



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

3 February 2012

Mr Ravindra Sri Panditharathne
CEO / Founder
Sri Lanka Directory of Australia
PO Box 193 Chadstone Centre
CHADSTONE VIC 3148

Dear Mr Panditharathne

Thank you for your email dated 6 January 2012 about an appointment to hand over a Sri Lankan Directory. I have been asked to reply on behalf of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Kevin Rudd MP.

The Minister values highly the contributions made by Sri Lankan community leaders, members and groups. Mr Rudd and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade take every opportunity to consult with all sections of Australia's Sri Lankan community to promote reconciliation within the diaspora and gauge different views that may inform our relations with Sri Lanka.

Australia's long-term goal is to assist Sri Lanka to become a stable, economically resilient and peaceful nation. The diaspora is an influential stakeholder in Sri Lanka and can play a key role in achieving long-term peace in the country.

I would welcome a meeting to hand over the Directory at a mutually convenient time. Please contact my colleague Arti Kumria on arti.kumria@dfat.gov.au, and cc myself on richard.neumann@dfat.gov.au, to arrange a time that suits.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Neumann', written over a light blue circular watermark.

Richard Neumann
Director
India Political, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh Section