

Ceremonial Opening of Parliament 2005



President Mahinda Rajapakse and Mrs. Rajapakse being greeted on arrival by Speaker W.J.M. Lokubandara



The motorcade on its way to Parliament



Being escorted to the Chamber



Prime Minister Ratnasiri Wickremanayake and Speaker W.J.M. Lokubandara wait the President's arrival



President Rajapakse enters the Chamber with the Sergeant-at-Arms



President Rajapakse preparing to deliver the policy statement



President Rajapakse is all smiles as he waits to deliver the address



President Mahinda Rajapakse being escorted to the Chamber of Parliament by Speaker W.J.M. Lokubandara and Parliament Secretary General Priyani Wijesekera.



Members exchange pleasantries before proceedings begin



Jayamangala Gaatha being recited



The military bands on parade