A three year action plan targeting the control of non-communicable diseases will be implemented from 2011 through improvements in the primary health care system. An additional allocation of **Rs 900 million** for this has been proposed.

Increase Tax on profits of businesses engaged in the manufacture & distribution of liquor, cigarettes and casinos from **35% to 40%**

**BUDGET 2011**

A positive Step towards the prevention & control of Non-Communicable diseases

The growing incidence and mortality from non-communicable diseases will be brought under control and reduced through preventive and curative actions. An intensified national NCD programme, focusing initially on high burdened NCDs, will be implemented to reduce the growing NCD burden in Sri Lanka. Better coordination between preventive and curative programmes is vital for this purpose. The existing curative and preventive care programmes will be redesigned to address the growing NCD burden. Access to cost-effective programmes, such as screening of high risk groups for early detection to prevent and control selected non-communicable diseases, will be made widespread, and availability of medicines for secondary prevention will be ensured. Community based interventions to reduce risk behaviors will be strengthened while increasing facilities for individual counseling on lifestyle changes.

A sum of **Rs 200 million** will be allocated to implement “Mathata Thitha” initiative aggressively in every single village and township as a national priority.