

**Indian Cultural Centre  
Colombo**

**Activities in the Month of April 2012**

**25 April      SAARC Film Day – Featuring “Iqbal” – a Film from India**

The fourth of many films featuring movies from the SAARC Region, Iqbal was screened on Wednesday, 25 April 2012 at the National Film Corporation Cinema Hall. The film's screening was organized by the SAARC Cultural Centre, Colombo (SCC) in collaboration with The Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo High Commissioner of India HE Mr Ashok Kantha was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Iqbal is a 2005 Hindi Bollywood film written by Vipul K Rawal and directed by Nagesh Kukunoor and was released under Subhash Ghai's new banner, "Mukta Searchlight Films".

The Film is a story about determination, hardwork, and an unending passion to become a pace bowler in the National Cricket team. "When the heart begins to think like the head... that's when real success is achieved," says coach Naseeruddin Shah to his special student, a deaf-and-mute boy who strives to become a national cricket player. The world of Nagesh Kukunoor's latest film is a mellow one of basic and valuable emotions. This isn't the first film where the director has dealt with the ambiguous world of adolescent dreams. Unlike Kukunoor's "Rockford", "Iqbal" rocks to a rustic and heartfelt raga-rhythm.





**26 – 30 April                      Buddhist International Performing Arts Festival**

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi organized Buddhist International Performing Arts Festival from 26 to 30 April 2012 in New Delhi. Artistes from various countries such as Sri Lanka, Nepal, Japan, Korea, Bhutan, Cambodia, and many more participated in this festival. From Sri Lanka Mudiyanse Dissanayake Arts Foundation was sent to represent Sri Lanka. The Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo assisted Mudiyanse Dissanayake Arts Foundation's participation at the Dance Festival.

**Scholarships for studying Hindi in India**

The Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo called in applicants for Sri Lankan nationals to study Hindi at the Kendriya Hindi Sansthan (Central Institute of Hindi), Agra, for the academic session 2012-2013 by putting press release in the local news papers and by sending letters to local institutions propagating Hindi and to the Universities. Around 35 candidates applied and faced the interview conducted by the Centre's Long Term Hindi Chair. From those who applied 19 candidates were selected and their applications were forwarded to KHS, Agra in April 2012.