



राजभवन सूचना परिसर, उत्तराखण्ड

Rajbhawan Uttarakhand-Information Wing

Press Note

Dehradun 06 March, 2011:

The Governor of Uttarakhand Smt. Margaret Alva is leaving for Sri Lanka where she has been invited to preside over the country's National Women's Day celebrations to be held in Colombo on March 7, 2011, and deliver the keynote address.

The annual event, to coincide with the International Women's Day is being held at Temple Trees, the official residence of the President of Sri Lanka.

Smt. Alva, who is the first woman Governor of Uttarakhand, will be the guest of Ms. Kumari Balasuriya, the first and only woman Governor in Sri Lanka.

It may be recalled that during her stint as Minister in charge of Youth Affairs and Sports, Women and Child Development in the Union Ministry of Human Resources Development covering over 80% of the Indian population, Smt. Alva spearheaded numerous women related progressive legislative amendments passed by Parliament, including the Sati Prohibition Act, the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, Dowry Prohibition (Amendment) Act, the Marriage Laws (Amendment) Act, the Equal Remuneration Act and the 84th Constitution Amendment Bill for 33% reservation for women in local bodies.

In addition, she also initiated and successfully implemented several programmes and changes in policies for women and children which gave a new direction to the overall strategy for their development. In 1989, she presided over a core group appointed by the Government of India to draft a National Perspective Plan for Women to detail development strategies for Women, which has since served as the blue print for policies and women development programmes adopted by the Central and State Governments to ensure the empowerment of women.

She also served as Chairperson of the SAARC Technical Committee on Women for two years, helping to create lasting linkages between the women of the countries of the Region.