

Hon. Minister's Profile

Hon. (Dr) (Mrs).Sudarshini Fernandopulle is a Consultant Medical Doctor. She served the Ministry of Health in Sri Lanka for 24 yrs. She is a specialist in public Health and was able to serve the people of Sri Lanka.

Dr. Fernandopulle was working as a visiting lecturer covering Infant and Young Child Feeding and Early Child Care and Development for Medical undergraduates attached to the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya and for Medical undergraduates attached to the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo. She also was engaged with the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, University of Colombo teaching Postgraduate trainees in the under mentioned courses.

Diploma in Child Health

Diploma in Family Medicine

Doctor of Medicine in Pediatrics

Master of Science in Community Medicine

Master of Science in Medical Administration

Dr.Sudarshini Fernandopulle has been a resource personnel for many training programs on IYCF, ECCD and Child Health for Health staff including Doctors, Midwives, Nursing staff and other government sectors and NGOO.

She has done researches on Prevalence of Anemia among Pregnant Women in a selected Health division in 1994 and Research on Prevalence and risk factors for Emotional abuse among children aged 13-15 years as part of the MD in 2000. Dr.Fernandopulle was an examiner for the clinical examination for students sitting the MSc Community Medicine examination, Member of the viva board for students sitting for the Act 16 and examiner to correct dissertations of MSc and MD students.

Dr.Fernandopulle has published articles on Development and initial validation of a scale to measure emotional abuse among school children aged 13-15 years in Sri Lanka in the Journal of Child Abuse and Neglect. 27 (2003) 1087-1099, Mental Health Status in Sri Lanka: Challenges for Primary Care. Australian Journal of Primary Health 2002;8(2), 31-8, Knowledge of husbands on some aspects of antenatal care in the Kahawatte Medical Officer of Health area in Rathnapura district; Journal of The College of Community Physicians of Sri Lanka Vol. 11, No. 1, August 2006

Dr.Sudarshini has engaged in full time Politics to serve the Community in a different manner from 2009 onwards after the assassination of her beloved husband, Hon. Jeyaraj Fernandopulle who was a dedicated politician in Sri Lanka, in the year 2008.

Dr.Sudarshini Fernandopulle was elected to the 7th Parliament in 2010. She was an active member of the parliament and held many posts being the chairperson of the Public Petition Committee and subcommittee to investigate issues related to women. Also served as a member of many parliamentary select committees on Health, Education, Child Development & Women's Affairs, Investment Promotion, Foreign affairs, etc. She was also a member of the parliamentary select committee as well as the committee appointed to propose recommendations for the constitutional amendments, committee to study and propose recommendations on Chronic Kidney disease in Sri Lanka.

Dr.Fernandopulle was re-elected to the 8th Parliament after the General elections which were held in August 2015 and was initially appointed as the Deputy Minister of Higher Education and then as the State Minister of City Planning and Water Supply in September in 2015. She was a member of the Parliamentary Sectorial Oversight Committee on Women and Gender, the Deputy Chairperson of the constitutional assembly, the chairperson of the caucus for children and the deputy chairperson of the women's caucus of the 8th Parliament.

Dr.Sudarshini Fernandopulle was re-elected to the 9th Parliament after the General elections which was held in August 2020 and was initially appointed as the State Minister of Prison Reforms and Prisoners Rehabilitation and thereafter appointed as the State Minister of Primary Health care, Epidemics and Covid Disease Control. She is also the Chairperson of Women Caucus in Parliament.