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Capt. Harsha Govinda Koralearachhchi, President Ravana Aviation Kite Association Wanawasala, Kelaniya, 25 August 2024

The Executive President of Sri Lanka, Presidential Secretariat Galle Face Centre Road Colombo 1

Dear Sir,

## Recognition and Acknowledgment of Leadership and Contributions to SLHIKA 24

I am Capt. Harsha Koralearachchi, a former Air Force helicopter pilot and a professional aviator in civil aviation.

The Sri Lankan Heritage International Kite Airshow 2024 (SLHIKA 24) was not merely an event but a beacon of hope, designed to attract global attention to Sri Lanka by promoting the theme of World Peace and Harmony. Held on August 17 & 18, 2024, at Zone 4, Gregory Lake, Central Province, Sri Lanka, SLHIKA 24 showcased the development and introduction of a renewable energy concept, exemplified by the turbine-powered day and night kite show. This further emphasizes the Ravana Aviation Kite Association's (RAKA's) commitment to research and development in sustainability.

Following objectives were achieved of SLHIKA 24,

- 1. Establish as Globally renowned leading Annual Kite Show Event which promotes tourism both locally and internationally.
- 2. Promote Sri Lankan Culture and heritage via Kite show in order to raise tourist interest attraction.
- 3. Promote and position as an outdoor event which create opportunity for children to engage offline and participate as a family

As the concept developer of SLHIKA 24, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the remarkable leadership and contributions of Mr. KKIDP Wijethilaka, Commissioner of the Nuwara Eliya Municipal Council, and his dedicated staff. Their practical and innovative approach, working tirelessly and thinking outside the box, was instrumental in the successful execution of SLHIKA 24, an event that was conceived and organized within a remarkably short period following our decision at the end of June.

I must also express our gratitude to the Institute of Physics of Sri Lanka, particularly Professor Chandana Jayarathna and President Professor Chinthaka de Silva, for attending the

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event as observers at my request, and for their willingness to assume responsibilities and leadership for future projects based on the renewable energy concept I have directed. This initiative will mark a significant turning point for Sri Lankan researchers and institutions, driving exploration into the potential of renewable wind energy through kites placed on the mountain peaks of the Central Province, which holds great promise for addressing Sri Lanka's power needs.

It is important to note that this event has garnered international interest, with the International Federation of Municipalities Sport and Tourism (IFMST) requesting an oversight of future editions of SLHIKA. The event will be managed by Sri Lanka's respective parties, ensuring that it continues to grow and contribute to our nation's reputation on the world stage.

I kindly request that the exceptional contributions of Mr. Wijethilaka and his team be formally recognized and acknowledged by your esteemed offices. Their efforts have not only brought SLHIKA 24 to fruition but have also set a new standard for innovation and collaboration in public service.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Capt. Harsha Govinda Koralearachchi BSc (Def), MA Archaeology

ATPL Aero/Heli EASA Theoretical Knowledge Instructor

Founder of Ravana Aviation/Academy/Kite Association

Founder of Aviation Archaeology in Sri Lanka

National Tourist Guide Lecturer

Concept Developer of SLHIKA 24

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Ministry of Tourism of Sri Lanka Central Province, Governor of Sri Lanka Chief Secretary Central Province Secretary of Tourism, Central Province Patron of IPSL Prof. Chandana Jayarathna President of IPSL, Prof. Chinthaka De Silva