



# Insight



## To Speak Or Not To Speak



Let it not be forgotten that 'precious words captured are moments that are effectively treasured'.

Do words make for a forceful lecture or is it the manner in which the words are delivered that matter?

The gift of the gab is the best trophy a human can be crowned with, majestically. Likewise the BeeGees did become kings of the musical world way back in the 60's with their famous single track, titled, 'Words' that rocked the era.

An important factor in speaking is to know oneself and your body language will automatically follow... the speaker as we can see has the power to stimulate ones heart, mind, action, deeds, and swim the oceans deep and fly high through the skies, effortlessly.

Language is the oldest and the most powerful and successful weapon in the world. It can conquer the entire Universe and can also bring down the whole superstructure of any society, even globally. Speech can produce its fruitful blossoming fragrance if great care is taken in preparation and presentation. A speech has two vital components. The message and the messenger!

A speech, in any language, can be delivered with its flowery vocabulary or

## SL Embassy, SLES Fete Open House Ifthar



Abdul Ageed Mohammed Marleen, Sri Lankan Ambassador, second left, Nepalese Ambassador Hamid Ansari, third left, Mr. Sabarullah Khan extreme left, seen at the Sri Lankan Ifthar party in Riyadh held on Friday Sep 18, 2008

The Sri Lankan Embassy in cooperation with the Sri Lankan Expatriates' Society (SLES) hosted an 'open house Ifthar (Breakfast) party during Ramadan where more than 1,000 Sri Lankans from all walks of life participated in the program held at the Embassy premises. Religious discourses on the significance of Ramadan were delivered by Moulavi Nalim and Nisthar in Sinhalese and Tamil respectively. Nepalese Ambassador Hamid Ansari was also present, while Maldivian Ambassador Hussein Shihab sent his greetings and good wishes to the Sri Lankan community on this auspicious month.

Speaking on the occasion, Abdul Ageed Mohammed Marleen, Sri Lankan Ambassador, said that the Ifthar was arranged with generous financial contributions from prominent community members and the Embassy staff. "The whole idea of this function is to provide a common platform for the community members to meet and greet one another," the envoy said. He also took the opportunity of thanking the Saudi Government for the donation of 200 metric tons of dates to Sri Lankan Muslims for Ramadan. He said that the consignment was handed to the Petroleum Minister Abdul Hameed Fowzie by the Saudi Ambassador Abdulaziz Abdul Rahman Al Jammaz in Colombo on the first day of the holy month". These dates were distributed among the mosques throughout the island where Ifthar programs were conducted during the holy month.



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## Business Opportunities

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### Plants, Flowers, Cut leaves

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### Canned Food Items, Spices

Mr. Timochin Hassan, Manager, Altoga Trading Establishment Tel: 03 8341928 Ext 224 Fax: 03 8341894 Email: [altogagroup@hotmail.com](mailto:altogagroup@hotmail.com)

### High Fat DC, Spices

Mr. Irfan Yaqub, Sales Manager M.A. Al-Azzaz Establishment P.O. Box 712, Riyadh 11383, KSA Tel: +966 1 2653971 x103, Fax: 2654072 Email: [irfan@alazzaz.com](mailto:irfan@alazzaz.com)

### Floor Tiles, Wall Tiles

Mr. Adel Ahmed Bagib, General Manager Tiles World Establishment P.O. Box 43118 Riyadh 11561 Tel: +966 1 4741516 Ext 11 Fax: +966 1 45740956 Email: [adel79@hotmail.com](mailto:adel79@hotmail.com)

## Kandy: The Capital In The Hills



**Kandy**, is the English name for the city of *Maha Nuvara* (Senkadagalapura) in the central hill country of Sri Lanka. It is the capital of the Central Province and Kandy District. It lies in the midst of hills in the Kandy Valley which crosses an area of tropical plantations, mainly tea. Kandy is one of the most scenic cities in Sri Lanka.

The city is of both an administrative and religious significance. The name Kandy is derived from the Sinhalese *ka'da u'da pas ra'ra*, literally "the five districts on the mountain".

The Portuguese shortened this to "Candea", using the name for both the kingdom and its capital Senkadagalapura. In Sinhala, Kandy is called *Maha Nuvara* (pronounced [maha nuvare]), meaning "Great City" or "Capital", although this is most often shortened to *Nuvara*.

Historical records suggest that Kandy was first established by the King Wickramabahu (1357-1374 CE) near the Watapuluwa area, north of the present city, and named *Senkadagalapura* at the time, although some scholars suggest the name *Katubulu Nuwara* may also have been used.

Kandy is also popular because of the annual festival and pageant known as the Kandy Esala Perahera which involves several days of pomp and grand processions through the streets of the city.

## TV Crew visit to SL

Reported by Khaled Al Dagestani

A group of journalists and television crew visited Sri Lanka in July to film a documentary on Sri Lanka.

The team consisted of Faisal Al Otaibi, Director/Producer, Mobarak Al Osaimi, Writer, Khaled Al Dagestani, Coordinator and Taha Assaleh, Cameraman, all representing Media Insight Television Productions filming Faces & Places, a television documentary series to be broadcasted during the Holy Month of Ramadan on Saudi TV Channel 1.

Their journey included countries such as Switzerland, South Africa, Turkey and Norway among others, Sri Lanka alone will have three episodes filmed in different locations such as Colombo, Kandy and Nuwara Eliya. The team visited a Spice Garden and an Elephant Orphanage and also travelled along the southern coast to Galle where they filmed the Dutch Fortress.

The team was in awe when they visited Sigiriya, the fortress in the sky and they believe that it is one of the wonders of the world.

All in all they enjoyed Sri Lanka and would like to encourage people to visit and enjoy its wonders and natural beauty. They also considered Sri Lankans to be some of the friendliest and helpful people they have ever met.

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The October issue of Insight is sponsored by  
**Lalith de Silva, STC, Riyadh**  
Printed at Al Raja Press, Riyadh  
+966-1-453-8811 (tel), 470-1167 (fax)  
Mobile: 050-323-1721



even in its spicy adjectives that may be hard on ones emotions and ears. Weaving any kind of speech in any language with either a fork or a silvery tongue depends on its director.

One need not be a statesman, a cheer leader, or a head of an organization to make a good speech and present an eloquent and effective statement. The key elements of a good presentation are in the quality of a crystal clear voice with its flawless variation, conviction, strong content, accompanied by good eye contact.

Speeches which are captivating are those that dish out eloquent words with silken effect. A speaker should speak from his heart using the quality of language that stirs the audience emotionally and quenches the listener's absorbing interest.

A speech that is presented should contain material that has substance with strong beliefs. It is always best to speak on any topic with good understanding in order to be an effective and versatile speaker. Volume is another factor that must be kept in mind. A good speaker does not need to shrill the audience with loud rhetoric. Control of tone and pater is a reflection of the emotion that the speech contains. Smart and presentable attire also has its impact on the audience.

An energetic presenter involves passion in his content, confidence in knowledge, and an appropriate and pertinent use of humor.

## Vehicle Imports For Overseas Workers

The Department of Import and Export Control in Sri Lanka have announced a scheme for the import of vehicles for expatriates under the Foreign Exchange Earned Abroad Program. The scheme allows the import of vehicles by Sri lankan's working overseas who have earned and remitted foreign exchange back to Sri Lanka.

Details of the Scheme are as follows:-

### **MOTOR VEHICLES 3-5 YEARS OLD**

- Vehicle should be registered in the name of the applicant and used by him for a minimum of **ONE** year
- Vehicle should not be older than **5 years** from its first date of registration
- A License Fee of **3%** of the CIF value of the vehicle is payable

### **MOTOR VEHICLES 5-10 YEARS OLD**

- Vehicle should be registered in the name of the applicant and used by him for a minimum of **THREE** years
- Vehicle should not be older than **10 years** from its first date of registration
- A License Fee of **6%** of the CIF value of the vehicle is payable **See page 3**

## 'VICTORY', The Movie



By Alex Newman in Sri Lanka for SNNI & The View Magazine (published by permission of View Magazine, Australia)

The most talked about Bollywood film in recent months which stars Australian cricketers legends such as Brett Lee, Shane Warne & Alan Border and including all of the World's most famous cricketers suddenly turned its' attention to Sri Lanka for the final scenes & to Sri Lanka's new Tourism Ambassador Alston Koch as he worked behind the scenes with this famous production in Sri Lanka currently making the news in the celluloid world of Hollywood as well.

'Sri Lanka was invaded by tourists during my visit to perform at the Hikkaduwa Beach Festival along with some of the World's most popular Disc Jockeys and it was good to see the hotels packed predominately by Indian tourists and cricket lovers and by European & local tourists alike down south from Colombo right through to Galle.

The legendary Chandran Rutnam and Sri Lanka Film Locations were commissioned with all the local arrangements by the 'Victory' production company in India and this film will prove to be a huge boost to tourism in Sri Lanka especially when the film is finally released all over the world' said Alston Koch when interviewed by the Indian media & Ten Sports in a media conference before his departure to Australia.

'My first job was to make Ajantha Mendis the new 'miracle' bowler comfortable with his inclusion in the film and his understanding of the role he had to play as he had only days before 'demolished' the Indian batsmen in the 'real' matches and the film crew being Indian were totally mesmerized and bowled over too by his charming smile & pleasant demeanor.'

Alston Koch was featured in various roles, firstly with Sanath Jayasuriya and Ajantha Mendis,, then as an interpreter and later as the presenter giving away the prestigious 'Man of Match' award to the Indian film star Harman Baweja. The film 'VICTORY' is scheduled for release at the end of the year.

## Farewell Dinner For SriLankan Staff



American Express Chief Executive Officer, Priyan Attygalle, third right, and COO SABB Securities, Jehaan Ismail, extreme left, hosted a farewell reception to the outgoing SriLankan Airlines Sales Manager for Central Province Fawzan Fareid, fifth right and Station Manager Surendra Rajalingam, second right, at the AlHamra Compound, during the month of Ramadan. Ambassador Abdul Ageed Mohamed Marleen is seen second left and Mr. Sabarullah Khan, fourth right. **Page 2**

## Sudden Deaths: Compensation Paid To Expat Families

Foreign Minister Rohitha Bogollagama distributed compensation cheques under the fourth stage to 11 close relatives of those died while they were serving abroad.

Minister Bogollagama handed over the cheques to the families of the victims at a ceremony held at his Ministry.

The compensation was paid to the families of those were employed in Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Minister Bogollagama addressing the gathering after handing over the compensation cheques to the victims' families said his Ministry is committed not only to safeguard the privileges and the rights of the migrant workers but also to look into the needs of their relatives in Sri Lanka.

There are nearly 1.2 million migrant workers in the Middle East countries and they are contributing to Rs. 2.5 billion to Sri Lanka's national economy every year.

He said that nearly two million Sri Lankans are residing in foreign countries out of them some have obtained citizenship of those countries. The Foreign Ministry has a bounden duty to look into their grievances, Minister Bogollagama added.

He said a few authorities have a giant responsibility to cater to those. He said some underage children have been sent to foreign countries violating foreign employment regulations.

President Mahinda Rajapaksa has built up a strong foreign policy under which every move has been taken to safeguard those faced with tragedies. Sri Lanka has obtained 100,000 employment opportunities in Libya, the Minister also said.

## Vehicle Imports ctd frm pg 2

### **CONDITIONS:**

- Only Right Hand Drive Vehicles will be permitted for import
- Licensee must be present with passport for clearance of vehicle
- Vehicle must be registered in the name of the Licensee and cannot be transferred in Sri Lanka for 3 years
- Licensee is entitled to import a vehicle, under this scheme, once in five years only

Website:

<http://www.imexport.gov.lk/downloads.php?Sid=1&Lid=1&Did=5>

## SriLankan Appoints First Lady Captain



SriLankan recently marked a significant milestone in the country's aviation history when Captain Anusha Siriratne was appointed as the National Carrier's first Lady Captain.

Manoj Gunawardena, the airline's CEO, said: "Our heartiest congratulations to Capt. Anusha Siriratne. This is a significant event for the National Carrier. Sri Lanka has been in the forefront of women's empowerment and it is certainly high time that a Sri Lankan woman took command of an airliner."

Interestingly, Capt. Anusha and her husband Capt. Hemantha Siriratne also made history as the first husband-wife pilot duo in the country. Capt. Hemantha received his Captain's appointment earlier this year.

Captain Anusha is modest about her appointment and brushed off her achievement, which had been her childhood ambition.

She also manages her career and her role as a mother very well – her daughter Anika is now five. She took a year off from flying when Anika was born.

Capt. Anusha joined SriLankan as a Cadet Pilot in June 1998. She served as a Second Officer on the Lockheed L1011 Tristar fleet, and in 1999 was promoted to First Officer.

A past student of Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya and of Ladies College, she obtained her Private Pilot's License at CDE Aviation, and her Commercial Pilot's License in Texas. Prior to joining the National Carrier, she had a short stint as an Instructor at Sky Cabs in Ratmalana.

Anusha is the daughter of the late Zaheer Mohamed and Kerima Mohamed (nee Musafer), from Kollupitiya.

## Peoples Bank Launches Forex Deposit Scheme

Sri Lanka's state run People's Bank has started a new foreign exchange deposit scheme .The aim is to open up investment opportunities to non residents interested in investing in Sri Lanka, thereby gaining value for their investment as well as contributing to Sri Lanka's economic Development.

Sri Lankan banks have been allowed to run a separate foreign exchange book earlier with both deposits and loans matched with foreign currency, with depositors allowed to take money out of the country without exchange control restrictions. Under the new scheme, deposits could also be opened in Sri Lanka rupees, which is a high yielding currency or in US Dollars, Sterling Pounds, Euros, Australian Dollars, Canadian Dollars, Hong Kong Dollars, Singapore Dollars, Japanese Yen, Swedish Korers and Swiss Franc with a minimum deposit equal to 10,000 US Dollars.

The new Special Foreign Investment Deposit Accounts, will be open to organizations and persons resident outside Sri Lanka, foreign institutional investors, country funds and mutual funds. The deposits can be placed for 1, 3 ,6 and 12 months for foreign currencies and 3,6 and 12 months for local currency.

## Sri Lanka Wins Spirit Of Cricket Award



It was a day to celebrate for the Sri Lankans, as their National cricket team's new arrival Ajantha Mendis became the first Sri Lankan to win the Emerging Player of the Year award at the fifth ICC Awards Ceremony in Dubai on Wednesday. The National team, meanwhile, walked away with the prestigious 'Spirit of Cricket award', presented to the team that has upheld the values of the sport to the maximum.

The award was presented to Jayawardene by Tim May, the chief executive of the Federation of International Cricketers' Association (FICA) **Page 3**