

## **The 2nd International Conference on Structural Engineering and Construction Management 2011**

Following the success of the first conference, the organizing committee was geared up when the time and idea for the second conference came about. This year, the theme was changed to Structural Engineering and Construction Management from Sustainable Built Environment and a conscious decision was made to alternate the conference themes between these two. This conference too was held during the month of December again at the Earls' Regency Hotel in the historical city of Kandy.

Once more the idea that was the driving force behind the conference was the need to create a common platform but this time upon which not just an exchange of knowledge would take place but to cover a vast area of subject matter and collect specialists from around the world to strengthen communications and ties between them to help further the betterment of the world through academic research and other communicative ties.

This conference consisted of 8 parallel sessions under the sub themes of the main theme "Structural Engineering Construction and Management". With the experience of past year it was decided by the organizing committee to go with the parallel sessions as in the past year to make the conference sessions smoother.

The conference Co-Chairs consisted of a number of highly respected academic individuals from universities and organizations from all over the world. This year too the proceedings and abstract books were printed with their own separate ISBN numbers.

Following the immense success of the first conference, the word had spread and ties were stronger and thus the turnout this year was greater than the year before bringing the total count close to a 320 participants. The local turnout was around 220 while the foreign turnout was around 110. This year too there were 10 keynote speakers who were once more highly respected academicians in their respective fields. The foreign turnout this year comprised of academicians from the United States, Japan, Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, United Kingdom and Bangladesh.

This conference was a succession its own right, free of the shadow of the first conference. The plans for the next conference were already underway on the drawing board plans. The turnout was stronger than the year before and the new ties forged and old ones renewed were proof to the level of success of this conference.