

SUBJECT
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DS
S. Thatcher
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cc Master
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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

1 June 1981

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

Thank you for your letter of 12 May.

I have followed with great interest the efforts of your Government to achieve the developmental targets and the other objectives which it has set itself. I sympathise with you in the difficulties you face, which as you say, are in large measure due to features of the current world economic situation.

Her Majesty's Government has been pleased to be so closely associated with the centre piece of your development strategy, the Accelerated Mahaweli Programme. It is good to know that the construction work on our main project - the Victoria Dam - is now well under way.

As I explained last year, because of our large input to this project, which is in fact our largest commitment to any single project, we shall not be able to make any additional pledge of capital aid at the Aid Group meeting in Tokyo. The British delegation will, of course, play a constructive part in the work of the meeting and will confirm our determination to pursue the satisfactory completion of the projects to which we are committed. We shall also emphasise our continued participation in programmes of technical co-operation and training.

I congratulate you on your success so far and extend my best wishes in your struggle to achieve your objectives.

(SGD) MARGARET THATCHER

His Excellency Mr, J.R. Jayewardene

vb



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

29 May 1981

Dear Michael,

Thank you for your letter of 22 May with which you enclosed a copy of a letter to the Prime Minister from the President of Sri Lanka. I now enclose a draft reply for the Prime Minister's signature.

The letter outlines Sri Lanka's objectives and the various constraints to their achievement. It requests sympathetic consideration of the documents to be circulated by the World Bank in preparation for the forthcoming Aid Group meeting in Tokyo. In view of our agreement to provide £100 million towards the cost of the Victoria Dam project it will not be possible, as we explained last year, to enter into any additional capital aid commitments.

Within these constraints we will continue to give the Sri Lankans every possible advice and assistance with the implementation of their development programme.

yours ever

Roderic Lyne

(R M J Lyne)
Private Secretary

M O D'B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

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29 MAY 1981

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File No.	*S/O Letter	Official Letter	Despatch	Minute	Memo
Your Ref.	For signature by PRIME MINISTER				Ext.
	*SECURITY	Unclass.	In Conf.	Restricted	Conf. Secret Top Secret

Draft by

Mr Cook 28/5
 Mr Hurrell 28/5
 Mr Burner
 Mr Lyne

Addressed
 HE Mr J R Jayewardene
 President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
~~33 Hyde Park Gardens, London W2 2LU~~

ENCLOSURES

FURTHER ACTION AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Return to Room No.....

REFERENCES AND AMENDMENTS

*Tick as appropriate

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