FACETS SRI LANKA 2019 GEM & JEWELLERY EXHIBITION

(L-R): Altaf Iqbal, Chairman, FACETS Sri Lanka 2019; Lewis Allan, Chief Guest and gem trader and Ahsan Rafai, Chairman, Sri Lanka Gem and Jewellery Association.

Altaf Iqbal, Chairman, FACETS Sri Lanka 2019 and Lewis Allan, Chief Guest and gem trader in discussion about the jewellery on display.

Special Invitee, Buddhika Pathirana, State Minister, Industry and Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development, Vocational Training and Skills Development browses at a collection of precious gemstones of Sri Lanka.

FACETS Sri Lanka 2019, the 29th edition of the International Gem and Jewellery Exhibition, was organized by the Sri Lanka Gem and Jewellery Association, National Gem and Jewellery Authority and Sri Lanka Export Development Board. The annual gem and jewellery exhibi□tion invited influential traders, foreign and Sri Lankan exhibitors to showcase various gemstones and jewellery products. Over the years, FACETS has continued to grow and increase in popularity, becoming one of the most sought after gem and jewellery exhibitions in the world. FACETS Sri Lanka

2019 boasted a wide array of precious and semi-precious stones, branded watches and fashionable costume jewellery that will suit every customer preference. The chief guest of the occasion was gem trader Lewis Allan, who is one of the biggest buyers of Sri Lankan sapphires.

Addressing the gathering, Altaf Iqbal, Chairman, FACETS Sri Lanka 2019 stated, “Over the years, FACETS has become the biggest platform to show the world our beautiful products. It was achieved by great partnerships between the Government institutions and the sustained efforts between individuals, both past and present in the industry. Ahsan Refai, Chairman, Sri Lanka Gem and Jewellery Association expressed his views on the challenges faced by the gem industry and elaborated on the solutions on how they can be overcome, “We must encourage the Sri Lankan dealers as well as the foreigners from African gem producing countries to bring raw material and trade in our country. These raw materials will not only produce value addition but will stimulate the gem cutting and jewellery manufacturing industry while increasing export value,” he said.