



Returning to Sri Lanka



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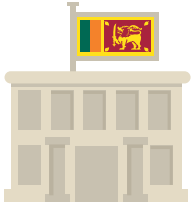
This document provides information and details of organisations which may be useful if you are facing removal or deportation to Sri Lanka.

While every care is taken to ensure that the information is correct this does not constitute a guarantee that the organisations will provide the services listed.

Your Embassy in the UK

High Commission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

13 Hyde Park Gardens, London W2 2LU
Tel: 020 7262 1841 **Fax:** 020 7262 7970
Email: mail@slhc-london.co.uk
consular@srilankahighcommission.co.uk
www.srilankahighcommission.co.uk



Travel documents

A valid Sri Lankan passport can be used to travel from the UK to Sri Lanka. If you have an expired Sri Lankan passport you can apply for a replacement.

If you do not have an original valid or expired passport an application will need to be made for an emergency travel document which consists of:

Submission letter to accompany ETD applications or further supporting evidence letter;

IS33 Form;

- Bio-Data Form;
- Application form from the individual and the Home Office
- 4 passport photos
- Supporting evidence, if available, to include original or copy of expired passport, original or copy of birth certificate, original or copy of driving licence, original or copy of ID card
- Full UK birth certificate must be provided for children born in the UK;

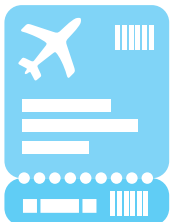
As part of the documentation process, a face to face interview with officials from the Sri Lanka High Commission is mandatory. Interviews can be conducted at the High Commission, HO reporting centres or immigration removal centres.



Return

If you are willing to return and want to ensure that you are returned to Sri Lanka as soon as possible you can:

- Contact your caseworker at the Home Office to say that you are willing to return;
- Make every effort to find supporting documentation for issuing of travel documents;
- Make contact with the Sri Lankan Consulate to begin the process of obtaining a travel document.



You may find it useful to read the information below to begin preparing for your return.

Documentation in Sri Lanka

The Sri Lankan National Identity Card (NIC) is compulsory for all citizens of Sri Lanka over the age of 16 and is required to obtain a passport, driving license and in order to be able to vote in elections. In order to apply you must complete an application form and provide your birth certificate as proof of age. For more information on how to apply see the Sri Lankan Government's Information Centre website: **www.gic.gov.lk**





Accommodation

There is no social housing in Sri Lanka. An individual returning to Sri Lanka will need to have money in order to rent accommodation or rely on relatives or friends.



Health

Sri Lanka provides free universal health care coverage to all its citizens. Private healthcare is also available. Both public and private healthcare facilities are readily available in all major towns and cities.



Emergency support

There is no state social security system for the unemployed, sick or elderly in Sri Lanka. Any emergency support comes from faith and charitable organisations.



Employment, education and training

The education system in Sri Lanka is divided into five stages: primary, junior secondary, senior secondary, collegiate and tertiary. Primary education last 5-6 years, junior 4 years and senior secondary level lasts 2 years. Collegiate level lasts for 2 years during which time students take their GCE Advanced level examinations. Tertiary level education is provided through universities. Education in Sri Lanka is free and is compulsory between the ages of 5 and 15.

Vocational education and training in Sri Lanka is managed by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission of the Ministry of Vocational and Technical Training. Through its Vocational Training Authority, the Sri Lankan Ministry of Youth Affairs and Skills provides skills development programmes in a number of different subjects in training centres across the country. For more information about courses available and how to apply see the website of the Vocational Training Authority:

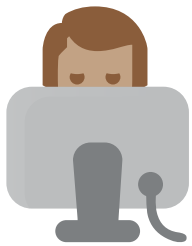
www.vtasl.gov.lk

Traditionally, the employment sections of the Sri Lankan Sunday newspapers were the best way to find job openings, however there are also a number of jobs listing websites that you may find useful:

www.topjobs.lk

www.jobsjobs.lk

If you studied in the UK you may have certificates proving you have skills and qualifications which may help you to get a job. However, employers in Sri Lanka may not recognise these qualifications. If this is the case, you can contact the British Council who may be able to verify any qualifications issued by an accredited UK institution. You will need to provide the original document.



Directory

Caritas Sri Lanka SEDEC
No. 133, Kynsey Road, Colombo 08, Sri Lanka
Tel: +94 11 269 18 85/+94 11 269 39 89 **Fax:** +94 11 269 51 36
Email: directorsec@sitnet.lk

Caritas Sri Lanka's programmes include: Assisting reconstruction and rehabilitation in the North and East of Sri Lanka through housing, livelihood creation, psychosocial support, community empowerment and programmes on drug and alcohol abuse. The Safe Migration programme provides assistance to migrant returnees.

Jaffna Social Action Centre

provides an immediately accessible secure place for children and women affected by violence through its safe house for women and children. The safe house provides temporary shelter, medical care and legal advice.

No. 149 4th Cross Street, Jaffna.

Tel: +94212223699

Email: jsacjaffna@gmail.com



Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Sri Lanka

Sangarappillai Lane, Rambaikulam, Vavuniya, Sri Lanka

Tel: +94 24 49 22 945 **Fax:** +94 24 22 25 873

Email: joelsj29@yahoo.com

JRS is a Catholic organisation providing assistance and services to refugees, Internally Displaced Persons, returnees, detainees and stateless people. JRS offers education, vocational and skills training, income generation programmes, and assistance for farming, fishing etc.

Lakshan Dias Associates

provides reintegration assistance and support to returnees to Sri Lanka including assistance at the airport and helping returnees reunite with their families.

Tel: 0757119417 / 0714534527

Email: lakshandias@yahoo.co.uk

Lanka+

No.05 Vijitha, Sri Waishakya Mawatha, Obeysekarapura, Rajagiriya, Western Province, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Tel: +94 11 4901692

Fax: +94 11 2885014

Email: lankaplus@yahoo.com

Runs self-help groups and networks of people living with HIV/AIDS.

Norwegian Refugee Council Sri Lanka

Horton Place, Colombo 07, Sri Lanka

Tel: +94 11 26 79 210 **Fax:** +94 11 26 79 211

Email: info@nrc.lk

www.nrc.no/?aid=916714819/5

NRC provides assistance to refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees. Services include information, counselling and legal assistance.

Organisation for the Rehabilitation of Eelam Refugees (Ceylon)

Second floor, 2B, Jayawardena Place

Off Hill Street, Dehiwala, Colombo

Tel: +94 11 55 16 520 / 27 37 334 **Fax:** +94 11 27 34 129

Email: oferrceylon@sltnet.lk

www.oferr.org

OfERR is a refugee organisation working with internally displaced persons and returnees in the North and East of Sri Lanka. OfERR's services include education and skills training for adults and children; health and nutrition services; counselling and social awareness. They also provide emergency

Positive Women Network

158, Temple Road, Maradana, Colombo 10, Sri Lanka

Email: pwnprincy@gmail.com

Care, support, counselling and referrals for women living with HIV/AIDS.

Salvation Army Sri Lanka

Salvation Army Territorial HQ, 53 Sir James Peiris Mawatha

PO Box 193, Colombo 2, Sri Lanka

Tel: +94 11 243 4660 **Fax:** +94 11 243 6065

Email: sri_thq@sri.salvationarmy.org

www.salvationarmy.org/sri/home-page-of-the-salvation-army-sri-lanka

Provides social and welfare services and some emergency hostels for vulnerable groups.



Survivors Associated

No.22, Melford Crescent, Dehiwala, Srilanka.

Tel: + 27 38 313 / +27 35 408 **Fax:** + 420 05 59

Email: suraso@eureka.lk

www.survivorsassociated.org

Survivors Associated is an organisation providing holistic care to marginalised conflict affected people such as torture survivors, disabled IDPs, female heads of households and their families. Services include training and services in Psychosocial and Disability Rehabilitation, Economic Empowerment and Conflict Resolution.

This resource was produced by Praxis Community Projects
in partnership with Hibiscus Initiatives.

Hibiscus Initiatives

Hibiscus Initiatives works with men and women in the UK who are in prison, immigration detention, requiring support in the community after leaving prison or detention to those who have been victims of trafficking. Their work includes welfare and advocacy in prisons, international resettlement, combating trafficking and volunteering and community resettlement. If you would like to know more about Hibiscus Initiatives you can contact them on the details below:

Resource for London, 356 Holloway Road London N7 6PA

Tel: + 44 (0) 20 7697 4120 **Fax:** + 44 (0) 20 7697 4272

Email: info@hibiscusinitiatives.org.uk

www.hibiscusinitiatives.org.uk

Praxis Community Projects

Praxis Community Projects works with vulnerable migrants including foreign national offenders providing advice, advocacy and casework on immigration, housing, welfare benefits. If you would like to know more about Praxis Community Projects you can contact them on the details below:

Pott Street, London E2 0EF

Tel: +44 (0)20 7729 7985 **Fax:** +44 (0)20 7729 0134

Email: advice@praxis.org.uk

www.praxis.org.uk
