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## SL should follow Mandela's example for reconciliation - Clegg

Dec 11, London: Sri Lanka should follow Mandela's example to bring peace and unity to the country's people, the UK government suggests. Paying tribute to the former South African leader, late Nelson Mandela in the House of Commons of UK parliament on Monday, the Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg said Sri Lanka should emulate South Africa's truth and reconciliation process. Clegg said that Nelson Mandela laid down a "blueprint" that has made it possible for other divided communities, such as in Northern Ireland, to reject violence, overcome their differences and make a fresh beginning. "That is why I hope, in communities where

people are still struggling to replace violence and conflict with peace and stability, that the principles of forgiveness and reconciliation that Mandela embodied are followed by others too," he said. He noted that recently the House debated the alleged human rights abuses in Sri Lanka. "Surely there could be no better way for that country to heal its wounds and bring peace and unity to all its people than to follow Mandela's example and emulate South Africa's truth and reconciliation process," the deputy Prime Minister of Britain said. Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa, already showing interest in learning more about the Truth and Reconciliation

Commission of South Africa and its process and the outcome, discussed the South Africa's model with that country's President Jacob Zuma when the two leaders met on the sidelines of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Colombo last month. President Zuma conveyed South Africa's willingness to improve and expand the already existing good bilateral relations. The President expressing government's readiness to strengthen bilateral relations said that he was interested in learning more about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of South Africa and its process and the outcome. "Developed countries have their own views on affairs of other countries.

However, we need to look at things for ourselves before coming to conclusions", President Zuma said. While welcoming President Rajapaksa's idea of learning more about the Truth Commission, he pointed out that exchange of delegations between the two countries is needed to facilitate the process. Referring to the nearly 30 years of terrorist war, President Rajapaksa said that there were killings and destruction almost every day during the period. "Even all Tamil politicians and intellectuals were killed by the LTTE", the President recalled. "With the end of the conflict no terrorist-related incident was reported during the past four years," he observed.

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### 26th FESTIVAL OF CRICKET 2014

will be held: on  
**Sunday 20th July 2014**

at  
**Merchant Taylor School Ground**  
Sandy Lodge Lane, Northwood,  
Middlesex HA6 2HT.  
The Annual General Meeting of the Festival of Cricket was held on 27th October 2013 at Lihiniya Restaurant Cricklewood Broadway where the Executive Officers were elected for the year 2013/2014.  
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