Highlights from the Speech of Mr. S.U. Wijerathne, Additional Secretary for Planning, Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka

- Last year, we prepared an Education Sector Development Framework and Programme to encompass the total education system in an overall plan.

- In preparing the ESDFP, we focused upon 4 areas.
  - Access
  - Quality
  - Provision of Resources and
  - Monitoring and Evaluation

- Hence you see that all 6 goals set in the EFA framework fall into the above 4 areas.

- Therefore, there is no problem in incorporating the MDA work into our planning and development work.

- Since these tasks can be identified as a monitoring exercise, we hope that we will be able to utilize the funds allocated for monitoring.

- On the part of the Ministry of Education in Sri Lanka, we are prepared to give an undertaking that we will extend our full support to make this exercise a success.

- We will facilitate the MDA by making the necessary organizational and structural arrangements.
- We will set up the Steering Committee and the MDA Task Force at the Central level.

- Then arrangements will be made to set up Provincial and Zonal MDA Committees and Technical Sub Committees.

- A separate MDA Logistical Office will be established in the Ministry under the PPR Division handled by National Coordinating officers with the necessary clerical and other support.

- We will incorporate the MDA activities into the National, Provincial and Zonal Development Plans.