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UK/Sri Lanka Relations



PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 81/82

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

21 April 1982

Dear Mr President

Thank you for your letter of 29 March.

I have noted with admiration and satisfaction your Government's success in coping with the very serious economic problems which faced you during 1980 and the early months of last year. I was therefore sorry to learn of your fears that an even more difficult period might lie ahead.

So far as British development assistance is concerned, I have been pleased to note that the Victoria Dam project continues to make good progress. We disbursed about £20 million on this in 1981/82, following the £27 million spent in 1980/81. The first inter-governmental review of the project is taking place in Sri Lanka this month, and we shall continue to monitor progress carefully.

You may be sure that the United Kingdom delegation at the Aid Group Meeting in Tokyo in July will be instructed, as usual, to take a constructive part in the discussions, and that we shall continue to work with the World Bank and others to assist Sri Lanka's economic growth and development.

All good wishes,

(SGD) MARGARET THATCHER

His Excellency Mr. J. R. Jayewardene.