

Watch Dogs as a Bridge among Community and Local Government

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“Right to Voice Project” is a people’s campaign working group-supporting multilateral community Intervention for strengthening democracy & governance capacity of local authorities in Galle District.

Vision of the project is a sustainably developed Galle District with active citizen participation in local governance and Goal is an active and engaged citizenry informing and influencing local governance.

Training a watch dogs team is one of aspects in this project. Main goals of this program are,

- Identify selected social investigators.
- Discuss with social investigators about the future plans and activities of the project and training for it.

Watch dogs’ team is selected through among community societies and community leaders. Society members appointed through one of person through election among them as a watch dog team.



According to that process, selected 125 watch dog members among different community societies.

These watch dogs are selected from Galle Four Gravets, Akmeemana, Bope-Poddala, Nagoda, Rathgama, Hikkaduwa, Habaraduwa, Yakkalamulla, Baddegama, and Welivitiya-Divithura.

In here mainly this team trained for create bridge among community and Local Government. Community can directly involve with Local Government Policy formulation, implementation and expression community ideas through watch dog team.



Team is searched issues which community facing real ground situation within their division and complain it into Local Government. So, it means they always in alert what kind of development activities are happening within division and not only but also positive and negative aspects which are taking from Local Government relating to the community. It can be caused to red alert to Local Government and it increase efficiency of Local Government officers also.



Figure 1- Watch Dog Training Program under Right to Voice Project at Minara Hotel, Dadalla, Galle

Future plan of this program is an assist and monitor the most appropriate and effective planning of programs proposed by local authorities by way of trained social investigators. This is great opportunity to community for get strength relationship with Local Government.