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The Ministry of External Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka presents its compliments to all Diplomatic Missions, the Representation Offices of the United Nations, of its Specialized Agencies and of other International Organizations based in Sri Lanka and with reference to the formers' note no. PR/210/2010 of 12 July 2010 on the procedure to be followed by foreign nationals when travelling to the North of Sri Lanka, has the honour to inform that the existing restrictions pertaining to the travel to the North of Sri Lanka by foreign passport holders including diplomats, personnel of INGOs and NGOs have been **lifted** by the Ministry of Defence with effect from 13 July 2011.

As per the Ministry of Defence, the above categories of travellers to the North of the country no longer require prior approval by the Ministry of Defence. As normalcy has returned to the Northern region they can henceforth undertake visits to this region without prior permission of the Ministry of Defence.

However, individuals and groups intending to visit military establishments or high security zones or to meet the relevant military officials will still require the specific approval by the Ministry of Defence.

The Ministry of External Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Diplomatic Missions, Representation Offices of the United Nations, of its Specialized Agencies and of other International Organization based in Sri Lanka, the assurances of its highest consideration.

All Diplomatic Missions in Sri Lanka,
Representation Offices of the United Nations,
of its Specialized Agencies and
of other International Organization based in Sri Lanka

Colombo, 13 July 2011

