



Monday 2nd of November 2009

SL Govt. summons US High Commissioner and lodges its protests against using Gen. Fonseka as a means to acquire war crime information

(Lanka-e-News, Nov.02, 2009, 5.25PM) The SL Govt. today (02) lodged its official protest against the US homeland Office seeking to use Chief Defense of staff Sarath Fonseka who is on a tour of America, to garner information regarding the SL war crimes.

The Foreign Minister Rohitha Bogollagama, summoned the American Ambassador in SL Patricia Butenis and lodged this complaint.

The US Homelands had summoned General Fonseka to record a statement on the 4th.

The Foreign Minister had informed the American ambassador that General Fonseka who took action to end the terrorism war cannot provide answers on behalf of the SL Govt. ; and if there are plans to use the answers so collected against others, the Govt. of SL is opposed to it and wishes to register its protests.

The American Ambassador has told the Minister at the discussion that she is not informed on these matters officially, it is reported.

Meanwhile, Opposition leader Ranil Wickremesinghe had contacted Robert Blake, US States Dept. Asia region Assist Secretary. Blake answering Ranil's inquiry on this had explained that, any green card holder when he asks for an extension is questioned, and it is a matter of routine, and there is no need to get alarmed, unofficial sources relate.

Former President Chandrika Kumarantunge too had also inquired from US State Secretary Hilary Clinton in this regard. However, the outcome of that inquiry is not known yet.