

Asian Breeze (13) (Christmas Special Edition)

15 December, 2010

Merry Christmas to you all!

Dear Asia/Pacific coordinators and facilitators: We hope everyone is enjoying this Christmas holiday seasons. It got cold all the sudden in December in Tokyo. Yet, Christmas goes very well with cold weather and snow. As people are now preparing Christmas presents for kids and loved ones, I have to find something nice for my family too.

Two years have passed since we started issuing the Asian breeze. Thirteen issues have been circulated so far thanks to your support and contributions. We have covered Japan (JSC and Centrair), Hong Kong, Australia, Thailand, Taiwan, India (Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai, Hyderabad) and Singapore. We are committed to continue issuing the Asian Breeze in the future too. In doing so, we need your contributions, please send us your hot news or topics or new airport developments in your country to the address of asianbreeze@schedule-coordination.jp. In this issue, we have received a nice article from Sri Lanka which is called "Pearl of Indian Ocean" because of natural beauty. There seem many interesting tourist spots in this island and the future airport expansion program is covered in this article. In addition, the newly established WWACG web site was featured. It also featured the first general assembly meeting of Asia/Pacific Airport Coordinators Association (APACA) which was held on 13 November in Melbourne. The article of APACA was endorsed by all the participants and the organization of APACA became official.



Country of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka, officially the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

(Sinhalese: ශ්‍රී ලංකා, Tamil: இலங்கை; known as Ceylon before

1972) is an island nation in South Asia, located about 31 kilometers (19.3 mi) off the southern coast of India. Popularly referred to as the *Pearl of the Indian Ocean*, it is home to around twenty million people.

Because of its location in the path of major sea routes, Sri Lanka is a strategic naval link between West Asia and South East Asia, and has



been a center of Buddhist religion and culture from ancient times.

Today, the country is a multi-religious and multi-ethnic nation, with nearly a third of the population following faiths other than Buddhism, notably Hinduism, Christianity and Islam. The Sinhalese community forms the majority of the population, with Tamils, who are concentrated in the north and east of the island, forming the largest ethnic minority. Other communities include the Muslim Moors and Malays and the Burghers.

Famous for the production and export of tea, coffee, rubber and coconuts, Sri Lanka boasts a progressive and modern industrial economy and the highest per capita income in South Asia. The natural beauty of Sri Lanka's tropical forests, beaches and landscape, as well as its rich cultural heritage, make it a world famous tourist destination.



Sri Lanka's population is a colorful mosaic of different ethnic and religious groups. The Sinhalese people form the largest ethnic group in the nation, composing approximately 74% of the total population. Sri Lankan Tamils form 18% of the population, and are concentrated mainly in the northeastern part of the country. For a small island, Sri Lanka has quite a large population of 19.8 million and its adult literacy rate is a little over 86%. The life expectancy is 70 years for men and 75.4 years for women. Sinhala and Tamil are both the official

languages of the nation, with 80% speaking Sinhalese and 18% speaking Tamil.

Religions: Buddhist 70%, Islam 8%, Hindu 7%, Christian 6% (2001) Though Colombo is widely known as the capital of Sri Lanka but strictly speaking Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte, a miniature town in Colombo, is the legislative capital of Sri Lanka. Colombo is the commercial capital of Sri Lanka.

To the development and growth of the local Tourism industry, the country's Board of Investment (BOI) offer potential foreign investors lucrative incentives to start up tourism establishments. Kitulgala, where the Academy Award-winning "The Bridge on the River Kwai" was filmed, affords a rare opportunity for tourists.



Latest Sri Lanka Tourism Development

Sri Lanka is a tourist's paradise. Marco Polo described it as "the finest island of its size in the world". Wonderful pristine beaches, lush-green hills, majestic waterfalls, corals, wild life, heritage sites, pilgrimage sites, exotic

cuisine-Sri Lanka has everything that a tourist can imagine. It has something to offer to everyone.



Tourism is one of the main industries in Sri Lanka. Major tourist attractions are focused around the islands famous beaches located in the southern and eastern parts of the country, ancient heritage sites located in the interior of the country and lush green resorts located in the mountainous regions of the country. A large majority of tourists come from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, the People's Republic of China, and India.

Seductive beaches and tempting water sports, magnificent landscapes, fertile wetlands, ecologically- wondrous types of forest, imposing mountains, bounteous rivers and waterfalls, an abundance of wildlife are the highlights of Sri Lanka tourism.



Sri Lanka is the best destination for all the visitors in all around the world "A beautiful beach facing the Indian Ocean and 2,000 meters high mountain, jungle and wildlife habitat for elephants and leopards, two more six World Cultural Heritage including cultural and historical attractions, a country filled with many attractive sights ".

Ancient cities of Sri Lanka

The historical landmarks are among the best known tourist attractions in Sri Lanka and some of the notable ones are Anuradhapura, Mihintale, Sigiriya, Dambula and Aluvihara. Anuradhapura is the first capital of Sri Lanka and remained a strong symbol of Sinhalese supremacy and features a number of monuments and historic buildings that continue to enthrall tourists from all over the world.



SriDalada Maligawa

Kandy (Ancient Senkadagala) is the last capital of the Sinhala Monarchy, the History of which goes back to at least five centuries before the beginning of the Common Era. The city is surrounded by a ring of mountain ranges and Sri Lanka's largest river Mahaweli Ganga. Kandy enjoys a salubrious climate and still breathes the ancient lifestyle of the people. The heritage of Kandy, Architecture, Sculpture, painting, Dance and Music, all such cultural traditions are endemic to Sri Lanka. Kandy remains the home for all denominations of major world religions.



The Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic constitutes the premier Buddhist Institution of Sri Lanka and remains the



cynosure of the world Buddhist and is a great tourist attraction. The annual pageant (Esala Perahera) constitutes the greatest religious festival of Sri Lanka which attracts thousands of pilgrims as well as tourists from all over the world. The web site on the Sri Dalada maligawa attempts to introduce all its aspects of history, rituals, cultural and other social activities.

Beaches of Sri Lanka

The beaches occupy a leading place among the various places to visit in Sri Lanka. You will encounter a number of fascinating palm-fringed beaches. The combination of sun and sand with the pristine ambiance lets you spend some memorable moments away from cacophony of your life in the cities. Some of the well-known beaches of Sri Lanka are Negombo, Mount Lavinia, Kalutara, Beruwela, Bentota, Hikkaduwa, Galle and Arugam Bay.



The aquamarine blue waves of the Indian Ocean gently unfolding on the golden shore. A fresh coconut sipped in the shade of wind-whispering palms. A (not-too-long) bask in the early morning or late afternoon sun. A cool-off in the vast expanse of sun-glittering sea. Some of the delights of a Sri Lankan beach.

Where beaches are concerned you will be spoilt for choice in Sri Lanka. Beaches totaling 1,340km fringe the island, from the long-established tourist destinations of the southern coast, to the vast beaches of the deep south and the less-visited expanses of the north and east. No matter what time of the year, you can find a beach that is in season and just waiting to welcome you to its warm sands.

Nature Spots in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is also home to a large number of nature spots that are among its prime highlights. The splendid waterfalls of Sri Lanka are among the most sought-after attractions found in the dense woods on the mountain slopes and valleys. They fall from amazing heights and are feast to the eyes. Bambarakande Falls, Diyaluma Falls, Kirindi Oya Falls, St. Claire Falls, Bopath Falls, Laxapana Falls, Devon Falls, Rawana Falls, Elgin Falls and Nawarathna Falls are some of the many waterfalls of Sri Lanka.



Sri Lanka's wildlife

Sri Lanka's wildlife is as varied as the island itself, ranging from elephants and leopards to egg-laying turtles and a huge variety of birds. With 12 per cent of the country designated for wildlife protection it is easy to get a taste of Sri Lankan wildlife. Safari parks and sanctuaries, particularly in the southern and central zones, offer the easiest way to see animals in their natural habitat. Stay alert for a sighting of the endangered leopard; take your time as you watch the elephants feeding and washing in a tank or lagoon; or walk quietly near to the turtles until they stop to lay their eggs.



The fairs and festivals



The fairs and festivals hold a key place apart from the tourist attractions in Sri Lanka thus featuring a wide range of Buddhist, Hindu, Christian and Muslim events. Kandy Esala Perahera (July/August) is the most spectacular event. This festival is marked by torch-bearers, whip-crackers, dancers and drummers and climaxes in a great procession honoring the Sacred Tooth Relic of Kandy. Duruthu Perahera (January), held in Colombo is also an important one and celebrates the arrival of Buddha to Sri Lanka.

The other major events you should not miss out are National Day (February), New Year (March/April), Vesak (May) and Kataragama festival (July/August).

The Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage

The orphanage was primarily designed to afford care and protection to the many baby elephants found in the jungle without their mothers. In most of these cases the mother had either died or been killed. In some instances the baby had fallen into a pit and in others the mother had fallen in and died. Initially this orphanage was at the Wilpattu National Park, then shifted to the tourist complex at Bentota and then to the Dehiwala Zoo.



Find useful information regarding Sri Lanka tourist attractions on the site touristplacesinindia.com that also offers valuable inputs on the hotels and tour packages offered on Sri Lanka.

Bandaranaike International Airport

Bandaranaike International Airport (also known as Katunayake International Airport and Colombo International Airport) (IATA: CMB, ICAO: VCBI) is Sri Lanka's only international airport. It is located in Katunayake, 35 km (22

mi) north of Colombo. It is administered by Airport and Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Ltd. It is the hub of SriLankan Airlines, the national carrier of Sri Lanka, Bandaranaike Colombo Bandaranaike Airport is coded CMB.



Terminals

The Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA) has three cargo terminals and one passenger terminal.

The arrival and departure areas in the passenger terminal are located close to each other, easing the movement of passengers between terminals. There are 39 check-in desks, 14 gates, 575 short-term parking spaces, three airport hotels, restaurants, cafeterias, bars, a VIP lounge, duty-free shop and disabled access / facilities.



The cargo village terminal I occupies an area of 2,787m², and includes freight forwarders, warehouses, airline offices, banks, courier service, gem and diamond exchange and customs. The 1,858m² cargo village terminal II has facilities for refrigerated and frozen cargo, airmail sorting centre and offshore avionics workshop. Bandaranaike International Airport is 5 ½ hours ahead of GMT.

Airport Expansion Plan

Sri Lanka's sole international airport has plans to expand further if traffic grows beyond existing capacity with the end of a three decade internal war. Existing capacity at BIA, north of Colombo, is enough to handle aircraft, passenger and cargo movements until 2013, under current projections.

The airport authority has plans to further expand the BIA, the island's main gateway, should traffic grow beyond current projections. "In our future plans under phase two, stage two of our expansion plan, if passenger, cargo or airline movements go up, we'll have a split level terminal with a new pier and eight aero bridges for passengers to board or disembark from aircraft." The airport and aviation industry was very sensitive to security concerns and had witnessed sharp drops in traffic after upsurges of violence in recent years.



Our second Airport at Maththala

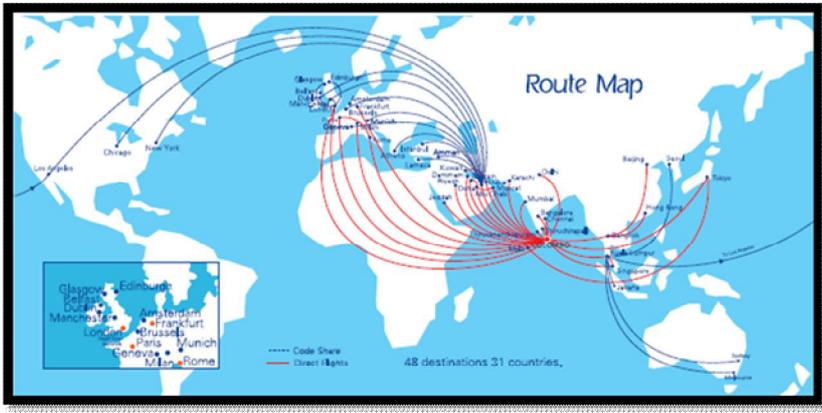
The airport project will include a 3,500m runway with a 75m width to accommodate landing and take-off of large aircraft. The passenger terminal building, featured with an advanced baggage system, has capacity to manage one million passengers per year from the outset. The construction of the airport also includes the



41m traffic control tower, a cargo handling terminal adjacent to the airport.

SriLankan Airlines connectivity

Since the opening of SriLankan airlines in 1979, it garnered many awards from the travel industry.



SriLankan Airlines is the proud recipient of a number of awards in the airline industry. We are honored to be recognized in such a wide range of categories and we aim to continuously improve our service and dedication to comfort for our valued customers.

The awards hail from a number of prestigious aviation research agencies and travel magazines across the globe.



Awards won in 2007

Award	Awarded By
Global Award for Operational Excellence among all small airlines that operate the Airbus A340 Aircraft	Airbus Industrie
ISO22000:2005 and HACCP – Codex Alimentarius accreditations for SriLankan Catering	International Organisation for Standards and SGS of the United Kingdom
Gold Award for Excellence in HR Practices at the Human Resources Management Awards	The Association of HR Professionals
Silver and Bronze Awards in the Service Category at the Annual Report Awards	The Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (ICASL)
An assortment of awards at Culinary Art 2007	The Chef Guild of Sri Lanka
The Gold Award for the Best Marketing Campaign for an Airline	Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA)

7	Industry Standard EASA 145 to SriLankan Engineering in Aircraft Maintenance	The European Aviation Safety Agency
7	KLIA Award for the Foreign Carrier of the Year South Asia	Malaysia Airport Holdings Berhard's KLIA Awards.
7	Imperial Mark for Service Excellence	Imperial Mark Commission
7	An assortment of awards at Hong Kong International Culinary Classic	Hong Kong Chefs Association and Hong Kong Exhibition Services Ltd

SriLankan Airlines wins Two Awards at the Annual Report Awards

Introduction to SriLankan airlines slot coordination team

SriLankan airlines BIA slot coordination team consists of 5 members. Sumudu (Manager), Thusitha Wick, Thusitha Wije, Shyamalie & Abeysinghe.

Back row: Shyamalie, Sumudu(manager), Thusitha Wick
 Front row: Abeysinghe, Thusitha Wije



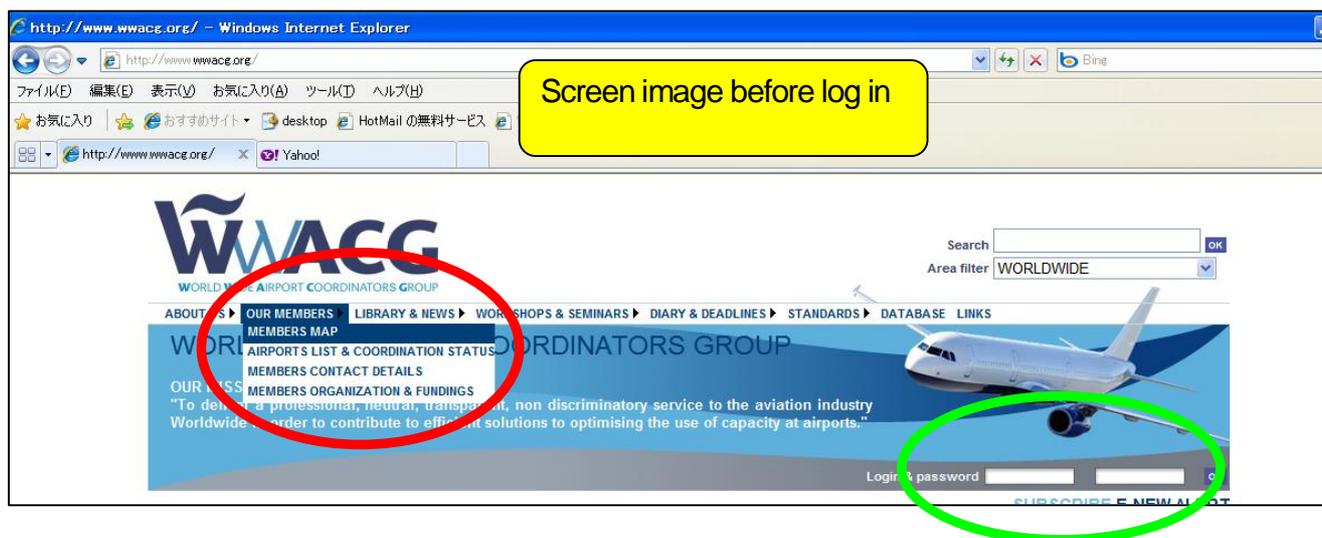
Our computer system

At the moment we use ASCO computer system. It's our in-house slot coordination system.



Introduction of WWACG web site

The WWACG web site was very nicely introduced and demonstrated by Mr. Eric Herbane (COHOR, France) at the last conference. Specific instructions for WWACG web site should be given again for those who did not attend the conference. Please type in the address of WWACG "[http:// www.wwacg.org](http://www.wwacg.org)", then you will find the screen image shown below. Click the "our members" in the top menu of the site, then you will find the "members map".



Click the "members map", you will find the world map and zoom in Asia/Pacific regions. Then you will find the similar screen image shown on the right, and such information as the number of airports concerned, the number of coordinators and the details of coordinator. The coordinator information includes such as the picture of head coordinator, web site, SITA, contact e-mail, etc.



In order to upload your own information, you need to register ID and PW. Please send your ID and PW to Mr. Eric Herbane whose address is e.herbane@cohor.org. Once your ID and PW are registered, you can login the site to access further to your own data. Initial screen image is little different from the previous one once you log in. The new menu of "members area" will appear in front of "about us" as shown below. Now, you can upload your information by clicking "your own data", "your own events" and "slot monitoring events". It is your responsibility to keep them up to date all the time so that airlines can access to the correct information.



In order to maintain this web site, the payment of voluntary fee of 50 Euro per year is highly appreciated. Although the payment of the membership fee is highly appreciated, it is not a prerequisite to get an ID and PW in order to update the information on the website. Please feel free to get registered and update your information.

1st General Assembly Meeting Asia/Pacific Airport Coordinators Association (APACA)

The first general assembly meeting of APACA was held from 15:30 to 16:30 at room 110, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Center on 13 November (Saturday) 2010 at the occasion of IATA 127th Schedule Conference in Melbourne.



The following two important things were determined at this first meeting of APACA.

(1) The article of APACA was endorsed unanimously by all the participants and signature was given to the article. As 15 economies out of 18 which constitute 83% and 19 member organizations out of 24 which constitutes 79% gave the signature that are over two-thirds in both categories, the establishment of APACA became official.

(2) The election of chair and two vice-chairs was conducted. As a result, Mr. Ernst Krolke (Airport Coordination Australia (ACA)) became a chair, Mr. Jitendra Singh (Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL)) and Mr. Hiroki Takeda (Japan Schedule Coordination (JSC)) became the vice-chairs.



Under the new chair's leadership, various topics such as data base of APACA, determination of historic slots and reformatting WSG were discussed. From now on, discussion items will be picked up based on your requests.

Asian Tea Gathering

Right after 1st general assembly meeting of APACA, the Asian Tea Gathering was hosted by Airport Coordination Australia (ACA) from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. About 40 people got together to enjoy chatting over the cup of tea and sweets. Participants surely enjoyed the different flavor of tea, sweets and chatting.

In addition, since this day happened to be a birthday of Mr.Krolke, birthday cake was prepared and he put off all the candles on the cake. You may guess how many candles were on the cake. This is a mystery. People celebrated his birthday by singing happy birthday song.

As this is a good opportunity for everyone to get to know each other and exchange information on informal manner, all Asia/Pacific coordinators and facilitators are most welcome to join in this gathering.



IATA Seminar or APACA Joint Seminar

It was reported at the 1st APACA meeting that IATA is now reformatting the current WSG, and JSAG & SPWG are reviewing the new draft. As part of these activities, IATA is now planning to host the seminar on the new draft WSMS (New WSG) next year.

The seminar may be organized as IATA independent seminar or APACA joint seminar around next May. The candidate place for seminar may be Tokyo, Beijing or Singapore depending on the organization types. While the details will be announced by IATA next year, the inclusion of travel and hotel accommodation expense to those places is highly recommended in the next fiscal year's budget. **For those preparing next year's budget, please make sure to secure the budget to attend the IATA seminar.**



From Santa Clause (Chief Editor)

Thank Sri Lanka for the wonderful article introducing many tourist attractions. I was so impressed with natural beauty and natural life of your country. No wonder it is called "Pearl of Indian Ocean. We should visit Sri Lanka someday in the future.

Now Christmas decorations and night illuminations are everywhere in Tokyo. Especially night illuminations shown below are so beautiful and attract many young couples. Having finished circulating the Asian Breeze (13), I should rush to a department store to find something nice for my family as Christmas presents. What kind of presents do you have in your mind? i-Phone or i-Pad?

Finally, all the staff of JSC wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. (H.T.)

