



SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OF SRI LANKA

(Established under Act No. 36 of 1987)

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PRESS RELEASE

COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE BRANCH IN JAFFNA

With the facilitation of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka and its Chairman, Mr. Udayasri Kariyawasam, the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) opened its fifth branch today (27th April 2010) in Jaffna. Opening of this branch was part of the SEC efforts in broad basing and strengthening the local investor base and take the capital market to the people in the Jaffna Peninsula.

The Jaffna branch was declared opened by SEC Chairman, Mr. Udayasri Kariyawasam and CSE Chairman Mr. Nihal Fonseka at a ceremony held today in Jaffna. Other distinguish invitees included Mr. Channa De Silva, Director General SEC and Mr. K. Ganesh, GA, Jaffna. Several senior directors representing the SEC, Chief Executive Officers of member firms operating in Jaffna, and members of the Yalpanam Chamber of Commerce also attended the occasion.

The CSE has performed exceptionally well during the post-war period and completed 2009 as its best year in history by becoming the second best performing stock market globally. Considering its recent performance it would be most appropriate and timely to open a branch in Jaffna as this would provide an opportunity for the Jaffna community to benefit from this phenomenal achievements of the CSE. Further, another branch especially in the northern part of the country would provide equal investment opportunities and market accessibility to the people in Jaffna Peninsula and other adjoining districts as in the other part of the country.

Meanwhile SEC has taken steps to enhance awareness programmes in Jaffna which are targeted at different audience including school children, University students, teachers, potential investors and investors. These programmes will enable them to enhance their knowledge on the benefits of share trading and make informed investment decisions. The Financial Services Academy (FSA) of the SEC has also planned a special crash course for the newly recruited investment advisors of member firms operating in Jaffna in order to provide them necessary skills and technical knowledge in conducting their duties.

Dr. Hareendra Dissa Bandara
Director Financial Services Academy