



**Mangala wants Mahinda to behave like President**

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# The Island

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**Roma crisis puts Sarkozy on the brink**

He is the French statesman who has strutted the world stage, glamorous model wife never far from his side, commanding international attention and respect like no other leader in Europe.

**Panel: India must secure elephant reserves**

**NEW DELHI** - India should protect its elephant population by securing its wildlife reserves, curbing poaching and restricting development in the corridors they use to travel between forested areas, a panel recommended.

**Ramazan Fasting/Prayer Times**

September 05-08

Sahar Ends	4.32
Fajr	4.47
Sunrise	6.03
Zuhar	12.11
Asar	3.13
Maghrib	6.16
Isha	7.27

**JEFF & NUT**

Paddy is being stored out in the open ...

To help thieves?

## Nothing wrong with 18-A, says Asgiriya Maha Nayake Thera

**By CYRIL WIMALASURENDRE**

Most Venerable Mahanayake of Asgiriya Udugama Siri Buddharakkitha Thera said yesterday that he found nothing wrong with the proposed amendments to the Constitution.

The number of terms sought by a President should not be limited by the country's Constitution, he said. The people could decide how long a President should



Asgiriya Mahanayake Thera



Malwatte Thera

be allowed to rule the country, the Maha Nayake Thera said. It was rather difficult to believe the claim by the Opposition that

was making an attempt to remain in power forever, the prelate said.

The Maha Nayake Thera expressed these views when External Affairs Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris met him in Kandy.

Prof. G. L. Peiris at a meeting with the prelates of

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## Lanka boosts air, sea surveillance capability

*Threat of fresh attempts to open illegal routes remain, though the LTTE no longer retains a conventional military capability*

**By SHAMINDRA FERDINANDO**

Sri Lanka is in the process of building and re-deploying its naval and air assets to thwart any future attempt to open up illegal sea routes to and from the country.

The navy and air force will re-position their assets in support of ground deployment in coastal areas.

In line with this strategy, the navy has shifted its north-western headquarters from Puttalam to Mullikulam to exercise naval command and control from Udappuwa to Arippu.

On the invitation of navy Commander Vice Admiral Thisara Samarasinghe, Defence Secretary Gotabhaya Rajapaksa after declaring open the new headquarters last week said that new permanent bases would be set up to enhance security. A key element in the new deployment plan would be to ensure north-eastern seas could not be used for illegal activities, the Defence Secretary said.

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Navy Commander Vice Admiral Thisara Samarasinghe explains new naval deployment on the north-western coast. (Photo Sajith Jayasekera)

## Two arrested for 'spying on' President

**By SAMAN GAMAGE**

The police have arrested two youth who were reportedly spying on President Mahinda Rajapaksa and had gathered information about his movements in Badulla over the weekend.

According to the police, residents of Mullaitivu area, they were arrested near a Buddhist temple in Badulla.

The two suspects were to be handed over to the

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Commander of the Indian Army General Vijay Kumar Singh arrives in Bandaranaike International Airport in Colombo yesterday. Pic by Sajith Jayasekera

## Indian Army Chief begins five-day visit

Indian Army Commander Gen. Vijay Kumar Singh arrived here yesterday on a five-day official visit as a special guest of his Sri Lankan counterpart, Lieutenant General Jagath Jayasuriya.

General Singh was received at the Bandaranaike International Airport by Sri Lanka Army chief Lt. Gen. Jagath Jayasuriya and his wife

Manjulika.

The Indian Army Chief's five-member delegation comprises Mrs Bharti Singh, President, Army Wives' Welfare Association (AWWA), Major Gen. Harminderjit Singh Sachdev SM, General Officer Commanding, Infantry Division, Brig. Jatinder Pal Singh, Military Assistant and Mrs. Aravinder Kaur.

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He prefers to hold 'SF' this way



President Mahinda Rajapaksa holds a bat with 'SF' written on it at an indoor Cricket Stadium in Badulla on Saturday (04). Pic by Sudath Silva

## 18th Amendment

### Govt. confident of securing 160 votes

**By HARISCHANDRA GUNARATNA**

The government was confident of securing over 160 votes for the 18th Amendment to be presented to parliament on Wednesday (08), Water Supply and Drainage Minister Dinesh Gunawardane told the media yesterday in Colombo.

He said that more opposition members would join the government ranks by tomorrow but reiterated the need for a strong opposition adding that what was necessary was not an opposition which opposed every good move by the government for the sake of opposing. A democratic Opposition had to act responsibly without playing politics with national issues, the minister said.

Minister Gunawardane said that the MEP fully endorsed and supported the proposed constitutional amendments as such a move was a prerequisite for the development of

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## Kalpitiya islets to be developed as tourist resorts



**By DASUN EDIRISINGHE**

Sri Lanka Tourist Board is planning to lease 12 islets off Kalpitiya for local or foreign investors to be developed as tourist zones.

SLTB Chairman, Dr. Nalaka Godahewa said that the government had already identified those islets and it was awaiting legal clearance to launch the project.

"We will give these islands to investors on lease for 30 years first and extensions will be given depending on their performance,"

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## FUTA TU action: Dons to give up voluntary service

**By DASUN EDIRISINGHE**

The Federation of University Teachers Associations (FUTA) has decided to give up voluntary services in universities with effect from tomorrow (Sep. 7) unless the government rectifies their salary anomalies.

Dr. Rohan Fernando, Secretary of FUTA which is the umbrella organization for 42 trade unions of university academics, told *The Island* that they

had postponed trade union action scheduled for August 28 in response to an assurance of Presidential Secretary Lalith Weeratunge and Higher Education Minister S. B. Dissanayake, but no action had been taken yet.

He said that they had submitted their proposal for a new salary structure for university teachers to the Treasury. "At present, the basic salary

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## Int'l laws shouldn't apply to conflicts between States and terrorists

### Dhanapala's denial and *The Island*

**By SHAMINDRA FERDINANDO**

Apropos *The Island* lead story headlined 'Ex-UN Under Secretary General tells LLRC: Intl. laws shouldn't apply to conflicts between States and terrorist groups' in its August 26 issue, Ambassador Jayantha Dhanapala has said he was 'surprised and disappointed by the many distortions of his representation appearing in the Sri Lanka media and the commentaries based on these erroneous and selective reporting'.



Dhanapala



HMGS



Rohan

Dhanapala, in a statement to a website called 'groundviews' on August 30, four days after *The Island* report on his presentation at the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission headed by former Attorney General C. R. de Silva, promised to release the

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## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

**Presidential Commission on the death of Mr. Susantha Anura Bandara Student of the University of Ruhuna**

The Presidential Commission presided over by Justice D.J.de.S. Balapatabendi, retired Judge of the Supreme Court, on the death of Mr. Susantha Anura Bandara, student of the University of Ruhuna, hereby extends the date for the submission of written representations up to 13<sup>th</sup> September 2010. Any person or organisation not making written representations but desirous of giving oral evidence may contact the undersigned on or before 13<sup>th</sup> September 2010 at the address given below or on telephone 011-2669054 during normal office hours.

Please note that no further extension of time for the submission of representations will be granted.

**Edmund Jayasuriya Secretary to the Commission**

Room No. 2-130 Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall Baudhaloka Mawatha Colombo 07.