



By Clifford Landers-
(SNNI) Melbourne

Sri Lankans and its cricket supporters in Melbourne have been given the opportunity of gathering around the touring Sri Lankan cricketers



resurgent Indians but is expected to regain their form and dish out a better performance in the VB series.

Gather around our cricketers



Photo Vernon Thisera

on Saturday, January 14, 2006 during a 'Cricketers Night' ceremony organized by the Sri Lanka Cricket Foundation of Victoria at the Kingston City Council Hall (Morabbin Town Hall), Nepean Highway, Moorabbin.

Regarding tickets Contact David 0419 346 032, Sanath 0402 854 754, Bertie 0414 979 483, Nigel 0407 195 186, Ian 0419 508 309.

After arriving in Melbourne on January 9 to contest the VB Tri-Nation series against Australia and South Africa, the Sri Lanka team will play a practice match at the Junction Oval, St. Kilda on January 11 and will then take on the Aussies in their first tournament match on January 13 (Day-night) at Telstra Dome which will be followed by the gala night.

Tickets are prized at A\$60.00 with entertaining music by Replay 6, sumptuous eastern and western cuisine by Jolly J's and more programs on the menu.

Since Melbourne will be hosting the Lankans in just a solitary game - to the dismay and disappointment of the Lankan community here- and early in the competition, it is only appropriate that they be given a rousing and morale boosting gesture by their expatriate community and ardent supporters here.

After their initial six or seven-day stay in Melbourne they will not visit the state again since their games will be played in other state venues.

The team is in a state of bother and recovering from their 1-6 One-day series battering from the

Lankans despite surrendering their world ranking (2), possess the potential to turn tables upon the top two ranked sides in the world during the VB series and the experience of skipper Marvan Atapattu, Chaminda Vaas, Kumar Sanagakkara and a few others is crucial.

Therefore, the Lankan community and its supporter's backing, encouragement, acknowledgement and motivation in every possible manner - especially by attending the games and events off the field such as the 'Cricketers Night' is essential.

With many new faces and young blood in the side the

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