

Capt. Harsha Govinda Koralearachchi Bsc (Def)
No -404,
Wanwasala
Kelaniya

Honorable Prime Minister
Prime Minister's Office
No: 58,
Sir Ernest De Silva Mawatha,
Colombo 07.

22 January 2016

Dear Sir,

Registrations for National Tour Guide Lectures to Promote Aviation Tourism-

- 1) I am Captain Harsha Koralearachchi, the founder and the chairman of the Ravana Aviation Academy (RAA), Kelaniya. I am a qualified Airline Transport Pilot License holder (ATPL-The highest category of pilot license with full academic qualification) and presently working as a Ground Instructor for both Helicopter and fixed wing aircraft pilots. I am a registered instructor under the Civil Aviation Authority Sri Lanka (CAASL) and I have trained more than 150 pilots with academic training to become qualified pilot license holders that include foreign pilots and many other pilots who later joined with Sri Lankan airlines.
- 2) In the tourist industry, the services of professional tour guides are very essential to promote Sri Lankan tourist industry. At present, there is a professional course conducted by Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management to train professional tour guides. After successful completion of the course, the trainees are issued with professional tour guide licence.
- 3) I have a very strong visionary concept to develop the tourism industry in Sri Lanka through many of the attributes of the aviation industry. At present, only few people are engaged in this particular aspect without any positive support from any of the relevant authorities concerned.
- 4) To explore the potential avenues that link tourism and aviation in Sri Lanka, I registered to follow the Professional Tour Guide Course in year 2012. However, until 2016, Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management did not conduct the above mentioned course in English language. Again in 2016, the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management has called applications for the above course and I appeared for the selection examination and faced for the interview comfortably and successfully, that was conducted by a panel of four members (See Attachments "B" & "C").

- 5) However, at the interview, irrespective of all my efforts, I realized that two members of the panel are not aware of the potential of aviation industry to promote tourism industry in Sri Lanka. I tried to educate them about world Aviation Tourism and how it is related to me and my concept.
- 6) Later, unfortunately I got to know that I was removed from the selection list, even though I scored up to the required standard of the selection process. I was the only person from aviation industry, who opted to follow the professional tour guide course.
- 7) My Credentials to follow the above course are indicated below.
 - a) Graduate from Kotelawala University – Bsc (Def) Management & Technical Science (See Attachment “D”)
 - b) Currently, I am following an Archeology Post-Graduation Diploma at PGIAR (See Attachment “E”)
 - c) Professional Ground Instructor pilot with licence and current flying licence
 - i) ATPL Ground Instructor License Helicopter - CAA SL 042 (See Attachment “F”)
 - ii) ATPL Ground Instructor License Aero Plane - CAA SL 034 (See Attachment “G”)
 - iii) Commercial Pilot License with Instrument Rating -CAA SL 717 (See Attachment “H”)
- 8) Therefore, I kindly request to facilitate my registration for the above course at the Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management for the year 2016. This will definitely enable me to contribute for both aviation and tourist industry of my country. The expenses for the course will be totally endured by me. Further, here with, I have attached a document as annex “A”, indicating the potential benefits of aviation professionals to promote tourism in Sri Lanka.
- 9) I am kindly requesting the Honorable Prime Minister to appoint me to follow the above course and work on the noted concept in my country while developing both industries as much as I can.

Yours Faithful



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Capt Harsha Govinda Koralearachchi Bsc(Def)

Airline Transport Pilot Ground Instructor License- Aero CAA SL No- 034
Airline Transport Pilot Ground Instructor License- Helicopter CAA SL No- 42
CPL IR (Frozen ATPL) Flight Crew License CAA SL No-717

How Aviation industry professionals can promote Tourism industry in Sri Lanka

- a) The Aviation Tourism concept is presently exercised without active involvement of both the Civil Aviation Authority and the Tourism Authority. Its origins are from SriLankan Airlines itself; as such it should be linked and performed by professionals in aviation industry.
- b) All domestic helicopters, other mini transport air vehicles and the pilots have to acquire the above license issued by the tourist board, which then equips the personnel to actively take part with tourism promotion in Sri Lanka.
- c) There is a sector in the Aviation Tourism Industry – Aviation Tourism Adventure Sports, which has a high potential in Sri Lanka (Free fall Para shoot divers, Foot launched Gliders in hill country, Powered Gliders, Hot Air Balloon operations etc...)

Active Aviation Tourism sectors operate as follows-

- d) Before Flight - Preflight briefing of professional knowledge as a National Tour Guide Lecturer (*Above mentioned course – NTGL*)
- e) Inflight – Inflight briefing and showing the highlighted areas or places during the Preflight briefing session
- f) Post Flight - Debriefing session
- g) Note - site visit can be performed by the pilot as an aviation tourism professional (*this is happening in other Aviation tourism promotions in other countries*)