress can be made to remedy a situation in which the rule of law has disintegrated and in which the rights of citizens suffer. Thus, it is the intent of the Law & Society Trust, through this publication, to contribute to a climate in which transparency, rather than impunity, reigns. This report attempts to provide as comprehensive as possible a picture of the actual situation of human rights in Sri Lanka in 1996. In so doing, it is hoped to contribute to an ongoing dialogue within and between the state and civil society, with the ultimate aim of stimulating change.

Dissemination of the Report

A formal presentation of the report was made by representatives of the Trust to Mr. K. B. Ratnayake, the Honourable Speaker of Parliament at his office in the Parliament complex.

The report is published in the hope of making an informed contribution to the state of human rights in the country, and was, therefore, made available to NGOs and government authorities and widely distributed to schools, the police force, academics and human rights activists both in Sri Lanka and abroad. The report was also put on sale at several major bookshops.

SOUTH ASIAN HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION PROGRAMME - Indian Component

Funded by the Ford Foundation

This programme was conducted in collaboration with the South Indian Human Rights Documentation Centre (SAHRDC) based in New Delhi, India, and is the Indian component of a larger regional programme which is to be worked on over a long period.

This project envisaged conducting training workshops with local NGOs to empower and train activists at the district level, the creation of a training manual - *Manual for Human Rights Defenders* - on specific themes such as torture, extra-judicial executions, violence against women etc., for dissemination at grassroots level, internships and a summer schools programme for students and young professionals on contemporary human rights issues.

Workshops

The purpose of these workshops was to provide training for local NGOs who work in the field. A key feature is the emphasis on the need for high standards in fact finding and documentation of violations of human rights. Workshops were held in Bangalore, Bombay, New Delhi, Dharamshala, Tripura and Mizoram. Each workshop was attended by about 30 participants.

Manual for Human Rights Defenders

The thematic issues envisaged as needing incorporation in the Manual included torture, extrajudicial executions, atrocities committed on Dalits and Scheduled Tribes, human rights violations under National Security Acts, custodial deaths, violence against women, refugees, prisoners and prison conditions and media and censorship.

The SAHRDC has prepared this manual for use by human rights activists when confronting abuses by law enforcement officials.

National Consultation

The SAHRDC organised the national consultation with the participation of over 50 human rights activists. The agenda included discussions on the draft resolution on "the National Human Rights Commission and the NGO response," the draft resolution on "Integrating Women's Rights in the Work of Civil Liberties Organisations," and the draft resolution on "Integrating Child Rights in the Work of Civil Liberties Organisations."

LAW AND ECONOMY PROGRAMME

The Law and Economy Programme was initiated as a result of the economic transitions taking place both in Sri Lanka and in the region. It was felt that such a development would naturally raise concerns and prompt an analysis of its progress. It was also deemed that Law and the Economy would be inherently linked to each other in such a transition. It was with a view to creating a forum for examining and improving this relationship that the Law and Economy Programme was launched.

The overall goals of the programme are:

- To develop and strengthen the capacity of Sri Lankan professionals to assist in the restructuring of the economy and the developmental process in general.
- To develop a core of legal experience and expertise to which state corporations, regulatory bodies and private enterprises could have access.
- To contribute to the more effective structuring of contractual arrangements between Sri Lankan and foreign enterprises, and to minimise the need for costly litigation and arbitration.
- To develop teaching materials, manuals and case books which would be of benefit to legal and professional education in Sri Lanka, and to continue training and development.

In 1997, the fifth Annual Law and Economy Conference was held, while the direction of the Law and Economy Programme was laid-out by its Steering Committee.

Steering Committee

A Steering Committee, comprising professionals, involved in the main areas of law and economic activity, was set up for the Programme, both to discuss and determine the direction of activities, focusing on the relationship between law and the economy. Its mandate is to best develop the law and legal skills in order to create the necessary environment for the changing economic policies and culture of the country. Its particular responsibility is to formulate a three year plan of action for the programme.

The Steering Committee has identified the following objectives for the Law and Economy Programme:

- The identification of areas conducive to law reform in response to the government's policy of economic liberalisation;
- The formulation of a programme of work aimed at improving legal skills in the community on issues relating to law and the economy; and

An increase in public awareness through the dissemination of information.

The members of the steering committee for 1997 were Ranjith Fernando (National Development Bank), Mano Nanayakkara (Management Consultant), Malathy Knight-John (Institute of Policy Studies), Gunendra Sellahewa (Crosby Securities), Kalinga Indatissa (Attorney-at-Law), Dr. Sumudu Atapattu (University of Colombo, Law & Society Trust), Chanaka de Silva (Attorney-at-Law), Shivaji Felix (Attorney-at-Law), Patrick Amarasinghe (Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka), Ranel Wijesinghe (Partner, Coopers and Lybrand), Devarsiri de Silva (National Development Bank), Ashok Senadeera (David Peiris Motor Company Ltd), Dr. Hans Wijesuriya (Dialog GSM), Pradeep Fernando (De Silva and Abeywardene), and Shenuka Wickramasinghe (Bureau of Infrastructure Investment).

Annual Law and Economy Conference 1997

The conference focused on "Financing of Telecom Infrastructure: Policy, Process and Regulation" and four panels of presentations and discussions were held on issues relating to privatisation, regulation, policy and process, in the telecommunications industry. Issues were discussed in relation to the private and the public sectors. Fifty participants attended. This year's conference had as its principal sponsor Ericsson Telecommunications Lanka (Pvt) Ltd and was co-sponsored by Dialog GSM and Suntel. The conference was inaugurated by Mangala Samaraweera, the Honourable Minister of Posts, Telecommunications and the Media.

Panels for discussion and papers presented:

Overview of the Telecom Sector in Sri Lanka

Panel: Sisira Jayasuriya, Malathy Knight-John, Devarsiri de Silva
Speaker: Sisira Jayasuriya

Policy

Panel: Austin Pulle, Hans Wijesuriya, Jan Campbell, Bernard Rodrigo
Speakers: Austin Pulle, Hans Wijesuriya

Process

Panel: Mano Tittawella, M. L. C. Alwis, Mano Nanayakkara, P.K. Wickramaratchi
Speakers: Mano Tittawella, M. L. C. Alwis

Regulation

Panel: Arittha Wickramanayake, K. K. Gunawardana, Deva Rodrigo, Jayantha Wickramasinghe
Speakers: Arittha Wickramanayake, K. K. Gunawardana

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME

Funded by the Commission of the European Communities

The Law & Society Trust launched an Equal Opportunity Programme (EOP) to promote the principle of equal opportunity as well as anti-discrimination law and policy in Sri Lanka. The project, funded by the Commission of European Communities, is a two-year programme focusing on 'equality of opportunity' needs in Sri Lankan society in relation to gender, ethnicity, socio-economic status, physical and mental disability, age, sexual orientation and any other disadvantaged group. The programme involves research and legislative review, provision of support to statutory institutions such as the Human Rights Commission and public education. The objective is to help build an equality of opportunity culture in Sri Lankan society along with the necessary institutional framework to sustain it. The EOP has three sub-programmes which will be implemented in consultation with the various state and non-governmental institutions and individual specialists relevant to this subject. Specific projects will be initiated by the EOP in partnership with other institutions.

The equal-opportunity sub-programmes are:

1. Education

Objective: To increase community understanding of equal opportunity and anti-discrimination rights and awareness of the institutions that provide a means of redress for infringements of those rights.

2. Research

Objective: To review existing legislation to identify discriminatory laws or gaps in the existing framework of the law; to develop a methodology to identify sectors, organisations and institutions where systemic discrimination is prevalent; and to develop appropriate measures to respond effectively to such discrimination with a view to elimination.

3. Consultative Work

Objective: To work together with the Office of the Ombudsman, the Official Languages Commission, and the Human Rights Commission to strengthen their effectiveness in dealing with complaints of discrimination, and to assist groups in landmark cases before the Supreme Court involving denial of equal rights.

The EOP was ceremonially launched on 21st July 1997, as a means of bringing together government officials and civil society activists of relevance to the programme and initiating a mass media profile for the programme. The launch was a useful forum for both government and the opposition to make policy statements on equality of opportunity. The Minister of Justice, Constitutional Affairs, Ethnic Affairs & National Integration, Professor G. L. Peiris, delivered the keynote address, while the Chairman of the United National Party's Committee

on National Integration, Mr. Tyronne Fernando (a former Minister of Justice), made a policy statement on behalf of his party. The Director of the Law & Society Trust, Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam MP, also spoke.

Amicus Curiae/Landmark Litigation Initiative

In October, work began on the amicus curiae segment of the EOP. The Trust has decided that an initiative to file landmark litigation on discrimination would be an invaluable step in the promotion of equal opportunity principles in addition to considering amicus curiae interventions. This is particularly important as a complementary step to the promotion of equal opportunity norms and practices under the education sub-programme which would otherwise be rendered ineffective given the lack of any precedents in case law. An advisory committee has been convened to assess the possibility of initiating such cases. The committee comprises V.S.Ganeshalingam (Home for Human Rights), Kamalini Wijeyetilleke (Centre for Women and Research), Dr. Mario Gomez (University of Colombo), Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam (Law & Society Trust), Nimalka Fernando (International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism), J.C.Weliamuna (Attorney-at-Law), Radhika Coomaraswamy (International Centre for Ethnic Studies), Suriya Wickremasinghe (Civil Rights Movement), K. Tiranagama (Lawyers for Human Rights and Development), Faizun Zakeriya (Muslim Women's Research and Action Front), and Sudharshana Gunawardena (Movement for the Defence of Democratic Rights). Most of them are lawyers with experience in human rights litigation and research and represent key human rights organisations. Networking among relevant NGOs would be a useful strategy for the purpose of identifying appropriate test cases. The Trust hopes to file up to eight court cases over a period of two years with priority given to the areas of gender and ethnic discrimination.

PROJECT TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO A HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANISATION IN BANGLADESH

Funded by the Ford Foundation

In 1996, the Trust received approval and funding from Ford Foundation, Dhaka, to begin a project whereby the Trust would collaborate with ODHIKAR, a coalition of human rights organisations in Bangladesh. The Trust is to develop seminars on law and development and law and the economy, and to conduct training programmes in Dhaka on international and regional instruments relating to individual and group rights. Under this last category, the project is to involve a programme of academic exchange and a sharing of experience. In 1997, the Trust continued a programme of internship, started in 1996, under which a Programme Officer from ODHIKAR in Bangladesh spent three months at the Trust. The Trust staff provided this intern with training and he in turn made a contribution to the work of the Trust. The intern was exposed to all general programmes of the Trust and had the opportunity of meeting with members of the human rights community in Sri Lanka.

WORK WITH THE CONSUMER UNITY AND TRUST SOCIETY

Continuing with work as the Sri Lankan partner on the South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), the Trust began the year with a member of staff participating at the International Conference on Consumer Protection, "Consumers and the Global Age", organised jointly by Consumer International, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) of India.

In July 1997, a member of staff attended a training workshop organised by CUTS in Calcutta. The workshop was part of the activities associated with South Asian Regional Training and was on International Trade Policy and Negotiations.

TOWARDS GREATER FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION, ASSEMBLY AND EXPRESSION IN ASIA

Funded by NOVIB

In 1997, a regional research and advocacy project was initiated to strengthen opportunities for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Asia to engage in a mutually re-enforcing advocacy effort to promote the freedoms of association, assembly, and expression. The need to actively promote these "three freedoms" stems from a wider discussion among Asian NGOs about the legal and regulatory frameworks in the region's societies that have hampered the development of civil society and the work of NGOs in advancing human rights, social justice, gender equality and environmental sustainability. The country reports of the research project were released in Hong Kong to coincide with the World Bank/International Monetary Fund Meeting in Hong Kong in October 1997. Country reports were prepared in respect of Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Hong Kong, and Vietnam. The Trust was responsible for preparing the report on Sri Lanka entitled *Sri Lanka: Politics, National Security and the Vibrancy of NGOs*. This report outlines the history, types and the role of Sri Lankan NGOs, the laws and regulatory structure that presently surround them and the three basic freedoms as well as the enforcement and impact of this regulatory structure. After an analysis of the Sri Lankan situation, the report recommends action which the Trust believes could guarantee NGO integrity and independence in the future.

COMPARATIVE CONSTITUTIONALISM IN SOUTH ASIA - LECTURE SERIES

The lecture series on Constitutionalism in South Asia was intended to undertake an assessment of constitutional developments and challenges within countries in South Asia at an important moment in their post independence history. India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka were commemorating fifty years of independence, while Bangladesh was celebrating twenty five years of its establishment as a nation state. The lectures were intended to outline the constitutive principles and the basic features of these constitutions, the constitutional practice and the evolution of political institutions, and the new challenges and problems faced by the constitutional order. The lectures were held in New Delhi and will be published by the Trust.

The lectures delivered in this series are:

Bangladesh: The Quest for Constitutional Governance

This lecture was held at the India International Centre in New Delhi on the 4th of August 1997, on the experiences of Bangladesh in the field of constitutionalism. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Gowher Rizvi, Deputy Director of the Ford Foundation, New York, and sometime fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford. This lecture was co-sponsored by the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, in New Delhi.

Pakistan: Encounters with Constitutionalism

This lecture was held at the India International Centre in New Delhi on the 5th of August 1997, on the experiences of Pakistan in the field of constitutionalism. The lecture was delivered by Mr. Salman Raja, a barrister from Lahore and was co-sponsored by the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, in New Delhi.

Constitutionalism: The Sri Lanka Experience

This lecture was co-sponsored by SAARCLAW India Chapter and was held at the India International Centre in New Delhi on the 18th of December 1998. The lecture was delivered by Professor G.L. Peiris, Honourable Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Ethnic Affairs and National Integration of Sri Lanka.

STUDY GROUP ON THE MEDIA

The Trust convened a Study Group on the Media in the latter part of 1997 to function as a non-governmental forum parallel to the Parliamentary Select Committee on the Media, appointed in the same period, to examine the state of media law in the country and propose necessary amendments to the relevant laws. The Group will also examine the setting up of a

self-regulatory mechanism for the country's mass media. The group comprises legal and mass communications scholars, communications professionals, and media rights activists. The members of the group are Sharmini Boyle, Lakshman Gunasekera, Radhika Coomaraswamy, Lucien Rajakarunanayake, Victor Gunewardena, H. M. Gunasekera, M. A. Sumanthiran, Professor A.J. Gunawardena, Livy Wijemanne, Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam and C.S. Dattatreya.

CONSULTATIONS ON THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF SRI LANKA

Funded by CIDA, the British High Commission, AusAID and the Ford Foundation

Consultation on the Draft Constitution of Sri Lanka

A Consultation on the Draft Constitution of Sri Lanka released in March 1997, was convened in Colombo under the auspices of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative and the Law & Society Trust. This Consultation involved a mix of foreign and local participants who together combined wide experience of constitutional law and of the workings and interpretations of constitutions, of international law and its application and interpretation. The participants were also people with experience as legal academics, as legal practitioners, as members of legislatures and judiciaries, as members of political parties both in opposition and in office, representatives of non-governmental organisations, people skilled in the techniques of legal drafting as well as holders of ministerial positions.

The participants included: Professor Stephen Toope, Dean, Faculty of Law, McGill University, Canada; Justice P.N. Bhagwati, Former Chief Justice of India and Vice Chairman, UN Human Rights Committee; Ms. Patricia Hyndman, Fellow, Wolfson College, Cambridge; Dr. Kamal Hossein, Former Foreign Minister of Bangladesh and Chairman of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative; Professor Cheryl Saunders, Faculty of Law, University of Melbourne, Director, Centre of Comparative Constitutional Studies, Melbourne; Justice Pius Langa, Deputy President, Constitutional Court of South Africa; Professor Lakshman Marasinghe, Faculty of Law, Windsor University, Canada; Professor Upendra Baxi, University of New Delhi; Professor G.L. Peiris, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, National Integration and Ethnic Affairs; Ranil Wickremasinghe, Leader of the Opposition; Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam, Y.P. de Silva, N.M. Zuhair, P.P. Devaraj, D. Siddharthan, Mahinda Samarasinghe, Batty Weerakoon, Members of the Parliamentary Select Committee on the Constitution; Suriya Wickremasinghe, Secretary, Civil Rights Movement; and Radhika Comaraswamy, UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women and Director, International Centre for Ethnic Studies.

The issues for discussion were as follows: Fundamental Rights; the Constitutional Council, Judicial Review of Legislation and the Jurisdiction and Powers of Superior Courts; Electoral Reform, the Representational System and the Role of the Election Commission and Election Disputes.

The Trust submitted a report, prepared by Patricia Hyndman, to the Parliamentary Select Committee on the Constitution outlining the major concerns of the Consultation and the recommendations which were proposed.

Consultation with Women's Groups on the Draft Constitution

In December 1997, the Trust organised a consultation with women's groups and activists on the Draft Constitution. The consultation was intended to scrutinise and refine the provisions of the Draft Constitution from a women's rights perspective. Most modern constitutions and legislation are drafted in a gender neutral style. This has not been the practice in Sri Lanka. There is, however, strong concern amongst women's organisations that the constitutional text should be redrafted to remove gender biases in the text. The consultation focused on this concern and also on aspects of the Constitution which directly impinge on the rights of women: the equality provision and other fundamental rights in regards to women, affirmative action arrangements and provisions on legislative reservation for women. A memorandum detailing the various comments, suggestions and recommendations that were made at the consultation was sent to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Professor G.L. Peiris. It is hoped that the draft Constitution will be reconsidered in this perspective. Participants at this consultation included: Sriyangani Fernando, Legal Draftsman's Department; Radhika Commaraswamy, UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women; Nimalka Fernando, President, International Movement Against Discrimination and Racism; Sepali Kottegoda, Women and Media Collective; Lakshman Gunesekera, Law & Society Trust; Kamalini Wijeyetilleke, CENWOR; Ruana Rajapakse, Attorney-at-Law; Sunila Abeysekera, INFORM; Satya Rodrigo, International Centre for Ethnic Studies; C.S.Dattatreya, Law & Society Trust; Jezima Ismail, Educationist; and Prashanthi Mahindaratne, Attorney-General's Department.

Publication on the Draft Constitution

In late 1997, the Trust undertook the compilation of a book on the draft Constitution that will be published in the first quarter of 1998. The purpose of the publication is to provide an explanation and critical commentary to the public on key aspects of the constitutional proposals. Given the relative lack of material on the Draft Constitution, it aims to present information and analyses on the proposals in a clear, comprehensive and accessible form.

Accordingly, the book will consist of a collection of articles, each of which will seek to clarify and assess particular proposals. Articles will refer specifically to the fourth and most recent draft of the proposed Constitution, released in October 1997.

Included in the book are chapters on the Fundamental Rights Chapter (Deepika Udagama); the Independence of the Judiciary (Lakshman Marasinghe); the Executive Committee System of Government (Jayampathy Wickramaratne); Devolution (Sunil Bastian); The Executive Presidency (Pradeep Ratnam); The Proposed Constitutional Council (C.S.Dattatreya); The Judicial System (Dinusha Panditaratne) and Electoral Reforms (Mahinda Samarasinghe). In

addition, two competing overviews, by Professor G.L.Peiris and Rohan Edrisinha, will present contrasting perspectives on the draft Constitution considered as a whole.

It is hoped that the publication will be a valuable source of information to the public and that it will stimulate informed debate on the issues arising from the proposals.

LAW REFORM DISCUSSIONS

In keeping with the practice of discussing the implications of Bills introduced to Parliament, the Trust conducted the following discussions during the year:

Bail Bill

A discussion was organised on the new Bail Bill. Participants at the discussion were Manouri Muttetuwegama, Attorney-at-law, Javed Yusuf and T. Suntheralingam of the Human Rights Commission, K Palakidnar, former President, Court of Appeal, Sriyangani Fernando, Legal Draftsman's Department, Upawansa Yapa, the Solicitor General. It was revealed that this Bill was being introduced in an attempt to ease the congestion in prisons and that the guiding principle enshrined in the Bill was that in its implementation, the grant of bail shall be regarded as the rule and the refusal to grant bail as the exception.

It was suggested that Magistrates should be furnished with information about the number of inmates in jails so as to facilitate his or her decision-making in bail orders. The question of whether the trials of those persons who had been refused bail could be expedited was also brought up.

Fundamental Rights Chapter in the Constitution

A series of discussions was held among human rights academics, practitioners and NGOs on the Fundamental Rights Chapter of the Draft Constitution released by the Parliamentary Select Committee in March 1997. A lobby document embodying the recommendations of the discussions was forwarded to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs. The participants at the discussions were: Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy, Dr. Deepika Udagama, Rohan Edrisinha, Dr. Sumudu Atapattu, Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam, Charles Abeyasekera, Suriya Wickremasinghe, Dr. Mario Gomez and Dr. Vijaya Samaraweera. Vikram Raghavan and Sunila Galappatti provided resource support.

HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS DESK

During the year the publications in this programme were completed in English and Sinhala and distributed. Distribution was made to lawyers, medical practitioners, school libraries, police stations and NGOs.

The list of titles published under this programme is given under the publications of the Trust.

LECTURES AND SEMINARS

The Relationship between the Human Rights Commission and the State

The Trust, as part of the Equal Opportunity Programme, hosted Australian Human Rights Commissioner Chris Sidoti in Colombo in a programme primarily aimed at providing consultative support for the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka. The Australian Agency for International Development sponsored Mr. Sidoti's visit. Mr. Sidoti, who is the most senior commissioner in Australia's Human Rights & Equal Opportunity Commission and founding Secretary, was invited to share his institutional experience and expertise with the Human Rights Commission. His visit here was facilitated by the Equal Opportunity Programme under its Consultative Work Sub-Programme.

Many proposals for future work emerged from this visit with Commissioner Sidoti agreeing to include the Human Rights Commission in the Australian Commission's International Aid Programme.

Political Corruption and the Law: UK Style

This discussion focused on recent corrupt activities in the political arena in the UK, wherein several Conservative Party MP's were exposed and denounced for involvement in corrupt financial practices. The Speaker was Professor Phil Thomas of the University of Wales, Cardiff.

News Media and the Right to Privacy

This panel discussion examined the conflict which arises between the freedom of the press and the right to privacy when it comes to public and political figures. Serving on the panel were Upul Jayasuriya, Attorney-at-Law, Lucien Rajakarunanayake, Journalist, and Jehan Perera, Political Analyst.

Reservation of Seats for Women in the Legislature

The Trust organised a discussion on the appropriateness and effectiveness of a reservation of seats for women in parliament. Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy presented a paper on the Indian experience in which she examined the usefulness of a reservation in parliament for women which would force political parties to re-organise and to see women differently. She also commented on the disparity in the political priorities of men and women, which highlighted the need to involve women's contribution to politics. It was suggested that seats be reserved for women at least at the local government level as this could function as a first step towards involving women in politics. A lively debate ensued.

Tribunal to mark International Women's Day

The Trust co-sponsored a Tribunal to mark International Women's Day which fell on the 8th of March 1997. This involved a demonstration by women from various parts of the country who gathered at the Vihara Maha Devi Park to attend the Tribunal and exhibition.

BOOK LAUNCHES

On 5th September 1997, Dr Rohan Perera's book "*International Law - Changing Horizons: a Collection of Selected Articles on International Law*" was launched at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute. Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam delivered the keynote address and the guest of honour was Dr. A. T. Ariyaratne. The book was published by Vishva Lekha Publishers (Sarvodaya).

ART COMPETITION

In May 1997, the Trust organised an Inter-School Art Competition on Human Rights. The prize winners were N. G. Ramani Thushari Damayanthi and B. K. Niroshanthi both of Polpagoda Maha Vidyalaya and W. D. Shalika Samanmali Ariyaratne of Eheliyagoda Madhya Maha Vidyalaya, Ratnapura. Their drawings were featured in *Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights Report 1997*.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

In 1997, the Trust continued the Internship Programme commenced in 1990 with a view to forging links with institutions in different parts of the world. The Trust provides the visiting interns with institutional and other support, while the interns make a contribution to the activities and programmes of the Trust. This programme not only establishes important links between the Trust and institutions overseas but also brings a continual input of different ideas and institutions overseas while also bringing a varied dimension to the work of the Trust.

In 1997, Bimsara Dissanayake, graduate of the Sri Lanka Law College, Colombo; C.S.Dattatreya, graduate of the National Law School, Bangalore, India; Dinusha Panditaratne graduate of Oxford University, United Kingdom, Claudine Poirier of Human Rights Internet, Canada; Karuna Moy Chakma of ODHIKAR, Bangladesh; Kate Wood, of McGill University, Canada; and Barbara Roth of the Faculty of Law of the University of Munster, Germany were at the Trust.

LIBRARY

New books were added to the library increasing the collection to approximately 5100 books by the end of 1997. The library also includes a substantial collection of periodicals, workshop, seminar and conference papers, and the Trust's own publications. There are approximately 50 periodicals on display, most of which are received in exchange for the Fortnightly Review of the Trust.

Special collections include the Sam Kadirgamar Collection, acquired in 1991, consisting of a substantial number of legal texts, and Indian, English, South African and Sri Lankan law reports and cases. The Canada Section, donated to the Trust by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), is a collection of the Dominion Law Reports and the Osgoode Hall Law Journal. The library also holds a donation of US Law Reports (such as Corpus Juris Secundum and US Supreme Court Reporter). Sri Lankan publications, including Legislative Enactments, Law Reports, and Acts of Parliament are also available.

The library has a separate collection of human rights material and, in 1996, a health and human rights section was also opened.

With the launching of the equal opportunity programme, the Trust began the collection of material relevant to the subject. The following material on equal opportunity is now available at the Trust:

- informational literature regarding citizens' rights to equality of opportunity and laws enforcing such rights;
- informational literature on the institutional procedures and facilities for dealing with discrimination;
- promotional literature encouraging the practice of equal opportunity measures by the business sector; and
- specialised informational literature on the different categories of equality of opportunity: race discrimination, sex discrimination (including the rights of homosexuals), sexual harassment, discrimination based on age and disability (including the rights of HIV-affected people).

PUBLICATIONS

Fortnightly Review

The Trust's Fortnightly Review was launched in 1990. The Fortnightly Review is a unique journal devoted to contemporary socio-legal problems and economic trends in Sri Lanka, the region and further afield. In the forefront of Sri Lankan alternative media, it comments on current issues and surveys legal developments of growing importance. The review includes features by both local and international writers.

The issues covered in 1997 included the regional arrangements for the protection of human rights, freedom of expression and the media, the Supreme Court judgment on the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Authority Bill, constitutional law, women and the political process and legal issues relating to privatisation. Special issues were devoted to internally displaced persons, equal opportunity in Sri Lanka and the Consultation on the Draft Constitution.

The Fortnightly Review is distributed to private subscribers and public institutions in thirty countries, and issues are available for a nominal price. An annually compiled, bound and indexed copy of the Review is also available at the Trust.

Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights 1997

This publication assesses the state of human rights in Sri Lanka in a given year particularly in the context of the extent to which Sri Lanka has fulfilled its obligations to protect the fundamental rights of its citizenry in conformity with the international instruments it is a signatory to.

Sri Lanka: Politics National Security and the Vibrancy of NGOs

This is a country report which seeks to discuss the legal and regulatory framework applicable to NGOs in Sri Lanka and is a part of a regional project to strengthen opportunities for NGOs in Asia to promote the freedoms of association, assembly and expression.

Publications of the Health and Human Rights Desk

AIDS: The Disease and Human Rights - Cameena Guneratne

AIDS and the Right to Freedom from Torture, Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment - Charika Marasinghe

AIDS and the Right to Freedom of Movement - Manjula Soysa and Shalindri Jayasinghe

AIDS and the Right to Health and Welfare - Dr. Hemamal Jayawardena

AIDS and the Right to Work and the Right to Education - Professor Carlo Fonseka

AIDS and the Right to Liberty and Security - Shanthi Jayasuriya and Dr. D.C. Jayasuriya

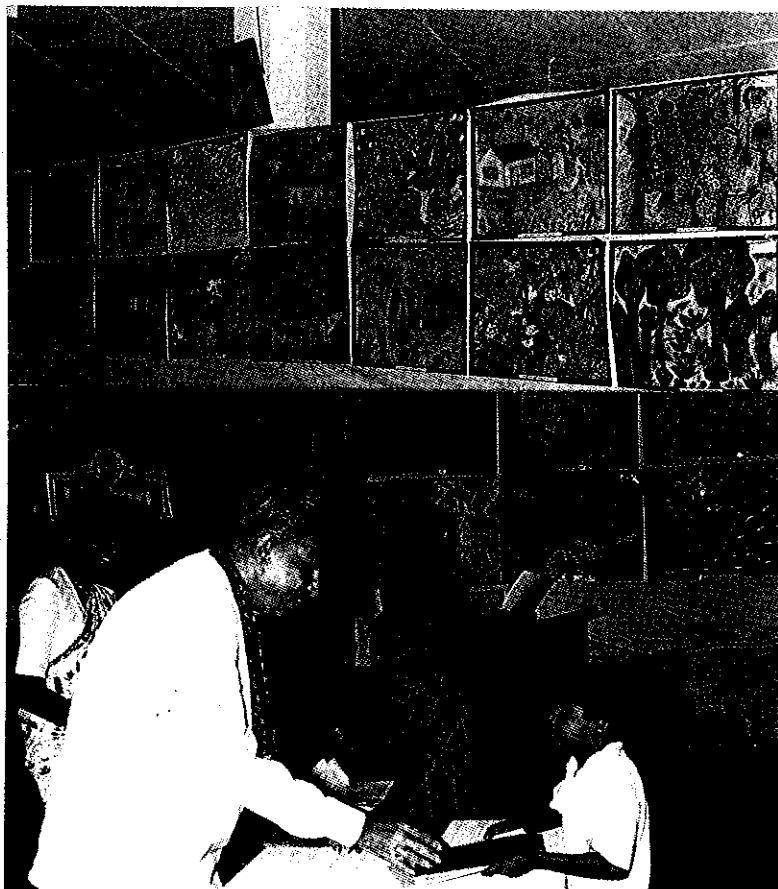
AIDS and the Right to Confidentiality - Dr. Hemamal Jayawardena

AIDS and the Right to Equality Before the Law - J.C. Weliamuna

The Out-door Proctor - James Cecil Walter Pereira (1881) New Edition with an Introduction by Vijaya Samaraweera.



The official presentation of Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights 1997 to the Hon. Speaker Mr. K.B. Ratnayake.



*The Inter School Art Competition on Human Rights. (Top)
The drawings of the students (Bottom). Dr. Nisanka Wijeratne
Chairman Law & Society Trust gives away the prizes.*



Consultation on the Draft Constitution of Sri Lanka. Dr. Kamal Hussain, Professor G.L. Peris & Mr. Ranil Wickremasinghe addressed the gathering at the inaugural session.



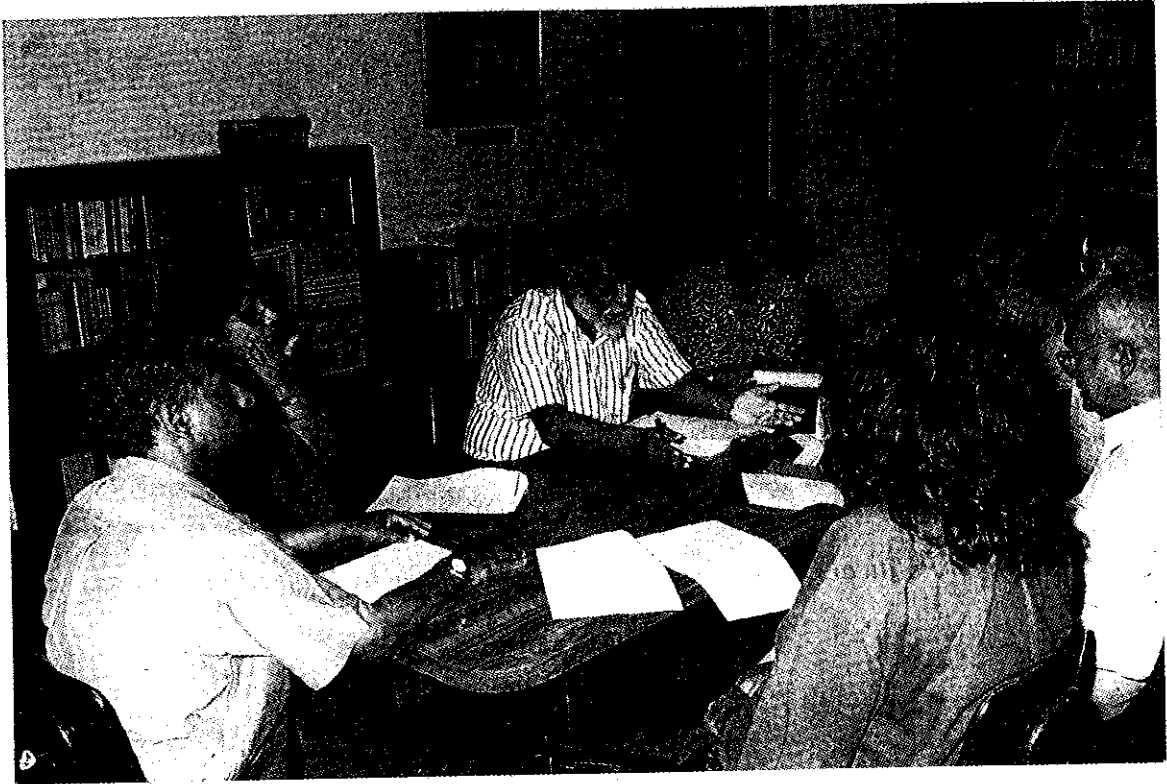
Panel Discussion at the Consultation with the Women's groups on the draft constitution Panel: Radhika Coomaraswamy, Nimalka Fernando & Sriyangani Fernando.



Lecture on Political Corruption and the Law: UK style by Prof:- Phil Thomas.



Panel discussion: Media Freedom & the right to privacy Panel: Jehan Perera, Lucian Raja Karunanayake ,Upali Jayasuriya Chair: Lakshman Gunasekara



A meeting of the Study group on the Media.



The discussion on the relationship between the Human Rights Commission and the state; led by Mr. Chris Sidoti, Commissioner, Human Rights & Equal opportunity Commission, Australia.



The National Law & Economy Conference 1997. Dr. Neelan Tircchelvam, Director Law & Society Trust delivered the welcoming address at the inaugural session.



The discussion on the Bail.

STAFF ACTIVITIES, PUBLICATIONS, ETC.

Dr Sumudu Atapattu

Dr. Atapattu co-ordinated the research for *Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights 1997* and liaised with the editors in the publication of the report. She took part in the series of meetings which the Trust initiated to discuss the Fundamental Rights chapter of the draft constitution and prepared the lobby document which was presented to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs as the Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee on the Constitution. She was also a member of the Working Group convened by the Ministry of Justice on the draft Fundamental Rights Chapter.

During 1997, Dr. Atapattu continued to function as the Editor of the *Fortnightly Review* of the Trust and also edited the Comparative Constitutionalism lecture series for publication.

Publications

- (1) Judicial Protection of Human Rights in *Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights 1997* (Law & Society Trust, Colombo 1997)
- (2) Environmental Rights and Human Rights in Sri Lanka in *Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights* (Law & Society Trust, Colombo 1997)
- (3) Report on Fundamental Rights and Freedoms, for publication. This was based on the consultations of the working group on the Draft Fundamental Rights Chapter.

Training Programmes/Conferences attended

Dr. Atapattu attended a 3 week Human Rights Training Programme organised by the Danish Centre for Human Rights, Copenhagen. This programme included lectures, workshops on global human rights instruments, regional mechanisms, refugees and asylum seekers, economic costs of human rights, Truth and Justice Commissions and the Ombudsman Institution.

Ms Dharshini Sivanathan

Ms. Sivanathan, having resumed work in September after long leave, worked on the production aspects of the Trust's publications *Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights 1997*, and *Sri Lanka: Politics, National Security and the Vibrancy of NGOs*.

Mr Lakshman Gunsekera

Mr. Gunsekera joined the Trust in June 1997 as the Co-ordinator of the Equal Opportunity Programme. He organised the formal launching of the project and also co-ordinated the visit of Mr. Chris Sidoti, Commissioner, Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission. He is also the joint Convenor of the Trust's Study Group on the Media.

Publications

"Concept paper for the Equal Opportunity Programme" in *Fortnightly Review*, Vol VIII, Issue No. 118, *Law & Society Trust* August 1997.

Mr Navin Perera

Mr. Perera is the co-ordinator of the Law and Economy Programme. He was responsible for co-ordinating the activities of the Steering Committee in determining the course of the programme, and for organising the Law and Economy Conference 1997. He organised a presentation on "Political Corruption and the Law: UK Style" by Professor Phil Thomas of the University of Wales, Cardiff and the discussion on the Bail Bill. Presently, he is conducting research for a book on 'International Trade Law in the SAARC Countries.'

Ms Sunila Galappatti

Ms. Galappatti assisted with the editorial and proof reading work relating to the publication of the *Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights 1997* and prepared the Annual Report of the Trust for 1996 for publication. She was also associated in the organisational aspects of the Inter-School Art Competition organised by the Trust in the districts of Galle and Ratnapura. Ms. Galappatti assisted in organising the Consultation on the Draft Constitution of Sri Lanka which involved the participation of several constitutional experts from overseas to discuss specific aspects of the Sri Lankan draft.

Dr Vijaya Samaraweera

Dr. Samaraweera worked as a Consultant to the Trust while in Sri Lanka as a Fulbright Professor of Law at the Open University of Sri Lanka. Dr. Samaraweera was involved in carrying out a study on the abused child and the legal process in Sri Lanka on behalf of the National Monitoring Committee of the Children's Rights Charter of Sri Lanka. Dr. Samaraweera also served as the Trust's representative for the programme - Promoting Three Basic Freedoms: A Region-wide Research and Advocacy Project towards greater freedom of Association, Assembly and Expression in Asia.

Publications

- (1) Sri Lanka: Politics, National Security and the Vibrancy of NGOs - *Country Report of a Region-wide Research and Advocacy Project - Towards Greater Freedom of Association, Assembly and Expression in Asia* (Law & Society Trust 1997).
- (2) "Devolution Proposals: Human Rights Implications" in *Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights 1997* (Law & Society Trust 1997)
- (3) The Outdoor Proctor by James Cecil Walter Pereira - New Edition with an Introduction by Vijaya Samaraweera

Conferences and Meetings attended

Dr. Samaraweera visited Cochin in India to participate in the Conference on multi-culturalism organised by the International Centre for Ethnic Studies. He also visited the National Law School of India, Bangalore and conducted interviews in order to recruit interns for the Trust.

Ms. Devampika Karunasekera

Ms. Karunasekera participated at the International Conference on Consumer Protection, in January 1997 in New Delhi. The conference was organised jointly by Consumers International, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) of India.

Ms. Karunasekera also participated at the training workshop organised by CUTS in Calcutta in July 1997. The workshop was part of the activities associated with South Asian Regional Training, and was on International Trade Policy and Negotiations.

Mr. Bimsara Dissanayake

Mr. Dissanayake worked as a research assistant at the Trust. He was assigned to assist Dr. Vijaya Samaraweera, Fulbright Professor of Law. Mr. Dissanayake also compiled a volume - *A Guide to Law Reports in Sri Lanka 1820-1997* which will be published by the Law & Society Trust in 1998. He assisted Dr. Samaraweera in doing research for the following projects - *The State, Civil Society and Human and Fundamental Rights in Sri Lanka* and *The Abused Child and the Legal Process in Sri Lanka*.

Mr C. S. Dattatreya

Mr. Dattathreya joined the Trust in July 1997 after graduating from the National Law School of India, Bangalore, and has been involved in the human rights programmes of the Trust. He was part of the team that prepared all background material for the Consultation on the Draft Constitution of Sri Lanka which involved the participation of several constitutional experts from overseas to discuss specific aspects of the Sri Lankan draft. Mr. Dattatreya is the joint Convenor of the Trust's Study Group on the Media and a co-editor of a publication which will discuss various aspects of the draft constitution of Sri Lanka, the chapters for which are being written by authors with expertise in their various fields.

Ms Dinusha Panditaratne

Ms. Panditaratne joined the Trust in September 1997 having completed a law degree from Balliol College, Oxford. She has been primarily involved in the human rights programmes of the Trust. Ms. Panditaratne organised a Consultation with Women's Rights Groups to examine the aspects relating to gender in the draft Constitution of Sri Lanka. She is co-editor of a publication which will discuss various aspects of the draft constitution, the chapters for which are being written by authors with expertise in their various fields.

Ms Claudine Poirier

Ms. Poirier worked at the Trust for five months from September 1997 as an Intern on placement from the Youth International Internship Programme of the Human Rights Internet, Canada. Ms. Poirier holds a BA in Business Administration and a BA and MA in Political Science. She was instrumental in researching and preparing a proposal for the setting up of a Language Monitor under the Trust's Equal Opportunity Programme. Ms. Poirier also worked on preparing the preliminary draft of the Trust's Annual Report for 1997.

Ms. Barbara Roth

Ms. Roth, a student at the Faculty of Law, University of Munster, Germany, worked as an intern at the Trust for 10 weeks from July 1997. During her internship she was actively involved in the organisation of the Consultation on the Draft Constitution of Sri Lanka and also in the general programmes of the Trust. Ms. Roth also assisted in the publication aspects of *Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights 1997*.

Ms. Kate Wood

Ms. Wood, a law student, worked as an intern under the internship programme of McGill University Law School. Her period of internship was from mid May to mid August 1997. Ms. Wood assisted with the publication of the *Sri Lanka : State of Human Rights Report 1997* and also with the preparation of background material and annotated agendas for discussion at the Consultation on the Draft Constitution of Sri Lanka.

Mr. K. M. Chakma

Mr. Chakma, a lawyer by profession, worked for a period of four months at the Trust under the internship programme between the Law & Society Trust and ODHIKAR, a coalition of NGOs in Bangladesh. Mr. Chakma possesses a strong background in minority protection work and was able to react positively to the political situation in Sri Lanka.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS

**Statement of grants received and expenditure
for the year ended 31 March 1997**

<u>GRANTS RECEIVED</u>	<u>Rs.</u>	<u>Rs.</u>	<u>Rs.</u>
Non-utilised grants brought forward from previous year for continuing projects			15 731 857
Grants received during 1996/97 (Note 1)	15 636 452		
Other receipts	<u>2 441 711</u>	<u>18 078 163</u>	
LESS: EXPENDITURE			
Project Expenditure (Note 2)	11 234 461		
General Institutional Expenses (Note 3)	<u>1 113 531</u>	<u>12 347 992</u>	<u>5 730 171</u>
Non utilised grants carried forward			<u>21 462 028</u>

Notes:

1. Grants received during the year 1996/97

- Grant received from NOVIB to meet Core expenses	3 302 950
- Grant received from USAID to meet CIPART Project Expenses (2 nd instalment)	287 300
- Grant received from NOVIB on account of State of Human Rights Report 1995	2 005 954
- Grant received from Ford Foundation for Ford Dhaka Project	3 290 676
- Grant received from IDRC (International Development Research Centre) for a study on the "Impact of Economic Liberalisation in Sri Lanka"	95 631
- Grant received from Ford Foundation for support of the Indian Component of the South Asian Human Rights Education & Legal Literacy Programme	4 293 650

- Grant received from APWLD for "Labour and Migration Task Force" Meeting	126 200
- Grant received from Royal Netherlands Embassy for publication of State of Human Rights Report '95	632 848
- Grant received from European Commission for Equal Opportunity Project	<u>1 601 243</u>
	<u>15 636 452</u>

2. Project Expenses during the year 1996/97

- NOVIB Core Expenses	3 557 858
- Evaluation of ICJ Project Expenses	238 342
- HIV/AIDS Project Expenses	198 717
- CIPART Project Expenses	494 975
- State of Human Rights Report 1995	2 005 954
- Publication cost of State of Human Rights Report 1995	791 082
- South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre Project Expenses	2 878 593
- Ford Dhaka Project Expenses	959 172
- UNICEF Project Expenses	8 000
- Impact of Economic Liberalisation in Sri Lanka Project Expenses	95 682
- HIV/AIDS Law & Ethnic Project Expenses	<u>6 086</u>
	<u>11 234 461</u>

3. General Institutional Expenses

- Staff & other Institutional Overheads	1 113 531
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Nissanka Wijeyaratne
former Sri Lankan Ambassador to the Russian Republic & former Minister of Justice.

Mr. Walter Laduwahetty
Attorney-at-Law, former Principal Law College

Mr. Mohamed Hussein
former Chairman, Press Council of Sri Lanka

Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam
Director, International Centre for Ethnic Studies

Ms. Damaris Wickremesekera
Secretary, Law & Society Trust

STAFF

Accountant

Ms. S. Premarajah

Administration

Ms. Hema Ekanayake

Ms. Janaki Dharmasena (from Aug. 1997)

Librarian

Ms. Tilaka Fernando

Programme Staff

Ms. Dharshini Sivanathan

Ms. Sunila Galappatti (to September 1997)

Ms. Devampika Karunasekera

Mr. Navin Perera

Mr. Lakshman Gunasekara (from July 1997)

Ms. Charitha Unawatuna (from September 1997)

Consultants

Dr. Sumudu Atapattu, LL.M (Cantab), Ph.D (Cantab), Attorney-at-Law

Dr. Mario Gomez, LL.B (Cey), LL.M (Monash) Ph.D (Colombo)

Dr. Deepika Udagama, LL.B (Cey), LL.M (Berkeley), J.S.D (Berkeley)

Visiting Fellow

Dr. Vijaya Samaraweera - Fulbright fellow

Interns

Mr. Bimsara Dissanayake (March - September 1997)

Mr. C. S. Dattathreya (July 1997 onwards)

Ms. Dinusha Panditaratne (September 1997- onwards)

Ms. Claudine Poirier (September 1997 - onwards)

Ms. Kate Wood (May - August 1997)

Ms. Barbara Roth (May - September 1997)

Mr. K. M. Chakma (August - November 1997)

