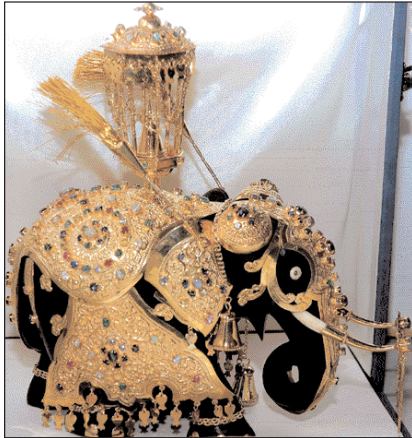




The chief guests at a booth examining some gems



Ministers A.H.M. Fowze and Rishad Bathiudeen together with NGJA Chairman Lt Gen. Rohan Daluwatte, EDB Chairman Janaka Ratnayake and SLGJA Chairman Macky Hashim.



An elephant studded with exquisite gems. Pictures by Saliya Rupasinghe

FACETS attracts global buyers

INDUNIL HEWAGE

The FACETS Sri Lanka 2011, the premier gem and jewellery exhibition in Sri Lanka commenced yesterday with the participation of a large number of local and international buyers.

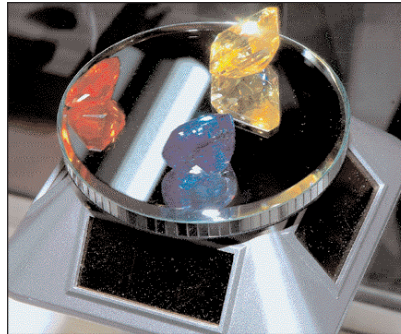
This year's exhibition which is being held for the 21st consecutive year, will conclude on September 11 and it has managed to attract major local and international stakeholders, buyers in the gem and jewellery industry.

The FACETS Sri Lanka 2011 comprises of over 145 exhibition booths, of which

80 percent is local exhibitors and the balance exhibitors are from Myanmar and the South Asian region. Speaking at the inaugural ceremony of FACETS Sri Lanka 2011, FACETS Sri Lanka 2011 Chairman Chamaka Ellawala said FACETS 2011 will provide opportunities for the local industrialists to promote their products to the international market and look forward to strengthen the partnerships with China, Brazil and other major buyers from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh and expects a large number of visitors for FACETS Sri Lanka 2011.



Exquisite gems on display



A buyer negotiating a bangle with a Thailand booth holder



Pakistan High Commissioner Seema Ilahe Baloch going through some gems on display



Some foreign buyers carefully examining gem stones



Buyers at another stall



The entrance to the exhibition

