



# NEWSLANKA



WE CARRY THE BROADEST SELECTION OF SL NEWS FOR THE BROADEST CROSS-SECTION OF SRI LANKANS

Established since **1991**. FREE, WEEKLY NEWSPAPER.

THURSDAY - 02 NOVEMBER 2017

T: 020 7978 9030

E: info@newslanka.net

ISSUE 1352

## Three major steps regarding constitutional reforms

(www.president.gov.lk) - "The government will take three important steps on constitutional reforms and to prevent incorrect information which creates incorrect ideas about the proposed new constitution", says President Maithripala Sirisena. "Accordingly, the government will call for an all party conference, with participation of the political parties represented in Parliament, a conference of

all religious leaders and another conference of scholars and intellectuals who are interested in this national issue", he said. "At these conferences the issues pertaining to the proposed new constitution can be discussed and unnecessary clauses could be removed and new clauses could be included, if required", he further said.

venerable Maha Sangha, other religious leaders, scholars and intellectuals to sit around one table and discuss about this matter", he said. "It is everyone's responsibility to ensure that the sound of gunfire is not heard once again. Everybody should take the responsibility to build the economy of all the people in a fair society", the President emphasized.

The convention was organized by the Ministry of National Coexistence, Dialogue and Official Languages. The President presented certificates



for the best coexistence associations. Ven. Mahagalkadawara Pugnasara Thero and Maha Sangha, other religious leaders, former President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, Minister Mano Ganeshan and the State Minister A. H. M. Fawzie were among those participated in this occasion.

### Congratulations Evanjelin Rajakaruna Miss Teen Great Britain 2017/2018(see p17)



The President was speaking at the National Convention on Reconciliation, participated by associations and national civil society activists, held today (Oct. 30) at the Sugathadasa Stadium.

He said the country's problems cannot be solved through the protests carried out by being separated into parties. "People and the country cannot be progressed through the divisions and separations. Everybody should get together and, work with understanding and find solutions. That is what, required for the country today", the President said.

"Many people who mess up the problems don't have any ability to solve them. I invite the

### Sanga not in favour of four-day Tests

(hindustantimes.com) - Kumar Sangakkara has rejected the idea of four-day Test cricket, with the former Sri Lanka cricket captain stating that he has started to lose track of the many changes that have been introduced in the sport.

"Can you imagine an Ashes series where a Test match only goes four days? To have all of that watered down into four days is a bit of a blow, but I understand the whole importance of commercial viability and the economics of it. There is also tradition and history to consider. There have been so many changes over the last five or six years to cricket, even I am losing track," Sangakkara told Sportsday Radio, according to Fox Sports.

"I'm not a big fan of four day Tests. I understand the thought process behind it to try and have fans interested and attract them so they don't have to spend so much time. It's also an advantage for local TV networks and sponsors.

"But at the end of the day Test cricket has

always been defined as five days. Records have been established, history has been made over five days," he added.

Sangakkara said the expansion of T20 cricket, with several countries staging their own tournaments, has broadened the scope for a

player to make a future in cricket. "Cricket has changed over the last few years, especially with franchise cricket coming in.... SEE P30



### Niranjan de S Deva Aditya, MEP, receives GG2 Award

Senior Conservative MEP, Nirj Deva, has received the GG2 Editor's Award for his "Outstanding contribution to British and ethnic minority communities in his 25 years of public service."

Mr Deva was presented the award at the GG2 Leadership Asian Media Awards - an annual gala dinner event - attended by 800 people drawn from the highest levels of British Society together with the Deputy Prime Minister, Damian Green, Mayor of London Sadiq Khan, several British billionaires', Members of the House of Lords and Commons and the Diplomatic Corps.

The awards aim to highlight and showcase ethnic talent and leadership in the UK. Presented by the Editor-in-Chief of Asian Media Group, the Editor's Award recognizes his lifelong public service and relentless campaigning.

In particular his signal pioneering and ground-breaking achievements included being the:

First post-colonial Asian elected as a Conservative MP to the House of

Commons 1992.

First non white Asian in the British Government PPS 1996.

First Asian born MEP to be elected to European Parliament 1999.

First Asian Deputy Lieutenant appointed 1985 representing Her Majesty The Queen (HM Lord Lieutenancy of London). First Asian to be nominated by a major Political Group (ECR) to be President of the European Parliament 2010.

He is the only Asian Conservative MP to be at elected 5 times at a national level and to serve in public office now for more than 23 years.

A hugely respected figure in the South Asian community, Mr Deva has broken barriers throughout his career and spoken on issues close to his heart. As an MEP he works tirelessly on issues from human rights and trade to international development and humanitarian affairs. In particular he pioneered over 118 Legislative Acts including those to incorporate Property Rights into European Union Law for Development, to

incorporate into EU Law grant aid as leveraged funds in partnership with the Private Sector turning Aid into Investments and is currently now the only International politician endeavouring to draft a Peace Treaty for a denuclearized zone. He was born in Sri Lanka to a business and political family. His grandfather was a Senator in Sri Lanka's first Independent Parliament and a prominent businessman; and his father a famous pioneering Eye Surgeon. He came to Britain to study aeronautical engineering and has never looked back since combining his roles in business and politics.

Mr Deva said: "I am honoured and humbled to receive this award. It is a true privilege to count myself an active member of this community, which has always given me so much, which has inspired, supported and driven

me. I will continue to try to pay back this enormous debt of gratitude that I owe and to promote the very best of Britain."



Senior Conservative MEP, Nirj Deva

**REGGIE FERNANDO - IS NOW IN COLOMBO**  
Give him a call on 00 94 11 2 500 124



**Taprobane Travel**  
Great offers on flights & hotels.  
See page 3.  
0207 434 3921

Fly to **Colombo** from **£407**  
Call 0208 748 3535  
See back page for more details.

**LycaFly**  
CALL US 24x7 on 0207 132 32 32  
Colombo Best offers! SEE PAGE 9

**FAST CASH**  
MONEY IN MINUTES TO SRI LANKA  
See Page 7

SEE P11  
**Brightsun TRAVEL**  
24x7: 0203 603 2044

**NEWSLANKA COLOMBO OFFICE: + 94 77 446 40 90**  
CALL CHANDIKA NOW  
We can accept payment in SL rupees & we can help with artwork.  
Tell your friends.

## FREE PERSONAL CLASSIFIEDS

NOW YOU CAN ADVERTISE YOUR PERSONAL PROPERTY RENTALS IN UK & SRI LANKA, ECT...

**FREE OF CHARGE**

AND IF YOU ARE A BUSINESS, IT ONLY COSTS £6 PER WEEK.  
FOR FULL DETAILS GO TO PAGE 26 OR WWW.NEWSLANKA.NET