

## CICT together with China Merchant Charity Fund donates six wheelchairs to SL tennis players

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(From L-R): Wheelchair Tennis coach Jagath Welikala, SLTA Gen. Secretary Pradeep Goonesekera, SLTA Secretary, Wheelchair Tennis, Col. Shiran Abeysekera, President, SLTA, Iqbal Bin Issack, Asst. Gen. Manager, Marketing, CICT, Ms Catriona Jayasundara, foreign coach Aad Zwaan, CEO, CICT, Ray Ren, and Gen. Manager, CICT, Tissa Wickramasinghe with the Sri Lanka wheelchair tennis players.

Six wheelchairs were presented recently to the top-ranked six wheelchair players of Sri Lanka. The donation was initiated by Colombo International Container Terminal (CICT), the Principal Sponsors of Wheelchair Tennis through its parent company's (China Merchant Port Holdings – CMPH) charity fund. The charity fund is identified as China Merchant Charity Fund.

The chairs were imported from the Netherlands –arranged by the wheelchair foreign coach Aad Zwaan. The chairs were obtained at a concessionary rate. Zwaan is presently in Sri Lanka for the purpose of training the wheelchair tennis players.

The three top-ranked players, Gamini Dissanayake, R. A. L. S. Ranaweera and D. S. R. Dharmasena with Coach Jagath Welikala are expected to participate in the Belgian Open (from July 26-30), Flanders Open (from Aug. 3-6) and Austrian Open (from Aug. 9-13). Zwaan will also be travelling to Belgium to train them prior to the tournament. This is the second consecutive year our wheelchair team will be participating in this Belgium Tour.

At the last participation in the Belgium Tour, Gamini won the Singles in the Westende Open, whilst Upali Rajakaruna and Dissanayake won Doubles recording the first time Sri Lankan tennis players winning a European tournament.

The President of the Sri Lanka Tennis Association (SLTA), Iqbal Bin Issack was instrumental in importing the chairs with the assistance of Aad Zwaan.

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