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**RECENT UNDERSTANDING ON EARTHQUAKES AND TECTONIC ACTIVITY
OF SRI LANKA**

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Sri Lanka is an Island located in the central part of a crustal plate (known among geologists as the Indian crustal plate) experiences occasional intraplate type micro-earthquakes (with magnitudes of less than 4 on the Richter scale). Some of these events are suspected to be reservoir induced micro earthquakes after constructing several high rise dams after 1980 (today it is difficult to prove this without a local Sri Lankan Seismic Network). In this study an analysis has been carried out on global seismic data since 1964 to 1998.

Analysis of global seismic data reveals that there has been only two off shore large magnitude earthquakes (greater than 4 on the Richter scale) in 1993 and 1998. Epicenters of both of these events fall on a South Western off shore location of Sri Lanka. This area of the Indian oceanic plate is found to be subjected to considerable deformation and strain development. This study further shows that the on shore of Sri Lanka is relatively very stable and tectonic activity is found to be very low.