



NEWSLANKA



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

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

THURSDAY - 24 MAY 2018

T: 020 7978 9030

E: info@newslanka.net

ISSUE 1381

10 dead, over 65,000 affected by severe weather

By Maheesha Mudugamuwa

(Island .lk) - The death toll from stormy weather rose to ten while eight other persons were injured. More than 65,000 people from 18,079 families in 19 districts have been affected and 6,090 people (1,625 families) removed to 80 safe locations, according to Disaster Management Centre (DMC). The DMC said 918 houses had been damaged and 19 others destroyed. The highest number of affected people was reported from Ratnapura District; it was 13,033.

Many areas around the country affected by floods and heavy showers for several days, experienced a sunny day yesterday, but the Meteorology Department said the showers would continue today and tomorrow. As the heavy rain has stopped, the water levels of several rivers subsided but the situation in most of the flood hit areas had not come back to normal.

Met Department Director (Weather forecasting) Anusha Warnasooriya told The Island that heavy showers would occur today as well at some places in Sabaragamuwa, Central, Western and North-western provinces and in Galle and Matara districts. Fairly strong gusty winds up to 40-45 kmph was be expected during thunder showers

and also urged the public to take necessary precautions to minimize damages caused by lightning.

According to the Irrigation Department, the water levels of the main rivers had reached spill levels in certain areas due to heavy rains by yesterday evening.

The main rivers including Nilwala, Gin, Kalu and Kelani and Attanagalu Oya and Ma Oya are reported to be overflowing in some places. The Met Department has warned residents of lower catchment areas of those rivers to remain vigilant.

The vehicular movement on the Hatton-Colombo main road, which was disrupted by landslips and fallen mounds of earth, was restored yesterday afternoon and traffic however has been restricted to a single lane.

The mounds of earth that had fallen on to the road due to the incessant rain that fell on the western slopes of the central highlands, has been cleared and the Ginigathhena Police has assigned a single lane for vehicles to travel.

The landslips have occurred at a place the Road Development Authority was repairing as it was identified as a risk area for landslides. However the motorists were requested to be careful when using the road.



One spill gate of the Upper Kotmale Reservoir has been opened yesterday morning (22). Due to the heavy rains in the western slopes area of central highlands, four spill gates of the Kotmale reservoir had been opened since Monday evening (21) until 8 am yesterday. However, a spill gate was once again opened at around 10 am yesterday. If the rains continue, more spill

gates will be opened and therefore the engineers at the reservoir requested the public living on either side of the Kotmalaoya, downstream of the dam, to be on alert. The National Building Research Organisation (NBRO) issued landslide warning for locations facing potential risk in Kegalle, Ratnapura, Kurunegala, Badulla, Kandy, Matale, Colombo and Gampaha.



Johann Peries reaches summit of Mount Everest

Sri Lanka's Johann Peries successfully summited Mount Everest at 5.55 am (Nepal time) on Tue 22 May 2018. This was his second attempt. Peries now becomes the second Sri Lankan to summit Mount Everest after Jayanthi Kuru Utumpala in 2016. Peries' earlier attempt in 2016 was unsuccessful when his oxygen tank failed 400 metres before the summit. Peries has now begun his descent which is considered more treacherous at times than the ascent, Peries' local team in Colombo said. An artist inspired by nature, Johann is a hair-designer by profession and adventurer by choice. He is the only Sri Lankan male to reach an altitude of 8,400m / 27,559ft, which he achieved on 21 May 2016 on Mt Everest.

His passion for the great outdoors and his creative soul has struck a perfect balance and is evident in his work, life and interests. Johann began his hair-designing career 25 years ago. Opting for originality over formulaic, he soon became popular as one of the best hair-designers in the country. Taking his innate flair in the beauty and fashion culture a step further, he re-established the local industry to meet international standards by introducing new concepts in bridal-designs, attire conceptualizing and make-up. Today he is one of the most sought after hair and beauty designers, and amongst the few Sri Lankans in the industry to be globally acclaimed. Presently he runs three salons, two in Colombo and one in London. His career as an artist began long

before his venture into the fashion industry; initially as a professional singer with Mary Anne Singers spanning over 20 years, as an actor in the local English theatre, and as a professional dancer competing and performing at local and international competitions. Johann's interest in exploring the great outdoors was impressed upon him at a very young age by his father, when the duo regularly explored the Knuckles Mountain range in Sri Lanka. The passion thus instilled in him, drives him to conquer mountains both in Sri Lanka and around the globe. His first exploration out of Sri Lanka was the Thai-Burmese border, in 2005. As a more experienced mountaineer Johann successfully conquered Everest Base Camp in 2010, Island Peak in 2012, and Mt. Kilimanjaro in 2014.

SEE P11

Brightsun
TRAVEL

24x7: 0203 603 2044

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

Fly to **Colombo**
£418
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
SEND TODAY - COLLECT TODAY
MONEY IN MINUTES TO SRI LANKA See Page 7

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