



FRIDAY ENVIRONMENT FORUM NPA Environment Centre

5 April 2019

'Biodiversity in Sri Lanka'



Elephants in Minneriya National Park

Sri Lanka is one of the 34 biodiversity hotspots identified in the world and has the highest biodiversity per unit area of land amongst Asian countries. Natural forests occupy about 30 percent of the island's total land area, while rich marine and coastal ecosystems can be found along its 1,620 km coastline.

The major threat to Sri Lanka's biodiversity is the ever-increasing demand for land for human habitation and related developmental activities. Such habitat degradation has thrown species like elephants into conflict with human beings. With the highest density of elephants in Asia, Sri Lanka sees the deaths of around 70 people and 200 elephants every year and significant crop and property damage.

This week's guest speaker at Noosa Parks Association Friday Environment Forum is **Rahula Perera** who has more than 20 years' experience as a field biologist, trainer and nature photographer in Sri Lanka. "For a developing country like Sri Lanka," Rahula explains; "it is a challenge to balance both ecological and economic development targets."

Do not miss this opportunity on **Friday April 5 at the NPA Environment Centre, 5 Wallace Drive Noosaville** to experience a presentation including images portraying the natural beauty, different ecosystems and the integrated wildlife of Sri Lanka.

The forum starts at 10.30am and finishes at 12.15pm. Arrive at 10am and, for a gold coin donation, enjoy morning tea and chat to like-minded individuals.

Tufted gray langur

**Investigate the birds of
Wallace Park with Valda and
the Interpretive Birding Group.
Meet at 8.30am in the car park.
All welcome**

