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எனது இல. }  
My No. } TA/ AUS/L/2011  
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உமது இல. }  
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## විදේශ සම්පත් දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව

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வெளிநாட்டு வள திணைக்களம்  
நிதி திட்டமிடல் அமைச்சு

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL RESOURCES  
Ministry of Finance and Planning

මහලේකම් රහාචනාරේඳු (3වැනි මහල)  
செயலகம் (3ஆம் மாடி)  
The Secretariat, (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)  
ත.පෙ. 277, කොළඹ 01.  
அ. பெ. இல. 277, கொழும்பு 01.  
P.O. Box 277, Colombo 01.

17 March 2010

All relevant Ministries & Institutions

### Australian Development Scholarships (ADS) - Intake for Academic Year 2011

The Government of Australia has invited applications from eligible Government officials in Sri Lanka for the above Scholarship Program.

The objective of ADS in Sri Lanka is to strengthen human resource capacity by providing valuable knowledge, skills and qualifications in key areas of Governance, Health, Environment and Education, thereby improving the provision of better services to the poor. Scholarships are awarded on condition that Awardees contribute to relevant Ministry or Institution in Sri Lanka, so that on their return they will implement an action plan spanning at least 2 years, integrating their studies into development needs of the country.

ADS is an award granted not just to an individual, but to the country. It is therefore kindly requested to nominate qualified personnel who can benefit from this program and also to ensure that their development action plans are implemented upon return.

Applicants must:

- have a first degree in the relevant field from a recognized Sri Lankan or a Foreign University, preference will be given to applicants with class passes and local postgraduate qualifications.
- be currently employed in the public sector of Sri Lanka
- have at least 3 years work experience in the public sector, and be confirmed in their posts.
- be less than 45 years of age on 1 January 2011.
- not have previously received any Sri Lankan or overseas government funded award for long term academic studies in a foreign country
- minimum IELTS (Academic Test) overall score of 6.5 is required with no bands less than 6.0.
- preferred Masters' degree study course should not be longer than 2 years in duration and preferably done by coursework

From this year onwards, ADS scholarships in the South Asian region are administered through AusAID's **South Asia Scholarship Program (SASP)**. Therefore, please advise all nominees to visit [www.southasiascholarship.org](http://www.southasiascholarship.org) and fill the application form online. In addition, all ADS applicants must forward copies of their application via registered post to the Department of External Resources and the Australian High Commission at the addresses provided therein. The **ERD Form No. 2 "Essential Information of the Nominee"** must be completed and sent along with the above documentation for further processing by the ERD. Government clearance to leave the country to participate in this program must be obtained only after the scholarship is awarded to an applicant.

In order to facilitate communication you are kindly requested to nominate a Contact Person of your Ministry to obtain the Scholarship Information Pack and exchange such other information on behalf of your Ministry with the following program officials of SASP. Please inform the name and contact details of the officer for our reference.

Dr. (Mrs.) Hemamali Palihakkara, Country Coordinator - South Asia Scholarship Program  
(Mobile Number: 077-3939038 / E-mail: [Hemamali\\_Palihakkara@southasiascholarship.org](mailto:Hemamali_Palihakkara@southasiascholarship.org))  
Ms. Dinukshi Fernando, Associate - South Asia Scholarship Program  
(Mobile Number: 077 8850186 / E-mail: [Dinukshi\\_Fernando@southasiascholarship.org](mailto:Dinukshi_Fernando@southasiascholarship.org))  
Website: [www.southasiascholarship.org](http://www.southasiascholarship.org)  
Address: No. 43/28, Nugagaha Place, Piliyandala Road, Maharagama.

Applications for ADS Intake 2011 are open from March 15, 2010 and close on June 30, 2010. Applications submitted after 5pm on the closing date will not be accepted.

**A. Sooriyagoda**  
Director/Technical Assistance Division  
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