

17 July 2002


HE Mr Mangala Moonesinghe  
High Commissioner  
High Commission for the Democratic Socialist  
Republic of Sri Lanka  
27 Kautilya Marg  
Chanakyapuri  
NEW DELHI 110 021

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of 11 July informing me that you had on that day presented to His Excellency Mr K R Narayanan, President of the Republic of India, the Letters of Credence accrediting you as High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to India.

I should like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Delhi. I share your sincere desire to maintain and strengthen the cordial relations, both official and personal, which so happily exist between the missions of our two countries.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

R. FSC 400/002  
Tea arranged  




Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office


London SW1A 2PA

From: *Head of Protocol and  
Vice-Marshal of the  
Diplomatic Corps*

5 March 2002

Telephone: 020-7008  
Facsimile: 020-7008  
[www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

His Excellency Mr Mangala Moonesinghe  
High Commission for the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka  
13 Hyde Park Gardens  
London  
W2 2LU

  
for action on  
rec.

*Dear High Commissioner,*

Thank you for your letter of 27 February 2002 informing me that you will be relinquishing your appointment as High Commissioner for Sri Lanka on or around 31 March 2002 and that pending the arrival of your successor you have appointed Mr Jayantha Palipane, the present Deputy High Commissioner, to be Acting High Commissioner upon your departure.

S/S

I have informed the Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps of your forthcoming departure and he will be in direct touch with you regarding a farewell call on behalf of The Queen. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office would like to give a farewell lunch in your honour and the South Asian Department will contact you about this.

I know I speak on behalf of all my colleagues in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in saying how much we have enjoyed our association and cooperation with you during your posting to London. I send you and your wife our very best wishes for the future.

*Yours sincerely,  
Kathryn Colvin*

Kathryn Colvin

FSC 400/002/02		
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY		
19 MAR 2002		
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	Action Taken

5



*pa*  
*1/4/00*

No.039/2000

The High Commission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka presents its compliments to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and has the honour to inform that the Government of Sri Lanka has decided to nominate Mr Mangala Moonesinghe to serve as High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in Britain in succession to H.E. Dr Lal Jayawardena.

The Curriculum Vitae of Mr Mangala Moonesinghe is attached.

The Government of Sri Lanka would appreciate having the agrément of Her Majesty's Government to the proposed appointment of Mr Mangala Moonesinghe.

The High Commission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the assurances of its highest consideration.



Protocol Department  
Foreign & Commonwealth Office  
London SW1A

*Mrs [redacted]*  
*Mr [redacted]*  
*Mr [redacted]*  
*Miss [redacted]*  
*faxed to SAD [redacted]*  
*+ The Marshal [redacted]*

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10 ... 2000		
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	Action Taken

## CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME : MANGALA MOONESINGHE

ADDRESS : Sri Lanka High Commission  
27, Kautilya Marg,  
Chanakyapuri  
New Delhi 110 021  
India

DATE OF BIRTH : 27-7-31

CIVIL STATUS : Married

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS : Barrister-at-Law, Middle Temple, London  
  
Space Law, Western State University  
California, USA

PROFESSION : Barrister-at-Law  
Legal Practitioner for over 20 years

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS : 1975 Eisenhower Fellowship, USA

WORK EXPERIENCE : 1995 - High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to India

1989-1994 Member of Parliament

1970-1977 Member of Parliament

1965-1970 Member of Parliament

1994 Member Board of Governors  
Marga Institute (Sri Lanka  
Centre for Development Studies)

1985-1989 Director, Political and  
Institutional Studies Marga  
Institute (Sri Lanka Centre for  
Development Studies)

1960-1963 Lecturer, Company Law  
Ceylon Technical College

INTERNATIONAL  
EXPERIENCE

:	1997	Member of Group of Eminent Persons appointed by the Heads of State of South Asian nations to identify measures and mechanisms to enhance the effectiveness of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) to achieve its objectives
	1997	Member of International Assessment Mission to report on the status of governance in Nepal organised by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, Sweden
	1995	Steering Committee Member of the Asian Parliamentarians Training Programme for Conflict Resolution, sponsored by the Parliamentarians for Global Action, New York
	1990	Executive Member of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
	1975	Member of the Core Group of the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies, USA, for preparation of the monograph "Planetary Bargain" presented to the United Nations
	1973	Executive Committee Member of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
NATIONAL FUNCTIONS :	1993	Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee appointed to arrive at a National Solution to the Ethnic Conflict. The report is published as a Sessional Paper in the Parliamentary Series

1989 Member of the Parliamentary  
Committee on Public Enterprise

1970 Member of the National  
Constituent Assembly to draft  
1972 Constitution

ps  
16/5

Reference:

From: [redacted]  
Date: 28 April 2000

cc: PS/Mr Hain  
PS/PUS  
Mr [redacted]  
Ms [redacted]  
Mr [redacted] Protocol  
Mr [redacted] News D

Mr [redacted] *M 28/4*  
Private Secretary

**SRI LANKA: AGREEMENT FOR NEW HIGH COMMISSIONER**

ISSUE

1. The Government of Sri Lanka have sought agreement for the appointment of Mr Mangla Moonesinghe as their new High Commissioner in London.

TIMING

2. Routine.

PREFERRED OPTION

3. I recommend that agreement be given and submit a draft Private Secretary letter covering a formal submission from the Secretary of State to the Queen. A copy of his Curriculum vitae is attached.

BACKGROUND



4. Mr Moonesinghe is a lawyer by profession and was a barrister-at-law at Middle Temple. He was an MP in Sri Lanka for thirty years and has served on a number of international bodies. He is currently Sri Lankan High Commissioner in New Delhi.



5. His experience in New Delhi will be useful in London [redacted]

He is likely to be more of a political animal than his predecessor whose main focus was on economic issues. We believe his appointment may be linked to the current Norwegian

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1 MAY 2000  
DESK OFFICER | REGISTER

attempts to broker a peace process in Sri Lanka. If, as is possible, some of the peace talks were to be held in London, Mr Moonesinghe would probably play a prominent role given his political links.

  
  
SAD WH 209

Tel: 020 7270   
Fax: 020 7270 

Attachments: 3





DEPT  
S

8 May 2000

Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

London SW1A 2AH

APPROVED BY THE QUEEN

AF  
9.5.2000

Dear Robin,

Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka:  
Agrément for new High Commissioner

The Sri Lankan Government have sought agrément for the appointment of Mr Mangala Moonesinghe as their new High Commissioner to London.

Mr Moonesinghe is a lawyer by profession and was an MP in Sri Lanka for thirty years. He has also served on a number of international bodies. He has just concluded an assignment as Sri Lanka's High Commissioner to India.

The Foreign Secretary has no objections to his appointment.

... I enclose his formal request for Her Majesty's approval.  
... I also enclose Mr Moonesinghe's curriculum vitae.

Yours ever,

(Sherard Cowper-Coles)  
Principal Private Secretary

FSC 400/002/00		
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12 MAY 2000		
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	ActionTaken:

The Rt Hon Sir Robin Janvrin KCVO CB

## CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME : MANGALA MOONESINGHE

ADDRESS : Sri Lanka High Commission  
27, Kautilya Marg,  
Chanakyapuri  
New Delhi 110 021  
India

DATE OF BIRTH : 27-7-31

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1970 Member of the National  
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1972 Constitution

10

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INDEX	PA	REGISTRY Action
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INTERNATIONAL  
EXPERIENCE

- |                      |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|
| 1997                 | Member of Group of Eminent Persons appointed by the Heads of State of South Asian nations to identify measures and mechanisms to enhance the effectiveness of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) to achieve its objectives |  |
| 1997                 | Member of International Assessment Mission to report on the status of governance in Nepal organised by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, Sweden  |  |
| 1995                 | Steering Committee Member of the Asian Parliamentarians Training Programme for Conflict Resolution, sponsored by the Parliamentarians for Global Action, New York  |  |
| 1990                 | Executive Member of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association   |  |
| 1975                 | Member of the Core Group of the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies, USA, for preparation of the monograph "Planetary Bargain" presented to the United Nations  |  |
| 1973                 | Executive Committee Member of the Inter-Parliamentary Union  |  |
| NATIONAL FUNCTIONS : | 1993   | Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee appointed to arrive at a National Solution to the Ethnic Conflict. The report is published as a Sessional Paper in the Parliamentary Series |

1989

Member of the Parliamentary  
Committee on Public Enterprise

1970

Member of the National  
Constituent Assembly to draft  
1972 Constitution



15

per cc to

Protocol

Copied  
20/5  
KAC

Chy, Colombo etc.

then pa

27/5

057/2000

The High Commission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka presents its compliments to the South Asian Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and has the honour to acknowledge with thanks the Note Verbale dated 17 May, 2000 informing the Mission of the granting of *agreement* for the appointment of Mr Mangala Moonesinghe as High Commissioner for Sri Lanka to the Court of St James.

The Mission further has the honour to inform that the arrival details of High Commissioner designate will be conveyed to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in due course.

The High Commission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka avails itself the opportunity to renew to the South Asian Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the assurances of its highest consideration.



The South Asian Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
London

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OFFICER	PA	REGISTR

[Redacted]

1. cc HCor

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2000 11:15 AM  
To: [Redacted]  
Subject: Mangala Moonesinghe

[Redacted], S.A.D

2. Rec for LPR please.

pa  
8/5

[Redacted]  
28-4

**Parliamentary career**

Mangala Moonesinghe started his political career as a youth league activist of the Trotskyist Lanka Sama Samaja Party. Rose to its executive and central committee levels.

Got elected to parliament twice on the LSSP ticket representing his rural Bulathsinhala seat in the Kalutara district. He was in parliament from 1965-70 and 1970-77.

Was in the political wilderness during 1977-1989. Elected to parliament in the 1989 general election. A low key parliamentary career until mid 1993. Not given party nominations in the 1994 general elections.

**Political ideology**

A Marxist/Trotskyist turned right of the centre ideologist in 1976 with his joining of the SLFP.

His background as a top NGO executive during the late 70s and early 80s (headed MARGA) made him a natural persecutor of a negotiated settlement of the ethnic conflict.

Headed a parliamentary select committee titled 'The Mangala Moonesinghe Committee' (1993) which recommended far reaching devolution. The UNP in power chose Mangala M (an opposition MP) to head the committee.

[Redacted]

Having formed the govt in 1994, the President, however appointed him the High Commissioner to Delhi. His performance there was rated high.

A devout follower of the Indian spiritual guru, Sai Baba. [Redacted]

x Married to a Tamil lady.

(.)

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<del>FSC 400/002/00</del>		
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12 MAY 2000		
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	Action Taken



T Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps

Head: SAD *MM*  
(for action - please see final paragraph)

*DC*  
To take forward (2)  
action on the last  
para - see what we did  
for last HC as a guide.

**ARRIVING AMBASSADORS AND HIGH COMMISSIONERS (EXCLUDING REALMS)**

*MM 20/7*

Country	SRI LANKA
Name	Mr Mangala Moonesinghe
Spouse's name	Mrs Gnana Moonesinghe
Arrived (date).	17 July 2000
Working Copies of Recall. Date received?	Received
Letter to Foreign Secretary received?	Received
Photographs received? - 2 of self - 2 of spouse	Not yet received Not yet received
Precedence date.	17 July 2000
Likely credentials date.	Not until October
Knowledge of English.	Fluent <u>Very Good</u> Good Middling Poor
Previously served in London?	No
Met Queen or Royal Family?	Met HM The Queen in New Delhi two years ago. (He was Sri Lankan High Commissioner there.)
Hand over: - Guide to Protocol - LDL - Vin d'honneur advice - Credentials for staff - Name on separate page	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dependent children.	Two (older) children, not accompanying, resident in Sri Lanka and the US.

FSC 400/002/00  
FINE  
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Action Taken

Comment: A political appointment rather than a career diplomat. Studied law in London and has visited regularly since then. Enjoys London. Speaks excellent English. No special interests.

The new Head of Mission has been told that the geographical department will be in touch to arrange a programme of calls within the Office on officials and Ministers. DSP General Volume 5, Part 1, Chapter 3.11.5 gives guidance on the scope of these calls.

^  
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\_\_\_\_\_

↑  
\_\_\_\_\_  
pl on 2 lines  
the above

Deputy Head of Protocol Division

19 July 2000

cc: \_\_\_\_\_

**High Commission of the  
Democratic Socialist Republic of  
Sri Lanka**



13, Hyde Park Gardens  
London W2 2LU

Telephone : 0171 262 1841 - 6  
Telefax : 0171 262 7970  
Telegrams : Lankacom, London

Our Reference :

Date :

Your Reference :

November 14, 2000

12 8540/00

Mr. Jonathan Powell  
Chief of Staff  
Hon. Prime Minister's Office  
10, Downing Street  
London SW1A 2AA

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
✓ PWS  
JL

Dear Sir,

The new High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in the UK, H.E. Mr. Mangala Moonesinghe, assumed duties on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2000.

The High Commissioner wishes to pay a courtesy call on the Hon. Prime Minister.

It would be appreciated if you would be kind enough to arrange an appointment for the courtesy call at the earliest. I have enclosed the CV of H.E. Mr. Mangala Moonesinghe, for your information.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
Private Secretary

Mr ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ S.A.D

cc ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ fco

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ grateful for advice:  
who would normally see  
new HCs?

20/11

11/11/29/11

For action

22/11

Grateful for a swift PS/BS No 10  
letter and a draft PS/No 10  
reply. Should we ask Mr Hair  
to see Mr Moonesinghe?

21/11

20 16/11/00

**NATIONAL FUNCTIONS**

- 1993 Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee appointed to Arrive at a National Solution to the Ethnic Conflict. The report is published as a Sessional Paper in the Parliamentary Series
- 1989 Member of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Enterprises
- 1970 Member of the National Constituent Assembly to draft 1972 Constitution



28

Foreign & Commonwealth Office

30 November 2000

*KM*  
*Cyril*  
*to see for eye*

*Slightly re-issued* London SW1A 2AH

*Then pa Mr 8/12*

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

**Sri Lankan High Commissioner's Request to pay a Courtesy Call on the Prime Minister**

You asked for advice on a letter from the Sri Lankan High Commission asking if Mr Mangla Moonesinghe, the High Commissioner, could pay a courtesy call on the Prime Minister.

It is Commonwealth custom that High Commissioners in London have access, in principle, to the Prime Minister. British High Commissions have similar access to Commonwealth Heads of Government overseas (at least in theory). But if there is no pressing issue to discuss, there is no need for the Prime Minister to offer a meeting.

There are no set rules for who should see High Commissioners should a meeting with the Prime Minister not be possible. A programme of introductory calls is arranged by the High Commission with the help of the FCO Department concerned.

We see no need for the Prime Minister to offer a meeting on this occasion. Mr Moonesinghe called on Mr Hain on 12 September, and on Mr Vaz on 4 September. He is also accompanying President Kumaratunga on calls during her current visit to the UK.

I attach a draft PS reply to the Sri Lankan High Commission.

*Yours ever*

\_\_\_\_\_

Private Secretary

*fsc 400/2002/100*

Ms \_\_\_\_\_  
10 Downing Street

**DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE PS/PRIME MINISTER TO  
M H FAREED, PS/HIGH COMMISSIONER OF SRI LANKA**

Thank you for your letter of 14 November, seeking a courtesy call on the Prime Minister by your new High Commissioner, HE Mr Moonesinghe.

I regret that the Prime Minister is unable to offer a meeting at present. But he asked me to express his very good wishes to Mr Moonesinghe and looks forward to meeting him in the future.

[  
SAD