



# PAKISTAN SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP MAGAZINE - June , 2009



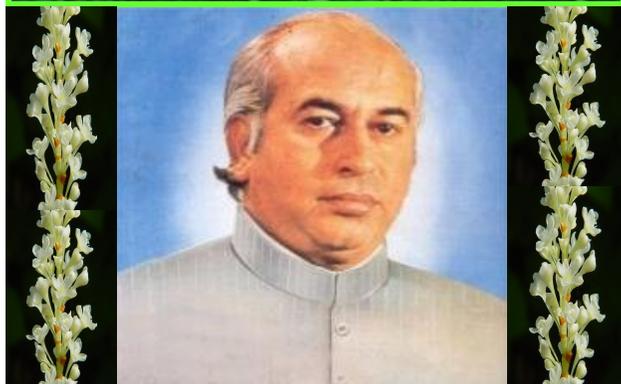
The High Commission of Sri Lanka in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan .

## President Mahinda Rajapaksa Extended his sincere thanks to the Government , President and People of Pakistan for the support during UN Human Council Sessions

After 27 years of destructive conflict, the security forces of my country have at last, succeeded in eliminating the most dreadful terrorist organization in the world. This terrorist-group had caused a large number of deaths and immense destruction to property over the years . The security forces also succeeded in rescuing over 250,000 civilians held hostage and used as a human shield by this terrorist group. In the circumstances , the effort to characterize the operation of the security forces as a breach of international standards was unwarranted and unfair. We will, of course, do everything in our power, with your blessings, to rehabilitate the persons thus rescued and return them to their own homes within the shortest possible time period. Once again let me thank you profusely for your solidarity and support at the UN Human Rights Council.



## A PAGE FROM HISTORY

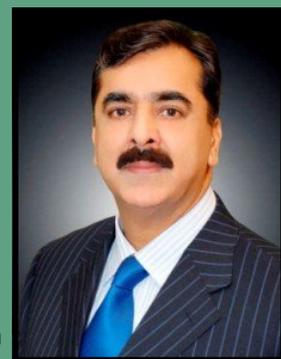


*The President of Pakistan Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had visited Sri Lanka under the invitation of Late Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Madam Sirimao Bandaranaike in December 1975.*

*As invitation given by the Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka Prime Minister Ali Bhutto addressed the Parliament of Sri Lanka on 16th December 1975. It was one of the greatest speech given by a Foreign Dignitary in the Sri Lankan Parliament.*

## PAKISTAN DONATES \$ 70,000 FOR SRI LANKAN IDPs

Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani on Tuesday directed Pakistan 's High Commissioner in Sri Lanka to present a cheque of \$70,000 to the Sri Lankan Government for the internally displaced persons (IDPs) of Sri Lanka. The donation would be made from the special Assistance Programme for South Asia (SAPSA) Fund. The aid would be used for providing medical supplies to the IDPs. The Sri Lankan government had requested the international community for assistance to address the humanitarian crisis caused by the armed conflict with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in the country's north.



**GENERAL ASHFAQ PARVEZ KAYANI, CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF OF PAKISTAN HOSTS A DINNER TO SHARE THE JUBILATION OF SRI LANKAN FRIENDS IN DEFEATING TERRORISM ON 12 JUNE 2009**



The interesting Cartoon has been published in the 'The News' on 30th June 2009. The High Commission of Sri Lanka is grateful for the cartoonist's appreciation on the image of Sri Lanka and the Bi-lateral trade between two countries

**SRI LANKA SMALL MIRACLE- SRI LANKA TOURISM'S NEW BRAND LAUNCHED**

Sri Lanka Tourism officially launched its new logo and tagline "SRI LANKA SMALL MIRACLE". The re-branding is an integral part of the repositioning strategy of Sri Lanka Tourism and comes at an opportune time with the dawning of a new era of peace in Sri Lanka , where there are much expectations and opportunities in the tourism industry.



Lieutenant General Mohammed Hamid Khan President of National Defence University of Pakistan and His Spouse lighting a traditional oil lamp in the Sri Lanka Food Stall. Rear admiral Jayantha Perera (Sri Lanka Navy) and Mrs Perera,, Group Captain Ajantha Silva (Sri Lanka Air Force), Colonel Aruna Jayasekara (Sri Lanka Army) also in the Picture

**CONRATULATIONS! FOR PAKISTAN IN WINNING THE T-20 WORLD CUP 2009**

**Losing to a friend is no pain**

Pakistan's victory in the T-20 World Cup finals at the Mecca of cricket was a prayer answered for that country struggling to repair her badly damaged image following a dastardly terror attack on the Sri Lankan team in Lahore last March. Her cricket will surely receive a tremendous boost from that spectacular win in these troubled times. A heroes' welcome must be awaiting them at home. Cheers!

Sri Lankans who wanted their boys to bring that much coveted cup home were disappointed. But the defeat cannot be too unbearable to them as the



winner is a friend. Losing to a friend is no pain. After all, Pakistan is one of the few countries that helped Sri Lanka win her war on terror.

There was more to Sunday's Sri Lanka Pakistan encounter than cricket. The two countries, as former Pakistan skipper Ramiz Raja has rightly pointed out, demonstrated that 'cricket cannot be brought down by terrorism'. In the cricketing world, the two countries worst affected by terrorism became the champion and runner-up in the T-20 World Cup '09 tournament.

Today, Sri Lanka is free from terrorism thanks to a successful military onslaught against the scourge. And Pakistan has drawn inspiration from Sri Lanka's success story in battling terror and is faring well in war against Taliban. It is hoped that she will also succeed in her endeavour and be in a position to attract international cricket again.

*May the World Cup bring Pakistan good luck!*

*(The Editorial of 'The Island' A leading Sri Lankan Daily News paper On 23 June 2009)*



## Unawatuna, is one of the Beautiful Beaches in Sri Lanka

Unawatuna is just four kilometers further south down Route A2 from the dutch fortress city of Galle. Over 200 kilometres of sun drenched tropical beaches and misty mountain ranges situated over 2000m above sea level are on offer to tempt the connoisseurs of adventure & good living. To top it all off, the people are friendly and the food is delicious. The land sits beside a small river, hence the name Punci Ganga, meaning small or little river. It is situated approxi-

mately two kilometres from the main area of Unawatuna beach. While I stood there several tuk-tuk drivers came by to offer their services. Finally, I found a guy I liked and decided



to go with him. I settled the bill and my Tuk-Tuk driver arrived at 13.30pm to begin the journey north up to Deniyaya. Southern Sri Lanka had provided me with real variety in terms of food, guesthouses and the people I had met and I am hoping for more to come in the next few weeks.

That's why the village name means "fell down." Another chunk is said to have been dropped by Hanuman

to form the Riti-gala Mountain, in the North Central Province. Our Sri Lankan holiday experts have reviewed over 100 traditional Sri Lanka hotels from luxury colonial villas to boutique bungalows.



Online booking for holidays that experience the real Sri Lanka. Designed as a Sri Lankan fishing village, this hotel is a great place to stay, nestled on the south coast bay, just off the beach. Outside the resort, the historic city of Kandy is a short taxi ride as well is

the turtle hatchery. It is a haven for those who crave a beautiful beach and entertaining evenings. This small bay is graced with golden sands and a calm turquoise sea. Enjoy dining at the simple, open beach restaurant which overlooks the ocean. The Unawatuna Beach Resort is small and unfussy with comfortable rooms that are decorated with rattan furniture and have adequate facilities and services.

Although no rooms actually have views of the beach, the beautiful golden sands and turquoise sea is a short walk away. There



are also PADI certification classes and dives arranged from the resort itself. One of the hardest-hit beach towns on the East Coast was Unawatuna, just south of the city of Galle. There on a curving stretch of beach was a bar and restaurant named The Happy Banana. You can enjoy the sound of the ocean and get a great view of the Unawatuna Bay from the Rendezvous Restaurant located right on the beach. You can spend many hours in this colourful, well furnished restaurant and be pampered by a unique, friendly service by a smiling staff. Now the sea has eaten into YADEHIMULLA area, where there is virtually NO

sandy beach anymore, as the beach area is housing unauthorized buildings put up by political henchmen



of Government party politicians of the area. Most restaurants are above 10 feet from waters edge that is lapping up on granite boulders dumped by the Restaurant owners to save their buildings most of which are cracking up on the sea side. Open air bar adjacent to the restaurant and the beach bar provide a range of drinks including wide variety of cocktails Conference and banqueting facilities up to 400 guests.



## The Hikkaduwa Beach is a Paradise of coral reefs

The Hikkaduwa beach is a paradise of coral reefs. Hikkaduwa beach is highly picturesque and arguably the most beautiful stretch of beach in Ceylon. Located



on the southern coasts of the country, the Hikkaduwa Beach is regarded as one of the most popular beaches in Sri Lanka. Visitors coming from the various countries to the Hikkaduwa Beach are often seen indulging themselves into a number of activities. The Bonefesta corals found in the Galle Unawatuna coastal area is considered the most valuable coral rocks. There are 35 special kinds of live corals can be found in this area. I took a bunch of pictures, mostly of sunsets, snorkeled but nearly drowned in a monsoon, and rode a little scooter down to the Galle Fort and Unawatuna beach. Mostly I laid around the beach and crisped up my face.

Hikkaduwa a town nestled on the south coast of Sri Lanka is located in the Southern Province, about twenty kilometers to the South-West of Galle. It is a renowned tourist destination, famed for its beaches and corals, situated in the Galle District. Hikkaduwa – View from Coral Gardens Hotel Sri Lanka Tourism made its first steps to arrest this situation with the Hikkaduwa Beach Fest which proved to be a successful venture in this direction. The majority of the rain usually falls around May and around October in South Western Sri Lanka although, being an island, it could rain any time during the year. There are only a few days in the year when it

rains solidly – otherwise, it just comes down in a short sharp downpour.

A generous spread of international cuisine is well complemented by exotic Sri Lankan dishes. The “international” element is accentuated every night with a special “ethnic” corner.

You can do lots more in Sri Lanka than just surf. You can try Scuba Diving, Go in lush foliage, rice fields and villages or Extensive wildlife and beautiful surroundings. The world famous southern coastal town of Hikkaduwa, is all agog with preparations, to hold ‘Hikkaduwa Beach Fest’ 08’ an initiative of Sri Lanka Tourism. The sun-kissed beaches of Hikkaduwa will vibrate to the pulsating rhythms of DJs, dancers, and musicians from July 30 – August 3. The Jungle Retreat, Hikkaduwa is a beautiful self-contained upstairs apartment that is part of a home owned by a lovely Sri Lankan family. It is 2km inland from the coast and is west facing for gorgeous sunset views over paddy fields.

It is a haven for divers and swimmers as it provides water activities like snorkelling, diving and more. The glass-bottom boats are a popular attraction for



the spectacular view of the coral reefs that they provide. A large number of wrecks have floundered off the coast in this area over the years, adding to the range of dive sites available. The diving season in the south west runs from November to April and there are a number of well-established diving centres from which to choose with Blue Deep being one of the best! The reefs just offshore attract divers and snorkelers, but the coral is beat-up and the glass-bottomed boats are too numerous for our taste.