



# Office of the Prime Minister

**Prime Minister**

Minister for National Security and Intelligence

Minister of Tourism

Minister Responsible for Ministerial  
Services

30 MAR 2016

Dhaya Haran

Email: [fyi-request-3683-8ea573f7@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-3683-8ea573f7@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Dhaya Haran

## **Official Information Act Request for Information on Prime Minister's Recent Visit to Sri Lanka**

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act of 26 February 2016 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). Part 4 of your request was for:

*4. "We request a full itinerary and any other information detailing Prime Minister John Key's visit to Sri Lanka in February 2016."*

On 1 March 2016, MFAT transferred this part of your request to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) to the extent that it related to the relevant overseas travel to Sri Lanka undertaken by the Prime Minister in February 2016. This response sets out the relevant information held by this Office for this travel.

In response to part 4 of your request, please find enclosed a copy of the Prime Minister's itinerary for his visit to Sri Lanka via Singapore on 23-26 February 2016.

The only other information identified as relevant to part 4 of your request is in briefing material provided to the Prime Minister by DPMC. These briefings are provided to the Prime Minister in confidence in order to support him in his role as leader of the Government and chair of Cabinet. This briefing material is withheld in its entirety under the following sections of the Official Information Act:

- Section 6(a) as the making available of that information would be likely *"to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand"*.
- Section 9(2)(f)(iv) as withholding the information is necessary to *"maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials."*
- Section 9(2)(g)(i) as withholding the information is necessary to *"maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty."*

Where the information has been withheld under section 9, no public interest in releasing the withheld information has been identified that would be sufficient to override the reasons for withholding it.

You are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review this response under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. You can contact the Ombudsman online via the Ombudsman website, by email ([info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz)) or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143. Further details can be found on the Ombudsman website at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wayne Eagleson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wayne Eagleson  
**Chief of Staff**

Enc: Prime Minister's itinerary for his visit to Sri Lanka

The itinerary for Right Hon John Key's travel to Sri Lanka 23-27 February

**TUESDAY 23 FEBRUARY: SINGAPORE - COLOMBO**

23:55 (local)	Prime Minister Key and delegation arrives in Colombo at Colombo Bandaranaike Airport
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**WEDNESDAY 24 FEBRUARY**

10:00	Formal meeting with President Sirisena
10:15	Meeting with President Sirisena, Prime Minister Wickremesinghe and members of the Sri Lankan Cabinet
11:25	Signing of bilateral arrangements and media engagement
12:30	Bilateral lunch hosted by Prime Minister Wickremesinghe
15:00	Visit to Fonterra demonstration farm in Pannala
17:00	Media engagement
20:30	Dinner hosted by President Sirisena

**THURSDAY 25 FEBRUARY**

10:00	Visit to Sri Dalada Maligawa (Sacred Temple of the Tooth Relic)
11:00	Visit to Royal Botanic Gardens and Tree Planting
12:30	Lunch hosted by Governor of Central Province
15:30	Address to the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, Panel Discussion and witness commercial agreement signings.
5.10	Meeting with Wannu Dairy Farmers
18:30	International Democratic Union function

**FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY**

07:30	IDU Executive Council meeting
12:30	Lunch hosted by the IDU
18:00	Business dinner with the Horton Debate Society

**SATURDAY 27 FEBRUARY: COLOMBO - SINGAPORE**

01.10	Prime Minister Key and delegation depart Colombo at Colombo Bandaranaike Airport
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RELEASED UNDER THE  
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT