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இலங்கை சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசின் உயர் ஸ்தானிகராலயம்

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

Message

I am pleased to convey my best wishes and deepest appreciation to the organizers of the Daily Positive (D+) Carnival South – East Asia 2013. The initiatives taken by the organizers to discover and share more positive news and stories on the South East Asia are commendable. I am sure that the Carnival 2013 will positively and successfully convey the happiness and pleasure from South – East Asia through its series of events and celebrations throughout March 2013.

The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka is an island of 65,610 Km² and it is one of the oldest and most vibrant democracies in South Asia. Sri Lanka is a multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-cultural society with approximately 21 million people with a recorded history of more than 2500 years rich in heritage, culture and values. The Foreign Policy of Sri Lanka has been guided by non-alignment and therefore Sri Lanka enjoys close and friendly relations with all Member States of the United Nations.

The Government of Sri Lanka under the visionary leadership of His Excellency the President Mahinda Rajapakse, is able to continue to move forward in many areas of development across the country after the successful elimination of terrorism in Sri Lanka. The massive infrastructure development projects that are being implemented throughout the country is a result of increased public investment expenditure channelled towards value creation, to alleviate poverty, to create an enabling environment to facilitate enterprise development and promote private investments while attracting foreign investment, to steer Sri Lanka towards becoming a middle income country with high investment for education and a literacy rate of over 94%. Sri Lanka has become knowledge and a human resource hub to the rest of the world. The Tourism sector is one with enormous potential, as reflected in Lonely Planet's recent selection of Sri Lanka as the world's number one travel destination for 2013. Due to peace and stability in Sri Lanka, we are able to host several significant international events such as 58th annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference, both 50 and 20 over Cricket World Cup, Galle Dialogue Maritime Conference and the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in 2013. There are a large number of regionally and internationally significant groups such as Shangri La hotel chain, Sheraton Hotels, the Krrish Group, Indocean Developer are interested in making large investments in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is steadily moving towards becoming the "Wonder of Asia" a goal set out by the President of Sri Lanka H.E. Mahinda Rajapakse. There is no doubt that this carnival will give an opportunity for the youths to learn not only about the South- East Asian nations, with whom Sri Lanka has friendly relations, but also about Sri Lanka.

May I wish the organizers and success of Daily Positive (D+) Carnival South – East Asia 2013.


Admiral Thisara Samarasinghe
High Commissioner

25th March 2013

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