

CATA delegates tour Kandy



Participants paying obeisance at the Sacred Temple of the Tooth

HEMANTHI GURUGE

The 32nd Annual Technical Conference of Commonwealth Association of Tax Administrators (CATA) is held from September 18 to 23 in Colombo. Over 90 participants from various countries including Australia, Canada, India, Germany, France, China, Zambia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and others attending the conference hosted by the Inland Revenue Department.

These foreign delegates visited the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, the Temple of the Tooth (Sri Dalada Maligawa) and the many other places of interest in Kandy.

Joanne Hughes from Australia, said Sri Lanka is a truly beautiful country to visit. I really enjoyed watching nature and especially the elephants. The Sri Lankan environment is unique being one of the world's biodiversity hot spots.

"I visited Sri Lanka for the first time and I would like to come back again. People are very warm," Jennifer Morel said.

The membership of CATA has grown up to 48 countries, making it the largest organization of its kind in the world. CATA's activities now include Annual Technical Conference and workshop, high quality training programmes for tax officials in country.

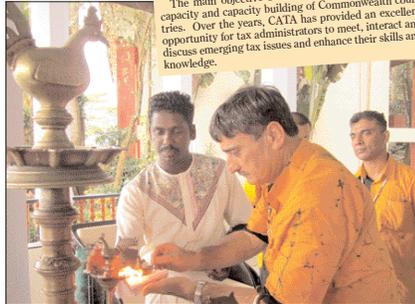
The main objective of the conference is to increase capacity and capacity building of Commonwealth countries. Over the years, CATA has provided an excellent opportunity for tax administrators to meet, interact and discuss emerging tax issues and enhance their skills and knowledge.



A delegate with some schoolchildren



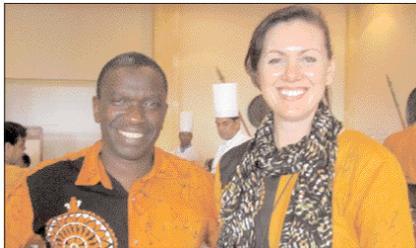
A warm welcome for the visitors at the Amaya Hotel



A delegate lighting the oil lamp at the hotel



A Kandyan bride and groom



CATA Executive Director Tutu Pitso Bakwena

Pictures by Sumanachandra Ariyawansa



Meeting Inland Revenue officials from Sri Lanka



CATA President Sudhamo Lal with his wife



A participant with a palm reader



A dance item



Participants enjoying their lunch

