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SRI LANKA FACT FILE - 2008

Land Area: 65,610 sq. km
 Excluding Inland Waters: 62,336 sq. km
 Location: 880 kms North of the equator, off the Southern tip of India.
 Geography: Excluding Inland Water-62,336 sq kms
 Highest Waterfall-Bambarakanda-241 meters
 Highest Peak-Pidunuthalagala-2524 meters
 Longest River-Mahaweli-335 kms
 Capital: Sri Jayawardenapura
 Commercial Capital: Colombo
 National Day: February, 04
 Administrative Units: 9 Provinces, 25 Districts
 256 Divisional Secretariats, 160 Electorates
 Climate: Temperature(Mean annual) 27°C in the Lowland, 15°C at Nuwaraeliya(Altitude1800m) Relative Humidity varies from 70% during the Day to90% at Night.Rain Fall(annual) 2500mm to over in South West of the Island Less than 1250mm in North West and South East of the Island.
 Rainy Seasons;
 South West Monsoon-(May to August)
 North East Monsoon-(November to February)
 Total Population: 19,887,000 (Male-49%-Female-51%)
 Density per sq.km. -304 persons
 Growth rate-0.943%
 Languages: Sinhala,Tamil and English
 Ethnicity: Sinhala-74%; Sri Lankan Tamils-12.6%; Indian Tamils-4.6%
 Moors-7.2%; Others-1.6%
 Religions: Buddhist-69%; Muslim-8%; Hindu-7%
 Christian -6%; Unspecified-10%
 Literacy rate: 93% (Male-92% Female-89%)
 Life expectancy at birth: 75 Years (Male - 69; Female - 79)
 Educational Attainment: No Schooling -8.0%; Primary -30.2%;
 Secondary -37.2%; Tertiary -23.9%
 Total number of Schools:10,363(Government -9678,Private -85 and Privates - 600) Students Population:3,942,327

Total Fertility Rate (TFR):	02 children per woman
Contraceptive prevalence Rate (CPR):	15-49 years 70.8 per cent
CPR modern methods:	49.5 per cent
CPR Traditional methods:	21.3 per cent
Infant Mortality Rate:	19/1,000 live births
HIV/AIDS Positives Cases:	996 (Male- 60%, Female- 40%)
Number of Persons living with HIV:	4,000 (178 died)
Abortions:	530 per day
Suicide Rate:	22 per 100,000
Communications:	14 TV channels; 02 Cable TV Channels, 41 Radio channels(14 Government+27 Private) 31 broadsheet Newspapers, 61 weeklies and Monthly Newspapers
TV Sets :	4.1million TV Viewers: 13.6 million
Credit Cards:	904,903
Internet Users:	01 million
Computer Literacy:	16.1% (Urban 29% / Rural 13%)
Land / CDMA Phones:	03million Mobile Phones: 09 million
Electricity:	220-240Volts
Availability of electricity:	62%
Availability of a TV	67%
Currency & Equivalentents:	US\$ 1=108 SL Rupees EURO 1 =146 SL Rupees Sterling Pound 1 = 187 SL Rupees
Annual per capita income:	US\$ 1000
Forest Cover:	24%
Water Falls:	382 (www.srilankanwaterfalls.net)
Access to safe drinking water:	Urban-82% ; Rural-35%
Agriculture:	The main food crops grown are rice, maize, sorghum and pulses. The main cash crops grown for export are tea, rubber, sugar cane.
Major exports:	Garments, Gemstones, Tea, Rubber, Coconut and Textiles
Annual GDP per Capita:	\$ 4,100
Labour Force:	Agriculture-33%; Industry and commerce-23%; Services & Others-44%
Population below Poverty Line:	22%
1 Courtesy:	www.dharman.info

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For Further Information,
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About SLEJF..

Sri Lanka Environmental Journalists Forum(SLEJF) Mission:
To promote participatory management to ensure sustainable human development through better communication and empowerment of communities.

SLEJF's Vision: Promoting participatory management
for environmental sustainability.

SLEJF is a Public Interest, not for profit organization committed to restoring,protecting and promoting environmental journalism and sustainable Human Development rights to vulnerable populations.

SLEJF was established in January 1987, with support from the Sri Lanka Government,United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific(UN-ESCAP) and United Nations Environment Program(UNEP).SLEJF emphasizes monitoring and coordination,vigorous advocacy of environmental education,public awareness,justice principles and practical assistance programs.The SLEJF mandate covers both professional and public interests of Journalists.SLEJF has developed special media traing programs in environmental and Development Journalism,Since its inception,SLEJF has trained over 10,000 journalsts.Its Secretariat receives the assistance of 08 full-time staff, 07 Consultants and many volunteers. SLEJF Library of nearly 1,500 press clipping books has access to research CDs, DVD's and other material.

22 SLEJF gratefully acknowledges the following generous benefactors who contributed to SLEJF during the past two decades.SLEJF especially recognizes the contributions of time resources made by its National partners not listed here, whose support and commitment are crucial to the overall success of SLEJF sponsored initiatives.Sri Lanka Government,UN-ESCAP,UNEP, UNDP,GEF,UNESCO, Commonwealth Foundation,AusAID, Royal Norwegian Embassy,British High Commission,Royal Netherlands Embassy,Friedrich Naumann Stiftung,HIVOS,,US-AEP,ADB,World Bank,AsiaFoundation,IUCN,British Council,FOE,Japan Environmental Foundation, Australian AVI,Fredskorpset and many others.

This Media Guide would not have been possible without the support of the main sponsor, principal sponsors, co-sponsors and media principal sponsors.

We would like to thank those who had an input to the directory as contributors and critical readers.

The editor encourages the dissemination of its work and will promptly respond to further information and requests for more copies. Editor's post;

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PREFACE

Ayubowan - Welcome to Dharman's Media Guide(DMG) 8th Edition.The SLEJF has a vital role to play in meeting the challenges facing humankind across Sri Lanka and developing the Millennium Declaration goals that have been set.The SLEJF is indispensable for strengthening the structures for building environment and sustainable human development. The purpose of this DMG is to help media and public to communicate more effectively with each other. Nearly 2000 contact details related to media all over Sri Lanka and Overseas are listed in this DMG edition. It is a Herculean task we have taken on our shoulders and it is not easy to publish a directory of this nature every year.

Serving the media and the public over a few decades we initiated this project with a deep understanding of the utility of a directory as a useful tool to both the journalists and the general public. It is with your ardent support that we are able to fulfill our duty by the people involved in the media.

The DMG ventured to collect information and compile as a dossier to help working both media and public. It had its origin as a result of attending the French Journalists Association and Dhaka Press Club meetings in early 90's.I was inspired by what I happened to admire in both events and that led me to take the initiative on behalf of Sri Lankan media. Giving credit where it is due, I must say that Sri Lanka saw the first media Guide in 1974 edited by former editor of Saturday Review & my senior media colleague late Gamini Navarathne. He had it issued with updates for four years. Since then we come across Media Guides published by Muslim Media Forum(SLMMF) headed by our good friend NM Ameen. Since 1995 SLMMF has released three media directories. The Government Department of Information 1978 began printing in the form of a booklet and in 2007 the Department issued a directory with a better format under the guidance of DI, Anusha Palpita. But DMG has been acclaimed as the best, the one and only comprehensive media directory, which is coherent, consistent and reliable. This is proved beyond any doubt from the fact that there is a growing demand for DMG every Year.

The DMG we present to you includes nearly 2000 contact details of persons working for both print, electronic and on-line media in the country. This DMG makes an important contribution towards explaining the broad system of Sri Lankan media. In view of the tremendous tasks with humankind in view of the multi – faceted potential offered by a vast variety of good-willed players, I wish this DMG wide circulation. May it help combine the forces needed to make Sri Lanka a more peaceful place and to strengthen each Individual's right to freedom from want, freedom from fear and freedom to live in dignity.

Please contact us to update or correct the information found in this DMG about your organization and use the form we have inserted in the media guide to keep us informed all changes(see page 277).We look forward for your assistance to obtain the details of other newspapers / media organizations etc, not listed in this edition(see page279).Also you can either E-mail, mail or fax the intended changes to the address given in the DMG.

In the meantime we hope this DMG proves to be an useful resource and tool for those outside and inside the Sri Lankan media who wish to know more about the media relations with external constituencies. We would welcome any comments, observations and suggestions from those that read, use and become familiar with the contents of this DMG volume..

**With best wishes,
Editor - Dharman's Media Guide(DMG).**

About the Editor: **Dharman Wickremaratne was born in Matara and is the doyen of the environmental journalism in Sri Lanka. He has trained and coached 9,872 working, free lance, amateur as well as provincial journalists in 19 districts during the last two decades and promoted the environmental communication message since 1983 as a journalist, editor, trainer, activist and lobbyist. Dharman was the President of Bangkok based Asia Pacific Forum of environmental journalists(APFEJ), President of the Dhaka based Commonwealth Environmental Journalists Association(CEJA) and founder editor of the Paris based International Federation of Environmental Journalists(IFEJ). He has written more than 50 books on media, conservation, nature travel subjects and recipient of numerous awards including the UNEP Global 500 and International Green Pen. He is a visiting lecturer of the University of Colombo.**

UN Calendar of World Days

January, 27	International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust
February, 21	International Mother Language Day
March, 08	International Women's Day.
March, 21	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
March, 21	Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination Week beginning 21 March
March, 22	World Water Day.
March, 23	World Meteorological Day
March, 24	World Tuberculosis Day
March, 27	World Theatre Day.
April, 07	World Health Day.
April, 23	International Book & Copyright Day.
April, 25	World Malaria Day
May, 03	World Press Freedom Day.
May, 15	International Day of Families.
May, 17	World Telecommunications Day.
May, 21	World Cultural Day.
May, 22	International Day for Biological Diversity
May, 24	International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament
May, 25	Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self Governing Territories
May, 31	World No-Tobacco Day.

June, 4	International Day of Innocent Children Victim of Aggressions	October, 15	World Rural Women's Day.
June, 05	World Environment Day.	October, 16	World Food Day.
June, 17	World Combat Desertification and Drought Day.	October, 17	Poverty Alleviation Day.
June, 20	World Refugee Day.	October, 24	United Nations Day.
June, 26	International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.	October, 24	World Development Information Day
June, 26	UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture	October, 24-30	Disarmament week
June, 26	UN Charter Day	November, 14	World Diabetes day
July, 05	International Day of Cooperatives	November, 16	International Tolerance Day.
July, 11	World Population Day.	November, 20	Universal Children's Day
August, 09	International Day of the World's Indigenous People.	November, 21	World Television Day
August, 12	International Youth Day	November, 25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.
September, 08	International Literacy Day.	November, 26	World Waterfalls Day.
September, 15	International Day of Democracy	November, 29	International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People
September, 16	World Ozone Day.	December, 01	World AIDS Day.
September, 21	World Peace Day.	December, 02	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
October, 01	International Childrens Day.	December, 03	International Day of Disabled Persons.
October, 01	International Day for the Elderly	December, 05	International Volunteer Day.
October, 05	World Teachers Day.	December, 07	International Civil Aviation Day
October, 06	World Habitat Day.	December, 09	Anti - Corruption Day
October, 08	International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction	December, 10	Human Rights Day.
October, 09	World Post Day.	December, 11	World Mountain Day
October, 10	World Mental Health Day.	December, 18	International Migrants Day

l Courtesy: www.dharman.info

**This Publication printed copy is available.
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