**Q-1** UE 1

SLFP can’t win under current chairman: Lohan

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/95213/slfp-can-t-win-under-current-chairman-lohan>

3 – GENERAL 0.468164283

1 – POLITICS 0.274004604

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.215387547

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.039713667

5 - SPORTS 0.001131035

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 8.13E-04

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 7.86E-04

UPFA MP Lohan Ratwatte said today the person who defeated the SLFP was the party chairman and as such the party could not win under the present chairman. “SLFP supporters at grassroots level are not in favour of the present party chairman as he was the one who worked against the party and defeated it. I like to tell our supporters to be patient until the right opportunity comes,” he said. He said the party should either remain in the opposition or in the government. Mr. Ratwatte said the situation in the country was so complicated now and seems as if the war victory would be reversed. “The LTTE is raising its head again. LTTE prisoners should not be released. I’m completely against this move,” he said.

**Q-2** UE 2

24 ex-LTTEers released on bail

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/95215/24-ex-ltteers-released-on-bail>

3 – GENERAL 0.703008955

1 – POLITICS 0.161740642

5 - SPORTS 0.097534515

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.033838925

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.00133121

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.001287538

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.001258215

Twenty four ex-LTTE detainees were today released on strict bail conditions after providing sureties from their places of residence. They are a section of the 31 ex-LTTE detainees, who were earlier released on strict bail conditions by the Colombo Magistrate’s Court yesterday but had to return to prison because they were unable to provide sureties as specified by Court.

**Q-3** UE 36

Tourism Receipts touch $2.1 billion as at end September 2015

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/90903/tourism-receipts-touch-2-1-billion-as-at-end-september-2015>

4 - TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.509758981

5 - SPORTS 0.128528274

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.12807816

1 - POLITICS 0.103450923

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.077233855

3 - GENERAL 0.02647874

2 - ENTERTAINMENT 0.026471068

Sri Lanka's Tourism recorded the highest growth of 35.9% in September whilst tourism receipts reached 2.1 billion dollars as at end September 2015 which is the upturn we have seen with strong promotions done by a private-public partnership. The Sri Lanka Tourism Promotions Bureau chairman Dr Athukorala opinioned that the key issue to address is the un-control sector leisure industry accounting for 49% of business whilst it's imperative that we focus on attracting the $250 tourist ensure financial sustainability.

**Q-4** UE 22

Agreement signed for Ceylon tea global campaign

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/94633/agreement-signed-for-ceylon-tea-global-campaign>

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.387792426

5 - SPORTS 0.186992194

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.136781152

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.122291117

1 – POLITICS 0.079446619

3 – GENERAL 0.064885471

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.021811021

An agreement was signed by the Plantation Industries Ministry and Phoenix Ogilvy to launch a global communications campaign to promote Ceylon tea as the most exotic tea in the world and thereby command a better premium price. The agreement was signed on behalf of the ministry by Secretary Upali Marasinghe and on behalf of Phoenix Ogilvy, by its Chairman Irvin Weerackody, at the Sri Lanka Tea Board recently in the presence of Plantations Minister Navin Dissanayake. Tea Board Chairman Rohan Pethiyagoda was also present at the occasion. The global campaign was proposed to focus within seven identified regions, namely Russia/CIS, Middle-East/Gulf, African, Far East Oceania, European, American and South Asian regions. In the first phase, the global campaign will focus on 12 markets during 2015/2016 and the rest will be considered during the second phase. The USA, UAE, UK, Japan, Russia, Iran, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Germany, China, Australia and India will come under the first phase. Tea, once the number one foreign exchange earner, is now lagging behind remittances from Sri Lankans working abroad and the apparel industry. The industry has been beleaguered by high costs of production, low productivity and incoherent and inconsistent policies. While the new administration will address these issues, the launch of a campaign of this nature is considered most desirable by the tea industry.

**Q-5** UE 111

ADELE AND ELVIS PRESLEY HOLD TIGHT ON TOP OF UK CHARTS

<http://www.hirunews.lk/entertainment/120309/adele-elvis-presley-hold-tight-on-top-uk-charts>

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.447088358

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.248808185

1 – POLITICS 0.100887328

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.100634271

5 - SPORTS 0.051000903

3 – GENERAL 0.025822576

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.025758379

There’s no change at the top of the UK album and singles chart this week, as Elvis Presley and Adele continue to hold on to the number one spots respectively. Over in the albums chart, Elvis Presley proves he really still is the king by holding on to the top spot for a second week. If I Can Dream, which includes re-workings of his classic hits by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, racked up over 88,600 combined chart sales this week, beating its first-week tally.

**Q-6** UE 65

England have potential but lack organisation – Del Bosque

<http://sports.dailymirror.lk/2015/11/13/england-have-potential-but-lack-organisation-del-bosque/>

5 - SPORTS 0.590809676

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.13614154

1 – POLITICS 0.088706146

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.081704343

3 – GENERAL 0.041003613

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.034215179

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.027419502

Roy Hodgson’s England have “great potential” but need to be more organised, said Spain coach Vicente del Bosque on the eve of Friday’s friendly between the two nations. England impressed with a perfect 10 wins as they topped Euro 2016 Group E qualifying and will be looking to carry that form into the finals in France next year. Holders Spain also won their group after recovering from an early reverse to Slovakia and will chase an unprecedented third consecutive European title after their triumphs in 2008 and 2012. “England have a team with great potential and are individually very strong,” Del Bosque told a news conference ahead of the game at Alicante’s Jose Rico Perez stadium. “Once they have a bit of organisation they will be a great side.” Spain and England last met in November 2011 when a Frank Lampard goal was enough for a 1-0 home victory at Wembley. The 2010 world champions went on to win Euro 2012, conceding only one goal in the tournament and thrashing Italy 4-0 in the final while England were knocked out by the Italians on penalties in the quarter-finals. Del Bosque again defended combative Chelsea striker Diego Costa who has been underperforming for club and country in recent months but has been included in Spain’s squad. Costa has made nine appearances for La Roja since choosing them over his native Brazilbut has only managed one goal, the third in a 4-0 victory over Luxembourg. Del Bosque, who has also been critical of Costa’s disciplinary problems in the Premier League, said he was confident the 27-year-old would succeed at international level. “We know what Diego Costa’s character is like,” said the coach. “He is not here because we are obliged to bring him because he has any debt to us. He is here because we believe in him.” After hosting England, Spain travel to Brussels to play Belgium in another friendly on Tuesday.

**Q-7** UE 106

3 DAYS, 27 DEALS: INDIA 'MOST OPEN', SAYS PM NARENDRA MODI IN UK

<http://www.hirunews.lk/120161/3-days-27-deals-india-most-open-says-pm-narendra-modi-in-uk>

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.273306898

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.177059933

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.144970186

1 – POLITICS 0.129441758

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.113240485

5 - SPORTS 0.097156512

3 – GENERAL 0.064824228

Mr Modi and David Cameron are due to sign deals between Indian and UK firms worth more than £9bn. The leaders said they would collaborate on issues including finance, defence, nuclear power and climate change. Mr Modi, whose three-day visit is the first by an Indian prime minister in a decade, said India's relationship with the UK was of "immense importance". He also said that India viewed the UK as its "entry point to the EU". Mr Modi is known as a brilliant public speaker and is very popular among Indian communities abroad - 60,000 people are expected to fill Wembley Stadium to hear him speak

**Q-8** UE 74

Five enter FIFA presidency race; Bility, Platini sidelined

<http://sports.dailymirror.lk/2015/11/12/five-enter-fifa-presidency-race-bility-platini-sidelined/>

5 - SPORTS 0.415872437

1 – POLITICS 0.192556074

3 – GENERAL 0.124217657

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.096289991

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.080845879

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.049764376

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.040453586

FIFA had already announced that it would not process former French international football star while he was suspended, but could review its position if he wins an appeal against the ban. Buffeted by a series of scandals over the last few years, FIFA was thrown into turmoil in May by the U.S. indictments of 14 football officials, including two FIFA vice-presidents, and sports marketing executives for alleged corruption. Blatter, also suspended for 90 days, is facing criminal investigation in Switzerland over a 2 million Swiss franc ($2.1 million) payment from FIFA to Platini. Both men have denied wrongdoing. FIFA’s electoral committee said on Thursday the five approved presidential candidates were Prince Ali Bin Al Hussein of Jordan, Asian Football Confederation President Sheikh Salman Bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa of Bahrain, former FIFA official Jerome Champagne ofFrance, UEFA General Secretary Gianni Infantino of Switzerland and South Africa businessman Tokyo Sexwale. “The integrity check included a review of corporate records, litigation cases, bankruptcy proceedings, potential regulatory actions taken against the candidate and a review of media reports concerning potential red flags (fraudulent behaviour, match manipulation, human rights violations, etc.),” the committee said in a statement.

**Q-9** UE 29

Experience the sensational Seychelles with SriLankan Holidays

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/42222/experience-the-sensational-seychelles-with-srilankan-holidays->

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.631401535

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.163287081

1 – POLITICS 0.061560606

5 - SPORTS 0.054685254

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.040992272

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.027428794

3 – GENERAL 0.020644458

SriLankan Holidays, the leisure arm of SriLankan Airlines offers an exciting holiday package to Seychelles with its latest codeshare route with its sister airline, Mihin Lanka that operates two flights a week to the sensational islands. Now for the first time, anyone who wishes to enjoy the charms of an unspoilt seaside holiday will not only have the chance to board a non-stop flight to Seychelles but also to explore the island beauty to his/her heart’s content. The bunch of islands, known for being a sanctuary for sailing, kite boarding, kite surfing, windsurfing, jet-skiing and paragliding is also strewn with street markets and souvenir shops. Despite being popular for its breath-taking beaches that never see vacant days, Seychelles also boasts of forest ranges and spectacular array of flora and fauna, which provides the ideal trekking and hiking opportunities for travellers. Complete with delectable culinary experiences and friendly smiles, Seychelles is the ideal getaway for those who are dying for a time away from the worries, work and the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Enjoy to the fullest a holiday under the rustling palms on the golden sand, with SriLankan Holidays’ new package starting at LKR 56,999/- which includes airfare with taxes, hotel accommodation for 2 nights with breakfast on twin sharing basis and return airport transfers. Those who wish to extend their holiday can obtain an extra night for LKR 7900/-.

**Q-10** UE 8

Suu Kyi's National League wins majority in Myanmar

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/95177/league-wins-majority-in-myanmar>

1 – POLITICS 0.566700534

5 - SPORTS 0.14412782

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.118804586

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.09327495

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.042598854

3 – GENERAL 0.025702927

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.008790329

The National League for Democracy has won a majority in Myanmar's historic general election ending decades of military-backed rule, the BBC said. With more than 80% of seats declared, Aung San Suu Kyi's party has more than the two-thirds it needs to control parliament and choose the president. But a quarter of seats are allocated to the military, which means it will remain hugely influential. Myanmar's constitution means Ms. Suu Kyi cannot now become president. It specifically bars anyone whose children were born foreign nationals from holding the job. Both her sons were born British. But Ms. Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate who spent decades under military-imposed house arrest, has insisted she would lead the country anyway if her party won. Sunday's election was the first openly contested poll in Myanmar in 25 years. It was widely seen as a fair vote though there were reports of irregularities, and hundreds of thousands of people - including the Muslim Rohingya minority, who are not recognised as citizens - were denied voting rights. About 30 million people were eligible to vote and turnout was estimated at about 80%. The ruling military-backed Union Solidarity Development Party (USDP) - which won the last, widely criticised election five years ago - has so far gained about 5% of seats contested.

**Q-11** UE 52

Sri Lanka Tourism blitz on Sony Six for Sanga Farewell

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/84235/sri-lanka-tourism-blitz-on-sony-six-for-sanga-farewell>

5 - SPORTS 0.294463217

4 - TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.260718475

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.130402446

2 - ENTERTAINMENT 0.106300115

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.106293511

1 - POLITICS 0.072683445

3 - GENERAL 0.02913879

Sri Lanka Tourism will show case the beauty of Sri Lanka on the theme " 8 wonderful experiences in 8 wonderful days" in the focussed markets of India, Middle East and UK apart from the other countries that Sony Six will relay it's live broadcast announced which accounted for 40% of the arrivals into Sri Lanka as at end July 2015 commended Sri Lanka Tourism Promotions Bureau Chairman Dr. Rohantha Athukorala. It is a fact that Kumar Sangakkara is undoubtedly the most impactful tourism brand Ambassador that Sri Lanka has had and it will be interesting to see one can place a value on Brand "Kumar" on the overall Sri Lanka brand that is valued at $61 billion dollars as per brand finance UK he voiced. Sangakkara, made his test debut against South Africa in 2000, has so far played 131 test matches. He has scored 12,271 test runs, inclusive of 38 test centuries and 52 half centuries. Sony SIX, India’s Premier Sports Entertainment Channel is owned and operated by MSM India. The company is well known to exclusively broadcast some of the world’s largest as well as renowned international sporting properties like The Pepsi IPL, 2014 FIFA World Cup™, UEFA EURO 2016, Qualifiers for UEFA EURO 2016, European Qualifiers for 2018 FIFA World Cup™, 2018 FIFA World Cup™,TNA, The Australian Open Tennis Championship, The NBA and The Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC). Since its inception, the channel has successfully managed to target the youth of India through a mix of sports and entertainment.

**Q-12** UE 94

**A1 construction cost up by Rs. 2 billion, says Namal**

<http://www.adaderana.lk/news.php?nid=33034>

1 - POLITICS 0.318267493

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.212028554

5 - SPORTS 0.14904981

4 - TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.106875793

3 - GENERAL 0.085358215

2 - ENTERTAINMENT 0.064234234

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.064185903

The construction of the Colombo- Kandy highway has been estimated to be around Rs. 4.2 billion now, however, the former government had plans to finish the project for Rs. 2.2 billion, MP Namal Rajapaksa says. “Two lanes of the A1 highway have also been removed, but the estimated cost has doubled. As the opposition, we have the responsibility to monitor these development projects,” he added. The first phase of construction work on the Colombo-Kandy Expressway began on August 03. The first phase of the A1 is planned for construction from Kadawatha to Mirigama while its second phase would be from Mirigama to Kurunegala. The third phase would be from Kurunegala to Kandy.

**Q-13** UE 66

Hamilton feeling good after fever and accident

<http://sports.dailymirror.lk/2015/11/13/hamilton-feeling-good-after-fever-and-accident/>

5 - SPORTS 0.491266196

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.14599632

1 – POLITICS 0.119075984

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.086534213

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.070361302

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.04877357

3 – GENERAL 0.037992415

Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton said he was feeling good for Sunday’sBrazilian Grand Prix after making a delayed arrival in Sao Paulo on Thursday due to sickness and a car accident. “I’m on the up-slope, so I am a lot closer to 100 percent,” the Mercedes driver told reporters at the Interlagos circuit ahead of the penultimate race of a championship that he has already won. Hamilton had revealed late on Wednesday, via Instagram and after the team had said he was suffering from a fever, that he had been involved in a road accident in Monaco in the early hours of Tuesday morning. The 30-year-old Briton said he wanted to take responsibility for the incident to prevent people from making a “quick buck” out of it. “Nobody was hurt, which is the most important thing,” he had told his fans. “But the car was obviously damaged and I made very light contact with a stationary vehicle.” He gave no further details after flying in on Thursday. Unconfirmed media reports suggested he had been driving a purple Pagani Zonda supercar, worth around $2 million, at the time. The triple champion said life had been hectic since the Mexican Grand Prix on Nov 1. “I had gone to Mexico on the Wednesday. We worked all day Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday,” he said. “And then I had my mum’s (60th birthday) party (in London) and that killed me, That was pretty amazing, but I really felt it on Sunday and Monday.” Hamilton said he had decided to rest at home and leave a day later than scheduled after consulting with his team and doctor. “However, I am informing you because I feel we all must take responsibility for our actions. Mistakes happen to us all but what’s important is that we learn from them and grow. Can’t wait for the weekend Brazil.” Hamilton clinched his third world title in Texas last month with three races to spare but has a patchy record behind the wheel when away from the race track. He was banned from driving in France in 2007 and had his car impounded after being caught driving at 40 miles per hour above the speed-limit on a motorway northeast of Paris.

**Q-14** UE 104

JOHN LENNON BOOK WINS GOLDSMITHS PRIZE

<http://www.hirunews.lk/entertainment/120170/john-lennon-book-wins-goldsmiths-prize>

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.554282448

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.147319153

1 – POLITICS 0.118507592

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.088501547

5 - SPORTS 0.059908358

3 – GENERAL 0.030332564

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.001148339

A fictional book about John Lennon has won the Goldsmiths Prize. Kevin Barry's Beatlebone is described as a novel "that takes its reader to the edge - of the Western world, of sanity, of fame, of words". His novel is set in Dorinish, an uninhabited island off the Irish coast, which Lennon bought in 1967 for £1,700. Set in 1978, it follows the former Beatle as he visits the island to attend a course of primal scream therapy.

**Q-15** UE 10

Navy begins transfer of Avant Garde weapons

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/95147/navy-begins-transfer-of-avant-garde-weapons>

1 – POLITICS 0.471170181

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.287831563

5 - SPORTS 0.131879392

3 – GENERAL 0.053242119

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.027662949

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.027161248

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.001052548

The Navy would take all the weapons belonging to the Avant-Garde Maritime Services (Pvt.) Limited to its possession commencing today, Navy Spokesman Captain Akram Alavi said. He said the move comes after the decision of President Maithripala Sirisena to hand over the operations of the Avant Garde to the Sri Lanka Navy. “At the moment, the weapons are being brought to SLNS Dakshina at the Galle Harbour. The process may take a couple of days to complete,” he said.

**Q-16** UE 31

SriLankan Airlines SimNet wins ICT Award

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/42352/srilankan-airlines-simnet-wins-ict-award->

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.485084764

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.218969036

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.081008115

5 - SPORTS 0.07633843

1 – POLITICS 0.066892963

3 – GENERAL 0.038231011

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.033475681

SriLankan Airlines’ Flight Simulator Centre received a Merit award at the Annual National Best Quality ICT Awards 2013 for its exclusively designed customer management portal (CRM)- SimNet. The awards ceremony, organized by the Chartered Institute for IT Sri Lanka (BCSSL) was held recently at The Kingsbury Hotel amidst a large gathering of IT professionals, stake holders, decision-makers and government representatives. Developed in-house under a unique concept, the CRM portal- SimNet comprises of a simulator reservation system with a state of the art booking calendar, simulator check-in / check-out system, reservation monitoring and usage statistics report generator for critical business analysis and a monthly revenue report. The software also comes with a simulator issue tracking system and a customer feedback acquisition facility which contributes to the enhancement of the Airlines’ training services. The Simulator Centre of SriLankan Airlines, with its Airbus A320 & A330 full flight simulators offers a total flying experience on ground and facilitates training of pilots not only in Sri Lanka but in the region of South Asia. The flight simulators are certified by prestigious qualification awarding body EASA (European Aviation Safety Agency) as a Level D - FSTD: the highest standard that a FSTD can get, after extensive tests and evaluations carried on site. SriLankan Airlines already has a strong reputation as a ‘nursery’ for the airline industry and many of the reputed Asian carriers have pilots, cabin crew, aircraft engineers and airport staff who were first trained at SriLankan. As the airline expands, SriLankan is determined to maintain the highest standards of pilot proficiency and the new flight simulator centre will be of enormous benefit in driving the airline for operational excellence. The full flight simulators, which are a complete operations replica of an aircraft cockpit, will work around the clock, catering to the training requirements of SriLankan, Mihin Lanka as well as many other guest airlines.

**Q-17** UE 103

update: Court summons JVP over Wijeweera's books

<http://www.hirunews.lk/120169/court-summons-jvp-over-wijeweeras-books>

2 - ENTERTAINMENT 0.269463876

5 - SPORTS 0.150049872

3 - GENERAL 0.149890012

1 - POLITICS 0.140215766

4 - TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.120184529

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.090075762

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.080120184

Two ceremonies to commemorate JVP members who were killed during the insurrection between 1988 and 1989 are currently held in Colombo and Nugegoda. The ceremony held by JVP with the patronage of its current leader Anura Kumara Dissanayake is at the Open theatre in Vihara Maha Devi Park. Our correspondent stated that several senior party stalwarts and politburo members are attending the ceremony. Meanwhile the Frontline Socialist Party is holding a commemorative ceremony titled “You did not die” at the Ananda Samarakoon open Theatre in Nugegoda. The Janatha Sevaka Party which was founded by JVP ex-leader Somawansa held another commemorative ceremony yesterday at the Colombo New Town hall. The chief guest of the event was NFF leader Wimal Weerawansa. Meanwhile the Colombo Commercial Court issued summons on the JVP for printing, sale and distribution of seven books authored by party founder Rohana Wijeweera. The case has been filed by Chithrangani Wijeweera, wife of JVP founding leader. Having considered the petition, the respondents, including the general secretary of the JVP were ordered to appear before Court on November 27th.

**Q-18** UE 26

Massive increase in tax revenues from budget 2016

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/94099/massive-increase-in-tax-revenues-from-budget-2016>

0 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.450203026

6 - BUSINESS AND FINANACE 0.293696236

4 – TRAVEL AND TOURISM 0.098210644

1 – POLITICS 0.052631169

5 - SPORTS 0.052545683

3 – GENERAL 0.039399339

2 – ENTERTAINMENT 0.013313904

Just less than three weeks to a much-expected budget, Finance Minister Ravi Karunanayake yesterday said the country’s fiscal front is at a crucial point and hinted a massive increase in tax revenue to the government in the forthcoming budget. “We do have a serious situation,” admitted Karunanayake. According to Karunanayake, his ministry officials along with the Inland Revenue Department staff are working tirelessly to prepare the forthcoming budget. Karunanayake stressed the need to increase the tax revenues by as much as 60 percent from the current levels. Hence, tax revenue, which has come down to mere 10.85 percent of gross domestic product (GDP), is expected to go up to 15-16 percent of the GDP from the 2016 budget. “I want to ensure, we will collect a minimum of 14-15 percent (tax revenue of GDP),” Karunanayake confided delivering the keynote address at a seminar on taxation conducted by the Sri Lanka Branch of International Fiscal Association. Sri Lanka’s curious case of an expanding economy with falling tax revenues as a percentage of GDP has been an economic paradox. Sri Lanka has the lowest tax revenue as a percentage of GDP in the South Asian region and this has been a top fiscal reform continuously called for by the International Monetary Fund. According to the Finance Minister, Sri Lanka’s tax revenue as a percentage of GDP was 17.6 percent. However, Karunanayake said the burden will not be passed on to the public; instead they will go hard on the tax defaulters. “Today the problem is not that the people are not paying. People who can afford to pay are the ones who are not paying. And I give a wake-up call for them,” the irate Finance Minister told the packed house. Sri Lanka now operates with over 30 taxes making the tax structure, administration and compliance extremely difficult but a much simplified tax framework is expected to be introduced in the budget 2016.