

Eng. BANDULA Wickramaarachchi

B.Sc. Eng. (Civil), C. Eng., M.I.E. (SL), P.G. dip. (Env.)

Secretary

Ministry of Primary Industries

1. Personal Information

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2. Profile

The competencies that Bandula has acquired in his 24-year carrier as a Civil Engineer, includes 4 years in the private sector, 17 years in Government and 3 years in the international arena. Since the commencement of his carrier as a Construction Project Manager in 1991 to being the Secretary of the Ministry of Primary Industries today, he has developed; superior leadership skills, highly advanced decision making abilities and sophisticated management skills. He is a forward thinking, innovative and somewhat radical individual who is able to work in complex situations and bring about practical solutions. He is a team builder and a team worker, calm in turbulent situations and firm when required.

Bandula is a Corporate Member of Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka, and graduated as a Chartered Engineer. He holds a B.Sc. Engineering degree in Civil Engineering, P.G. Dip in Environmental, P.G. Dip in Geoinformatics and currently reading for a Ph.D in sustainable development.

Completing 17 years' career spell in Sri Lanka Engineering Service, attached to Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Department (CC&CRMD) at various capacities, he has extensive exposure to Coastal Sciences, and is enthusiastic on engineering & managing coastal environment for facilitating livelihood of communities, and coastal economy with add-on measures for reducing coastal disaster risk. Further he has gained progressive experience working in-line with government financial and administrative procedures. Engaging in Climate Change work, he is well-informed and appreciative of the risk induced by Climate Change.

Having worked as a Senior Technical Specialist with Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) in Bangkok, it has led him to proficiently explore the regional disaster and environment management arena in the Asia-Pacific. Working with multiple nations together with Development Partners for sustained solutions in the region, he is confident of leading multi-national, multi-disciplinary teams for tailored common goals that suit the specific environment. Further, the participation in dialog with regional States on regional and global development agendas on Sustainable Development Goals and Framework of Action towards global platforms, enable him for forward-planning to overcome the challenges.

Having been involved in evaluation of Conceptual Satellite Models for Thailand Earth Observation System Phase 2 (THEOS-2) and working closely with Geo-informatics & Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA), Thailand, Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), Japan, Geoinformatics Centre at Asian Institute of Technology (GIS-AIT) Thailand, and Coastal Engineering Laboratory, Tokyo University, Japan, Bandula is keen on formulating applications of Spatial Analysis and Satellite Earth Observations for natural environment management and spatial planning for enhanced development. With his proven analytical skills and research interests, he has successfully completed a few research projects and the results have been applied at ground level for decision making. His competencies include numerical modelling on environmental dynamics.

As the appointed focal point and on-scene commander, he has also engaged in oil spill contingency planning with Marine Environmental Protection Authority. As the appointed frontrunner (Chief Innovative Officer) at CCD for e-Government Program of Sri Lanka, he has also engaged in developing ICT capacities.

Working closely with Disaster Management Centre of Sri Lanka, Bandula has led the team of experts for assessing the coastal hazards (Tsunami, Storm Surge, Coastal Erosion, and Sea Level Rise) at national level using state-of-the-art modelling technologies. He is a master trainer on Incident Command System and involved in the training missions for establishing ICS as a tool for emergency management in Sri Lanka.

Currently as the Secretary of Ministry of Primary Industries Bandula provides solid leadership, balanced with the private sector work ethos and public sector principles, trying to achieve the onerous national target of increasing exports through elevated value chains of Primary Industrial sectors.