

75th REPUBLIC DAY of INDIA

JANUARY 26, 2024



#ViksitBharat@2047



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi meets President H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe in New Delhi, 21 July 2023



President Smt. Droupadi Murmu meets President H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe at Rashtrapati Bhavan, 21 July 2023



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi meets President H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe on sidelines of COP28 in Dubai, 01 December 2023

NEW HIGH COMMISSIONER OF INDIA ASSUMES CHARGE



H.E. Santosh Jha presented his credentials to President H. E. Ranil Wickremesinghe, 22 December 2023



Connectivity is not only about bringing two cities closer. It also brings our countries closer, our people closer and our hearts closer.

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the inauguration of the ferry service between Nagapattinam and Kankesanthurai, 14 October 2023



The foundations of our joint vision of greater future connectivity has already been laid through millenia-old civilizational, cultural, human and commercial interactions between our two countries.

- President H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe during his visit to India, 21 July 2023



Message from High Commissioner Santosh Jha

My dear brothers and sisters from Sri Lanka, Namaskar, Ayubowan, Vanakkam!

I convey my greetings to you on the occasion of 75th Republic Day of India. It was on this day in 1950 that the Indian Constitution came into effect. India today stands at an inflection point. It is poised to take a quantum leap to become a developed country by 2047 – a *Viksit Bharat*.

A distinguishing factor in this vision of our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is the centrality of the people of the country. We believe that it is through 'Sabka Prayas' or through efforts of all that a '*Viksit Bharat*' will materialise. There is a realisation that development, just as democracy, is of the people, for the people and by the people.

Indian vision for domestic growth and development is also driving our Neighbourhood First policy. We seek growth, security, stability, progress and development for all in our neighbourhood in keeping with our SAGAR policy.

The India-Sri Lanka partnership has been built on civilizational ties, geographical proximity, cultural connect, strong sense of solidarity and age-old goodwill.

In recent years, India has reaffirmed itself as a trusted and reliable partner of Sri Lanka. Our vision for India-Sri Lanka partnership also places people at the centre. The roadmap for our partnership is determined by your needs and aspirations. It is now taking a new turn, to translate this traditional proximity into economic closeness.

According to the latest trade figures, India was Sri Lanka's largest trading partner in 2022 with a bilateral trade of USD 6 billion. In recent years, we have also been the largest foreign investor in Sri Lanka. India continues to be the largest source of foreign tourists in Sri Lanka.

We are building on our existing achievements by seeking to implement the Vision Document agreed by our leaders in July 2023. India's globally acknowledged economic potential, its technological advancement and sustained economic growth, along with the current phase of economic stabilisation, recovery, reconstruction and growth in Sri Lanka provide a unique opportunity to forge a formidable economic partnership for the benefit of our two peoples and the entire region.

The central theme of this Vision is enhancing connectivity to drive economic prosperity. Since the second half of 2023, ferry services between India and Sri Lanka re-commenced; thirteenth round of negotiations on Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) were held. Discussions on multi-product pipeline, land connectivity corridor and power grid interconnection have progressed. UPI is all set to be rolled out in Sri Lanka. The implementation of Unique Digital Identity seeks to introduce the human-centric transformations in Sri Lanka, just as we have witnessed in India in the last decade.

Solar electrification of religious places across Sri Lanka, assistance for modernisation of Sri Lankan railways, and our investments in energy, ports and airports development are all testimony to our abiding friendship.

Dear Friends, having assumed charge as the High Commissioner of India last month, I have to admit that the prospects of the India-Sri Lanka partnership are limitless. Its potential tangible impact on lives of our peoples makes me optimistic. It drives me to work harder to further deepen and strengthen it. I look forward to your support and cooperation in this regard.

May a *Viksit Bharat* propel a *Viksit Sri Lanka*. It is to this end that we dedicate ourselves!

Jai Hind.
Ayubowan. Vanakkam. Dhanyavad.



EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar called on President H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe in Colombo, 11 October 2023



EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar at the press interaction in Colombo, 11 October 2023



EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar meets Parliamentary delegation from Sri Lanka, led by Speaker Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena, 18 December 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman meets President H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe in Colombo, 02 November 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman meets Prime Minister Dinesh Gunwardena in Colombo, 02 November 2023

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A VISION FOR THE FUTURE: PROMOTING CONNECTIVITY, CATALYSING PROSPERITY



MARITIME CONNECTIVITY

- Ports and logistics infrastructure at Colombo, Trincomalee and Kankesanthurai
- Passenger ferry services



AIR CONNECTIVITY

- Air connectivity with Jaffna, Trincomalee, Batticaloa
- Investment in aviation infrastructure in Sri Lanka



PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CONNECTIVITY

- Higher education, research & skilling
- Land connectivity corridor
- Linkages with India's Buddhist Circuit and Sri Lanka's Ramayana trail



TRADE, ECONOMIC & FINANCIAL CONNECTIVITY

- UPI based digital payments
- Facilitate Indian investments in Sri Lanka
- Discussions on broad-basing trade agreements
- Digital Economy



ENERGY AND POWER CONNECTIVITY

- High capacity power grid interconnection
- Trincomalee as a national and regional hub of industry, energy and economic activity
- Multi-product petroleum pipeline from Southern India to Sri Lanka
- Cooperation in solar, wind, green hydrogen, green ammonia

A year of milestones

200 YEARS OF ARRIVAL OF INDIAN ORIGIN TAMILS IN SRI LANKA



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman on the invitation of President H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe attended NAAAM 200 in Colombo as the Chief Guest, 02 November 2023

A visit across the country



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman called on Chief Prelate of Asgiriya, Most Venerable Warakagoda Sri Gnanarathana in Kandy, 01 November 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman called on Chief Prelate of Malwatte Most Venerable Thibbatuwawe Sri Siddhartha Sumangala Thero, in Kandy, 01 November 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman visited the revered Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi in Anuradhapura, 01 November 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman visited Lanka IOC Tank Farms in Trincomalee, 02 November 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman visited Thirukoneswaram Temple in Trincomalee, 02 November 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman visited Nallur Kandaswamy Kovil in Jaffna, 03 November 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the State Bank of India Branch in Trincomalee and Jaffna, 02 & 03 November 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman visited Jaffna Cultural Centre, 03 November 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman visited Nallur Kandaswamy Kovil in Jaffna, 03 November 2023

EAM DR. S. JAISHANKAR VISITED SRI LANKA TWICE IN 2023



EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar called on President H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe, 20 January 2023



EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar meets Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena, 20 January 2023



EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar meets Minister of Foreign Affairs Ali Sabry, 19 January 2023

SRI LANKA ASSUMES CHAIRSHIP OF IORA, INDIA VICE CHAIR



Sri Lanka assumed the chairship of Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) while India assume the position of Vice-Chair for the term 2023-2025 in October 2023



IORA: A platform for promoting sustainable development, economic growth and prosperity, and stability in the region



"It is our effort to develop an Indian Ocean community that is stable and prosperous, strong and resilient, and which is able to cooperate closely within and to respond to happenings beyond the ocean."

EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar



THE FIRST 'FOREIGN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION' FROM ANY COUNTRY TO VISIT INDIA SINCE THE OPENING OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT BUILDING IN NEW DELHI



Sri Lankan Parliamentary Delegation led by H.E. Mr. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena called on Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla & held a bilateral Parliamentary Dialogue and Exchange, 18 December 2023



They also visited Ajanta Caves, Raj Ghat and the State of Assam, where they held interactions with the members of the State Legislative Assembly, 16-20 December 2023

75 YEARS OF INDIA-SRI LANKA DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS



100 YEARS OF ASSISTANT HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA, KANDY



The Assistant High Commission of India in Kandy, established in 1923 is the oldest office of Indian government abroad.



A Commemorative Postal Stamp titled 'A Century of Togetherness', 7 December 2023

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Viksit Bharat Harnessing a Developed India by 2047



India's G20 Presidency culminated successfully with the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration adopted at the 18th G20 Summit in New Delhi from 9 - 10 Sep 2023. The Summit saw 3 sessions on One Earth, One Family and One Future; amplified the voice of Global South; welcomed African Union as a permanent member. The New Delhi Leaders' Declaration endorses principles on lifestyle for sustainable development, the Chennai principles for a sustainable and resilient blue economy, and the Deccan principles on food security and nutrition, among others.



G20 has emerged stronger and more purposeful during India's presidency, shaping the global agenda more effectively.

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi



VOICE OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH SUMMIT



India hosted the 2nd Voice of Global South Summit virtually on 17 November 2023, with the theme "Together, For Everyone's Growth, With Everyone's Trust." The summit shared key outcomes of #G20India, and discussed ways to build a more inclusive, representative and progressive world order. President H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Hon'ble Minister of Foreign Affairs Ali Sabry, and Hon'ble Minister of Trade, Commerce, and Food Security Nalin Fernando addressed the summit.

BREAKING BARRIERS: 33% FOR WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT



The Women's Reservation Bill passed in September 2023 is a historic step towards gender equality and political empowerment in India. This aims to reserve one-third of seats in the parliament and state legislative assemblies for women. Its passage manifests the vision of women-led development and holds promise for a more inclusive future.

JOURNEYING TO #VIKSITBHARAT@2047



SECURING FUTURES

- 60 million beneficiaries' future secured under Atal Pension
- Insurance cover of upto ₹200,000 for the urban poor at a premium of ₹20/year for accident insurance, and ₹436/year for life insurance



HEALTHCARE REVOLUTION

- Over 300 million beneficiaries under free health insurance scheme, Ayushman Bharat
- 80% medicine discounts at Jan Aushadhi Kendras



INFRASTRUCTURE BOOST

- 40 million homes built; 10 million for urban families
- 15 new cities on metro map; 27 cities with metro operational/under construction
- 400,000 5G base stations



GREEN MOBILITY

- 1300+ electric buses in Delhi

IMF says: India

A Star Performer

- One of the fastest-growing major economies
- Contributing more than 16% to global growth
- Real GDP expected to grow at 6.3% in FY2023-24 and FY2024-25

Leader in Digital Payment Transactions

- 100x growth in 9 years
- 130+ billion digital payment transactions in FY 2022-2023

An icon of India's infrastructural prowess!



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurates India's longest sea bridge Atal Setu, six-lane trans-harbour 21.8 km long bridge in Mumbai, 12 January 2024

Propelling the spirit of entrepreneurship

- 118,000+ Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) recognized startups
- 55,000+ Women led startups
- 50% Startups in tier 2 and 3 cities
- 118,000+ Direct jobs created

India celebrates National Startup Day achieving the landmark of 8 years of its incredible journey, 16 January 2024

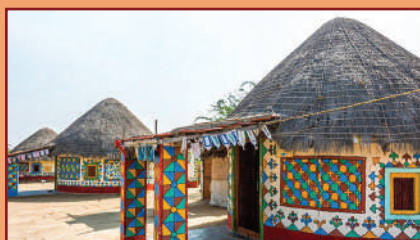
From Local Charms to Global Praise



UNESCO has inscribed the Gujarati folk dance Garba on its Representative List of the "Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity" in 2023, making it India's 15th inscription on the List



Santiniketan, founded by Rabindranath Tagore in 1901, got inscribed as India's 41st UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2023



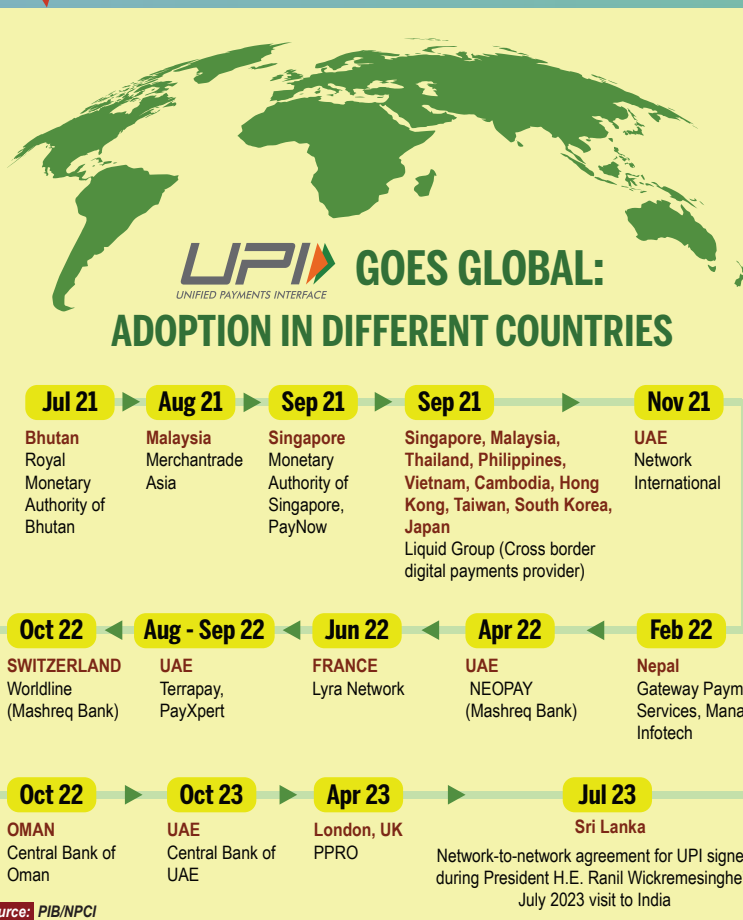
Dhordo village in Gujarat was awarded the prestigious title of "Best Tourism Village 2023" by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)



One District One Product (ODOP) is an Indian government initiative promoting unique products or crafts in each district for balanced regional development.

ODOP showcased India to the world at the various G20 events organized across the country during India's G20 Presidency.

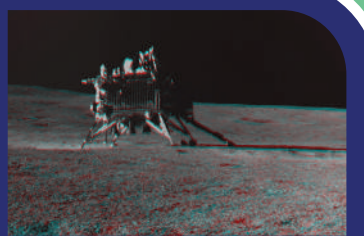
- EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar



ORBITING DREAMS



India's first satellite dedicated to studying cosmic X-ray polarization, XPOsat, was successfully launched, 01 January 2024



India makes history with Chandrayaan-3 as the first country to land on South Pole of moon, 23 August 2023



Aditya-L1 successfully placed in a halo orbit around L1 point, 06 January 2024

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*Connectivity is the central theme of this partnership...
Connectivity enhances trade, tourism and people-to-people ties.
It also creates opportunities for the youth of both countries.*

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the inauguration of the ferry service between Nagapattinam and Kankesanthurai, 14 October 2023

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A NEW CHAPTER IN INDIA-SRI LANKA DIPLOMATIC AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS



EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar flagging off the ferry from Nagapattinam, 14 October 2023



Affirming the people-centric policies of Government of India the ferry service between Nagapattinam and Kankesanthurai (KKS) commenced

FURTHERING ENERGY CONNECTIVITY



Joint Technical Team on Power Grid Interconnection discussed the DPR and technical feasibility of the project in October 2023



Inaugural meeting of the Joint Study Group on development of a multi-product pipeline to address Sri Lanka's domestic demand and to boost export orientations held in November 2023

TRADE CONNECTIVITY ENHANCED



13th round of negotiations on Economic and Technology Co-operation Agreement (ETCA) held in New Delhi, 8-10 January 2024



COOPERATION IN DAIRY SECTOR



Joint Venture Shareholders Agreement on Dairy Development between National Dairy Development Board, Gujarat Milk Marketing Federation cooperative (also known as AMUL) and Cargills of Sri Lanka signed in October 2023

ENHANCING BUSINESS TO BUSINESS INTERACTIONS



India-Sri Lanka Business Summit during the visit of Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, 02 November 2023



Ports, Shipping, and Aviation Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva addressed the Global Maritime India Summit (GMIS) in Mumbai, 17 October 2023



U.S. International Development Finance Corporation USD 533 million funding for the Colombo West International Terminal Pvt. Ltd. - a consortium of Adani Ports and SEZ Ltd., John Keells Holdings and the Sri Lanka Ports Authority in November 2023



USD 550 million Indian investment project, ITC Ratnadipa Colombo to be launched soon

STRENGTHENING RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE IN SRI LANKA



Minister of Transport, Highways and Mass Media of Sri Lanka Dr. Bandula Gunawardena and H.E. Santosh Jha launched track rehabilitation work at Galgamuwa Railway Station, under the second phase of USD 91.27 million of the Line of Credit project for Maho-Omanthai track rehabilitation



Contract for Design, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Signalling system from Maho to Anuradhapura (66km) signed under USD 318 million Line of Credit

PARTNERING WITH SRI LANKA FOR FOOD, HEALTH AND ENERGY SECURITY



To strengthen Sri Lanka's food, health and energy security, the Government of India extended a concessional loan of USD 1 billion to the Government of Sri Lanka, through the State Bank of India, on 17 March 2022. Utilization of this facility was extended for another year in March 2023, on request of Government of Sri Lanka.



Buyer-Seller meet on the sidelines of 12th Intex South Asia Textile Exhibition, 10 August 2023

A DYNAMIC ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

INDIA EMERGED AS SRI LANKA'S

LARGEST TRADE PARTNER IN LAST 4 YEARS

THIRD LARGEST EXPORT DESTINATION

THE BIGGEST SOURCE OF IMPORTS

THE BIGGEST SOURCE OF FDI IN LAST 4 YEARS

Source: CBSL report 2023

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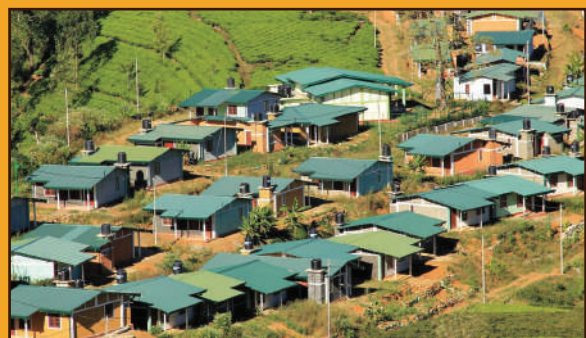
HIGHLIGHTING INDIA'S AGILE AND EXPANSIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WITH SRI LANKA



Government of India infused additional funds for 9 ongoing grant projects to the tune of upto 50% to streamline the project execution, 11 October 2023



EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar inaugurated 126 houses under Phase-3 of Indian Housing Project in Badulla, Matale and Matara districts at a ceremony presided over by President H.E. Ranil Wickremesinghe, 11 October 2023



Three-fold increase in the unit cost of a house from SLR 1.026 million to SLR 2.8 million under Phase-4 of Indian Housing Project for the construction of 10000 houses in plantation areas of Sri Lanka were exchanged during EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar's visit, 11 October 2023



A total of over 100 hundred houses constructed under Model Village Housing and Gram Shakthi projects in Hambantota, Jaffna, Matale and Puttalam districts were also handed over by EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar virtually, 11 October 2023

A partnership for the people

At a total portfolio of USD 5 billion, India's development cooperation partnership is driven by the short-term and long-term needs of the people of Sri Lanka. Spread across all the 25 Districts, the projects implemented by Government of India in Sri Lanka cuts across areas such as infrastructure, housing, education, health, livelihood and industrial development, sports and culture, among others.

The commitment towards grant projects stands at USD 600 million. Attesting to the dynamic nature of these projects, include the landmark Sri Lanka Unique Digital Identity Project, construction of Hybrid Power Projects in three islands of Delft, Analaitivu and Nainativu and USD 15 million grant assistance from India to promote Buddhist ties.



Inauguration of an Ayurveda Medical Camp with Indian assistance and distribution of study materials and umbrellas to school children in Hanthana Estate by High Commissioner H.E. Santosh Jha, 18 January 2024



“ We, as two countries, will march together for a better future that fulfill the aspirations and expectations of our common people, across segments and regions. ”

- Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman witnessed the foundation stone laying for 50 houses under Phase IV of Indian Housing Project. Phase IV of Indian Housing Project will see construction of 10,000 houses in plantation areas



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman kick started the supply of notebooks and school bags to 10,000 students under SLR 3 billion multi-sectoral package for Indian Origin Tamil community announced by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in July 2023



Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the India assisted SLR 217 million upgraded Thondaman Vocational Training Center in Hatton



Witnessed the exchange of MOU for solar electrification of places of worship across Sri Lanka with a grant allocation of USD 10 million

This is the first project under the USD 15 million grant announced by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for the promotion of Buddhist ties between the two countries.

CURRENTLY, CLOSE TO 18 PROJECTS ARE ONGOING UNDER HIGH IMPACT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN SRI LANKA



Construction of 5000mt Cold storage Warehouse in Dambulla for SLR 336 million



Construction of Surgical unit in Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa for SLR 302 million



Construction of transit housing project in Mannar under a grant of SLR 400 million



Construction of multi-ethnic tri-lingual school in Polonnaruwa under a grant of SLR 369 million

AROUND 65 GRANT PROJECTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED



Upgradation of Saraswathy Central College, Pussellawa for SLR 100 million



1990 Suwaseriya Emergency Ambulance Service under US\$ 22 million Indian grant assistance



The iconic Jaffna Cultural Center (JCC), which was built with grant assistance of over USD 11 million was declared open, 11 February 2023



India-built auditorium, largest in any Sri Lankan university dedicated to the people of Sri Lanka to Ruhuna University in Matara for SLR 265 million

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Continuing Saga of Civilizational Twins



SWAMI VIVEKANANDA CULTURAL CENTRE (SVCC)

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC) is the cultural arm of the High Commission of India, playing a vital role in strengthening the cultural connect between India and Sri Lanka. SVCC organizes diverse activities like music, dance, cultural festivals, workshops and exhibitions involving people from both countries. It also provides a wide range of classes such as Hindi, Yoga, Kathak, Bharatnatyam and Carnatic vocal music.



World Hindi Day celebrated in Colombo in January 2024



Chित्रलेखा- the first ever India Alumni Art Exhibition organized in October 2023



Students of Hindu Ladies College participated in the International Gita Mahotsav in Kurukshetra, India



Annual Carnatic Music Festival in February 2023



Outreach to over 5000 students under Bharatiyam campaign in November 2023



International Conference on Sanskrit held in December 2023



Exhibition on India's rich Buddhist Heritage at Homagama Poson Zone on Poson Poya 2023



8th Ayurveda Day was celebrated at Sri Lanka Foundation in November 2023



9th International Day of Yoga celebrated in June 2023



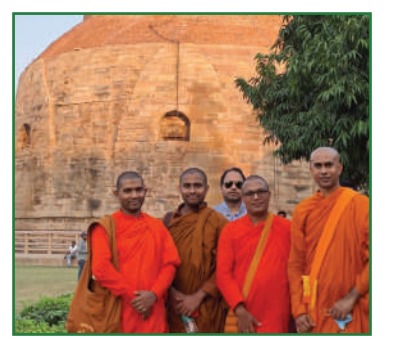
Kannada film festival held in Colombo in May 2023



MoU signed for the establishment of ICCR Delhi/NCR Chair of Hindi Language at Sabaragamuwa University in January 2023



Exhibition on India's Buddhist Heritage at Gangaramaya Temple in Colombo on Vesak Poya in 2023



Four Sri Lankan monks participated in the "Buddha Bhoomi Vandana Yatra" from 25 October - 3 November in 2023



Our activities around Sri Lanka in 2023

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Indian Navy Ship Airavat, a Shardul-class Landing Ship Tank (LST), arrived in Colombo facilitating the handover of valuable machinery test and trial equipment, including various machinery items, to the Sri Lanka Navy, 18 October 2023



INS Delhi, India's first indigenously built Destroyer, visited Colombo presenting an Aarogya Maitri kit to the Hon. Speaker for the Government of Sri Lanka during the visit, 1-3 September 2023



Keel Laying ceremony of 4000T Floating Dock for the Sri Lanka Navy conducted, 06 December 2023



The IN Dornier Aircraft, stationed at Sri Lanka Air Force Base, Trincomalee since August 2022, successfully completed extensive maritime surveillance flying, with the aircraft changeover in August 2023

India and Sri Lanka enjoy a strong defence relationship pillared on close linkages between our forces. The commonality of security concerns and challenges guides our bilateral defence exchanges.

Defence cooperation with Sri Lanka encompasses myriad activities in numerous domains including training, joint exercises, supply of military equipment, high level bilateral visits and annual dialogues at various levels accompanied by periodic bilateral goodwill visits by Navy and Coast Guard ships.



DEFENCE COOPERATION

CAMARADERIE BEYOND BORDERS



9th edition of India-Sri Lanka joint military exercise MITRA SHAKTI conducted in Pune, 16-29 November 2023



11th edition of Indian Navy - Sri Lanka Navy staff talk held in Colombo, 17-19 October 2023



Indian Navy's Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) arrives at SLAF Base Katunayake for training Sri Lanka Airforce pilots and Navy ships in shipborne helicopter operations, 19 October 2023



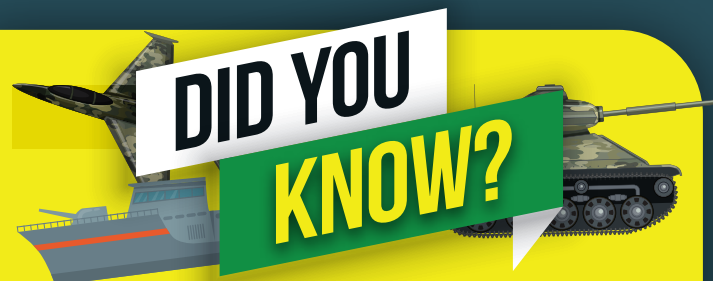
Annual India-Sri Lanka Navy bilateral maritime exercise SLINEX 2023 held in Colombo, 3-8 April 2023. INS Kiltan and Savitri along with Chetak helo and IN Dornier had joined from IN side and SLNS Vijayabahu and SLNS Sagara from SLN had participated in the exercise



The inaugural India-Sri Lanka Defence Seminar Cum Exhibition in Colombo, 07 June 2023



INS Nireekshak visited Trincomalee from 14-21 September 2023 for facilitating Mixed Gas Diving training for the Sri Lanka Navy



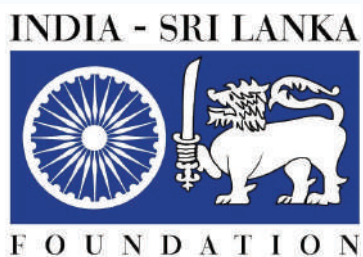
India is the largest provider of foreign training assistance to Sri Lankan armed forces.

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Since its establishment in 1998, the India-Sri Lanka Foundation (ISLF) has strengthened the economic, educational, scientific, technical, and cultural ties between the two nations. It encourages people-to-people contacts and supports creative initiatives, particularly involving youth and civil societies. ISLF has funded over 350 projects and currently 30 projects in the areas of art & culture, social work, education & knowledge, are in progress.



Scholars from Sri Lanka participating in the World Anthropology Congress held in Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Bhubaneswar, Odisha in August 2023



The President of "Sri Lanka Welfare Organization of Visually Impaired Women" distributing white canes and gift hampers in October 2023



Exchange students from St. Marks' World School in New Delhi met former High Commissioner H. E. Gopal Baglay in October 2023

EASING TRAVEL

80,421 Visas issued in 2023

302,844 Indian tourists visited Sri Lanka making India the biggest source of tourism

337 Fresh OCI cards issued during 2023



From Scholarships to Skill Sets:

India's Comprehensive Support for Sri Lankan Students

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Nehru Memorial Scholarship Scheme 120 annual scholarships for higher studies in India, covering various disciplines | Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship Scheme 25 scholarships for IT/BE/B Tech studies in top-ranked Indian institutes | Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme 05 ICCR scholarships for PhD courses | Study in India Program 100,000+ Seats and tuition fee waivers for Sri Lankan students in 160+ premier institutes |
| Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship 150 scholarships to Sri Lankan students chosen on basis of performance in O' Level examination and merit-cum-means criteria. Selected scholars receive financial assistance to complete A'Level studies | Maulana Azad Scholarship Scheme 50 scholarships for Masters Level Courses, with preference given to Agriculture, MSc, and M Tech | Nehru Memorial Scholarship Scheme 120 annual scholarships for higher studies in India, covering various disciplines | |
| Ceylon Estate Workers Education Trust (CEWET) 350 scholarships to Sri Lankan students pursuing A/L and University studies. Stipend for A/L students for two years or until completion of studies, and for University students until graduation | Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC) 75% coverage of Institutional Economic Cost (IEC) up to US\$ 4,000 per annum for Undergraduate scholarships to NRIs/PIOs/OCIs in Sri Lanka and globally | Highly Subsidized Self-Financed Slots 1 to 2 slots for Sri Lankan students in reputed government institutions for Undergraduate courses in MBBS, (B.Pharm.), etc. under self-financing arrangements | |

Please visit our website: www.hcicolombo.gov.in for more details



India's technical cooperation program, empowers developing nations by offering fully-funded skill-building opportunities and expert support, aiming to bridge knowledge gaps and foster sustainable development across diverse sector.

ITEC

583 SRI LANKAN OFFICIALS EMPOWERED: INITIATING 16 DIVERSE TRAINING PROGRAMS

402 ANNUAL TRAINING SLOTS: SRI LANKA, A TOP ITEC PARTNER FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT

152 PARTICIPANTS IN 2023: ENGAGING VIRTUALLY & PHYSICALLY ACROSS 13 SECTORS

420 OFFICIALS UPSKILLED: CUSTOMIZED COURSES FOR KEY SECTORS LIKE EDUCATION, POLICE, AND ANTI-CORRUPTION

3 TECH LEADERS TRAINED: SRI LANKA, A TOP ITEC PARTNER FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT

8 JAIPUR FOOT SPECIALISTS: SRI LANKAN PERSONNEL GAIN VALUABLE PROSTHETICS SKILLS



Sri Lanka participated in the Chemical Analysis of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Programme in India in September 2023



ITEC Day 2023