

Subject:
Sri Lanka Relations
ops May 79



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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

25 April 1983

Dear Mr. President,

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. TS2^B/83

Thank you for your letter of 4 April about the next meeting of the Sri Lankan Aid Group.

As you say, the difficulties faced by Sri Lanka are common to many other non-oil developing countries and we understand them well. I am glad that you have been so successful so far in surmounting them. You will, I know, understand that we have many calls on our resources, and it will not be easy to strike a balance between the needs of Sri Lanka and those of other countries in a similar predicament. But we shall take fully into account the needs of Sri Lanka as you have so convincingly described them and shall do all that we can within the resources available.

Since you wrote, I have seen Mr. Premadasa and received his letter of 25 March asking for further assistance with the Victoria Dam project. We are looking urgently into the possibilities.

It will be a great pleasure to see you again during your State Visit in June.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

His Excellency Mr. J.R. Jayewardene