

Member	Craig Ondarchie	Electorate	Northern Metro
Period	01 October 2022 to 31 December 2022		

Regulation 6 - Expense allowance and electorate allowance	
Total amount paid to member for electorate allowance	\$7,894.80
Total amount paid to member for expense allowance	\$2,075.17

Regulation 7 - Motor vehicle allowance	
Total amount paid to member for motor vehicle allowance	\$0.00
Member did not receive the motor vehicle allowance in the previous quarter and member has elected to receive the motor vehicle allowance for this quarter	No

Regulation 9 - Parliamentary accommodation sitting allowance	
Total amount paid to member for parliamentary accommodation sitting allowance	\$0.00
Suburb in which the member's parliamentary accommodation is located	n/a

Regulation 10 - Travel allowance claims					
Date from	Date until	Reason for travel	Total amount paid	Town or city in which accommodation was located	Value of the accommodation
13-Oct-22	14-Oct-22	Overnight stay in Syd as Guest Speaker at BAPS Hindu Org. Opera House event as Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs	\$394.84	Sydney	\$389.00

Total number of nights for travel allowance claims **1**
Total amount paid to member for travel allowance **\$394.84**

Regulation 11 - Commercial transport allowance claims					
Date from	Date until	Reason for travel	Total amount paid	Mode of transport	Value of transport
13-Oct-22	14-Oct-22	Return Flight to Sydney - Guest Speaker at BAPS, Hindu Org, Opera House Event as Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs	\$811.01	Flights	\$811.01

Total number of nights for commercial transport allowance claims **1**
Total amount paid to member for commercial transport allowance **\$811.01**

Regulation 12 - International travel allowance claims			
Date from	Date until	Reason for travel	Total amount paid
14-Aug-22	23-Aug-22	Return Flights to Colombo, Sri Lanka for Official visit as Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs to represent the Sri Lankan community of Victoria.	\$2,746.60

Total number of nights for international travel allowance claims **0**
Total amount paid to member for international travel allowance **\$2,746.60**

See attached travel report for further details

BUSINESS TRIP OVERVIEW

TRIP NAME:	MELBOURNE'S NORTH & SRI LANKA
TYPE (PARLIAMENTARY OR ELECTORATE BUSINESS):	Electorate
PARTICIPANTS:	Craig Ondarchie
START/FINISH:	Monday 15 – Monday 23 August 2022

REPORT PREPARED BY:	Craig Ondarchie	DATE OF REPORT:	6 September 2022
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DEPARTING FROM:	Melbourne
DESTINATION:	Colombo, Sri Lanka
PURPOSE OF TRAVEL:	<p>As Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs, the only multicultural member of the current Victorian Opposition and the only Coalition MP of Sri Lankan heritage, I maintain the Coalition's relationships for growing, nurturing and developing our multicultural community relationships as they relate to our local markets & opportunities.</p> <p>As a Member for Northern Metropolitan region, my electorate has a rapidly growing population of Sri Lankan background.</p> <p>Sri Lanka endured a series of political upheaval and protests in March 2022. This affected its global standing, hurt trade and investment and the country suffered a significant downturn of its core industry sector,</p> <p>With that in mind, as the first Australian MP to do so, I undertook a trade, investment and harmony visit to Sri Lanka from 15-22 August 2022.</p>
ACCOMMODATION:	Cinnamon Grand, Colombo - AU\$1501.30
COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT (if any claimed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Lankan Airlines: Melbourne-Colombo-Melbourne - AU\$1225.20 • Internal transfers paid for privately • Travel Insurance – AU\$187.00

MEMBERS OBJECTIVE:

- Following discussions with Victoria's Sri Lankan community, to deliver support and reassurances to Sri Lanka on behalf of Victoria, particularly my electorate & wider Victoria.
- On behalf of Victorians, to express our confidence and support to the many people I met.
- Meet with Sri Lankan businesses to support the economy and encourage tourism to & from Victoria
- Meet with Sri Lankan MPs and Business leaders
- Engage in culturally complementary activities to foster stronger relationships between Sri Lanka & Victoria
- Meet on behalf of Victorians, with key business leaders, the investment community and those directly affected
- Visit the Red Cross headquarters in Kandy to learn of the effort required to support jobs and welfare
- Promote & develop trade opportunities for Victorian businesses into Sri Lanka.
- Represent Victoria to Sri Lanka's Government Officials and Dignitaries
- Increase my knowledge of Sri Lanka, Lankan social & business culture

**ORGANISATIONS
/ PARLIAMENT -
VISITED**

- Business Briefing meeting – Colombo City: **Political & Economic Overview**
- Hon Harin Fernando MP Minister of Tourism and Lands: **Tourism Overview**
- Dinesh Weerakkody | Chairman | Colombo Port City Economic Commission: **Economic & Infrastructure opportunities**
- Business Network Meeting, Colombo Golf Club: **Business Networking**
- Mohan and Shiranthi De Silva Dinner – Chairman, Ceylon Cricket Club: **Sport**
- Hon Nimal Lanza MP: **Political & Economic discussion**
- Hon Mr. Nalin Fernando MP, Minister for Trade, Commerce and Food Security : **Trade & Investment Discussion**
- Hon Prof Ranjith Bandara MP: **Economics Discussion**
- Colombo Chamber of Commerce meeting: **Business Opportunities**
- H.E Hon Maithreepala Sirisena MP, Former SL President Meeting: **Political discussion**
- Hon. Arundika Fernando MP, State Minister – Dinner: **Political & Trade discussion**
- Sri Dalada Maligawa - Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic of Lord Buddha Gamini Bandara - Director – Intl Affairs: **Cultural Visit**
- Meeting with State Officials in Kandy: **Political & Economic Overview**
- Meeting with Executive of Kandy Sri Lanka Red Cross Society Ananda Uyanwatt - Branch Executive: **Social Impact meeting**
- Mr Kapila Fonseka (Former CG to Melb) Ministry of Foreign Affairs: **Economic Development meeting**
- Dr Amila Kankanamge Sri Lanka Trade Development Council: **Trade & Investment meeting**
- Anjela Ranasinghe, Director Business Solutions LankaBiz: **Business & Investment meeting**
- Boshan Dayaratne, CEO Cicra Holdings: **Business & Investment meeting**
- Hon Namal Rajapaksa MP Meeting Tangalle: **Political & Economic discussion**
- Priantha Fernando Chairman, Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority: **Tourism Discussion**
- Sanath Jayasuriya, Brand Ambassador – Sri Lanka Trade Development: **Business Forum in Melbourne during ICC World Cup**
- Mr Paul Stephens Australian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka: **MP Visit**

<p>RECOMMENDATIONS & OUTCOMES:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered support and reassurances to Sri Lanka on behalf of Victoria. • Met with Sri Lankan businesses to support the economy and encourage tourism from Victoria • Met with Sri Lankan MPs • Engaged in culturally complementary activities to foster stronger relationships between Sri Lanka & Victoria • Met on behalf of Victorians, with key business leaders, the investment community and those directly affected • Visited the Red Cross headquarters in Kandy to learn of the effort required to support jobs and welfare • Promoted & develop trade opportunities for Victorian businesses into Sri Lanka • Represented Victoria to Sri Lanka's Government Officials and Dignitaries • Increase my knowledge of Sri Lanka, Lankan social & business culture • Met with Australia's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka • The mission has supported Victorian businesses seeking trade opportunities in Sri Lanka • The investment in the Parliament's time & financial resources has been effective • My visit helped Victoria's relationships with our Sri Lankan community • I will continue to foster & promote relationships between Victoria & Sri Lanka • I plan to host a delegation of targeted & identified Sri Lankan and Victoria Businesses for a Trade, Investment Forum in October 2022
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<p>REFERENCES: DOCUMENTATION/PUBLICATIONS:</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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<p>BRIEF SUMMARY OF STUDY AREA:</p>	<p>Sri Lanka is a country with a total population of 21 million people. After a 25-year-long civil war that ended in 2009, Sri Lanka's economy grew at an average of 6.4 percent between 2010-2015, demonstrating a return to peace and a government policy focused on reconstruction and growth. The economy has developed from a mainly rural, agricultural economy towards an economy driven by services. The service sector accounts for 62.4 percent of GDP, followed by manufacturing (28.9 %), and agriculture (8.7 %).</p> <p>Strong economic growth in the last decade has led to improved shared prosperity and importantly, a decline in poverty. There are still some elements of poverty which remains a challenge. Poverty exists in the North, East and Moneragala district where access to services and the jobs market are weak. In future, Sri Lanka's economic growth will require ongoing structural change</p>
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	<p>towards greater diversification and productivity increases and a reduction in the role of agricultural employment from the current rate of 33% of the population. The present government envisions a globally competitive, export-led economy, generating one million job opportunities, improving income levels, developing rural economies, and creating a wide and strong middle class. The plan includes reducing the fiscal deficit to 3.5 % of GDP by 2020 and enhancing trade and FDI. Foreign trade is an important segment of the Sri Lankan economy. Major imports include petroleum, consumables, machinery and capital equipment, motor vehicles, and various manufactured goods. Major exports include garments, tea, rubber, coconut products, foodstuffs, gems, and jewelry. Sri Lanka is the largest exporter of black tea in the world and the third largest producer of natural rubber. A variety of gemstones, for which Sri Lanka is world famous, are also exported. Significant quantities of high-grade graphite, for which Sri Lanka is a world leader, are also exported.</p> <p>Victoria holds a strong trade relationship with Sri Lanka. Over \$200 million in exports including milk and dairy products, vegetables, meat, wheat and animal feed. Victoria imports tea, textiles, rubber, clothing, furniture and mattresses from Sri Lanka, making it Victoria's 50th-largest trading partner.</p> <p>Further trade opportunities exist with Sri Lanka in the fields of education, higher education and postgraduate studies as well as investing in, and obtaining specialist knowledge. Further, we can pursue investment and expert knowledge in the fields of hospitality and ICT.</p>
<p>SUMMARY OF RESULT/CONCLUSION:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission met the original objectives • A very quick visit; 7 days • New relationships with Sri Lanka were developed leading to new & emerging opportunities • Each meeting & contact has been followed up My visit helped Victoria's relationships with our Sri Lankan community • I will continue to foster & promote relationships between Victoria & Sri Lanka • I plan to host a delegation of targeted & identified Sri Lankan and Victoria Businesses for a Trade, Investment Forum in October 2022