

Defamation case

Jeyaraj Fernandopulle allowed time till Aug 28 to file answer

by Peter Christie

Minister of Plan Implementation and Parliamentary Affairs Jeyaraj Fernandopulle has been allowed time till August 28 to file answer in a defamation case filed against him by Ravi Karunanayake, MP.

Mr Karunanayake claims Rs. 50 million in damages alleging that Mr. Fernandopulle, in the course of a televised speech made defamatory statements

accusing Mr. Karunanayake of opposing the Air Lanka - Emirates deal because of personal interests or interest detrimental to the public.

Romesh de Silva PC with Aritha Wickremanayake and Hiran de Alwis appeared for the plaintiff while Bandula Wijesinghe with Chatura Wijeysekera appeared for the defendant before Mr S. Rajapakse Additional District Judge of Colombo.