

Freedom of Information Request 0420-17

10 July 2000. Extract from a letter from the British High Commission in New Delhi to the South Asia Department, FCO.

(Rest of letter not relevant to request.)

NEW SRI LANKAN HIGH COMMISSIONER

1. You sent me a side copy of your minute of 31 May

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] about Mangala Moonesinghe who has just left Delhi on transfer to London as High Commissioner for Sri Lanka.

2. None of us here know Moonesinghe particularly well,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] He does not seem to have been a key player in the dialogue between Sri Lanka and India about the current crisis: the preference has been to work through Special Representatives. On the other hand, he has acquired a wide circle of friends and contacts during his 5 years here, and the turn-out at his farewell reception was as good as any I have seen.