



GoodSport NEWS

S R I L A N K A O L Y M P I C W E E K L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N

SPORTS NEWS

FINA President's visit to Lanka



**DR. HUSAIN
HERE WITH A BAG FULL OF GOODIES**

It was a red-letter day to the Sri Lankan swimming fraternity. On the 25th of March 2022, our little island made history with welcoming none other than the FINA President, Dr. Husain Al-Musallam.

Not a stranger to the island he has visited the country multiple times, either as a captain steering an aircraft or as a sports official leading an organization.

Dr. Husain stepped into the country as the newly elected FINA president, with big plans to change the sports field in Sri Lanka. He has extended his hands to join with his decades' -

worth of expertise as a sports person and a sports official, to elevate Sri Lanka to the next level, highlighting the value of teamwork for success.

Dr. Husain, was born in Kuwait. He was also a swimmer who was a member of the national team at the tender age of thirteen. Between 1974 and 1976, he competed in all Pan-Arab, Asian and World Swimming Championships.

In 1978, he joined Kuwait Airways Corporation as a co-pilot and promoted to airline captain in 1988. He worked as a training and check captain since 1994.

He then joined the Olympic Council of Asia on the 25th December 1982, and became the Deputy Director General and Technical Director in December 1998.

He joined the OCA Executive Board on 23 January 2003. He is serving as the Director General of the council since September 2005.

He is also a commission member of the International Olympic Committee's Olympic Solidarity. In 2015, he was elected as First Vice President of International Swimming Federation (FINA).

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Acknowledging his illustrious career in the field of sports, he received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa in Sports Science from Kookmin University in February 2019.

On June 2019, he was elected as the Secretary General of Kuwait Olympic Committee, followed by putting another feather in his cap by being elected as the President of the Federation Internationale De Natation (FINA) in June 2021.

The Federation Internationale De Natation, better known as FINA, is the international governing body of 6 water sports, namely; Swimming, Diving, High Diving, Artistic Swimming, Water Polo and Open Water Swimming.

Following the arrival of Dr. Husain Al-Musallam on invitation of the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka, he met the media on Saturday at the Hemasiri Fernando Auditorium.

“He said, “First of all, I am very happy to be in Colombo, Sri Lanka. I am no stranger, I know you very well, I know your sports very well since 1982. We’ve worked with many sports organizations and leaders in Sri Lanka for more than 55 years.

“I had a discussion with his excellency, the sports minister, about the future of sport in Sri Lanka and how we can work with the government to develop the Sports Law here. I think we reached a good common ground on this and I am sure this law would be the best for the future.

Yesterday, I had a meeting with the NOC SL and then we met with the Swimming Federation here and with a few swimmers as well.

“I believe that we can move forward in sports with just one thing; not with money, not with facilities, but with teamwork. If the government, national federations and the National Olympic Committee work together, everything will be easier. Our job as the OCA or the IOC will become much easier, if this whole family in sports are together, because then, there is only one goal; the goal is to make a better environment and a future in sports for the Sri Lankan youth. Sport is very important for the society. Though winning is a very important aspect, it is more important to work together.

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“Regardless of which sport it is, it is important let athletes enjoy their sport and life, and through that only, we can find true talent, and this is our duty. In my discussions with the swimming federation and the NOC SL I said ‘I am now the president of FINA and I feel that I am a part of you now, so we should work together before my time is over to create a good system in Sri Lanka.’

“We agreed to send three coaches from FINA for Diving, Swimming and Water Polo, build a facility for Dry Land Diving here and to help with the construction of a swimming pool for the National Team. Further, we agreed to give Sri Lanka two scholarships this year to two talented athletes, one male and one female athlete, for studying and training for 4 years in Hungary. This is what I can do for Sri Lanka in my position and what I expect from Sri Lanka is, to work together as a team.”

Prior to Dr. Husain’s words of value, the proceedings got underway with the President of the NOC SL, -

Mr. Suresh Subramaniam welcoming the captain stating, “Dr. Husain, better known as Captain Husain is no stranger to me and no stranger to the NOC; the man with a smile and always with open arms, ready to help Sri Lanka. I don’t want to take his pride announcing what he’s done so far but I can only tell you that he gave assurance to the Hon. Minister of Youth and Sports, a few minutes ago ‘I am the FINA President, you decide what you want’.”

Secretary General of the NOC SL, Mr. Maxwell De Silva, wrapped up stating, “Captain Husain has been to Sri Lanka many times; as a pilot and as a sportsperson. I believe I should acknowledge two events with captain Husain; firstly, more than 10 years ago when we first built the Hemasiri Fernando Auditorium and then 1 ½ years ago when we modernized the auditorium, he approved us USD100,000 as the DG of OCA.

“He’s a friend of Sri Lanka, a friend of sports and a friend of NOC SL and I am happy that he has visited a developing country like Sri Lanka -

“ I believe that we can move forward in sports with just one thing; not with money, not with facilities, but with teamwork. If the government, national federations and the National Olympic Committee work together, everything will be easier. Our job as the OCA or the IOC will become much easier, if this whole family in sports are together, because then, there is only one goal; the goal is to make a better environment and a future in sports for the Sri Lankan youth. ”

in person. During his visit here so far, he has extended a helping hand to the ministry, the NOC SL and the national federation with what we want and that attitude is much appreciated. We also appreciate you for what you have done so far for sports in general and for conveying the message to the leadership of the country how sports should be developed”.

Yasodara Dunuwille

සත්කාරක හමිමා හඟරයෙහි විරාම සටිකා ප්‍රධානියක



ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ජාතික ඔලිම්පික් කමිටුව සමීප සබඳතා පවත්වන ජපානයේ හමිමා සත්කාරක නගරයේ අධ්‍යක්ෂක කමිටුව විසින් පරිත්‍යාග කරන ලද විරාම සටිකා බෙදාදීමේ වැඩසටහනක් මාර්තු 23 දින ශ්‍රී ලංකා ඔලිම්පික් කමිටු ශ්‍රවණාගාරයේදී පැවැත්විණි.

අනාගත ජාත්‍යන්තර ක්‍රීඩා ඉලක්ක කර ගනිමින් පුහුණුවීම් කටයුතු සඳහා ත් දීර්ඝ කාලීන මිත්‍රත්වය අඛණ්ඩව පවත්වාගෙන යාම සහ ශ්‍රී ලංකා ක්‍රීඩක ක්‍රීඩිකාවන්ගේ පහසුකම් ශක්තිමත් කිරීම සඳහා ත්, මෙම වැඩසටහන සංවිධානය කෙරිණි.

මෙහි දී උසස් තත්ත්වයේ නිරවද්‍ය විරාම සටිකා 20 ක්, පාසල් සහ ක්‍රීඩා සංගම් අතර බෙදා හැරිණි. උත්සවයට සම්බන්ධ ආයතන වූයේ -- හංවැල්ල රාජසිංහ මධ්‍ය මහා විද්‍යාලය, කැගල්ල ශාන්ත මරියා විද්‍යාලය, විහාරගල මහා විද්‍යාලය, යා/මහජන විද්‍යාලය, මා/රංගිරි දඹුල්ල ජාතික පාසල, බ/යහල අරාව ම.වි., පී. ද එස්. කුලරත්න මහා විද්‍යාලය, අඹගමුව මධ්‍ය මහා විද්‍යාලය, නන්තපුරාව මහා විද්‍යාලය , අ/ ස්වර්ණපාලි බාලිකා මහා විද්‍යාලය, වලල ඒ. රත්නායක ම.වි., මහනුවර බෙරවට්ස් විද්‍යාලය, මේස පන්දු සංගමය, ජූඩෝ සංගමය, මලල ක්‍රීඩා සංගමය සහ අධ්‍යාපන අමාත්‍යාංශය.

මෙම වැඩසටහන සමග සම්බන්ධ වූ නිලධාරීන් වූයේ ZOOM තාක්ෂණය හරහා සම්බන්ධ වූ හමිමා නගරයේ ගිඟු ප්‍රාන්ත පුරවැසි සහයෝගීතා අංශයේ විධායක අධ්‍යක්ෂක, කෙසිසෙහ කිටගකි සහ හමිමා නගරයේ ගිඟු ප්‍රාන්ත පුරවැසි සහයෝගීතා අංශයේ සහකාර කළමනාකරු, කෙන්ටා උළුනෝ ය.

ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජාතික ඔලිම්පික් කමිටුව වෙනුවෙන් එහි සභාපති සුරේෂ් සුබිරමනියම්, මහලේකම් මැක්ස්වෙල් ද සිල්වා සහ අධ්‍යාපන අමාත්‍යාංශය වෙනුවෙන් උපාලි අමරතුංග එක්ව සිටියහ.





OLYMPIC SOLIDARITY SPORT ADMINISTRATORS COURSE - 2022

RESCHEDULED
NEW DATE ANNOUNCED

New Dates: 21 - 24 April 2022

Where: Online [Zoom]

Tel: +94-11-268-4420

Email: natolcom@slt.lk

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MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR BIRMINGHAM 2022

The application for media accreditation for written press, photographers and non-rights holding broadcasters is now open.

The online application form will be available until midnight (British Summer Time) on 29 April 2022 but media are encouraged to apply early as applications will be reviewed throughout the period.

For media accreditation, click the link below

<https://www.birmingham2022.com/media-operations>



Media Accreditation

Applications for written press, photographers and non-rights holding broadcasters are now open

APPLY NOW

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