2010 marks the second year of the five-year focus on 'Diabetes education and prevention', the theme selected for World Diabetes Day 2009-2013. The campaign calls on all those responsible for diabetes care to take control of diabetes. For the general public and people at high risk of diabetes, the campaign aims to raise awareness and disseminate tools for prevention. For people with diabetes, the focus will be on disseminating tools to improve knowledge of the disease in order to better understand it and prevent complications. For governments and policy-makers, efforts will go towards communicating the cost-effective implications of diabetes prevention strategies and promoting diabetes education as a core component of diabetes management and treatment.

Here in Sri Lanka, the diabetes day this year too was celebrated at central level with many stakeholders participating. Sri Lanka joined the global diabetes walk with the participation of the first lady madam Shiranthi Rajapakshe, Hon minister of health Maithreepala Sirisena and many other dignitaries.

The walk concluded with a stakeholder meeting chaired jointly by the Minister of Health & Minister of Education with a pledge to initiate an effective school health programme to address the growing burden of NCD. A presidential message was also aired re-affirming the commitment of the current government in combating non communicable diseases.