



PAKISTAN SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP MAGAZINE January 2010



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

President Mahinda Rajapaksa re-elected



The President of Sri Lanka, Mahinda Rajapaksa trounced the Opposition consensus candidate and former Army Chief, retired General Sarath Fonseka, by a huge margin of over 17 per cent.

As per the final result notified on the official web site of the island-nation's Department of Elections, Mr. Rajapaksa obtained 6,015,934 votes (57.88 per cent) and Gen. Fonseka 4,173,185 votes (40.15 per cent).

The margin of victory proved the predictions of a close contest wrong. District-wise

results showed that Mr. Rajapaksa retained his enormous rural base and the impact of the commander-turned-politician was confined to urban pockets, barring Colombo district.

A beaming Rajapaksa in his first informal interaction with the media, outside the office of the Elections Commission, said during his second stint he would strive for development and reconciliation among the majority Sinhalese and the minority Tamil and Muslim communities as promised in his manifesto.

A PAGE FROM HISTORY



Former Pakistan Foreign Secretary **Mr. Agha Shahi** with a High level delegation visited on 03rd and 04th July 1975 to Sri Lanka on an invitation extended by W.T. Jayasinghe, Foreign Secretary. Also during his visit he paid courtesy call on Late Hon Prime Minister Madam Srimavo Bandaranaike.

ONLINE CHECK-IN ON SRI LANKAN FLIGHTS IN PAKISTAN

Sri Lankan Airlines' passengers no longer need to queue up to check-in at Karachi International Airport, with the launch of the airline's Online check-in facility.

Passengers from Pakistan now even have the luxury of choosing their own seats on the aircraft, through the remarkably



easy to use system." Pakistan is an important market for us and Online Check-In is a major initiative that is part of our ongoing plans to improve the services for everyone traveling

on Sri Lankan Airlines" said Mr. Dillip De Alwis, Sri Lankan Airlines Country Manager Pakistan.



Pakistan attaches importance to ties with Sri Lanka

Interior Minister Rehman Malik said, Pakistan attaches great importance to its friendly relations with Sri Lanka and ties between both the countries are strengthening with the passage of time.



He was talking to Sri Lankan High Commissioner in Pakistan Air Chief Marshal ®

Jayalath Weerakkody, who called on him here at the Ministry of Interior.

They discussed matters of mutual interest including the problems of Sri Lankan citizens in obtaining visa. Weerakkody informed the Minister about the services of the National Database Registration Authority (NADRA) in Sri Lanka and appreciated the Authority's role in helping the Sri Lanka Government.

The Sri Lankan High Commissioner invited Minister Rehman Malik to undertake a visit to Colombo.

South asian games in Dhaka created more friendship and understanding among the regional nations










The 2010 South Asian Games is a major multi-sport event,



which took place from January 29 to February 9, 2010 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. This was the third time that the Bangladeshi capital hosted the Games, thus becoming the 4th city to host the Games

multiple times (after Colombo, Kathmandu and Islamabad). It is also expected

to be the largest sporting event ever in the history of Bangladesh.

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
 India	<u>90</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>174</u>
 Pakistan	<u>19</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>80</u>
 Bangladesh	<u>18</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>97</u>
 Sri Lanka	<u>16</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>105</u>
 Nepal	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>36</u>
 Afghanistan	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>32</u>
 Bhutan	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
 Maldives	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
 TOTAL	<u>158</u>	<u>158</u>	<u>215</u>	<u>531</u>



SRI LANKA ORIGIN BIRDS

Sri Lanka is a birds paradise with 435 resident species. There are 26 endemic birds. Most of them are found in the wet zone. The winter migrants come from distant Siberia and western Europe. The reservoirs attract vast number of water birds. The forests attract many other species. There are many birds sanctuaries across the little island 270 km by 140 km in size.

Kumana is situated in east Coast, Bundala, Kalamatiya area is in the southern coast,



Sinharaja Rain Forest, Udawatta Kale, Bellanwila, Muthurajawela, Minneriya, Kitulgala and Minipe are other important Bird watching locations. In addition you can see birds throughout the country in pockets of forests, lakes, lagoons and river sides during your travel.

Low Land Dry Zone Birds

Include Malabar Pied Hornbill (*Psittacula kraman*), Drongo (*Dicrurus adsmilis*), Racquet Tailed

Drongo (*Dicrurus para-*



dieus), Little Green Bee Eater (*Merops Orientalis*), Peafowl (*Pavo Cristata*). The Dryzone Tanks are shallow man made reservoirs forms very important habitat for birds. The large Pot-billed Pelican (*Pelicanus Philippensis*), Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*), Cattle Egret (*Babulcus*



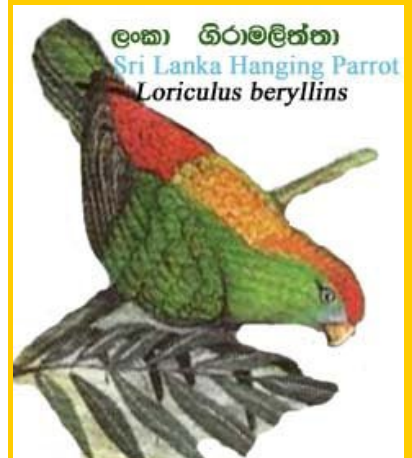
ibis), Red Wattled Lapwing (*Vanellus indicus*), Peasant Tailed Jacna (*Hydrophasianus Chirurgus*)

The Wet and Highland zone
The Wet and Highland zone

birds has rich variety of birds only found in these areas other than common birds. Many of the 26 Endemic birds including two members



of parrots family are found in Sinharaja, Kitulgala, Udawatta Kale. The Ceylon Lorikeet (*Loriculus Berillinus*), The endemic Layard Parakeet (*Psittacula calthorpae*), The Gackel or Hill Myna (*Gracula religiosa*), The Cey-



lon Grackel (*Gracula ptilogenys*), The endemic Yellow Eared Bullbul (*Pycnonotus penicillatus*)



The Ceylon junglefowl - An endemic bird of Sri Lanka

Common Names: The Ceylon junglefowl (E) Walikukula (S), Kattu-koli (T)
 Scientific Name: Gallus lafayettii
 Status: Endemic / National bird of Sri Lanka.

The Ceylon junglefowl is distributed throughout Sri Lanka, wherever jungle or dense scrub of any extent is to be found, but it is nowadays common only in the wilder parts of the dry zone. It spends its life in the forest or its outskirts, never venturing from cover. However, in wet weather, it likes to frequent open

places, such as roadsides or glades, for the purpose of feeding free from drippings from the trees. Most of the daylight hours are spent on the ground. In the evening, they fly up into the trees to roost - usually singly, but

sometimes in pairs or family parties. Unless disturbed



they will use the same perch for a considerable period of time.

The Junglefowl feeds on grain, weed-seeds, berries, various succulent leaves and buds and a large pro-

portion of small animals, such as crickets, centipedes and termites: the latter form the main food of the chicks.

The main breeding season of the Jungle fowl is in the first quarter of each year, but often a second clutch is laid in August-September, and breeding may go on throughout the year. The chicks are very precocious, learning to scratch as soon as they leave

the nest. However, they instantly scatter and hide at the mother's alarm call.

Dear Readers,

The High Commission wishes the visitors to the newly created High Commission website www.slhcpakistan.org

Your comments on this new website will much be highly appreciated